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PHILATELIC SECTION.

Humphrey Golding.

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W. MULREADY, D.A.

POSTAGE ONE PENNY.

JOHN THOMPSON.

THE MULREADY ENVELOPE.

Issued in 1840.

PAPERS
FOR
PHILATELISTS:

Comprising twenty numbers of

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THE PHILATELIST.

PHILATELY :

FROM ITS EARLIEST AGE TO THE
PRESENT TIME.

BY HERBERT CAMOENS.

"Close be your language, let your sense be clear,
Nor with a weight of words fatigue the ear."
—HORACE.

THE great secret of the happiness of youth is having no retrospection. All is before them. The "past eternity," as Byron calls bygone years, has never belonged to them. On the other hand, the great secret of the blunders of youth is their inexperience.

This is applicable to philately. Every collector has passed through this probationary state in forming a collection of postage stamps, blundering because of inexperience, and inexperienced because young in the pursuit. Time was, when what has since proved most egregiously wrong in arrangement or classification, seemed perfectly satisfactory to the ardent novice. And when forgeries first cropped up, who is there who can say he has not once or twice, if not often, wasted his money in securing one or other of these worthless candidates for his credulity ?

Postage-stamp collecting (for it did not for some years acquire a distinctive appellation) is traditionally said to have originated in a boys' school at Paris, where one of the tutors encouraged the boys to mount any stamps they could obtain, in their atlases on the back of the map of each country to which the stamp belonged, in order to render the study of geography more interesting. Be that as it may, school-boys were certainly its earliest supporters, and it is an undeniable fact, that some of the rarest stamps in large collections, have

been drafted from the school boy's discarded album.

Unfortunately the date of the earliest collection, like the name of the inventor of those indispensable household comforts, lucifer matches, is lost in hopeless obscurity. Mons. Moens professes to have been a collector since 1855, and as Belgium has always had a name for first-rate collections, possibly the mania first became strongly developed in that country. In England it does not seem to have become general till about 1860. Slowly but steadily it gained converts in all ranks of life.

Soon it became evident to the enterprising portion of the community, that stamps might be made saleable, and become a source of profitable investment. Hence arose numerous firms for the sale and exchange of postage stamps. This created another want, viz., an easy medium of advertisement, and of communication between collectors. The daily journals were too expensive, and too crowded with general wants and general information, to be available for the purpose; therefore, on the unerring principle that the demand creates the supply, which is indeed one of the chief causes of the wealth of nations, there arose not only in England, but in other stamp-collecting countries also, various unpretending periodicals, of which those that have survived their infancy, have vigorously taken root in public opinion, gradually increasing not only in size, but in useful and authentic information. Thus, from 1863, this branch of study or amusement began to have a literature of its own, and an enthusiastic bookseller or stationer at the West End, assisted its

progress by advertising in 1864, that all magazines and works on postage stamps, might be borrowed at his circulating library.

Having struggled through the ordeal and difficulties common to all recreative pursuits when first introduced to public notice, stamp collecting began to assume an acknowledged position and a name among all classes of the community. The little urchin learning the elements of shop-keeping, was sure to ask if you had a "klection," while the belle of the season was equally proud of her stamp album, embellished, or, to speak more correctly obscured, by a profusion of illuminated flags and arms, or arranged in devices which obliged the stamps to be sideways or topsy-turvy—in fact, any way but the right way, a barbarism happily long since exploded.

Having secured a position, a suitable name of title next became indispensable. Timbromania was its first designation; but this being suggestive of madness, and as no one likes to be thought mad, it soon became unpopular. Timbrophily and Timbrology next had a short reign as a technical term, till PHILATELY, having the double charm of being very euphonious as well as slightly incomprehensible to all but the learned, has proved to be the right word in the right place.

It is an admitted fact that articles of *vertu* are not invariably associated with virtue, at least not with the virtue of honesty, and the minute and elegant engravings called postage stamps are no exception to the rule. The gullibility of the public was first tested by the creation of imaginary stamps, such as the Caprera, the Jerusalem, and the Iceland. But the real character of these impostors being soon detected, they were quickly consigned to oblivion.

But a more dangerous and subtle foe threatened the peace of philately. Exquisitely-executed forgeries competed with genuine specimens, and, for a time, commanded high prices.

Some (for instance, the blue half tornese arms of Naples, and the 5 centavos large figure Argentine) are equal to and even surpass the originals; the only possible objection to them being, that they are spurious. *Messieurs les contrefacteurs* however (as the French style them), emboldened probably by success, by degrees became careless in the execution of their false dies, a circumstance most favourable to real philatelists, inasmuch as it rendered detection so much more easy; and genuine forgery, if there be such a paradox, becoming a losing, if not a dangerous game, gradually dwindled into desuetude.

It was feared that Messrs. Lewes and Pemberton's work on *Forged Stamps: How to Detect Them*, would have stimulated rather than have suppressed the supply of well-executed forgeries; but, contrary to expectation, it had entirely the opposite effect. *Messieurs les contrefacteurs* finding concealment hopeless, began to think that open confession was good for the soul, and accordingly with one consent openly sold their productions under the mild and refined name of fac-similes. If the word fac-simile were printed on the back of each of these pretenders, philately would gain rather than lose by their circulation; but, unfortunately, this is not the case, consequently philately is still haunted by their unwelcome presence, even in good collections.

There is another class of stamps which have puzzled collectors. They are not *boubon* labels, neither are they intentional forgeries. To this class belongs the celebrated 50 centimes French, which Mount Brown in his preface so unconditionally rejects, one of which, now in an English collection, freed a letter from Versailles to England. Then there is the less known 40 centesimi *green* Sardinian, resembling the 1851 issue, and the 10 centesimi blue provisional Parma. These have no just claim to be postage stamps, although their antecedents are unknown. The five shilling hand-stamped New South Wales, with its miniature postmark,

may perhaps be included in this category.

Stamps that are so rare as to preclude the idea of forgery, yet which cannot be proved to have been issued, or even proposed as essays, constitute another separate class. The half-anna Indian, the 10 cents Dutch Guiana, and the tenpenny Van Diemen's Land, belong to this division of study, which has been productive of much discussion, and hitherto little information, the result being much the same as before it commenced, viz., that those who possess these rarities firmly believe in them, while those who have them not, as pertinaciously doubt them.

To collect proofs of stamps actually used for postage, seems an orthodox branch of philately, but the admission of essays, whether qualified (by having been sought by and proposed to any government) or unqualified, is still a moot point, best decided in the negative.

Another stumbling-block to philatelists is perforation. Till it was found to be indicative of the date of issue, it was voted a necessary evil, intended only to facilitate the speedy division of stamps for general use, but on no account to be retained in albums. Now, its real value is almost unanimously acknowledged. Then, as to the definition itself. Is perforated, or denticulated, the correct word? That is, as Lord Dundreary says, what no fellow can understand. When together, stamps are certainly perforated, not denticulated. When separate, denticulated, decidedly not perforated. Therefore, a word is still needed which shall comprehend the aggregate and separate state.

The assistance which philately derives from the study of watermarks has hitherto been very much underrated. Mr. T. W. Kitt was the first who recommended it to English philatelists, but till foreigners set about it in good earnest, it was sadly neglected in England. Mr. Kitt also recommended or suggested, that stamps be further classified according to the sort of paper on

which they are printed. Although the nature of the paper employed is of very secondary importance, because it can be so easily imitated, still it is occasionally desirable to note it, as decisive of the date of issue, when combined with other tests.

In tracing philately from infancy to maturity, it is observable that its capability of exercising the intellect and improving the mind, has been progressively developed, exactly in proportion as it became better understood. Few who have taken it up, as a mere toy, perhaps, or as the present writer did, to ascertain if there were anything in it beyond the fashion of a day, could have imagined what ramifications of information and interesting research are connected with it. And though the foregoing remarks present but a superficial view of its rise, progress, and present position, yet sufficient has been said to prove what interesting results may be derived from small beginnings, how amusement may be blended with instruction, and how study may be enlivened by amusement.

"Si quid novisti rectius istis
Candidus imperti; si non, his utero mecum."
—HOR., *Epist.* vi.

FORGED STAMPS: HOW TO DETECT THEM.

(Second Edition.)

BY EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

"**F**ORGED Stamps, How to Detect Them," appeared originally in the *Stamp Collector's Review*, perhaps the first magazine devoted entirely to postage stamps; the second edition of the same is now contributed to the pages of the latest candidate for public favour, and we trust may be as favourably received as were the original papers, a joint work, as most of our readers will be aware.

The two works appear at very different times, and under very different circumstances. At the time the first edition was written, there was indeed a great necessity for such a work; the

only one — *The Falsifications* — made that want even more apparent. Forgeries were rife, and philately (we had not the word then, or indeed, any but one connected with lunacy) was in its infancy; we were then but as little children, or as those groping in the dark. We knew nothing in common — those who had acquired knowledge or information had it as the fruits of their own toil and industry; and the *Stamp Collector's Review* was nearly the only source through which ideas could be exchanged or information obtained. It was not long alone; and how we have gone on, gradually unfolding the history of the postal movement, now in England, now in America, and then again in the "uttermost parts of the earth," is too well known to need any exposition at our hands; but a few words are due to those pioneers who have done so much to render clear what was formerly obscure, and to throw light where only darkness was before.

As the publisher of the first catalogue, editor of the first valuable paper on the Continent, and one of the first writers who treated his subject (of postage stamps) in a scientific or thoughtful way, M. Moens must always stand pre-eminent. Mount Brown, as the author of the first English catalogue (and one which deservedly met with success), is not to be overlooked; but it is in the names of Moens, Regnard, Herpin, and Magnus, that we find our chiefest writers. Compared to these, no English writer can be mentioned, though we have many of great merit, as the pages of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* will amply prove (we must hope, too, that the pages of the *Philatelist* may be irradiated as those of the Bath paper have been). Dr. Magnus, although last mentioned, has perhaps done more towards making the study of postage stamps into a science than any other writer. To him we are indebted for ample and complete investigations of watermarks, which, since he called our attention to them, we are fully 'alive to the importance of studying. It is in

his admirable series of papers, *Sur les filigranes*, that we find the clue to many obscure issues, and the reason for many slight changes in stamps, which, unless the watermarks be studied, seem to be simply changes attributable to accident, but are proved by Dr. Magnus to be the result of design, and not accident or a printer's caprice.

We have thus far enlarged on the writings of others that we may say a few words on our own. Our path, the study of forgeries, leads us more to a negative view of stamps (showing what forgeries are *not*); but from the very fact of having to make minute comparison, it has been often impossible to overlook differences in genuine stamps, which, in themselves slight, might never have been noticed, were it not for the habit of minute investigation, formed by the study of forgeries. No one can ever become a judge of stamps who does not study them; and whilst on this subject we may appropriately give a few words of advice to young collectors. If a collector is anxious to acquire this habit of study, the best thing he can do to form the habit, is, in our opinion, to form a set of Victorias of the fourth, fifth, and sixth series, arranging the same by watermarks, paper, and perforation. As these stamps are on paper — wove, laid, or with four distinct watermarks, and either unperforated, perforated by the roulette, or by the ordinary machine, we think when a tolerable series has been obtained, our collector will have engendered such habits of close study as will fit him for more difficult undertakings. We would feel great pleasure in giving our assistance and advice to any one who might be tempted to collect a series of these stamps from our recommendation.

In connection with forgeries, facsimiles, and such like, we must enumerate reprints, the bane of every true collector. When we first wrote upon postage stamps, reprints were unknown, now unhappily they are legion, and have indeed, to some extent, superseded forgeries, the lesser evil of the two certain-

ly, but a system so shamefully abused as to have become as great a nuisance as forging. The first who re-issued obsolete stamps did so in colours approximating to the original shades of the stamps re-produced; but seeing the avidity with which these were purchased, they commenced inventing stamps, *i.e.*, striking from the old plates in colours never previously dreamed of by the wildest philatelist, calling these impressions *proofs*, proofs struck when the *issued* stamps had long been things of the past. The proofs of the reprinting epochs are simply inventions, not even reprints; so few ever having had any original existence, are *worthless impressions*, which, because they are not even imitations of any existing types, are of less value than forgeries, since the latter counterfeits something, but the reprint proof pretends to what never had an existence. We imagine, however, this is now pretty well accepted by collectors; so seeing that reprints are another species of forged stamps, they will be included under each country after we have described the forgeries.

We purpose taking each country in its alphabetical order, and describing minutely not only the forgeries and reprints, but the stamps themselves. The study of the real stamps is the best help to the detection of forged stamps, better than a dozen works on the subject, and it will therefore be our endeavour to lead the collector's notice to the peculiarities incident to nearly every stamp, points which if once known are of great help, inasmuch as they are with difficulty imitated. With these prefatory remarks, we will commence our task, trusting our readers may find our work as useful as we shall endeavour to make it.

Argentine Confederation.

These stamps, from their simplicity and crudeness of design, gave the forgers the first opportunity of exercising their skill, but, so little were stamps known in the detail of their design, that the

first forgery which appeared omitted to give the pole and cap of Liberty.

TYPE I. *Issued April, 1858.*

Design: Arms (rising sun above a transverse oval, which contains two hands clasping a pole, surmounted by a cap of Liberty), within a narrow Greek border, lettering, CONF^{ON}. ARGENTINA above, value below. Impressed in colour on white unwatermarked paper. Upright, block impression.

5 centav. vermilion.

TYPE II. *Issued end of 1858.*

Design: Arms and lettering as I., but within a larger Greek border, numerals of value smaller. Impressed in colour on white unwatermarked paper. Upright, block impressions.

5 c., vermilion red; 10 c., green; 15 c. blue.

TYPE III. *Issued about middle of 1862.*

Design: Arms (as before, but smaller, and supported by two branches), in a beaded circle, rayed ground beyond the circle, arched corners of crossed lines; lettering, REPUBLICA ARGENTINA within the circle; numeral with CENTAVOS in block letter on the rays forming the ground. On unwatermarked paper. Impressed in colour, upright.

5 c., dull red, rose red, rose; 10 c., green, emerald green; 15c., blue, light blue.

The first two types are those mostly forged; III. has only been very badly imitated by a lithograph, so poor that it could deceive none but the merest tyro.

TYPE I.

<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Forged.</i>
There is a full stop after figure 5, and after word CENTAV.	Stop after CENTAV is wanting.

TYPE II.

<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Forged.</i>
1.	1. In old forgeries, the staff and cap are wanting, and colours very vivid.
2. The oval containing the hands and staff touches the Greek border on each side.	2. This oval does not touch the frame on either side.

There is a 15 c., lilac, given by Bel-

lars and Davie, which does not seem to exist duly authenticated. There are, doubtless, other forgeries than these we describe, but the following digest of the stamps will enable the collector to guard against most that are offered. A thorough study and knowledge of the stamps themselves is the only guide to the detection of forgeries, and in accordance with this principle we enter minutely into these stamps to shew how they should be examined, though we should not deem it necessary or advisable to be so profuse in every instance.

I. The first type, which has but one stamp, far exceeds the type which follows it in execution. In this stamp the rays round the sun are composed of very minute dots, and are not very thick at the "roots." In the hands which clasp the staff, the fingers may be seen and counted; the oval containing the hands, &c., does not touch the frame of the stamp; there is a full stop after figure 5 and after word CENTAV.; there are eleven loops in the border both at top and bottom; there are sixteen on the left side, but only fourteen on the right.

II. The rays of the sun are composed of larger dots than in Type I; the border has seven loops at top and bottom, and nine on each side (*i. e.*, only counting those which are well defined and perfect, this applies to the last variety); the oval containing hands, &c., touches the frame on both sides; the hands have no fingers, but two gigantic thumbs are very distinct, the whole execution coarser than Type I. The ends of the rays are quite square, coming to a uniform length close to the name above them. The 5 c. has always either one or two stops after the numeral, but not the 10 or 15 c. Colour of this 5 c. is not so rich as that of the 5 c. of Type I.

These two types are on wove paper, generally slightly tinged by yellow; or, perhaps, more correctly speaking, they are never on a very purely white paper.

III. These being so badly forged, do not require much description. Many varieties will be found of these; some

(from a worn plate) have the background quite white. The earliest ones are very clear impressions, seeming almost as if a differently engraved stamp to the latter ones. Some have REPUBLICA spelt with, others without, an accent over the U.

IV. The current issue with the head of Rivadavia, bear a watermark in the paper, A. R. We have not met with any forgeries of these.

(To be continued.)

POST-OFFICE MISHAPS.

ONE of the most curious things connected with the Post Office (says a London journal), is the constant demand made upon the officials for the exercise of patience and ingenuity. No one would, beforehand, have expected such gross carelessness on the part of the public as is now known to be exhibited. The successive annual reports of the Postmaster-General show in how many different ways this carelessness makes itself felt. Sometimes there is inactivity at the Post Office itself. For instance, on a particular day in 1861, five hundred bankers' parcels, containing bills, notes, drafts, and other kinds of monetary paper, were not forthcoming at the proper hour; the postman did not bring them, and Lombard-street was in consternation. Messages and telegrams were despatched hither and thither without avail; when lo! the five hundred packets were found safely reposing in a basket, which had inadvertently been pushed under a table out of sight in one of the rooms at St. Martin's-le-Grand. This one peccadillo, however, is small compared with those which the public are every day perpetrating.

Among the incidents connected with the postal system, those which have given the greatest trouble and annoyance to the authorities relate to the *non-delivery of letters*. If A B writes to C D, and posts the letter, the Postmaster-general is accountable for its safe delivery, and is required to investigate the cause of any mishap. In some dis-

trespassing cases, letter-carriers have been found guilty of purloining ; in others, robbery has been committed by persons unconnected with the Post-office. In others, again, vexing though not distressing delays have occurred at some or other of the offices. But many of the cases which have had to be investigated have resulted in proof, after great trouble to the authorities, of absurd blunders committed by the senders and receivers of letters. The Annual Reports of the Postmaster-general are full of curiosities of this kind. A gentleman at Westmeath complained that a letter containing notes and bills for £400 had not been duly delivered ; after a world of trouble and anxiety to the Westmeath postmaster, the letter was found safe in a drawer belonging to the person to whom it was sent. A gentleman made complaint that a certain letter had not been delivered to him ; on investigation, it was found in his letter-box, which had not been looked into for several days. A firm ought to have received a letter containing half of a £10 note, and remonstrated at the non-delivery ; it was found that one of the partners had received it, locked it in his drawer, and forgotten all about it.

An important letter having miscarried, a clerk was examined as to whether he had posted it ; he solemnly averred he had, and honestly believed what he had said ; but happening to put his hand in his pocket while he was speaking, there was the letter ! A check for twelve pounds not forthcoming at the proper time, was found (after much anxiety and waste of time on the part of the postal authorities) to have been innocently sold among scraps of waste paper to a *papier mache* manufacturer to make into tea-trays. A letter containing halves of two ten-pound notes was dropped on its way to the Post Office and lost ; but the finder, happening to be honest, transmitted it to the proper owner. Another letter, delivered at a music-shop, was heedlessly wrapped up by a lady in a roll and carried away, a

fact which was not ascertained until the Post Office had been much worried and pestered about it.

Many letters, of which non-delivery was made matter for complaint, have been found peacefully lying in street-door letter-boxes. In one case, where the letter-box was out of order, fifteen letters, one as much as nine years old, were found between the box and the door. A bank agent sent his son to the post-office to receive a letter containing valuable enclosures ; the boy did so ; but father and son were wonderfully forgetful, seeing that the letter with enclosures valued at £1,500 found its way to school, and there remained unnoticed till the next holidays.

Lord Chancellor Cranworth on one occasion complained to Sir Rowland (then Mr Rowland) Hill that a letter of great importance had not reached him ; he afterwards found it buried under a heap of papers on his own table. A £10 note was put into a letter placed beside it ; each letter was put into the envelope intended for the other, and an honest postmaster, with fifty years' good service to back him, was driven nearly wild with anxiety at the confusion this blunder on the part of the sender occasioned.

We might greatly extend the examples of non-delivery of letters, through blunders on the part of the writer or the receiver ; but the above will suffice.

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

THE first number of our venture upon the patronage of the philatelic world appearing at the fag end of the year, a large array of novelties cannot be reasonably expected, because the earlier months are usually chosen for new issues ; we propose, therefore, to make up by multiplicity of represented individuals for the comparative paucity of first appearances.

ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.

To triumph! Something like a resuscitation ! The long solitary 5

centavos of the Argentine first emission has met with its kindred, and the trio is complete. We have the 10 centavos *green*, and 15 c. *blue*, before us unused; and are assured beyond all possibility of contradiction that they are veritable. Such being the case, the perfect set will rank high among postal rarities. No doubt, they will soon exercise the ingenuity of the Hamburg fac-simile makers, alias forgers; and collectors must be wary purchasers. After such a lucky windfall as this for philatelists, we need not despair of a full set of Hanoverians, type similar to that of the 3 pfennige, or the $\frac{1}{2}$ groschen; a three-penny and sixpenny, like the Nova Scotian penny; and, as a *ne plus ultra*, a twopenny V. R.!

SERVIA.

The impostor (as we understand it to be from "information received") here represented, is one of a set, values and colours respectively; 1 para green; 2 p. brown; 10 p. yellow; 20 p. rose; 40 p. blue, purporting to be an emanation from the principality of Servia, and bearing the profile of Prince Michael the Third.



CASHMEER.

We are pleased at being able to offer those of our readers who have not yet met with these Eastern novelties, a good representation of one of them. It will be found on inspection "not so black as it was painted." Considering the state of the typographic art in that distant locality, it is by no means a despicable production; and, for our own part, we would prefer such a native product to one imported from Western civilization, bearing as it does a local individuality.



The stamp has been described as square; the central and surrounding compartments as round! So much for hearsay evidence; the eye will correct the blunder. In fact, the description hitherto published of these exotics would seem to have been almost guesswork, and the engraving given by a continental contemporary, as the editor of another foreign journal aptly remarks, to have been taken from the impression of a thumb dipped in ink. There are two individuals known as yet; one black, the other, blue: printed on yellowish, unwatermarked paper; and, as may be naturally expected, destitute of perforations. The queer-looking round oddities are described as black, red, and blue. Are they two distinct emissions from the East?

MEXICO.

The latter months of the emperor Maximilian's reign will be signalled by a postal series, one of which is here represented. We cannot say much in favour thereof; the design, poor in itself, is very poorly executed. We decidedly prefer all the previous issues of the country: the earlier, if quaint and semi-barbaric, were quite in accordance with the wild and troublous regions they represented; and those just superseded formed an agreeable variety, differing as they did from the common herd of heads and arms. The essays bearing the emperor's head, as well as those with the representation of Juarez, are decidedly preferable. The specimen before us, engraved above, is printed orange yellow, showing the profile and lettering in white; value 25 centavos. Another, of similar device, worth double, being marked 50 c., is of a rich green colour. There are, moreover, two lower values, a 7 c., brown; and a 13c., blue; besides which, in all reasonable probability, the set will be completed by a 1 peso, printed in red.



PERU.

We know little of the three new appearances represented below, other



than is denoted by the inscription, impressed value, and emblems. We do not deem the diminution in size, and relegation of the Peruvian armorial insignia to the four corners, an improve-

ment on the earlier designs of the country. The great prominence given

to figures of value in stamps is more useful than ornamental; but postage stamps not having certainly been originally designed to ornament postage



albums, such an arrangement cannot be found fault with on that score. We confess to ignorance respecting the double date so conspicuously prominent.



It will be noticed that the dentilations are unusually wide apart, rendering it, we should imagine, very difficult to separate the individuals without risk of tearing. The values are 10 cen-

tavos, green; 25c., blue; and 1 sol., pale brown. We understand there are three others belonging to the set, and that they are productions of the American Bank Note Company; but their elegance of design, and excellence of execution, would sufficiently evidence this fact. Amateurs need not hurry too eagerly after these beautiful impressions, it being just possible they are not postal, but commercial stamps; the absence of the word *Correos*, and the high price of the brown one, equivalent to a dollar, seeming to favour the latter supposition.

EAST INDIES.

There possibly is or probably will be an East Indian complete set of the type annexed, the original of which is green. That colour having been used for the still (?) current two annas, we may reasonably expect another hue chosen for that denomination.



It is finely engraved, as are all De La Rue's productions, but partakes of the undecided appearance common to the same. The hideous post mark adopted by India—equalled only by that formerly used by Belgium, and the one current in Newfoundland—renders unused copies, *desirable* in all cases, *indispensible* here.

SPAIN.

The Spanish Congress of Deputies formerly employed a stamp, of which the appended cut is a fac-simile. We have seen such dated so long since as June 22nd, 1859. Agreeably with the second adjective of our title we shall note all productions falling under our notice that have not hitherto been chronicled, inclusive of such as the one before us, with proofs and essays, leaving our readers the option of acceptance or rejection.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The South Australian ninepenny, superseded as far as regards value, and printed orange yellow like the shilling of St. Lucia, now does duty as a provisional tenpenny, having its actual currency stamped in blue ink conformably to the plan adopted for the St. Helena labels.



GUATEMALA.

In another part of this magazine, we

took occasion to express a doubt concerning the reported manufacture of postage stamps for this country. The *on dit*, however, is not a *canard*; and another page must really be added to our already overflowing albums.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Two Circular Delivery local stamps for the metropolis have recently made their appearance, one of which is annexed. It is mauve coloured. The companion is blue; design precisely alike; value of course excepted, being one farthing. They are very neatly litho-



graphed. We have here the pleasure of announcing on what we may term good authority, that postal changes



involving new issues are contemplated in our own country by "the powers that be." The appended cut tells its own tale, and adds another recruit to the now respectable assortment of catalogued local railway carriage labels. The colour is green; there is also a penny one in blue.

ST. DOMINGO.

A postage emanation for the republic of St. Domingo, formed out of the eastern or Spanish portion of the island of Hispaniola, has been known for some months; but we find that an issue existed so long ago as 1862, very much resembling one of those individuals hitherto known to collectors. The sole difference consists in the words *UN REAL* in the specimen before us being in



italics, whereas the later stamp has the same in Roman letters.

PRUSSIA.

The subjoined cut figures one of the field-post stamps issued for the use of the Prussian soldiery during the late continental war.



By using an envelope, the stamp on which the annexed figure duly pictures, letters were gratuitously transmitted homewards from the army.

It is to be presumed that the royal (soon to be imperial) eagle and upper inscription was ever the same, the lower words being hand-stamped according to requirement.

BAVARIA.

One of the rarest stamps in the early days of collecting was what bore the name of the Wurtemberg returned-



letter stamp, which a contemporary writer denies to be such. Be that as it may, in addition to an impression of similar nature used for Munich exclusively, the ancient city of Bamberg affords us one of which the annexed is a fac-simile.

Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN.

An envelope and corresponding adhesive have recently appeared for this little territory. The type remains unvaried. Value 2 schilling; colour, violet.

MONTE VIDEO.

The quartette of labels at present current in this country are now perforated.

PORTUGAL.

Another addition to the new series has entered an appearance; the 5 reis, which, under its present type, is black.

SWITZERLAND.

A lilac stamp of the current type, value 50 centimes, is announced for the 1st January next; and also a set of envelopes, most probably corresponding with the colours, &c., of the adhesive issue.

THE WATERMARKED STAMPS OF VICTORIA.

BY EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

FEW stamps show the necessity of the study of papers, watermarks, and perforations, as the only way of classifying the contents of an album, to the extent that the Victorians bearing the Queen's head do. The differences first noted by the French and Belgian amateurs, seemed at the outset to be immaterial, trifling, and oftentimes somewhat absurd; a study, however, of these most interesting stamps, shows us that each variety, howsoever trifling in paper or perforation, has an analagous change in colour, and we further learn that such variation is an arbitrary one, and that in a dozen copies of the same paper and perforation we shall find a distinctive style running through all, so much so, that an experienced philatelist will tell you at a glance what paper, or what watermark you will find in a stamp, the face only of which you show to him.

There being no published list in which every stamp may be vouched for, it is not surprising that the arrangement of Victorias, as they arrange themselves (watermarks and perforations), has found little favour in England; but we trust the appended list may awaken the desires of those who have hitherto arranged by the appearances alone of their stamps, to have their Victorian series classified with accuracy and discrimination.

That every stamp herein given exists, we can positively vouch, as they are, with few exceptions, in our own collection, and we had ocular proof of all the other varieties.

I. Diademed head of Queen to left, in oval, lettered VICTORIA with full value, emblems in each angle, (cows, ship, &c), rose, shamrock and thistle on each side within the oval; impressed in colour on various papers as below.

§ First impression.

Star watermark, not perforated.

1p., dull yellow green; 4p., vermilion, vermilion red, flesh red.

Star watermark, perforated by roulette

4p., flesh red.

Star watermark, perforated by machine.

1p., dull yellow green.

Of the stamps star watermarked, there is no stamp of the value of two-pence, the 2p., Queen on Throne, being used until this lot was exhausted.

§ Second impression.

Woven unwatermarked paper, not perforated.

1p., pale emerald green; 2p., pale lilac; 4p., pale rose.

Wove paper; perforated by roulette.

1p., pale emerald; 4p., pale rose.

Wove paper, perforated by machine.

1p., yellow green, dull emerald green; 2p., mauve, lilac slate;

4p., pale rose, bright rose.

It seems to us, from analogy of colour, that the 1p. machine perforated was the first issued of this set, the yellow green being identical (or nearly so) with the 1p. star. The unperforated set is distinguished by the beauty of the colours, which are very pale pure tints, and the impressions are very clear. The rouletted series are uniform with it in colour, the 4p., perhaps, being a shade brighter than the unperforated one; the machine perforated series again being as different in shade as light from darkness, especially in the 2p. There is a variety of the 1p., machine, which is upon thin paper rather glazed, the colour deep dull yellow green.

§ Third impression.

On laid paper, perforated by roulette.

2p., mauve, dull mauve, dull lilac, and brown lilac.

4p., flesh, pale rose.

On laid paper, perforated by machine.

1p., dull green, green; 4p., rose, deep rose.

§ Fourth impression.

On paper watermarked with a thin figure of the value of the stamp; machine perforated.

2p., lilac to mauve, every intermediate shade, and violet, violet slate, various shades.

§ Fifth impression.



On paper watermarked with the value of the stamp in full.

1p., green, light green.

2p., lilac, pale violet, slate, and intermediate.

Error of watermark, **THREEPENCE**.

2p., pale violet, lilac, pale lilac.

II. Diademed head to left in beaded oval, with lettering outside the beads in white, with ornamental corners; value in white in small oval on each side.

§ Thin numeral of value watermarked; roulette perforated.

4p., rose.

Thin numeral of value watermarked; machine perforated.

4p., pale rose, rose.

§ Wove paper, not watermarked, machine.

4p., dull deep rose, thin surfaced paper; thicker yellow, and thin blue tinted paper.

§ Laid paper, machine perforated.

3p., deep blue, blue (there is no pale blue).

§ Watermark value in full, machine perforated.

3p., sky blue, blue, deep dull blue, 3p., lake.

4p., rose, deep rose.

6p., yellow, orange, black.

Error of watermark, **FIVE SHILLINGS**.

4p., deep rose.

The 4p. error has the watermark usually placed diagonally on the paper, more rarely it shows horizontally, like the usual watermark. It occurs on all stamps on the sheet, and not on the end stamp of a row as has been sometimes stated. Our own copy shows a second one below it, and another we know shows parts of four watermarks on the stamp, a certain proof that the adjoining impressions were also so watermarked.

III. Head as last, but in plain oval; lettering black in colour; machine perforated.

1st. Watermark value in full.

6p., grey black.

2nd. Watermark, thin numeral of value.

6p., grey, jet black.

IV. As above, but with a white ring within the lettered oval.

Watermark, thin numeral of value.

The figure 6 in these two last is generally very indistinct, and is frequently not to be noticed. Still, such stamps are not unwatermarked.

V. Diademed head in oval lettered as I., block letters, netted corners, no emblems, a star on each side of the head in the oval. Impressed in colour; machine perforated.

1st. Watermark, thick numeral of value (numeral of double lines).

1p., green, pale green.

2nd. Watermark, value in full.

1p., green.

3rd. Watermark, thin numeral of value (numeral a single line).

1p., green.

VI. Laureated head of Queen to left in circle, **VICTORIA** in straight label above, value in full below, a leaf in each spandril, impressed in colour, all machine perforated.

1st. Watermark, thick numeral of value (double lines).

4p., deep rose, pink, dirty rose.

2nd. Watermark, a single line figure.

1p., pale green, green, deep green ;
2p., violet, lilac ; 4p., pink, deep
rose, rose ; 8p., orange.

≤ VII. and VIII. We come to the present 6p. blue, and 10p., slate on white, brown lake on pink, watermarked with outline numeral of value. The slate 10p. is invariably found watermarked 8. The 6p. Victoria POSTAGE STAMP in black has the watermarked value in full. The yellow stamps issued previously to the black are as follows :

1st. 6p., brown orange, yellow, and pale yellow.
2nd. Perforated by roulette.
6p., yellow.
3rd. Perforated by machine.
6p., yellow.

Many of these stamps are of the greatest rarity. The following list comprises the unattainable, of which very few copies are known :—

1p., star, machine.
2p, wove, machine.
4p., wove, unperforated.
4p., beaded oval, thin figure, roulette.
6p. POSTAGE STAMP, yellow, machine.
4p., beaded oval. Error, FIVE SHILLINGS.

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

Postage-Stamp Album and Catalogue of British and Foreign Postage Stamps. Revised, corrected, and brought up to the present time, by Dr. Viner. (Forming the Ninth Edition of Oppen's Album and Catalogue).
London: William Stevens.

THIS is the second edition published under the present editorship, less than a twelvemonth having sufficed for the exhaustion of the previous issue. Those who know Oppen's Album and Catalogue from the earlier editions alone, will scarcely recognise the work under the improved appearance of these last two editions. A summary of the mani-

fold alterations and additions will sufficiently evidence the superiority of the publication in the form before us.

The latest of the preceding editions contained but 160 pages in the Album department; the eighth received an additional 40, and the one under review has been further increased by 16 more. These additional pages are partly assigned to such countries as Mecklenberg-Strelitz, the Bermudas, Egypt, British Honduras, Shanghai, and others that had but recently emitted stamps; partly to Spain, Portugal, France, British Guiana, New Granada, Hamburg, &c.: places which had been very insufficiently provided with room; and to the United States and other locals, which, though quoted in the catalogue, had no room provided for their appearance in the Album.

Besides the vast supplementary space thus afforded for specimens, a further supply was obtained by three several contrivances, without increasing the bulk of the volume. Firstly, the descriptions of stamps in the Album portion were omitted, these being superfluous *with*, and insufficient *without* the Catalogue. Again, Nicaragua, Corrientes, Malta, Antigua, and others had been allowed no fewer than twelve squares for the insertion of from two to four individuals. To such is now apportioned a half page only in lieu of a whole one. Thirdly, the mention of essays and all forgeries is omitted, with the exception of a few of the former, for reasons assigned in the preface. Loose leaves ruled in accordance with the Album can be obtained from the publisher, in case of additional room being requisite.

Other improvements have been made in the latest two editions. Finland, Poland, the Ionian Isles, Bergedorf, and the French, Spanish, Danish, and Dutch Colonies are now allotted proper compartments in their own quarters of the world, instead of being inconveniently and inconsistently crowded and confused among the Russian, Greek, and Hamburg stamps, or

their respective parent territories. Until the eighth edition, the issues of Naples and Sicily, totally unlike as they are, were muddled together under one heading, and Schleswig and Holstein, whose joint and several emanations want but one more to make a couple of dozen, were lumped with Denmark and her colonials in a most heterogeneous mass of confusion.

During the course of the current year, besides the Egyptian and other entirely novel recruits, Newfoundland, the Brazils, &c., have largely contributed to the multiplication of postal emissions, and the necessary space has been consequently assigned them; the Danubian and Levant locals are also housed in the present edition, and the first four issues, hitherto wrongfully included under the heading of Italy, three of which never served for Italy at all, appropriately figure under their rightful denomination of Sardinian.

Notwithstanding these multifarious improvements, there will be something to necessitate revisal in a future edition. Perfection, if ever attainable, is seldom attained; and a publication devoted to such mercurial matters as postage stamps, can scarcely be expected to keep up with their eccentricities. A reliable account of the emissions of Cashmere only reached the editor in time for a slight mention in the Catalogue, and consequently are excluded from admission into the Album. Those of the principality of Servia, respecting which there seems some doubt, are in the same predicament. A twelve-month's probation will certainly afford these a satisfactory settlement, but the Persian set, which were known from essays alone, have not entered an appearance, and we are informed by one of Her Majesty's Consuls for that country, that nothing of the kind is expected, as far as he is aware.

Considerable additions have been made to the number of armorials previously described; but British Guiana, New Zealand, some of the West India Islands, others of our colonial posses-

sions, Liberia, Réunion, &c., are still deficient; though we trust that the next edition will render them complete in such respect.

The volume before us is further enriched by the names of the various South American and other presidents, as far, we suppose, as is ascertainable, from the frequent revolutionary turmoils in some of those distant regions. The statistic information has moreover been revised; and the astounding political changes, bearing, as they do, in a measure, on postal arrangements, are duly noticed. Finally, we may congratulate the purchasers of the current edition on the printer's non-employment of the dull and unsightly brown ink last used; and with best wishes for the general acceptance and speedy exhaustion of the edition, commend it to the patronage of the philatelic public.

Descriptive Catalogue of all Postage Stamps issued from 1840 to 1866, with their dates of emission, values, colours, and varieties, as well as the prices at which they may be procured at A. Maury's, 23, rue Le Peletier, Paris. Second edition. Paris: A. Maury.

THE above translation of the title page of M. Maury's useful little publication expresses, and most accurately, its purpose and nature; but does not say how very neatly and carefully it is printed, and elegantly got up. The covers, embellished with engravings of stamps, printed in inks of three different colours, add to its attractive appearance. No fewer than a hundred and ninety of the choicest postage stamps figure in its pages, including most of the recent emissions.

The trifling price of the little work (1 franc) would place it within reach of the humblest collector; but there is, a *bonus* annexed to its purchase—being no less than the addition of a twelve-months' free subscription to the talented author's *Postage Stamp Collector's Magazine*, published in Paris on the 15th of each month!

The Illustrated Album and Catalogue of British, Colonial, and Foreign Postage Stamps. By H. STAFFORD SMITH. London: Hall and Co. Brighton: Stafford Smith and Co.

UNDER the above quoted title is just ready a Postage-Stamp Album, after a totally new plan, equally ingenious and novel. The semi-geographical, semi-alphabetical combined arrangement, now general in the best albums and catalogues, is followed, which, in conjunction with the simplicity of method, whereby a number corresponding with the catalogued specimen, points out its due place in each page, renders this well-got-up work peculiarly appropriate for juvenile collectors, and appearing at the present festive season, will form an acceptable and instructive Christmas box.

To meet all purses, the volume is published in four several styles, the price being in accordance with paper, binding, ornamentation, &c. The cheapest edition is 4s. 6d.; the next, more expensively printed on better paper, is 6s. 6d.; the same in morocco, 10s. 6d.; and still more *recherché*, 15s. It must be understood that the letter-press of all, even the cheapest edition, is precisely the same.

The work is intended for the use of foreign as well as home philatelists, and with that purpose, a preface is prefixed in French and German. By way of frontispiece, some two-dozen rejected essays figure, some of which decidedly bear the palm over the emissions of the engravers chosen by the various governments.

POSTAL SCRAPS.

THE CURRENT INDIAN STAMPS are water-marked with an elephant's head.

THE FRANKFORT POST ZEITUNG, founded in 1816, by the Prince of Thurn and Taxis, and continued by the Princes of that House as hereditary postmasters-general of the Office until the late break up of Austria, Thurn and Taxis and its postal convention, has ceased to exist.

THE SIXPENNY NEW SOUTH WALES.—The last mail has brought us a fresh error of watermark, the 6d. mauve on the 5d. paper, i.e., with a watermark figure 5. The specimen before us came side by side with an ordinary 6d. stamp.

A LUCRATIVE POST.—A short time since the head porter of Trinity College, Cambridge, died, and it has since turned out that he had amassed between £15,000 and £20,000 during the period in which he had held office. According to the regulations in force, he was entitled to make a charge of one half-penny for every letter which was delivered through the post-office to him for the under-graduates, and the receipts from this source must have amounted to no inconsiderable sum in a society which musters some 600 resident students. The authorities of the college propose to pay the new porter a fixed salary of £250 per annum. There are upwards of forty candidates for the vacant post.

A POSTAGE-STAMP SWINDLER.—A provincial town of France was visited in the course of the present summer by a member of the above-mentioned worthy fraternity, who entered a tobacconist's shop, which in most continental towns is a sale-place for stamps, postal or otherwise. He then looked out a hundred of the higher value, which he stated were to be sent to a friend in payment of a debt, produced an envelope from his pocket, deposited the stamps therein, asked for a pen, and wrote a direction on the enclosure. So far, so good. But he then adroitly contrives to substitute another envelope for the one containing the stamps, pulls out his purse, which is not sufficiently provided with coin for payment; says he will return speedily with the necessary sum, bolts with the postage stamps, enters no re-appearance, and the done shopkeeper finds the exchanged envelope filled with bits of paper!

FOUR TO POST A LETTER.—A continental journal gravely recounts the following apocryphal statement of the superabundant carefulness of the canny Scottish Highlanders, that the delicate operation of posting a letter requires the combined exertions of no fewer than four individuals. One brings the missive to the post carefully wrapped in paper, another enters the office to purchase a stamp, which he hands to the third, who carefully moistens and affixes the same. The last of the quartette then regards the hole of admission suspiciously, and jerks the letter thereinto with all his might; and the onerous transaction is then completed by the anxious successive glances of all four into the box for assurance of its safe reception!

RUSSIAN STAMPS.—All these stamps are found perforated with the exception of the 5kop., of which the earlier specimens are unperforated; this, in addition to its unfinished state, is distinguishable from the other perforated stamps of 5kop. by being of a very dark brown. The first complete perforated set—1, 3, 5, 10, 20, and 30kop.—have 10 by 14 dents. These have been superseded by another set very recently, printed in aniline colours, and presenting a glazy appearance; the perforation of these is small, the dents being 12 by 17 in number.

HOW THE FRENCH STAMPS ARE PRINTED.—The manufacture of these valuable little bits of paper is a Government monopoly in France as well as everywhere else, but is farmed out to a private contractor, who has his workshops in a back court of the Hôtel des Monnaies, or Mint, where a million and a half of postage stamps are daily produced at a cost to the Government of 90c. per 1,000, so that in the case of the lowest description of stamps, of the value of 1c., the Government profit is 910c., or 9f. 10c. per 1,000. The same workshops also

produce the postage stamps for the French colonies, the kingdom of Greece, the Republic of Guatemala, and any other foreign countries that choose to apply. The sheets used in this manufacture are first subjected to a preliminary process—viz., that of covering the whole surface with a sort of white transparent ink, an operation which is performed by means of cylinders. The object of this process is to prevent forgery, for were any one to attempt transferring the design to a lithographic stone, both the inks, the white and the coloured one, would stick to the stone, and nothing but a uniform coloured impression could be obtained. The composition of the white ink is a secret. In the press room 12 powerful presses are constantly at work, the men having a number of colours spread out before them on marble slabs. But there is a portion of the operation which, after printing, is entirely effected by the hand; this consists in laying on certain specks of colour with a brush. The last operation consists in pricking holes all round each stamp; this is done by machinery in the following way:—The sheets when printed are taken to another workshop, where they are cut into half sheets, each containing 150 stamps. Five of these half-sheets are laid one upon the other, and strongly pressed together in a frame, an operation performed by two boys; the frame then passes under the pricking apparatus, and is thence brought back to the workman's hands by a combination of pulleys. The bad stamps are now picked out, and the remainder sent to the General Post-office.—*Gaig-nani.* [The above is the first information we have received respecting an emission of Guatemala. We are inclined to think the word a misprint, or the report a *canard.*]

A QUEER POSTAL ALARUM.—In the Paris Exhibition of paintings, engravings, sculpture, &c., of the present year, was an oil picture by M. Pasini, one of the most noteworthy in the saloon, both from novelty of its subject and excellence of design and execution. Amidst a dreary Persian landscape dimly visible in the twilight, lay extended on the ground a sleeping courier, whose sole clothing was a white tunic confined by a red morocco girdle; a small leather bag hanging from his neck, and iron-shod staff in his right hand. A string passing between the toes is rolled round his right leg, which, apparently saturated with some inflammable but not too quickly consuming matter, is slowly burning; in due time the flame is supposed to reach the foot and awaken the sleeper! This queer and unpleasant alarm is not confined to the use of Persian couriers alone. A friend of ours in Paris received from India the model of an Indian of the same fraternity in terra cotta, dressed, or rather undressed, in precisely the same style as the Persian in the painting; but the despatch bag was hanging at his right side, and his staff garnished with rattling copper lozenge-shaped ornaments, both to announce his arrival as did the horns of our western postmen, and to scare the wild beasts in his rapid transit of three miles in five minutes! So fast do the supple limbs and light frames of these Eastern couriers allow them to go. Like his Persian representative, the Indian puppet has a small cord round his waist, which he fastens to his leg at the due hour of repose, lights it, and lays down. It is said that the power of habit is such that the man scarcely ever fails to awake an instant or two before the fire would scorch his skin.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WHERE IS ST. THOMAS?

To the Editor of 'THE PHILATELIST.'

SIR,—Will any one kindly enlighten me as to the whereabouts St. Thomas or San Tomas mentioned on the local La Guaira stamps? I had always supposed the locality was identical with the St. Thomas situated on the Orinoco on the confines of British Guiana. The *Timbre Poste* (vol. ii., page 67) states that it is in the Gulf of Honduras, whilst from a private source I am told it is identical with the Island of St. Thomas belonging to Denmark, which island lies many hundred miles to the east of Honduras, and is not far from Antigua.

Yours obediently,
H. CAMOENS.

Johannisville.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

P. Z., Sydenham.—The Servian stamps are described in the present number of our magazine. In the absence of positive information on the subject, they must be taken for the present *cum grano salis*.

ENQUIRER, Dalston.—The Persian stamps are not yet issued, and, as you will perceive from a remark in another part of this number, it is by no means certain they ever will be. Strange that the country which was the first institutor of posts, should be one of the last to adopt the modern improvements thereant.

PHILATELIST, York.—Your remark is a natural one, but, though bearing so decidedly on postal matters, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, we decline giving an opinion.

EMMA, Bath.—Our magazine is by no means to be understood as starting in opposition to your native favourite. We believe that modicum of the vast world, denominated in technical parlance the philatelic community, counts a sufficient population to justify the publication of two magazines of similar nature. We do not wish to sport such a placard as may be seen in some out-of-the-way neighbourhoods, "No connection with the shop over the way."

W. M. C.—Your article is received, but does not sufficiently bear upon postal issues to render its insertion acceptable to our subscribers.

A. C., Norwich.—By the continental philatelists both portraits on the newly-issued Brazilians are considered to represent the reigning Emperor; those on the 20r and 200r having been taken from a bust, and the others from a portrait.

E. HAMILTON.—Thanks for your information. You will find the stamp described in our article on Recent Emissions.

FOREIGN STAMPS.—The first stamp you describe is the current 4 skilling of Denmark; and the other is one of three composing the first issue for the principality of Roumanis, or Moldavia and Wallachia united; generally known in Western Europe as Moldo-Wallachia, or the Danubian Principalities. They were superseded by the set bearing the head of the dethroned Prince Couza, which in their turn have ceded to the representatives of the present Hospodar, Prince Charles of Hohenzollern.

PHILATELY, AS IT IS.

BY HERBERT CAMOENS.

"Till old age and experience hand in hand,
Lend him to death, and make him understand,
After a search so painful and so long,
That all his life he has been in the wrong."

—Anon.

ABOUT twenty years ago, an advertisement appeared in the *Times*, offering a guinea reward to any one who could tell who was the author of this precious piece of sour sentiment, which Goethe quotes in his Autobiography. Whether the guinea was earned is not recorded. Applicable as this quotation may be to some pursuits, it is to be hoped that neither philately nor its followers will ever succumb to such a melancholy discovery. On the contrary, there is every reason to anticipate that age and experience will but demonstrate more convincingly, that notwithstanding occasional errors in judgment, this pursuit, which a leading journal once stigmatized as "the most puerile of all manias," is not only sound at the core, but is cultivated by its true followers on sound principles, and for a legitimate and praiseworthy end, namely, the encouragement of intellectual amusement. Of course there are many who collect merely for the sake of occupation, or because it is the fashion; but this, far from being an objection, is an encouragement rather than a hindrance to the "right sort."

How does philately stand at the present time?

Having already glanced at its antecedents, a few words on its present position, its difficulties and deficiencies, with, perhaps, a rough guess at its prospects, may not be out of place.

It has served, as it were, a seven years' apprenticeship to that most capricious of all masters—public opinion, and is now out of its time; dependent still, it is true, to a certain degree, on its former influential protector, but, nevertheless, having a status and independence of its own, which it had not, and could not have in the days of its minority.

Among its difficulties, it has still to

combat the hydra-headed monster, Ridicule. "Those abominable stamps, what can you see in them to induce you to waste so much time and money over them?" is no uncommon sample of the sort of discouragement to be met with from the uninitiated. Yet these same carping individuals do not scruple to spend a guinea on an evening's amusement, or on a short railway trip, which lasts but a few hours, and often leaves no better reminiscence than a bad headache, or an uneven temper, which stamps never do! To such persons, ignorance may be bliss for a time. Let them enjoy it for a while to their hearts' content. Philately has more than one Hercules in its ranks, who can successfully combat this monster Ridicule, so intimidating to some, so tiresome to all.

Among the difficulties still undecided are those specimens of stamps originally issued of a green colour, which are occasionally met with quite *blue*. The most important of these is undoubtedly the 1 guten groschen 1st issue of Hanover. More than one leading authority has affirmed that it is neither more nor less than the green stamp chemically changed. This, however, may at once be disproved by the fact that all green are on watermarked paper, while all blues are on plain paper. The most probable surmise is, that the stock of watermarked paper being in those early and less experienced days temporarily exhausted, a few sheets were struck off on plain paper to meet the emergency, the colour also being changed to prove they were not forged, but officially issued. That some Hanoverian post-office official has ignored them, is a very small matter. They were probably in use but a very short time, and designed only to meet a temporary emergency, quite excusable in a first issue, when the executive could scarcely be well up in calculating for demand and supply.

The 12½ cents Canada, and the 10 cents, old issue, United States, *blue*, are possibly "chemicals" or sea-water

hybrids. Their appearing perfectly green by candlelight suggests, though it does not prove, that they are so. Yet, if really changelings, why should not the 7½d. green of Canada, and the present 10 cents United States, be met with of the same hue? A similar question may be asked with regard to the 3 neu groschen grey of Saxony, head to the right, generally yellow. If it be a changeling, why is not the 3 n. g. of the next issue also found grey? The 9 kr. *white* of Baden and of Wurtemberg, generally pink, have been equally condemned, while the 3 kr. blue, and 3 kr. green, of the former Grand Duchy, though quite as unnecessary and unaccountable, have neither of them been disputed.

The black or brown penny Victoria occurring only on the 1862 issue, green without emblems, may reasonably be accounted for by the supposition, that the vessel conveying them suffered shipwreck, and that the mail bags were consequently submerged for a time. The blue black 4d. Cape, and 6d Victoria will not bear investigation. If soaked in hard water, the original blue soon begins to peep through. The red-brown Mauritius is equally apocryphal; but the rare red-brown sixpenny Barbados, unperforated, appears more worthy of credit, yet is not altogether above suspicion.

The reprehensible custom of striking off so many proofs in a variety of colours, though now well understood, will hereafter be confusing to future collectors, if such specimens be placed, without note or comment, among acknowledged postage stamps.

The demand for rare obsolete stamps is already greater than the supply, and unless collectors will be satisfied in general to collect only stamps in use from 1861 onwards,—which will give them quite enough to do to fill a handsome album,—they will offer a stimulus to forgery and reprints, injurious to the cause of philately, and ultimately unsatisfactory to themselves.

Passing on to deficiencies, it may be

observed, that hitherto no one seems to have turned their attention to enquiring about the period at which stamps became admissible for the prepayment of letters to the colonies and dependencies of the several parent states. That stamps when first 'decreed' did duty only in the country by which they were issued, is certain with regard to Great Britain, and is most probable with regard both to the British Colonies and European states. The discrepancy in the asserted dates of issue of the 1d, 2d., and 3d. "View of Sydney" stamps, (the latter probably the earliest,) is perhaps attributable to the non-observance of this point. It would form a most interesting branch of study and enquiry of itself, as well as throw considerable light on some still obscure questions.

The future of philately, if we may judge from appearances, looks bright and promising. In the course of time it will doubtless cease to be the fashion; and firms now flourishing by promoting its progress, will have to run with the stream, and turn their attention into newer and perhaps as yet undeveloped channels. But even then, philately will have its quiet friends and adherents, still proud of, and deserving the name of philatelists.

RETROSPECTIVE AND PROSPECTIVE.

BY DR. C. W. VINER.

THE prophetic year 1867 is scarcely yet existent. Who shall imagine its twelvemonths' programme? Its predecessor was one of the most eventful in modern history, pregnant with "wars and rumours of wars;" and, if we may be allowed *parvis componere magna*—stamps and rumours of stamps. Among the latter were reported emanations from Abyssinia, Persia, and Siam. The former is still *in nubibus*; but we have seen a pair of essays, one of which is not unknown to general collectors, for the second; and a proposed type for the last, that must by

this time have arrived at Bangkok for approval. We understand the Persian government has not fully decided upon an issue; which is the more singular, since that country is universally acknowledged to have been the pioneer of postal transmissions.

En revanche, we have had most unexpectedly two very uncouth sets of apparitions, both purporting to proceed from Cashmeer. The longest known, the round series, we believe to be well authenticated; the rectangular, though more legitimate in appearance, we confess viewing with suspicion. Some of the lower characters are undoubtedly Arabic, one of the upper is Greek; another is an Arabic numeral (our own figure 6.) There are also visible, a sign of the Zodiac, the well-known fig or pine so universal on the Cashmere shawls, and a few Indian letters. The central oval appears provided with a rudely represented supply of elephants, goats, and sheep. In effect, the stamp has every appearance of having been ingeniously got up for sale. Time will show.

A change in the fiscal arrangements of the Austrian post-office was rumoured, a general fee of 5 kreuzer having been proposed for all inland letters; but that unfortunate empire has found more highly momentous affairs to occupy its attention. A similar reason we presume, holds good, to account for the non-appearance of the expected and prepared elegant series of new stamps for Bavaria; though scarcely for the deferment of the 2 centimes Belgian, and by no means for that of the long-announced lower values of Holland, the latter country being, for the present, unscathed by the acicular hurricane.

Few years, if any, have been so fertile in postal novelties as the past. These, moreover, are distinguishable for beauty and variety. The set of Newfoundland stamps will immediately occur to our reader's mind. To these may be added the elegantly-designed Brazilians by the same engravers, and the 15 cents

of the United States. Spain, Finland, &c., have also enriched our albums with complete new sets; while Honolulu, the East Indies, St. Vincent, Victoria, Sweden, and other countries present us each with one or more individuals, either as additions to former, or instalments towards new series.

Egypt, British Honduras, Servia, the local authorities of some northern cities, and the Danubian Steam Navigation Company, have started up to recruit the ranks of philately. The railroad impressions of Great Britain and the local Londoners contribute their quota to our list, which is further swelled by a resuscitation from St. Domingo, and the equally unexpected and welcome pair of primitive Argentinians.

The philatelic losses may be separated into two categories, the actual and the probable. Among the former may be enumerated the stamps of Hanover, extinct since the 1st of October. The pages in collectors' albums devoted to that country can now be fully completed and finally arranged, being the only ones susceptible of such a "consummation devoutly to be wished." All its issues, including varieties in colour, perforation, &c., are fully known; and no specimen (except, perhaps, the 1 gutegroschen, *blue*, still an object for doubt with some) is rare enough to be unattainable, even in an unused state, at a comparative low figure. Among the "has-beens" ranks too, the South-Australian ninepenny, now doing temporary duty under another denomination; and we understand that the fourpenny Cape of Good Hope, with our own ninepenny, are, or soon will be, defunct.

When we spoke above of *losses*, we, of course, meant to imply such as we have just enumerated—lost as far as any chance remains of successors, not the simply superseded issues of Brazil, the Argentine Confederation, Peru, &c., from whose ashes, like the Phoenix, rise sets with renovated strength and beauty. The probable retirements from active service will be the majority, if

not all of the Thurn and Taxis stamps, the Holsteiners, and perchance, other German states, ere the year closes. The current issue of Spain will very possibly give place to successors; and if report errs not, serious political changes, resulting in the abdication of her Christian Majesty will for ever close the varied assemblage of portraits of the Queen of Spain, Here it may not be *mal a propos* to remark, that the *Stamp Collector's* and other illustrated magazines are actually purchased by non-postal amateurs, expressly for the sake of the heads and profiles of sovereigns and others there represented, unprocureable in any other way!

The advisability of presenting the above noted facts in a tabular view, for greater convenience of reference, occurs to us. We therefore, append a list of all postage stamps that have made appearance, or rather, that have been for the first time chronicled during the past year, inclusive of such as have been eliminated from obscurity like the Argentines, &c., concluding with a list of the honoured dead, and of our probable expectancies.

It will be noticed that the majority of recruits are local; for instance, the emissions from the two Finland towns, the Danubian Company, Dresden, Shanghai, London, &c. Egypt, Cashmeer, British Honduras, and Servia, being the only additional postage-stamp producing countries. With such exceptions, in fact, Europe may now be considered fully represented in postal issues, unless we get a fresh series of impressions superseding the current Prussians, and doing duty for the expected German Empire. If Siam, Persia, Abyssinia, China, Japan, Paraguay, and a few minor West Indian Islands join the ranks, postage-stamp albums may be finally arranged to meet all requirements; and now return we to our—sheep.

Europe.

BELGIUM.

June 1, 1 centime, grey (Belgian arms).

June 1, 10 centimes, grey (king's head).
 " 20 " blue (").
 " 40 " rose (").
 Sept. 1, 5 " brown (Belgian arms).

BAVARIA.

For Returned Letters.

(1865) Black impression for Munich.
 (1866) " " for Bamberg.

DANUBIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

July, 17 soldi, rose.
 Sept., 10 " violet.

DENMARK.

Large stamp for railway parcels,
 8 skillings, blue.
 12 " light brown.

FENIAN REPUBLIC.

Green impression, 24 cents, inscribed
 REPUBLIC OF IRELAND.

This essay, preserved in our postage stamp album, will prove a tangible record, or "paper medal," for distant ages, of one mad phase of the current history of 1865.

FINLAND.

January, 5 penni, brown on lilac.
 " 10 " black on buff.
 " 20 " blue on blue.
 " 40 " carmine on pink.

Local for Helsingfors.

Impression partly green, partly red on white, 10 pennia.

Local for Tammerfors.

Light green and blue on white,
 12 penni.

FRANCE.

Essays of Envelopes.

Black, brown, blue, green, yellow, red, and various shades of colours, on envelopes of different sizes and forms; thick, thin, plain, and fancy papers.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Ninepence, yellow brown; large letters at the angles.

Private impression of Smith, Elder, and Co.

March, rose pink, 3d. (wrapper).

London.

London Circular and Pamphlet Delivery Company.

October, one farthing, blue ;
 " one halfpenny, mauve.

English Railways.

North Eastern PREPAID NEWSPAPER PARCELS, black impression ; three armorial shields, value not specified ; 3, 6, 9, 12, 24, and 48 lbs.

Midland.—PREPAID PARCEL ON CORN OR COAL BUSINESS, green.

Midland.—PREPAID NEWSPAPER PARCEL, 3LBS., orange.

Great Eastern. — ONE NEWSPAPER, ½d., green and black.

Great Northern. — PREPAID NEWSPAPER PARCEL, green and black ; 3lbs., 2d. ; 6lbs., 3d. ; 12lbs., 4d. ; — lbs., 6d.

ONE NEWSPAPER, ½d., vermilion.

Bristol and Exeter.—NEWSPAPER PARCEL, black, 1d.

Scotch Local Stamps.

Edinburgh and Leith Parcel Delivery Company :—

One farthing, green, mauve.

Two pence, yellow.

Three pence, red, brown.

Clark and Co., Circular and Parcel Deliverers, blue impression.

These are scarcely a tithe of the railway and local labels of Great Britain, more of which may, perhaps, have been issued during the past year. In addition, should be enumerated the Cattle Census circulars, which bore two impressed penny stamps, for franking to and fro.

HAMBURG.

2½ skilling, light (previously dark) green.

1½ skilling, pink.

1¼ " (similar type to that of the preceding, but with the corners filled in).

This last-mentioned label is figured and described by Moens, and in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*. Of the original patterned 1¼ sk., we have no fewer than four distinct colours, one of

which only, we believe, is an essay or proof.

Envelopes.

Type resembling the 1½ sk. label, black inscription.

- ½ skilling, black.
- 1¼ " violet-mauve.
- 1½ " rose-pink.
- 2 " orange-vermilion.
- 3 " azure.
- 4 " light green.
- 7 " rose-mauve.

HOLLAND.

Series of essays in fifteen different colours and two values, 5 cents. and 10 cents, on variously tinted papers, forming 700 varieties.

HOLSTEIN.

1¼ schilling, brown-mauve.

LEVANT.

10 paras, red on blue lattice-work.
 2 piastres, blue on red "

LUBECK.

1¼ schilling, violet-mauve (label).
 " lilac-mauve (envelope).

LUXEMBOURG.

- 1 centime, brown.
- 10 " lilac.
- 25 " blue.

These three and the 12¼c. are now perforated.

MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN.

2 schilling, lilac (both label and envelope).

NORWAY.

3 skilling, lilac.

Local for Thronthjem's (Drontheim).

1 skilling, brown.

OLDENBURG.

Field Post Envelope.

PRUSSIA.

For Registered Letters.

- 10 silbergroschen, rose.
- 30 " blue.

Field Post.

Black inscription (used by civilians for correspondence with friends in the army).

Eagle bearing sceptre and sword (used by soldiers for correspondence with friends at home).

PORTUGAL.

25 reis, blue (variety, network simple).
5 " black (new series).
20 " tawny " "
80 " orange " "
120 " blue " "

RIGI KALTBAD.

15 centimes, red.

This Swiss local was known previously, but its use and genuine character not ascertained till last year.

ROUMANIA.

Head of Prince Charles.
2 parale, yellow, lemon.
5 " blue.
20 " red, pink.

RUSSIA.

The stamps of this country are now printed in aniline colours, which renders the shades brighter than formerly.

SAXONY.

Dresden Express Company.

$\frac{1}{2}$ neugroschen, yellow.
1 " pink.
2 " lilac.
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ " pink.
3 " salmon.
5 " green.

Field Post.

Envelope bearing royal arms.
Black inscriptions on green.

SERVIA.

1 para, green.
2 " brown.
10 " yellow.
20 " pink.
40 " blue.

SPAIN.

January, 2 cuartos, pink.
" 4 " blue.
" 12 " orange.
" 19 " brown.
10 cent. de escudo (1 real), green.
20 " (2 "), lilac.
20 centesimos (1866), type of 1864, lilac.

Official.

CONGRESO DE LOS DIPUTADOS, royal arms in black.

SWEDEN.

17 öre, mauve.
20 " scarlet.

THURN AND TAXIS, NORTH.

$\frac{1}{4}$ silbergroschen, black (envelope).

THURN AND TAXIS, SOUTH.

1 kreuzer, green (envelope).

TUSCANY.

BOLLO STRAORDINARIO, 2 soldi, black.

TURKEY.

Locals for Constantinople and Suburbs.

January 13, 5 paras, blue.
" 20 " green.
" 40 " rose.

Local for Newspapers.

Bound impression, $3\frac{1}{2}$ paras, black.
" *Poste Locale—Service Mixte.*"

10 paras, black on yellow.
20 " black on rose.
1 piastre, scarlet on white.
2 " blue on white.

VENETIA.

Type of 1861, Printed, but never employed.
2 soldi, yellow.
3 " green.
15 " blue.

WÜRTEMBERG.

Varieties of Envelopes.

1 kreuzer, green, no inscription.
3 " rose, reverse impression coloured.
3 " narrow oblong.

Africa.

EGYPT.

January, 5 paras, pale slate.
" 10 " light brown.
" 20 " blue.
" 1 piastre, lilac.
" 2 " yellow.
" 5 " pink.
" 10 " grey.

MAURITIUS.

6d., light green (watermark, crown and C. C.)

Asia.

CASHMERE.

Round impression, black, blue, red.
Nearly square, black on yellowish paper.

CEYLON.

1s. 9d., green, perforated variety.

INDIA.

Bill stamp provisional, 6 annas, lilac.
New series, 4 annas, light green.

SHANGHAI.

Large stamp, nearly square.

- 1 candareen, blue.
- 2 " black.
- 3 " chocolate.
- 4 " dark and bright yellow.
- 6 " chocolate.
- 8 " bright and dull green.
- 12 " chocolate.
- 16 " dull red, crimson.

Smaller stamps, rectangular.

- 2 cents, pink.
- 4 " lilac.
- 8 " blue.
- 16 " green.

Oceania.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Variety of brown on blue, 6d. (lau-
relled), NEW SOUTH WALLS.
Queen's head to left in circle, CAMBRIA
NOVA AUSTRALIS. POSTAGE, ONE
SOVEREIGN, chocolate.

This stamps needs confirmation.

NEW ZEALAND.

4 pence, yellow.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

- 1st issue, 1852, 2 cents, black.
- " 5 " "
- " 13 " "

The last value had been chronicled
the year preceding, but we include it
here to complete the set.

Uniform with the large figure series,
13 cents, blue.

Portrait of reigning king, 5 cents, azure.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Provisional (?) 10 pence, orange yel-
low; value, black. Made from the
superseded ninepenny.

VICTORIA.

- 10 pence, pale slate (new type.)
- 6 " blue (type of the preceding).
- 10 " brown on rose (same type as
before).
- 3 " dull rose (type of 1862).
- 3 " dull rose (new type).

(To be continued.)

**RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED
EMISSIONS.**

OUR remarks on novelties in another
part of this number, preclude the
necessity of any preamble here, so we
may plunge at once *in medias res*, and
introduce our first illustration, repre-
senting in all respects, colour included,
the new denomination for the

REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY.

Unlike its congeners, which it closely
resembles in general character, this
stamp, which is printed on unwater-
marked paper, and
destitute of perfora-
tions, is devoid of the
word MONTEVIDEO, the
place of which is
supplied by CORREOS.
Telling its own tale,
further description is



unnecessary, but we may note the en-
graving as graceful and effective, and
creditable to the designer, whoever he
may be. The pair of stamps figured
below are, we presume, official only,
like some employed by
the authorities of our
own post offices, and
like them bearing the
impression on the flap
of the envelopes. The
upright oval has the
arms embossed in
white, the ground of
the inscribed frame being pale blue.
The oblong oval is



in white relief,
on red. The for-
mer has the words
SERVICIO OFICIAL
above, and ADMIN-
ISTRACION GENE-
RAL DE CORREOS
below, on the face



of the envelope ; the latter bears **SERVICIO DEL ESTADO** above, and **ADMINISTRACION DE CORREOS** below.

BAVARIA.

Following the example of Munich, the capital, and Bamberg, that fine cathedral city of Bavaria, the ancient natal place of watches, thence called "Nuremberg eggs," specimens of which may still be seen, in shape closely approaching their name, has issued a returned letter stamp, similar in design to those of Munich and Bamberg. A similar production serves the old city of Augsburg, where the cellar of the Three Moors is reported to contain bottles of every sort of known wine ; and Ratisbon, with most of the other Bavarian cities, are said to be about to supply us with specimens of their own.

BELGIUM.

"Long expected, come at last."

As far as the engraving vouches, we think the 2 centimes Belgian blue, here depicted, and which is expected on the nominal date of this number's appearance, will prove a better specimen of engraving than its pair of predecessors, and will form a neat New Year's gift to juvenile collectors.



SERVIA.

In our first number, describing the representatives of this Turkish province, under what we deemed competent authority, we designated them *impostors*, which word our Belgian contemporary amusingly mistranslated as *impost* or tax-stamps, politely enrolling us among the alarmist geese of the capitol.

In another part of his article on novelties, he impugns the authenticity of the resuscitated Argentines, saying he will believe in them only at the sight of a cancelled specimen. Had he carefully perused their history, detailed so circumstantially in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, he would have seen they were never used, and lie con-

sequently in a like category with the recently discovered Venetians. Employing therefore his own test, we shall not be fully satisfied with the Servians until we meet with some authentically cancelled individuals.*

Newspapers of a late date mention the chance of a rise among the Servians to attain their independence of the Turkish empire. That would partially account for the appearance of these stamps as essays, and also for the K, which we suppose stands for Royal, to which title the Prince at present cannot certainly lay claim. Be that as it may, we have now, according to our rule, to chronicle the appearance of an extra pair of the two lower values, one of which is here depicted. In lieu of Prince Michael's profile they bear the Servian arms; which are reminders of those distinguishing the Tuscan provisionals, owing to the conspicuous white cross. We may add that our cut is much better executed than the label it represents. The 1 para of this emission is printed in light or dark green on pale or deep rose ; the 2 p. is dark or light brown on lilac or mauve. This latter offers a similar peculiarity with that noticeable on the individual of the portrait corresponding with it in value, viz., the monetary inscription, which read 2 PARE, whereas the three higher denominations are 10, 20, and 40, PARA respectively. We should like to know what this anomaly signifies ?

Besides these apparently supererogatory interlopers, the 10 paras comes forth printed on very thin paper and of a deeper orange than before, accompanied by a 20 p., also on thin paper,

* At the moment of going to press, we have received information from Her Majesty's Consul in Belgrade, finally settling the perfectly genuine character of the Servian stamps. "To err is human;" the doubt did not originate with ourselves, but with one of our largest and most acute collectors.—ED.



in a slightly but distinctly varying shade of blue.

VICTORIA.

The blue threepenny labels of this colony doing duty in another colour for the last twelve months or so provisionally, are now replaced by a type of which the representation is subjoined. It resembles those of the current sixpenny and ten-penny "with a difference," which ocular comparison will readily show. The colour is rose-lilac; the watermark an 8 (single lined figure).



PERU.

It seems our supposition respecting the three stamps of this country figured last month was correct, and that they are not post but impost. The other three are 5 soles, vermilion; 25 soles, rose and bronze; and 50 s. (£10 English!)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

For a long time past there have been reports respecting the emission of a new set of stamps for this island. The annexed illustration represents a specimen lately received by our foreign contemporary, but without information as to its being a veritable existent issue or essay only. It is printed black on yellow paper, imperforate and unwatermarked.



VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Conformably with the old saw which we had occasion to quote before, that "we must go abroad to hear news of home" affairs, (and the above islands being British territory; they may surely be considered home appurtenances,) we learn from



our talented *confrère* at Brussels that Nissen and Parker have just engraved a pair of proofs for those hitherto postally unrepresented West Indian islands, of which the appended cuts are fac-similes. The 1 penny is green, the 6 penny carmine.

The Belgian editor thinks the portrayed virgin, who, by the bye, is dressed after the fashion of a stage Venus, except that she wears the conventional saintly aureole and lily-branch, is one of the wise or foolish virgins commemorated in the gospels. This conclusion he derives from the antique lamps, one of which she holds in her hand. But why twelve, when there were but ten virgins? We have our own opinion on the subject, which we will one day give—if it turns out to be correct.



PRUSSIA.

Another specimen of the field post envelope stamps, used during the late war, is here given. On comparing it with the one figured in our December number, specific but non-generic differences will be observable. In the one before



us the eagle bears an orb in addition to a sword, and has the letter R on his breast. M. Moens has just received official information from Berlin that the 10s. gr. and 30s. gr. stamps of Prussia appeared on the 15th ult. A specimen of each was, moreover, sent him, with permission to engrave them for his magazine, the writer evidently unaware he had done so without leave or license in the month of May last.

WÜRTEMBERG.

With due respect to the hypercritical non-approvers of minor varieties, we think it due to those readers who *do*

collect them, to remark that the flap of the Würtemberg envelopes formerly stamped with a conventional rose, now bears a post horn; and that a similar alteration has taken place in most of, if not all those for

THURN AND TAXIS, NORTH AND SOUTH.

Some collectors may not be aware that varieties of the envelopes of this office exist of a very large size, both of the rare earlier and current sets. We lately experienced a collector's rare luck on enquiring for stamps in an obscure town of the latter district, to be shown some of the obsolete 6 kreuzer and 9 k. labels and envelopes; all which, to the great surprise of the official, we purchased there and then, that being the third post office whose stock we exhausted during a recent continental tour; for which exploit a similar retribution was exacted from ourselves by the tables of Spa, Homburg, and Wiesbaden.

SCOTLAND.

The Edinburgh and Leith Circular Delivery Company, either from the destruction of the dies hitherto employed for their labels by wear and tear, or from some other cause, have issued a couple of new stamps. It is to be remarked that the size is smaller than the preceding; the colours are—one farthing, green, mauve; and, one half-penny, green.

LUXEMBOURG.

We are informed that the 37½ centimes of this province has been changed from green to pale brown; that

THURN AND TAXIS

Completes its perforated sets both in the North and South, the former by the 5 and 10 silbergroschen, the latter by the 15 and 30 kreuzer; and that

BADEN

Now prints its 9 kreuzer stamp of a darker brown than before.

FORGED STAMPS: HOW TO DETECT THEM.

SECOND EDITION.

BY EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from Page 6.)

Austria.

WE treated the stamps of the Argentine Confederation very fully in the last number, to give our readers some idea how stamps must be studied before a thorough acquaintance can be said to be made with them. These verbose descriptions, if followed out through each country, would far exceed the space to which we ought to limit ourselves, consequently Austria and all countries following must be treated concisely and not too fully; the publication of the minutiae of each stamp has the disadvantage of showing the forgers what points to be most careful in imitating, although drawing the attention of amateurs to the same points.

NEWSPAPER LABELS.

I. Head of Mercury to left, within square frame, lettered K. K. ZEITUNGS POST STAMPEL, a rosette in each corner; wood engraved, impressed in colour upon white.

Pale rose, yellow, blue.

With the exception of the red half-anna India, no stamp has called forth so many imitations, or created so much discussion and doubt, as the pale rose stamp of this type. All Mercuries are from the same die, the reprints are poppy red (ponceau), ochre yellow, and darker blue, and are (of course) from one die. The number of forgeries and these reprints, have produced the impression that rose and yellow Mercuries are far from uncommon, whilst instead of this being the case, it is harder to obtain genuine rose and yellow than any other European stamps.

A blue Mercury prepaid a single paper; a yellow franked a packet of ten; whilst the rose was for packets of fifty. The covers of these latter were of course torn off and destroyed, hence

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—In consequence of a system of plunder found to have existed in the General Post Office of this colony, the Postmaster-General has been deprived of his office, without any imputation, however, on his character.

their rarity is easily accounted for: firstly, they were seldom in requisition; secondly, the certainty of their being destroyed with the wrappers of the papers.

We are recently told by *Der Briefmarken Sammler*, several remarkable facts connected with rose and yellow Mercuries, and amongst others, laziness is given as the reason that yellow Mercuries are found so frequently unpostmarked. We are seriously told that the officials at the Post Offices, whilst postmarking the blues, most persistently neglected to obliterate either red or yellow stamps. These strange freaks of obliterating clerks seem to find favour with some, but we account for so many yellow Mercuries being unused to the fact of their being made from blue ones, which were they post-marked ones doctored, would not become a good colour, hence unused are indispensable for this branch of forging.

Der Briefmarken Sammler tells us that there was a deep red (or ponceau) stamp made, and from a fresh die, to pass current as the yellow which was suppressed. We firmly believe the ponceau from a different die to be invariably a forgery, whilst that ponceau from the same die is a reprint, of which but a limited number seems to have been circulated.

There are a great many forgeries of these Mercuries, mostly very poor, and mostly lithographed. There is, however, one very old forgery of these stamps, one which is seldom met with except in old collections: the yellow is a very bright shade, and the rose is a deep rose (the genuine, it will be remembered, are pale yellow and pale rose). The imitation is excellent, going into the minutiae of the stamp well; it is lithographed in common with the other inferior and more recent imitations.

The lettering on all genuine Mercuries is peculiar, very uneven and poor. z of ZIETUNGS is very broad in the down stroke, and every letter in STAMPEL is on a different level, either above

or below its predecessor. There is one peculiar stroke, or shape formed, in the maze-work of the background in the upper right-hand angle, the which is easily remembered if once noticed, but this we leave to our readers.

I. Arms within a square plain frame, lettered KAIS KON ZEITUNGS STAMPEL, square, impressed on white paper.

1 kreuzer, black; 2 k., vermilion; 4 k., brown.

1 k., blue; 2 k., brown; 4 k., vermilion.

II. As above, but corners different, lettering rather larger, and arms differing in minute points.

2 kreuzer, green, light and dark.

As all are from one die excepting the green 2 k., of which we have seen no forgery, the best thing a young collector can do is to buy the blue 1 k., or brown 2 k., either of which can be purchased at a cheap rate from the publishers of this magazine; study it well, and remember that the other values must resemble it in every minute particular; any deviation from it, however slight, proves a forgery. An examination of this kind will do the young collector more good than a page of our descriptions.

There are numberless forgeries of these stamps, either woodcuts or bad lithographs. The originals are very fine wood (?) engravings. The 1 kr., black, was only used for Venetia, and post-marked, is of great rarity. This value has, however, been reprinted in black, the backs coated with the usual peculiar mucilagenous gum, and sold as originals. Until these appeared it ranked in rarity with the Bergedorf, of October, 1861, hence the number of its imitators. The reprint has, of course, lessened its value very much. The 1k., black, 2, vermilion, and 4, vermilion, are those met with forged. Of the stamps used for letters we have never come across any forgeries.

The only other labels emanating from Austria which need any mention here, are those termed Complementary

Labels, *i.e.*, labels designed with the simple intention of filling up the proper number, or complement of stamps on a sheet, which being printed a certain number to a sheet, leave many spaces unoccupied, and it is these crosses which are used to make the sheet up to its proper size. They are fully catalogued in the first edition of *Forged Stamps: How to Detect Them*, page 32.

Baden.

Many vagaries were formerly noticed amongst the earliest set of these stamps, such for instance as a pink 6, or 9 yellow, blue, or green. These are owing to the centres being carefully cut out and reversed, making the 9 into a 6, and vice versa. Another imposition was the making of the 1kr. figure, fawn, from the common white one, by soaking in coffee. There is a forged 1kr., the glazed appearance of which (it is lithographed) denounces it at once. The originals are finely engraved from a steel die, and a different die for each value.

TYPE III. 1862.

Arms on white ground, within square frame, lettered FREIMARKE BADEN POST VEREIN and value. Square, impressed in colour, on white paper.

18 k., green ; 30, orange.

These are the only two that are of sufficient value to forge. Originals are invariably perforated by machine, 12 by 12 dents. The 3 k., rose, was issued at the same time with this perforation. The 1860 series (arms on a lined ground) were first perforated 16 by 16, then in 1861, 1 k., black, 6 blue, 9 bistre, were issued 12 by 12, after then the series with white ground was issued all perforated 12 by 12. The 18 and 30 k. are identical with the 1 k. black of the same type, which is very common, and may be taken by the tyro as a type in the same manner as we have recommended with the Austrian newspaper labels. The dotting of the shield is where the forgeries principally fail.

TYPE IV.—UNPAID LABELS.

1. Numeral of value, with LAND POST above, PORTO MARKE below, both curved, within a square scroll border, perforated 12 by 12.

1 k., 3 k., black on yellow.

2. As above, LAND POST, straight border, but details different, perforated 12 by 12.

12 k., black, on yellow.

The lettering of the forgeries is irregular, and the hyphen is below the centre of the P of POST. The originals are good woodcuts, the forgeries lithographs, and of course rather glazy in consequence.

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

Only one value of this stamp has been forged, the DREI (3) KREUZER blue; the imitation is good, but the embossing is not clear or deep enough; it seems as if embossed from a stone instead of a plate. There is no visible parting to the king's hair, and the engine turned border is not nearly equal to that of the original.

(To be continued.)

ON THE CHOICE OF STAMPS FOR A COLLECTION.

THE heading of our paper implies that some opportunity of selection is possible: for the term *choice* involves approval of one object rather than another.

We propose to make a few practical remarks on this, so far as we know, untried ground.

It is obvious that the choice may be among specimens (A) entirely new; or (B) entirely used, or (C) a mixture of used and unused. We will take these in their order.

(A.)—Where all stamps are unused, the first thing to be looked for is the fineness and beauty of the impression from the die, shewing the design clearly, and in all its details; next, the completeness of the specimen in its margin, a large margin, if possible shewing the edge of the adjoining

stamps all round being very desirable, especially in the case of unperforated varieties. Some collectors take as their selected specimens, the middle one of nine stamps, ranged in three rows, and cut a small way into all the eight exterior stamps : these latter being afterwards available for use in postage ; but of course this plan is not susceptible of wide adoption.

Next, the clearness and completeness of the watermark should be secured : and the regularity and perfection of the dentilation may be considered : and in some cases, as the Austrian and Danish, the perfect condition of the original gum at the back should be looked to.

Lastly we place colour, the one first requisite and guide in most person's eyes. As to which the best rule our experience dictates, is always to choose a deep-coloured or *foncé* specimen. It always stands better, and time usually produces a slight modification of the tones of colour.

(B).—Where all stamps are used, the general rules above given apply ; and this further item must be attended to, viz., to choose stamps where the main or leading features of the design are as little obliterated as possible by the defacing mark. Take for example the English series ; pick those copies where the face of the Queen is untouched, and the cancelling mark is above, or below, or at the edges. Similarly, in those terribly inked views of Sydney, select copies where the group in the foreground and the perspective behind are as little touched as may be, not regarding too much a little blot of ink in the angles or other comparatively unimportant parts of the stamp.

(C).—Partly new and partly used stamps are to be dealt with to our mode of thought by invariably taking the former, though a used original is always better than any reprint. Occasionally a very fine copy just touched by the obliteration may be secured, which presents features rendering it a desirable acquisition, and we by no means regard the presence of a few used copies of

fine, and undoubted types, detrimental to the appearance, and they certainly enhance the value of an album.

Lastly.—In general, we would say no rule so exacting but it has some exceptions ; and these, judgment and experience must leave each to determine for himself, but too much care cannot be used in selecting the best and finest specimens at hand. Let our friends remember that the value of an entire collection, is the value of its component parts summed together, and if in each of these parts there is a perfect, clear, and bright copy, nothing is left to desire.

With respect to envelopes. We by all means counsel collecting them entire. The various sizes of many continental envelopes are evidenced by changes in shade, of which we may instance the scarce octagonal series of Prussia, silk threads in the paper, which are found in two sizes, and two sets of shades of the colours. No foreign collection admits cut envelopes, and it is quite apparent to the most casual observer that if the mere impressions of the dies be cut out, in most cases all traces, whether it was on the left or right side of the complete envelope, all verification by the paper used, by similarity in size, in seal, or the like, are destroyed.

Several envelopes (so called) have crept into our catalogues which never existed as entire envelopes, and the non-existence of which has been proved by the practice of collecting the entire envelope, *e. g.*, United States of America 3 cents, pink on blue laid paper ; the small oval (head) 6 cents, on white and on yellow paper of the same country, and others we could mention.

In taking envelopes for the collection, we would select the cleanest, brightest, and most perfect specimens ; regarding the general rules above laid down as to stamps so far as they are applicable.

WATERMARKED CEYLON STAMPS.—Within the last month or so the 5d. stamp has come over on paper watermarked C C over crown, colour clarified. Of this series the 10d., 1s., and 1s. 9d., are the only values not yet issued.

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

Principes Heraldiques. Paris: A. Lenégre.

This is an elementary heraldic brochure published by Justin Lallier, the well-known author of a French postage-stamp album. It is presented by way of *bonus* to the subscribers for M. Mahe's *Timbrophile*, and though not primarily entitled to our notice as a philatelic publication, has a secondary claim in consequence of its use as explanatory of the armorial bearings described in Oppen's, and represented in Moens' albums.

It consists of four pages of uniform size with the author's album, two of which are devoted to well-executed heraldic shields, amounting to thirty, and the other two are concisely but aptly descriptive of the same. M. Mahe's monthly periodical will be found advertised in our December number; all purchasers of which for the past year, receive a copy of the useful and ornamental work now under notice.

The Postman's Knock, November 1, 1866. St. John, New Brunswick: F. A. Hunter.

Notwithstanding the pretentious *excelsior*, conspicuous under the Royal arms, this small affair of four pages is but a humble imitation of its eastern prototypes. We have seen the number now reviewed only; but it seems the pages have been more numerous, and that the loss of some extensive advertising patronage has compelled its reduction to the present modicum.

From those advertisements inserted therein, we should conclude our transatlantic kindred to be postage-stamp collectors in no inconsiderable way. We trust to receive another time an enlarged number of this publication, betokening the spread of philately among our North American colonial brethren.

The Boys' Telegram, No. 1.—London: Froud and Musgrave, Sept. 1866.

This publication of 16 pages professes to be a "Journal devoted to the In-

struction and Amusement of Youth in all parts of the World." It is neither primarily nor secondarily a postage-stamp publication; but devoting one eighth of its space to a notice of new emissions, and moreover more than a page to postal advertising, claims notice at our hands.

We understand this affair never exceeded one number, for which we are sorry. The very low price—one half-penny per month—we should imagine ought to have ensured a very large sale amongst the juveniles it was designed for. It is, however, not unlikely that its withdrawal was the deed of the proprietors themselves, the goodness of the paper, and style of printing, altogether warranting the supposition that so small a subscription could not be made remunerative.

POSTAL SCRAPS.

THE TWO-CENT SANDWICH ISLANDS.—We are informed by the Postmaster-General of the Sandwich Islands that "a new two-cent stamp, bearing the bust of his present Majesty King Kamehameha V., is not likely to be issued for some time to come."

POST-OFFICE REGULATIONS.—1. Letters may be sent under Cover of night, but the clerks are not to be Enveloped in darkness. 2. Postmasters must have the Stamp of respectability about them. 3. The Postmaster-General is not to accept any Foreign Orders.—*Punch's Almanack.*

BAVARIAN INSTRUCTION STAMPS.—These stamps are impressions in black ink, struck from the dies of the postage stamps in ordinary use. They are printed upon the large envelopes containing stamps sent to postmasters for sale, to enable them to see at a glance the contents of the package.—*Gray's Catalogue.*

HAMBURG PRIVATE POSTS.—There exists in Hamburg four institutions, whose object it is to take charge of the local correspondence, the transport of packets, furniture, &c. To facilitate these duties, the institutions in question station messengers in every street in an easily recognizable uniform. By employing stamps, letters sent to the central office cost $\frac{1}{2}$ sch., instead of $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch., which would be the messenger's charge.—*Moens' Illustrated Catalogue.*

THE PRUSSIAN POSTAL CONFERENCE.—Prussia intends to present the following proposition to the Postal Conference which is shortly to meet at Carlsruhe.—1st, Postage stamps common to the entire postal territory, comprising Germany and the Austrian Empire, and the centralisation of the post office; 2nd, reduction of the charge for packets; 3rd, a tariff of post office money orders as in Prussia; 4th and 5th, reduction of the postage on printed papers sent in open covers and reduction of the postage on letters.

A POSTAL MISHAP.—Some time since a money letter was sent from one part of Ireland to another, but being fastened with very soft wax, it stuck to a letter directed to Nova Scotia, and made a double voyage across the Atlantic before it reached the hands of the proper person.

WHY LETTERS SOMETIMES MISCARRY.—The following is taken from one of the Annual Reports of the Postmaster-General:—"A postmaster in Scotland accidentally discovered a boy opening a letter which he had been sent to post, and taking from it a draft. It did not, however, appear that the boy had any dishonest intention; but his fancy had been attracted by an engraving on the draft, which he thought would be a pretty book-mark for one of his school-books."

ORIGIN OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SYSTEM.—The postal system projected in 1692 was not put in operation till 1710, when the states were still a British colony. By an act of the English Parliament, the Postmaster-General was to have his principal office in New York, and secondary offices in one or more convenient localities in the other provinces. In 1753 Benjamin Franklin was appointed to that dignity with a minimum income of £600 a year for himself and a secretary. He soon introduced some useful improvements during his administration, which considerably augmented the revenues of the post office. In 1760 he proposed to start a mail coach for carrying despatches between Philadelphia and Boston, to set off once a week from each of those towns. Franklin, having become an object of suspicion on account of his sympathy for the aggrieved colonists, was superseded in 1774.—*Moens' Illustrated Catalogue.*

A LETTER OF "VITAL IMPORTANCE."—When the Earl of Elgin was Postmaster-General in 1860, he gave the following as a proof that, in the estimation of some people, "vital importance" is valued at something less than five shillings. A gentleman called at the Post-office respecting a letter which he had posted, declaring that it was of "vital importance" that his application should be granted. He was told that such an application involved much trouble, and a great departure from the ordinary rules; but that, under the special circumstances, it would be granted on his paying the clerk who would have to make the examination a gratuity of five shillings. No sooner, however, was this condition named, than the "vital importance" and the applicant at once disappeared.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE WHEREABOUTS OF ST. THOMAS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—As a correspondent desires enlightenment as to the whereabouts of San Tomas, mentioned on the stamps of La Guaira, perhaps you will allow me space in your next number to indicate its position to him. The place in question is identical with the Island of St. Thomas belonging to Denmark, and is not far from the Spanish possession of Porto Rico.

I do not know how many knots an hour the "Robert Todd," as the steamer is called, can go, but it makes the passage from St. Thomas to La Guaira, the seaport of Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, in about sixty hours. It stays there

a day, and then proceeds to Puerto Cabello; its next resting-place is Curacoa, if there are any passengers for that town, and then it steams away for St. Thomas, where a steamer, which leaves for Europe the same day, is in readiness to receive the mails.

Yours truly,
LONDON.
REPANDUNEUSIS.

THE HISTORY OF THE FIRST ENGLISH PHILATELIC PERIODICAL.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—In reply to the letter of Mr Camoens, in the first number of your interesting magazine, may I inform him, through you, that the "St. Thomas or San Tomas mentioned on the local La Guaira stamps," is really the Danish West Indian island of that name.

I must at the same time thank Mr Camoens for the grateful tribute he has paid to my name in his able opening article, as being the first who recommended the study of postage stamp water-marks and paper to English philatelists. Now that stamp collecting has assumed (to use Mr. Camoens' own words) "an acknowledged position, and a name among all classes of the community," I can look back with pride upon what little I have done for the benefit of its votaries. It was to a great extent through my efforts that the first philatelic periodical was started. The facts are simply these.

Towards the middle of the year 1862, when philately was becoming very popular, appearances led me to conclude that a periodical entirely devoted to that subject would prove a great boon to collectors, and also a lucrative investment to its proprietors. Accordingly, in the summer of the year named, I inserted an advertisement in the *Boy's Own Magazine*, requesting any gentlemen who were of a similar opinion to join me in the undertaking. This advertisement was productive of innumerable replies, requesting further information, but not so many as half-a-dozen of them spoke favourably of my scheme. In order to "leave not a stone unturned" for the attainment of the end in view, I had personal interviews with many of the leading English collectors residing in or near London, and in consequence of its being "Exhibition year," I was also enabled to meet several from the country, but "public opinion" seemed so much against me, that I reluctantly abandoned the enterprise, thinking it folly to undertake what my superiors in the knowledge of philately thought so unpromising. My voluminous correspondence on the subject, and earnest endeavours to bring about the consummation of my wishes, were however, rewarded with success, for Mr A. Ferris, of Liverpool, (one of the few gentlemen who thought favourably of my plans,) entered warmly into the matter, but from reasons above stated, I declined rendering him any pecuniary assistance, although I placed my pen at his service, of which he availed himself. However, *finis coronat opus*—on December 15th, 1862, the harbinger of a new style of literature made its appearance, in the shape of the *Monthly Advertiser*, afterwards known as the *Stamp Collector's Review*. This publication, after having proved of great service to philatelists, and as an investment tolerably successful, died out in 1864, the last number having been issued on June 15th of that year. Such is the history

of the first philatelic periodical published in England, and of which I must, with pride, claim to be the primary originator.

Wishing your magazine every success, and with many apologies for trespassing on your space,

Believe me to be, Sir,
Yours very truly,

London. THOMAS WILLIAM KITT.

ON THE NEW "OLD" ARGENTINE, &c.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—In your opening number of the *Philatelist*, you rather impugn the validity of the set of stamps "purporting to be an emanation from the principality of Servia." Having received direct my set as described by you, together with three rare varieties of them, I feel rather jealous of the slur cast upon their character, as I am convinced myself that their authenticity is such as to be beyond the shadow of a doubt.

The sense of the indignity cast on my proteges is increased by the flaming accounts of these newly discovered Argentines with the large figures, in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, and your own.

I recollect the "Prince Consort Essays," and other little matters of a like tendency, and should like to prevent collectors being bitten by these new *old* Argentines, as I have been by "Consort Essays."

If Argentine stamps be looked at, as known to us for the last four years, we ought to consider this: the large figure 5c. stamp is catalogued as the first one issued, this, though rare is by no means uncommon. Had stamps of a higher value been issued and used, some must have found their way to England or France upon letters, in the same way that the higher values of the next series have so repeatedly done. Therefore these can be hardly termed postage stamps.

Let us examine the whole case clearly, and take a matter-of-fact view of it.

First we have a 5c. large figure positively issued and used, and, according to the recent discovery, a 10 and 15c. made, but never issued. This constitutes these said 10 and 15c. as essays by your own showing. The 5c. is worn out, we suppose, and a new die made of workmanship inferior in every respect to replace it, and a 10 and 15c. then being wanted, they are issued to match this inferior die of the 5c. A 10 and 15c. being wanted when the 5c. large was replaced by an inferior stamp, would not the 5c. large figure have been re-engraved, (to use up the 10 and 15c. then lying idle), rather than make another complete and very inferior set of three stamps? All things considered, I think the recently discovered 10 and 15c. large figures, although obtained direct from the country to which they claim to belong, are more likely to prove the speculation of some person, or persons, unknown, than the authentic though never issued stamps of by-gone years. It really does not seem probable that 10 and 15c. large figures should be engraved, never used, and then inferior stamps issued, though I must acknowledge that it might occur, and has occurred to the 5c.; but with the latter it would be a case of necessity, for the plate was probably worn, and a new 5c. being required, the opportunity was taken of issuing a 10 and 15c. with it, yet I do not think a new series—it is not likely—would be made

whilst dies existed for two values out of three wanted.

I know I shall be in the minority, in my opinion of these stamps, and I may perhaps be alone in the following hypothesis, which none but an unbeliever would venture to assert. Taking everything into consideration, calmly viewing the matter from the points set forth above, and taking many other trifles into account (such as the extensive scale upon which reprinted Argentine of the second series can be obtained direct, &c.,) I think the Argentine Post Office, seeing a lucrative source opened by reprinting, have either altered the 5c. die to the 10 and 15c. values, or, more probably—as I take it—have caused dies to be made for the values of 10 and 15c.

Although so sceptical, I am open to conviction, and if any of your readers can advance anything not known to us in favour of these resuscitations, I should feel obliged, as it is not pleasant to be in a state of doubt on any subject to which there is an explanation.

Yours truly,
Dublin. NISUS.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

CELESTINA, Clifton.—You will see that the plural form CORREOS is used alone on some of the Spanish stamps, the singular CORREO, in combination with OFICIAL, on the current officials.

MUGBY, Newcastle.—We believe all our colonies have their own peculiar receipt stamps, which, of course, it is imperative on them to use.

TIPPETY TWITCH, Penzance.—Unfortunately we have no 3 lire Tuscan to which we can refer. You ask the meaning of the letters which follow the specified value. No doubt they refer to the proper destination of the stamp which, we believe, was for heavy home or foreign postage. Perhaps some philatelist will favour us with an opinion.

B. R., Islington.—We believe in your Austrian Mercury and Vand stamps, the N. American local may be all right, but the others are worthless duffers.

A. W., Norwich.—You will see the stamp you notice figured and described in the present number.

A SUBSCRIBER.—How can you expect 60 *good* stamps for sixpence?

DUBIUS, Huxtable.—We have not seen the stamps you allude to exposed for sale lately. We understand they have been reprinted, in which case the specimens in question may be considered genuine if of that nature. The originals have long been almost unattainable.

S. C. R., Kensington.—The sheets of note paper alluded to in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* of May, 1865, as stamped with the penny envelope stamp, for use when the post-mark on a letter should be required for legal evidence, were in use for a short time only. One or two may be had at Garrett's music shop, near Westminster Abbey, for "a consideration."

S. S. H., Bury St. Edmund's.—The 2d. English stamp you send is a well-known result from the common blue, produced by inserting in strong acid. The operations with acids and alkali solutions are very rife just now. The 8d. New South Wales, large square stamp, was lately offered us in *red*, produced by chemical manipulations, for £2 12s. 6d.! We made half a dozen directly we saw the stamp.

FORGED STAMPS: HOW TO DETECT THEM.

SECOND EDITION.

BY EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from Page 28.)

Bergedorf.

Arms in circle, on a ground of waved oblique lines, within a square frame. Spandrils lettered L.H.P.A. (Lubeck, Hamburg, Post Amt). Lettering BERGEDORF POSTE MARKE, with value in full, and numerals in corners. Square stamps increasing in size with the value.

(1) Black on colour.

Oct. 10, 1861, $\frac{1}{2}$, pale rosy-violet; 3, rose.

Nov. 14, 1861. $\frac{1}{2}$, deep-blue; 1, white; 1, yellow; 4, flesh-brown.

(2) Colour on colour.

3, violet on rose.

The stamps of Oct. 10 being in use only for so short a time, are of the highest rarity. We have very good forgeries of them offered as long as three and a half years ago, and of which the following is a short description:—

Genuine.

$\frac{1}{2}$ schilling (MIN HALBER). Number of rings composing the circle round arms, 55, small and clear, and they touch the border line on each of the four sides, though only just upon the left side.

E of POSTMARKE seems abruptly stopped, and the horn always touches the tail of the eagle.

Shading at back clear and unbroken.

3 schilling (DREI). Rings in circle, 55; summits of towers in arms do not touch; background very much waved.

Forged.

46, and the circle does not touch on the left side.

E is complete, and horn does not touch.

Not so; and size of stamp a trifle larger.

52, and not very clear; summits touch; background not enough waved; and the lines by the head and tip of wing are rather closer than elsewhere.

The forgeries of the commonest set have the lettering "lanky" and wide apart; the genuine have the lettering thicker, and almost touching one another.

Belgium.

Of the 1849 series, there are no forgeries known to us, but there is a very old and rare reprint of the 10 and 20 c. They may be distinguished from them, however, by the absence of watermark in the paper: the 1849 series bear as a watermark two letters L., interlaced and placed sideways on the stamp. These are fully as rare as unused originals now.

Brazil.

TYPE I. July, 1843.

Upright ornamental numeral; value in centre on an engine-turned ground. No lettering, large transverse oval, die printed, black impression.

30, 60, 90,

These stamps are printed on unwatermarked paper, either a thick yellowish white, or a thinner paper just tinged with blue, scarcely enough to be perceptible. Forgeries are on pure white paper, lithographed. All real ones have a fine line around the shaded parts of the figures, between this line and the figure the engine-turned lines of the back ground are clearly discernible. These forgeries do show an outline to the figure, but the space between the outline and figure is perfectly white. In the genuine, again, the black-looking shading is formed of a network of fine crossed oblique lines, imitated in the lithographs by a solid black shadow. The engine-turning is singularly beautiful in the originals (which cannot be said of the forgeries), it is fine and clear, with three lighter ovals worked into the ground. The other types do not seem to have been forged. The issues run as follows:—

- July 1, 1843. Large 30, 60, 90.
- " 1844. Italic 30, 60, 90.
- " 1845. " 10, 180, 300, 600.
- " 1850. The Roman figures.
- " 1854. Blue ditto 10, 30.
- " 1861. 280 verm., 430 orange.

Of the 1850 issue there are many varieties, the oldest are pale iron-grey impressions, very clear, the later ones are

black, and the engine-turning of the ground is often an indistinguishable smudge.

Bremen.

1855. Various designs, 3, 5, 7, 10 grote, 5 silb. gr., and 1863, 2 grote.

These forgeries are very good, but have the new appearance and shining postmarks, which cannot deceive the experienced collector. The following points occur in the 5 s. gr. forgery. The colour is too light, G. of S. G. R. is badly formed, the top half being too small and the bottom half too broad; the top of the figure 5 inclines upwards very strangely, and the dot after the S. G. R. is rather an oblong one, instead of a rounded square. The ornamental work over numeral V. in lower angle is, on the left side, thinner than it is on the right side.

The colour of the forged 2 grote is too deep, and there is no stop after grote.

The lettering of the 3 will not bear examination, the shapes of the corner figures differ, and the A of STADT is quite unlike that in AMT. In the 5 and 7 grote we have this difference, above FRANCO MARKE there are only four rows of zigzags, whereas the originals possess five rows of zigzags. The imitation 10 grote is very close, but the first and second E in BREMEN are unlike each other.

British Guiana.

Type II. 1850-51.

Arms (a ship sailing from land), in central shield, value above, name BRITISH GUIANA at sides, motto DAMUS PATIMUS QUE VICISSIM below; upright black impression.

1c., magenta; 4c., intense blue.

We have met with no forgeries of these stamps, but reprints are abundant; they were struck in Sept., 1864, and we have reason to believe the plate was then broken. Some reprints are perforated.

Type III. 1853.

The large oblong stamps, 4c., magenta and blue, in use for a very short

period, and the rarest pair of stamps which any of our colonies possess have never been reprinted. We believe the plate to have been destroyed in 1854.

TYPE IV. Sept., 1853.

Arms (a sailing ship), in an oval lettered DAMUS PETIMUS QUE VICISSIM, within an ornamental frame, lettered BRITISH POSTAGE, GUIANA, with full value below. Upright, coloured impression, not perforated.

1c., bright-red, dull brown-red; 4c., blue.

These stamps have never been forged as far as our experience goes, but they have been reprinted, at the same time with the 1 and 4c. "patimus" There-prints are perforated!

Brunswick.

TYPE I. Jan. 1852.

Arms (horse and crown), in transverse oval, with numeral in small oval on each side, lettered BRAUNSCHWEIG in label above, full value below; oblong, coloured impression.

EIN silb. gr. pink. ZWEI silb. gr., blue. DREI silb. gr., orange-red.

These stamps are forged in a very inferior manner, the engraving is blotchy and indistinct; the crown especially is bad, and does not nearly touch the horse's head, which our readers will observe is not so with the genuine, in which the crown always touches the head of the horse.

(To be continued.)

PAPER COINS AND MEDALS.

FROM THE "BOY'S JOURNAL," BY PERMISSION.

OUR young readers will most likely "open the great eyes," as the French say, *Anglice*, stare at the apparent inconsistency and incompatible juxtaposition of terms in our title; but we trust we shall prove satisfactorily its perfect correctness.

The material employed for the majority of useful articles, if not always necessarily the same, should usually be

of similar nature. For example, tables, chairs, and other articles of furniture may be fashioned out of mahogany, rosewood, and other still more costly vegetable productions; or beech, birch, and the still more homely deal may be used without detriment to the durability and utility of the handiwork.

But—and here comes the *sine qua non*—of necessity the piece of furniture must be formed from some substance possessing the requisites of strength and solidity, and able to bear, what is styled in legal parlance, all reasonable wear and tear.

In like manner ships and boats may be built up from various combinations of wood and metals, teak, oak, pine, and iron or copper being called into requisition; but here, again, endurance and resistance are imperative qualities, or the structure is worse than useless.

“Stop!” says one of our sharp young readers, “I can make paper boats and tables, and paint them, too, like wood; and I have a pretty little glass vessel with all the masts and sails complete.”

Taking leave to interrupt the interrupter, we would remark that he possesses the model or imitation of a ship, table, &c., but not the thing itself; such model being totally incompetent to perform the duty of that article for which it is simply a representative substitute.

Reasoning from a like analogy, it might be presumed that all known coins and medals, from the earliest age to the present day, having been cast out of gold, silver, and bronze, and other imperishable materials, a perishable coin or a perishable medal would be a thing of naught—a *paper* coin or a *paper* medal a worthless product. It will be our business, in the earlier portion of this article, to unravel the seeming paradox, and afterwards to discourse more generally on the interesting topic we have undertaken to illustrate.

The same, or an equally precocious critic as before, will perhaps here start up with “I know what you mean—bank notes—they are paper money.”

We mean no such thing, young phi-

losopher. Bank notes are not money—they are merely promises to pay coin or money; and, moreover, were that our meaning, it is inapplicable to medals; there are no bank medals or promises to pay medals. By paper coins and medals we wish you to understand neither more nor less than those pretty squares, triangles, ovals, circles, octagons, and rectangles, with which you amuse yourself, by neatly arranging in one of Moen's or Oppen's albums, and style your collection of British and Foreign Postage Stamps.

And stationed there, they please the eye
In all a strange variety;
From many a distant land they come
To meet their congeners at home;
Brightly the vivid pages glow,
And every stamp, in every row,
That strikes the eye may strike a chord
On memory's harp, and all that's stored
In memory's chambers bring to light,
In full perfection at its sight.

Guiana's ship, if silent, sings
Of all the products that it brings;
The swimming fish of Newfoundland
Tells of the staple of its strand:
Australia's swan, to those who know it,
The *rara avis* of the poet.
The kings and queens of countless peoples
Are plain as vanes upon our steeples;
Arms and device of distant nations
Appear correct in proper stations;
While portraits with correct intent,
Portray the heads they represent;
Affording an epitome
Of history and geography!

Now, for the matter on hand, to prove the appropriateness of our paradoxical title. At first blush there seems some shadow of reason, and our juvenile critic may well be excused his idea in naming bank notes the *alias* of paper coin, totally ignoring their *representative* character. It must be borne in mind, however, that a postage stamp or paper coin, take for instance one of our shilling, sixpenny, penny, or other labels, is not a *promise* of the payment of the sum inscribed thereon, but a legal tender to the full value thereof.

This applies, nevertheless, more particularly though not exclusively, to the postage stamps of our own country, which are conveniently available for the transmission of small sums, or the fraction of larger ones, by post. Again, many a penny is saved, and consequent-

ly, according to the old proverb, gained, since a penny stamp has attained the legitimate rank of a substitute for its equivalent copper coin, it not being considered *infra dig* to receive one or two queen's heads, when the vulgar metal would have been rejected. This world of conventionalities is replete with such distinctions without a difference.

A strange instance of this, and peculiarly characteristic of a certain class in society, is the fact that many old ladies of both sexes, suffering from tender consciences, will not play cards for money, but have no objection to give or take postage stamps for their lost or won rubber points! We were much amused at the observation of a lady whom we recently met in one of the gambling towns on the Continent, who exclaimed with horror against every species of gaming, but owing to a great hankering after a sober hand at whist, qualified her admission by the assertion that she never played cards for money, *not even* for postage stamps!

In many money-changers' windows in the City and elsewhere may be observed a notification that French and Belgian postage stamps are bought and sold. This is evidently to suit the convenience of those inhabitants of France and Belgium who have occasion to forward trifling amounts to their friends or creditors abroad, or *vice versa*, those who have received such payments here. This arrangement, perhaps, strictly considered, is a private one, not tantamount to the universal practice prevailing in England, so that the remark we made to that effect may almost stand unmodified.

It is true that what is termed a postage currency, was in use in the United States during the fiscal confusion consequent on their internal wars. But this by no means corresponded with the custom alluded to, the engraved slips being, in point of fact, government bank notes for small sums, and having little in common with postage stamps other than their necessary appellation. Similar substitutes for small change

were rendered necessary in Italy amidst the recent monetary difficulties.

The first part of our title may be now dismissed, the little proof of its propriety required being exhaustive of the subject; we will now therefore proceed to the consideration of the second portion, which will need a very much more extensive and discursive amount of argument.

We have no Johnson at hand for reference to the learned lexicographer's definition of a medal, but no doubt it is somewhat to the effect of its being "a reminder of contemporary occurrences." Such was the idea prevailing in the mind of the talented geologist, Dr. Gideon Mantell, when he so elegantly designated fossils as the *Medals of Creation*.

The devotees to geology, and they alone, can judge how wonderfully appropriate is such a title to these durable memorials of the events they silently commemorate; events which myriads of ages may obscure, but which tens of myriads will be powerless to consign to oblivion, while the *Medals of Creation* exist in countless multitude to stamp with truthful and unmistakable certainty those marvellous operations of nature!

The valuable services rendered to history by well-accredited medals of the kind usually implied by that term are too universally acknowledged for an enlarged eulogy. How many a doubted occurrence, how many an otherwise forgotten circumstance, how many a nice but disputed point in more or less distant periods, are rendered clear and unmistakable as the sun at noon-day by the contemplation of commemorative medals!

Births, deaths, marriages, coronations, battles, and victories, are vividly and accurately pictured by their agency; and a complete collection of a country's medals embodies its civil, commercial, and military history, in everlasting type.

Proceed we now after this lengthened but not impertinent preamble, to the

consideration and proof of a postage stamp's right to the denomination of a "Paper Medal."

The sole objection liable to be raised against such an appellation, is the nondurability of paper; the principal and inalienable characteristic of a medal being its permanent quality. How is this indispensable qualification attainable in the case of a delicate postage stamp?

The query, a poser to the non-initiated in "philately," is now readily responded to by the postage-stamp amateur, who triumphantly produces his postage-stamp album. Therein, as we have hinted above, lie geography, history, dates, peculiarities of produce and commerce, emblems, and, though not actually portrayed wars and revolutions, their undoubted consequences accurately and permanently chronicled in due chronological order.

Writing as we are primarily for the benefit of the major or juvenile portion of our readers, we may take occasion to explain a word employed which may possibly be a novelty to some of them, and which they would vainly turn over the pages of any dictionary hitherto published to discover. We trust, however, this existing blank in our dictionaries and cyclopædias will ere long be filled up. We mean the word "Philately."

In the early days of postage-stamp collecting, its amateurs, principally juveniles, were content to bear the unpretending legitimate English appellation. But when the *furor* was approaching its present respectable proportions, and became patronised by maturer age and more scientific minds, its acknowledged dignity demanded a proportionably suitable name. The French adopted at first the name of *Timbromanie*; Anglice, *Timbromania*. The *double entendre* implied in the word gave rise naturally to sarcastic remark from those who had not discrimination enough to discover the real utility of the novel pursuit; and a well-known Parisian collector, now, alas! seceded

from our fraternity, proposed the word *philatélie*, with its corresponding derivatives.

The Greek words *φίλος* and *ἀτελής* are the component parts of the term; meaning, respectively *liking* and *untaxed*, or, *exempt from tribute*. This seems the best word obtainable from a classical source, the total impossibility of finding a Greek or Latin equivalent for what the Greeks or Romans never dreamed of — a postage-stamp — precluding a less far-fetched synonym.

The propriety of application to the dead languages for the name of so very recent a fancy is questionable; but the heretofore used French word affording a handle for would-be wits to joke about what they had not sense to understand, and English not being well calculated for compound appellations, what was to be done? For our own part we should have been inclined to call into service the German tongue; more especially as the Germans were among the earlier, if not the earliest, postage-stamp collectors. We question, however, whether such long-winded, crackjaw words as *Poststampesammler* or *Postmarkenliebhaber* would have ever fallen into general vogue.

(To be continued.)

RETROSPECTIVE AND PROSPECTIVE.

BY DR. C. W. VINER.

(Concluded from page 23.)

North America.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

3 pence, blue.

CONFEDERATE STATES.

(Resuscitated.)

POST OFFICE, MACON, G. A. 5 cents,
black on light green.

PETERSBURG, VIRGINIA, POST OFFICE,
red on white.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

New issue, devices various.

2 cents, green.

- 5 cents, brown.
- 10 " black.
- 12 " red.
- 13 " orange.
- 24 " blue.

UNITED STATES.

For Newspapers and Periodicals.

- 5 cents, azure.
- 10 " green.
- 25 " red.

Postage Label.

- 15 cents, black.

Envelopes.

New types on white or buff paper.

- 9 cents, yellow.
- 12 " red-brown.
- 18 " scarlet.
- 24 " blue.
- 30 " green.
- 40 " pink.

Local (Resuscitated).

Overton and Co., Letter Express, black on greenish paper.

Central America.

MEXICO.

Emperor's Head.

- 7 centavos, lilac-brown.
- 13 " dark-blue.
- 25 " shades of yellow.
- 50 " bright and olive-green.

West Indies.

BAHAMAS.

- 1 penny, rose-red variety.
- 6 pence, intense violet variety.

BARBADOS.

- 4 pence, rose-red, as formerly.
- 6 " brick-red variety.

BERMUDAS.

- 2 pence, blue.

CUBA.

- Type of 1864 Spanish.
- 5 centesimos, lilac
- 10 " blue.
- 20 " green.
- 40 " pink.

ST. DOMINGO.

Issue of 1862. Square, un real, black on green.

Issue of 1865 ? Square, un real, black on green ; medio real, lighter green.

Issue of 1866. Upright oblong, un real, lighter green.

ST. KITTS.

Essays.

Queen's head to left, in inscribed oval frame, blue, black, green, brown.

ST. VINCENT.

4 pence, blue.

1 shilling, dark violet-black.

TRINIDAD.

Varieties of colour.

1 penny, paler red.

4 pence, light violet-lilac.

6 " grass green.

1 shilling, mauve (mottled ground.)

South America.

ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.

Issue of 1858. 10 centavos, blue.

15 " green.

Upright oblong, medio real, yellow-fawn.

" un real, indigo.

" dos reales, deep-yellow.

This questionable trio is printed black on coloured paper.

BRAZIL.

New emission. Portraits of the Emperor.

10 reis, red.

20 " shades of lilac-brown.

50 " deep-blue.

80 " violet.

100 " green.

200 " black.

500 " orange.

CHILI.

It may not be irrelevant to note here the recognition of the head on the Chilian stamps, so long considered to be that of Columbus ; but which is now unanswerably ascertained to be a port

trait of Ramon Freyre, governor of Concepcion.

ECUADOR.

4 reales pale-red.

MONTE VIDEO.

60 centavos, blue (diligencia) variety (?)

NEW GRANADA.

"*Sobre Porte*" (Additional Postage.)

25 centavos, black on blue.

50 " black on yellow.

1 " black on lilac.

1 peso (type of 1865), scarlet variety.

PARAGUAY.

Essays (?)

1 real, red.

2 " green.

4 " blue.

PERU.

New emission, 5 centavos, green.

URUGUAY.

Series of 1864 provisionally issued for eight days from New Year's Day, the original values being cancelled and altered as follows :

12 centesimos, blue, into 5c.

08 " green, " 10c.

10 " yellow, " 15c.

06 " pink, " 20c.

New current series, both perforated and imperforated.

5 centecimos, black.

10 " green.

15 " yellow.

20 " pink.

1 centesimo black.

This latter was chronicled and figured in our January number.

Envelopes.

Oval impression, 5 centecimos, blue.

" 10 " green.

VENEZUELA.

New emission, square, $\frac{1}{2}$ real, pink.

" " 1 " red.

" " 2 " yellow.

The first appearances, as far as we can yet ascertain, in this first month of

the new year, are the overdue 2 centimes blue of Belgium ; in addition to which we note the issue of Servians with armorial bearings, the 10 cents of Prince Edward Island, and the pair of strangers from the Virgin Islands, and we do so without guarantee.

Our expectants for the current year are possible, probable, or certain. Among the latter we may enumerate the announced 30 centimes, and 5 francs for France ; a 50c. for Switzerland ; a set for Guatemala ; and the 15 cents. envelope for the United States.

The probable issues are a tenpenny for our own use ; the completion of the Portuguese, Swedish, and Danish sets ; the lower values for Holland ; the 20 centesimi for Italy ; a new series for Spain ; the French and the 5c. and 10c. envelopes for Switzerland ; and the long-prepared, but not yet issued, new Bavarians.

Tenpenny labels for New South Wales and Western Australia ; fourpenny and shilling values for Grenada and Antigua ; and, perhaps, the adoption of postage stamps by Paraguay, Persia, China, Japan, and Siam, range among the possibilities. To these may be added a series for general use by the United Provinces of British North America, essays of which in seventeen different colours, on twelve varieties of paper, all bearing the portrait of A. J. Cass, "the Champion of Confederation," are chronicled by an American contemporary.*

* The whole of this article having been written for publication in our January number, allowances must be made for unrealized anticipations, &c., in the latter paragraphs. Our previsions respecting the Portuguese and Spanish alone have been realized. The Italian, though ready, will not be issued for some time. The French and Swiss, cause to us unknown, are deferred for the present. We hear nothing further respecting the series for Guatemala ; have not yet seen the U. S. envelope ; and the other expectancies are still expectant. On the other hand, we get the Queensland, Ceylon, and the new set for Shanghai, also the pair for San Salvador, respecting which we know but little. A foreign contemporary anticipated a half-penny stamp for Great Britain, answering to the 5 centimes charged for *feuilletons* from Belgium hither ; but none seems forthcoming, and the postage for such is anomalously doubled one way !

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

UNUSUALLY and unavoidably pressed for time this month, we hasten, without note or comment, to introduce our readers to a quartette of cuts, representing a partially changed type, lately issued from the distant port of

SHANGHAI.

This new emission is valued like the first from the same locality, in candareens, not cents.; but the stamps themselves closely favour those bearing the latter denomination. The central conven-



tional dragon of China is not identical with that on the obsolete decimal emission, neither is the ornamentation the same; but the whole set of four being accurately imaged here, and most

of our subscribers probably possessing the others, the several minor differences will be easily recognised by ocular inspection. No further remarks are therefore necessary, except to state that they are all



printed in colour, on white, unwatermarked paper, and are perforated. That the 1 candareen is brown; the 3 c., orange; the 6 c., grey; and the 12 c., very dull green. There are also existent some black proofs.

NEVIS.

The fourpenny rose of this island was always an eyesore to collectors, from its unsatisfactory hue. The postal



officials of the island have (of course, unintentionally) remedied this, by issuing a substitute in vermilion, using the same die as before. This addition to such a much-admired family, will be duly appreciated by philatelists, and more than pay any extra expense incurred by changing the ink.

HANOVER.

Nine months back, it was announced that a change in the Hanoverian stamps was contemplated. The type here figured was prepared, and would have been issued, but fate decreed otherwise; and rose-coloured, azure, and light brown proofs are the sole representatives of what "would have been."



SAN SALVADOR.

Two stamps, purporting to emanate from this place, have been seen by us, but we should require further authentic information about them before we could implicitly admit them. The design is as simple as that of the 1, 2, and 13 c. Sandwich Islands. It is an upright stamp, bearing in centre the value 1 REAL, lettering in frame CORREOS SAN SALVADOR UN REAL. One is printed in black, the other in blue ink, on creamy-white laid paper, neither gummed nor perforated.

BOLIVIA.

Like the preceding impression, the one here figured comes unaccredited. Our duty is to chronicle new appearances, and wait for time to show their worth. The stamp itself is scarcely so well engraved as the copy, and evidently of foreign workmanship, but certainly not an offspring of the American Bank Note Company. It is printed on unwatermarked paper, and imperforate. The colour is red-brown.



PORTUGAL.

The 25 reis of the present emission

has appeared ; colour remaining as before.

FRANCE.

The 30 centimes and 5 francs, which were confidently anticipated to appear on New Year's Day, are deferred for the present. Cause unknown.

ITALY.

This is a fac-simile of the forthcoming Italian 20 centesimi label. It was to have been emitted last month, but so many thousands of the abrogated bar-stamps remain in the various post-offices, and a sufficient quantity of the above not being yet struck off, they are adjourned for a few months.



CEYLON.

No stamp-producing country has favoured us with so many values as the ancient Taprobane. With one omission they range from one halfpenny to sixpence ; then from eightpence to tenpence inclusive : besides the shilling, one and ninepenny and two shillings ; all except the lowest denomination, both in labels and envelopes. The exception noticed above exists no longer, a threepenny, pink, takes stand with its fellows ; among them, but not of them, the type being dissimilar. It much resembles the 5 cents. of Vancouver's Island, being on glazed paper, perforated, and adhesive, but watermarked c c beneath a crown. Diademed head of our Queen to the left in rectangular frame, with inner circle. CEYLON in a curved band, above ; THREEPENCE also in a curve, below. We hope to give an engraving of this next month. There will probably be an envelope of similar value, but we have not any information thereof.

SPAIN.

Woe to the luckless individuals who have a surplus of Spanish postage-stamps at the end of the year, if the



report be correct that they become valueless and unexchangeable on the appearance of a new emission. Should the science of philately prove a permanent institution, and Spain continue its annual half-dozens, the country will require one album for its special products. In the representation everything relative to the changed type is told. The face, diadem, and coiffure are much like the 1865 set, but all the fillings in of the framework are different. The stamps are printed in colour, on white unwatermarked paper, and perforated. The values are as before ; 2 cuartos, brown ; 4c., blue ; 12c., orange ; 19c., pink ; 10 cent. de esc., green ; 20 cent. de esc., violet.

We may here mention a blue un real of the 1856 issue on the peculiar rough paper of that date, but with the equally peculiar watermark of the year preceding. More than one of this variety exists in collections ; and no doubt a whole sheet of them by mistake or design was worked off.

QUEENSLAND.

A hitherto unused denomination for this colony diversifies its attractive stamps. The type is precisely like that of its predecessors. The paper is thick and unwatermarked. Perforations as before. Colour, lilac ; value, fourpence.

SWITZERLAND.

The expected 30 centimes label, also the envelopes of this republic, have not yet made appearance ; but we believe that event is only postponed.

BRITISH GUIANA.

The colour of the 8 cents is now lilac, as we are assured by a foreign contemporary. This change was scarcely requisite to distinguish it from the two-shilling stamp, whose size is so much larger. If no other end be served, however, an additional variety will diversify our collections.

GRENADA.

The paucity of this island's productions receives a slight alleviation by the changed colour of its sixpenny, which is at present orange-red.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

We give a broad locality, on which the sun never sets, for the individual we are about to introduce, according to custom, whether for housing or hanging on the "barn-door." The denomination alone is our authority, no name or other clue presenting itself. The stamp is rectangular, printed on good paper, watermarked with small dots, rather coarsely perforated, and unadhesive. On a groundwork composed of an ornamental small pattern, blue on a white ground, fleur de lys at the corners, and with double-lined narrow frame, is a large figure 2, partially obscured by the word PENCE, in what are called Egyptian letters. Can any correspondent enlighten us on this novelty, essay, or impostor?

THE STAMPS OF NEW ZEALAND.

BY EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

AT the first sight, these stamps would seem simply uninteresting, but an attempt to classify their different papers, watermarks, colours, and perforations, produces a confusion in the mind (where the classifier has nothing but the actual stamps to arrange by), to which studying the intricacies of the Victorians will scarcely give an approach. This, of course, is owing to every stamp bearing the same head, and resembling its predecessor in every point of design.

Some compilers of catalogues dispose of these stamps very concisely, especially Dr. Gray, who, since he never notices differences of paper, of course finds little to chronicle beyond a variety or so in colour. Many collectors, in looking over the list we give, and noticing the number of forms in which we find six stamps reproduced (nearly seventy), will be inclined to ridicule the idea of

collecting all these, and may probably term it either childish or ridiculous. To these we would say that we simply give every known variety of these stamps, leaving it to the collector's judgment which are necessary to show the leading forms of these stamps; and we would, in connection with this, remark that since all these varieties exist, they are worth collecting, and are mostly a question of time and patience to secure.

These changes in perforations are followed by further changes in paper and colour, hence in a collection which the owner arranges and classifies after the manner introduced by the French school, all these stamps are admissible, each variety helping to show the gradation from one issue to another. As with the Victorians last month described, there is no thoroughly accurate list extant, but the existence of every variety given by us may be relied upon, and there are some stamps described never previously chronicled.

The following description answers for the face of every stamp on the list, which, when the series is complete, is more monotonous in appearance than any other country.

Full face and bust in ermine of Queen crowned, in central circle of engine-turned lines, background a fine fancy chain-like pattern, upon which NEW ZEALAND is printed on the curve, POSTAGE in straight label below, full value along base, fancy star in lower angles, in upper ones a darker chain pattern.

FIRST SERIES.

Not watermarked.

- (1) On pure blue paper, not perf.
1p., orange; 2p., blue; 1sh., green.
- (2) On thick yellowish paper, not perf.
1p., orange-red; 2p., blue, pale and outremer.
6p., yellow-brown, yellow-bistre, pale-bistre.
1sh., blue-green, yellow-green.
- (3) On pelure paper (*i.e.*, nearly tissue paper), not perf.

1p., vermilion; 2p., outremer-blue.
6p., maroon, black-brown; 1sh., dark-green, yellow-green.

(2a) Perforated by machine.

2p., blue.

(3a) Perforated by roulette.

6p., maroon; 1sh., dark-green.

(3b) Perforated by machine.

2p., outremer-blue; 6p., maroon, black-brown; 1sh., dark-green.

SECOND SERIES.

Watermarked with star.

(1) Not perforated.

1p., orange-red, vermilion, red.

2p., pale-blue, dark-blue.

3p., lilac, dark-lilac.

6p., maroon, black-brown, red-brown.

1sh., green, yellow-green, dark-green.

§ Some of these are on pelure paper, with the star watermark, but they are usually on thickish paper.

(2) Perforated by roulette.

2p., blue; 3p., lilac; 6p., black-brown, red-brown; 1sh., green, yellow-green.

(3) Perforated by machine, 16 by 13 dents.

1p., orange-red, vermilion, red.

2p., pale-blue, dark-blue; 3p., lilac; violet.

4p., rose, yellow; 6p., maroon, pale-brown, red-brown.

1sh., yellow-green, dark and pale-green.

(4) Perforated by machine, 24 by 18 dents.

1p., orange-red; 2p., blue.

§ A very curious serrated perforation.

THIRD SERIES.

Watermarked N.Z.

(1) Not perforated.

1p., red; 2p., blue; 6p., red-brown; 1sh., green.

(2) Perforated by roulette, 1sh., green.

(3) Perforated by machine, 16 by 13 dents.

2p., blue; 6p., red-brown; 1sh., green, yellow-green.

Of these stamps many are very rare:—

First series: (2) 1sh., blue-green.

(3) 1p., vermilion.

(2a and 3a) All very rare.

(3b) 1sh., dark-green.

Second series: (2) All rare.

(4) Are the rarest of the New Zealand series.

The roulette used on these stamps makes a long cut, and stamps so perforated are often difficult to distinguish from unperforated ones.

REMINISCENCES OF THE PROVISIONAL STAMPS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

BY HERBERT CAMOENS.

"Sir, if my judgment you'll allow,
I've seen—and sure I ought to know."

"No, no," the other quick replies,
"Tis green; I saw it with these eyes."

"I've seen it, sir, as well as you,
And must again affirm it blue."

"Sirs," cried a third, "Pray cease your pother,
The thing is neither one nor t'other.

I marked it well; 't was black as jet;
You stare—but, sirs, I've got it yet,
And can produce it!"

—"The Chameleon," a Fable, by T. Merrick.

A DISCUSSION, of a very positive and contradictory character, was carried on some time since in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, respecting the Provisional, or, as they were then called, the Newspaper Stamps of British Guiana.* As the contest served to pioneer the road for truth, it deserves to be recorded in the history of philately; for, as the fable selected for our epigraph goes on to say, "All were right, and all were wrong." It is, therefore, rather instructive to analyse the why and the wherefore of the apparent contradictions (tinctured, it must be owned, with some slight admixture of error), which then appeared so irreconcilable.

For the sake of brevity, the disputes may be distinguished as O. P. Q.

O. commenced the attack by the really valuable piece of information that he had always received these

* The discussion alluded to may be found in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, vol. 2nd, p. 127, 143, 175, 188.

stamps on letters, while it so happened that he had never found one on a newspaper; hence justly arguing that they could not have been exclusively for newspapers. He also surmised that they were in use but a very short time. The present writer has only met with them post marked OCT. and Nov., 1862. O., however, falls into error, in saying the pearl-bordered stamps only, were genuine. His description of the position of the letters is useless as a test of genuineness. Being type-printed and carelessly executed, no two, though equally genuine, are quite alike. The safest test for all these stamps is the unevenness of the *inner* lines on each side. These, in contradistinction to the top and bottom inner lines, are generally more or less broken, sometimes clearly showing four divisions. The two varieties of 4 c. blue, *without* inner lines, have not been forged. The central signature also has never yet been successfully imitated. It is so cramped, that till lately it was only partially deciphered. Fentonia has recently pronounced the hieroglyphics to be R M. A S B G.

Then, as to the postmarks; a o 3 *without* a full stop after each letter or figure, is undoubtedly the oldest and most common obliteration. It has been found on the "Patimus" stamps, and on all succeeding issues, including the present 6 cents. The same in italics, *with* intervening full stops, first came over about 1864, and now seems the most general mode of obliteration. O. concludes by describing various forged postmarks, denouncing amongst others A O 1.

P. next enters the arena, by denying that the latter postmark is invariably false, protesting that he has it on genuine specimens. And he is quite right, only *a wee bit wrong*. Had he looked a little closer, or availed himself of a magnifying glass, he would have observed that the *apparent* figure 1 is but the right hand stroke of the figure 4, which is seldom met with clearly defined. The present writer has this postmark on a specimen of

1853 issue, and of 1860, both received from Guiana, and (to quote the epigraph), "can produce it."

Q. next has a word to say; and mentions an interesting fact, that he had two yellow stamps, united by roulette perforations, one having the pearl border, the other grapes, thus proving that at least two patterns were printed off on the same sheet. He mentions a *one cent.* dark blue, the genuine nature of which the present writer ventures to doubt. No well authenticated dark blue are known, except four cents, and those are bordered with patterns peculiar to that value only.

Q. then asserts that all genuine provisionals are authenticated by a signature in the centre. O. retorts that all genuine pearl-bordered stamps have no signatures in the centre.

Mr. Pemberton next steps in, with some sensible remarks; adding that there *may* exist a pearl-bordered stamp without a central signature, but that he could match it with a dozen genuine ones having a signature. The fact is, that during the short time these stamps were in use, none seem to have been sold without this precautionary mark, but afterwards a few of the surplus, thrown aside as waste paper, fell into the hands of private individuals, and have gradually crept into collections. Consequently, although a few genuine provisionals are known without central signature unused, yet it is believed that no genuine obliterated specimen exists without it.

The discussion still lingered on, but presents nothing worth recording. At length a very clever and well-digested article appeared in July, 1865, treating of all the stamps of British Guiana, by a writer who has no "known-by" name, who prefers doing good to the cause of philately by stealth, and would perhaps "blush to find it fame." The brief history of the Provisionals is in that article so plainly given, and the six types are so clearly defined, that no one need henceforth plead ignorance on the subject.

In conclusion, the writer of these Reminiscences would add, that in addition to the six types above alluded to, he possesses these stamps in nearly every possible state, viz., without signature, unused; with signature, unused; also with signature and bearing the following post-marks, A O 3 between lines—A O 4 between lines—Circle containing B G and date—Double circle inscribed GEORGE TOWN, B. GUIANA, with date in centre. He also possesses them with the error of the little types forming the border, here and there reversed, or a different one inserted. He also possesses a variety of the 4 c. "fancy pattern" not hitherto described. It is the lower border under the value, being placed the same way upwards, as the border at the top of the stamp, whereas in the usual course of carrying the pattern regularly round the stamp, it generally appears just the reverse of the upper border. It is probable that all these stamps were originally perforated by the roulette.

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

The Stamp-Collector's Monthly Gazette.
St. John, New Brunswick: George Stewart, jun.

The number of magazines partially or wholly dedicated to philately in so many localities, is highly satisfactory to those interested in that now acknowledged science. The one under notice, which is the 19th number of a second volume, contains a dozen well-printed pages of large octavo, and is alike creditable to editor and publisher. It opens with the 9th and closing chapter of a tale, of which the hero appears to be the unfortunate Connell stamp, a copy of which has been lost, but which, when found, appears to have made all things square, and everybody happy in the received fashion. This is followed by some extracts from Mr. Stourton's *Forged Stamps Vade Mecum*; the leading article, with local postal information; a description of the numerous stamps of Victoria; an ac-

count of novel issues; postal chit-chat; advertisements; and answers to correspondents.

In addition to all this, is a prize enigma, ingeniously made up in the manner employed by some of our own weekly publications. It seems the united brains of New Brunswick were not equal to the task of a solution to the last month's enigma, which the editor comments upon with!!! The one before us is too long for insertion here; but we append a couple of transpositions, the letters in which form inscriptions on a postage stamp.

1. Yppppcnnneeeeaagooooooosfggdht.
2. Frrrrrooooccnnaeesiit.

For a correct solution of the former, are offered a penny Bahama; a 5 para Egypt; and the 1 groschen envelope of Hanover. For the latter, the 10 p. Egypt; 5 reis Portugal; and $\frac{1}{2}$ schilling Lubeck. All genuine and unused. Perhaps some of our younger readers would like to try their wits; not for the sake of "filthy lucre," the to and fro postage outweighing the monetary value of the prizes; but—think of the honour!

The Postman's Knock. St. John, New Brunswick: F. A. Hunter.

This less pretentious little claimant on our notice, published in the same colonial capital as that just reviewed, and, as noticed in our last month's number, at the marvellously low price of *gratis*, has reached the 8th number of its 1st volume. Of this the publisher reminds his patrons, and states that 8,000 have been circulated. He adds that he has been recommended to ask a subscription price, but invariably declined. He hints, nevertheless, in broad, unmistakable language, an urgent wish to be "remembered;" and that "if every one who receives the paper would send a small present to help him along," he should like the aggregate amount. He remarks that "those who live in the same locality might club together, and send their gratuities in the same letter." He concludes by reminding

his readers of the words of the immortal Cuttle, that "Half a loaf is better than no bread, and the same holds good as to crumbs."

The Stamp-Collector's Magazine, Fourth Volume. London: E. Marlborough and Co. Bath: Alfred Smith and Co.

This long-established favorite, first in rank, if not in time, over all its congeners, demands neither praise nor notice, but simply congratulations from all the philatelic community, on its continued and deserved success. The present volume, both externally and internally, is on a par with the preceding three, whose delicate green binding is now superseded by a rich mauve, the usual ornamental postage stamp being the newly-issued 10 reis, Brazil.

The Stamp-Collector's Record. Boston, United States: Allan Taylor.

The number for November last of this journal is before us. It almost completes the second volume of the publication, and must consequently have found favour in the eyes of our transatlantic brethren. It contains but four 8vo. pages; of which the first and last, and a modicum of the others, are devoted to advertisements.

The work contains an extract from the *Boston Herald*, which we think amusing enough for transcription among our Postal Scraps. We cannot congratulate the editor himself on the general suavity of tone employed in his remarks. He takes occasion, while objecting to the opinion of a contemporary respecting the expressive face of the Hospodar of Roumania, to sneer at the gentleman whom he is pleased to call the "traitor Davis." Speaking of the collapse of a certain "Stamp Scheme Co.," he remarks that "Transgressors of the laws of God's free country will please observe. *Nuf ced.*" This mysterious bit of wit we leave to be deciphered.

NEW STAMP FORGERIES.—Amongst recent stamp forgeries are the one penny V. R., but printed on unwatermarked paper, and the nine-penny embossed Natal.

POSTAL SCRAPS.

THE $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. and 3 sch., first issue of Bergedorf, were in circulation only eleven days.

FRENCH POSTAGE STAMPS.—The production of postage stamps, which in France only amounted in 1842 to 19,000,000, increased in 1865 to 414,000,000, and reached 450,000,000 this year. France is, however, still far from England, which was 800,000,000.

FORTY-EIGHT SQUARE MILES OF POSTAGE STAMPS.—The *New York Scientific American* estimates that 20 tons of postage stamps have been used in the United States during the year—enough to make a ribbon twice the length of the Mississippi River, or to cover a superficial area of 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ square miles.

EXPENSIVE POSTAGE.—The *Times* in 1842 paid upwards of £300 for conveying a letter from Marseilles to London. This contained the news of the massacre in Cabul, which the *Times* was the first to make known. From Marseilles to Paris the conveyance was by carriages especially hired; from Paris to Boulogne by horse; thence to Dover by special steamer, and from Dover to London again by horse.

A VALUABLE LETTER.—Some time since a letter containing negotiable bills for one thousand two hundred pounds was given to a boy to post; he transferred it to another boy, with a penny to buy a stamp; this second boy spent the penny in taffy, and tore up the letter to escape detection, the pieces of paper found in the field being the means of unveiling the young rogue.—*Postmaster-General's Annual Report*.

AUSTRIAN COMPLEMENTARY LABELS.—Oblong pieces of paper bearing a white diagonal cross, have been called "Complementary" labels. These were only the impressions of the woodcut block which were arranged to fill up the frames from which the stamps of the old issues were printed. In a sheet of fifty Austrian stamps there are impressions of four such blocks. When the sheets of stamps were perforated, they were so separated also, as they were of the same size as the stamps, and in lines with them. The sheets of stamps of the present issue do not contain any of these labels.—*Gray's Catalogue*.

AN AMERICAN EDITOR ON STAMP COLLECTING.—"The absurd, though innocent mania for collecting postage stamps seems to be on the increase in this country and in England. The fourth edition of an 'Illustrated Catalogue of Postage Stamps,' prepared expressly for the use of collectors, has been issued in London by one 'Dr. Gray,' who probably makes his living out of the mania, and a magazine of goodly size is devoted to the subject. We have a thorough contempt for these 'trifle' manias that sweep over the human race, but the gentle creatures who collect postage stamps will not be likely to disturb the peace. Neither would you expect them to set the river on fire. They would never do a thing so rash. They might cause a few drops to be consumed when pushing zealously for some rare specimen, but that would be excusable. On the whole, perhaps, it is well that there are people in the world so easily pleased with toys."—*Boston Herald*. [The editor of the *Stamp-Collector's Record* remarks on this:—"Just so. There are various manias which from time to time afflict the human race—a mania for office under Andy Johnson being the prevalent one at present, as also a

mania for becoming the people's representative in Congress. Just so. But, in the classic phraseology of Joe Blueskin, give us a stamp-collector before a truckling politician 'hany day—vun's a gentleman; t' other's a sneak.'" For our own part we should have deemed the world-wide celebrity of Dr. Gray as a zoological writer might have prevented the ludicrous supposition of the Boston editor.]

THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT are reprinting all the old issues and offering them in immense quantities, irrespective of facial value. A continental dealer has just been offered a large package for £200.—*Stamp-Collector's Gazette, St. John, N.B.*

SUPPRESSION OF AN AMERICAN STAMP LOTTERY.—That although rogues may prosper for a time, yet that in the end their sins will inevitably find them out is an adage as old as the days of Methuselah. The same adage was never more aptly illustrated than in the case of the late "Stamp Scheme Co.," whose brilliant efforts in the lottery line we noticed in our last number. Since that time, the prospects, financial and otherwise, of the aforesaid Company have undergone a wondrous change. This change was more particularly noticeable one fine morning last week, at which time a vigilant officer of the inland revenue called upon urgent business at the private residence of the "Agent" of the concern, and informed that worthy, in very few words, that lotteries were an illegal contrivance, and that he (the agent) had better stop it forthwith, or his person would be attached as a collateral security for postage stamps.—*Stamp-Collector's Record, Boston, U.S.*

RATHER CUTTING.—We extract the following from a recent number of *The Postman's Knock*, published at St. John, New Brunswick:—"The Stamp Magazines in Europe appear to have 'drank the ocean dry' in reference to matters relating to the stamp business, for they are descending to the most trivial quibbles that ever were dreamed of. The dear knows, it was trivial enough when they restrained their flights of imagination to the great and appalling distinctions known to exist between perforated and unperforated stamps; but when the number of the perforations come to be a matter of vital importance, we think the 'goak' is carried 'a little too far.' Just fancy, there are two distinct issues of Belgium, one perforated 11 by 14 and one 13 by 15. Sad but interesting thought. How many a life is desolate because its possessor owns a 11 by 14 and cannot purchase a 13 by 15. Our advice to such a one is, don't do anything desperate, live in hope, and be resigned to your fate, for we cannot all attain perfection. A new and glorious field of action has been discovered, the new St. Vincent stamps when severed are ragged at the sides. All hail, great discoverer, more to be honoured than Columbus, now will your name be preserved on the 'tablets of everlasting memory.' But, seriously speaking, we think that if such trifling differences are carried out, and we stand on a point of honour as to perforation, denticulation, &c., the sooner stamp collecting dies the better, as this sort of thing is mere child's play, and to the collectors of America we say, 'Don't trouble your minds about such little matters, but press forward to complete your collections by having therein a specimen of every known stamp of every legitimate issue.'"

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MONETARY INSCRIPTION ON THE SERVIAN STAMPS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—Referring to your remark in the January number of *The Philatelist* respecting the Servian 2 pare being written with an *e*, whilst the other values end in *a*, may it not be the case that in the Servian, as in the Greek language, there are three numbers—*singular, dual, and plural*? If so, the nominative dual would end in *e*, and the nom. sing. and plural in this declension only perhaps in *a*.

Yours truly,
O. T.

London.

NEWLY-DISCOVERED WATERMARKED VICTORIAN.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—I have not only to thank Mr Pemberton for the pleasure afforded me by the perusal of his article on the "Watermarked Stamps of Victoria," but also for the discovery of two rare varieties of these stamps, of which I think few, if any, collectors can boast. They both belong to the issue generally described as having ornaments in the angles, and are both on laid paper. The one is a penny stamp, colour dull yellow green, and with what is called a *square roulette* perforation; the other is a twopenny stamp, with the common roulette perforation, but of a *pale blue* colour. I forwarded them both to Mr Pemberton, asking his opinion concerning them, and the following are extracts from his letters in reply: "No. 1 is what is called a square roulette, and is rare. No. 2, laid blue, I never saw before; I should like this stamp very much."

I am still in doubt as to the number of lawful shades between mauve and purple that exist of the fourth impression of the stamps of Victoria, which are on paper watermarked, with thin figure of value. Will some of your readers kindly help me?

With regard to the new old Argentine Confederation, I must declare myself of the same opinion as your correspondent "Nisus," backed as it is by that of Messrs. Pemberton and Moens.

Yours truly,
REPANDUNENSIS.

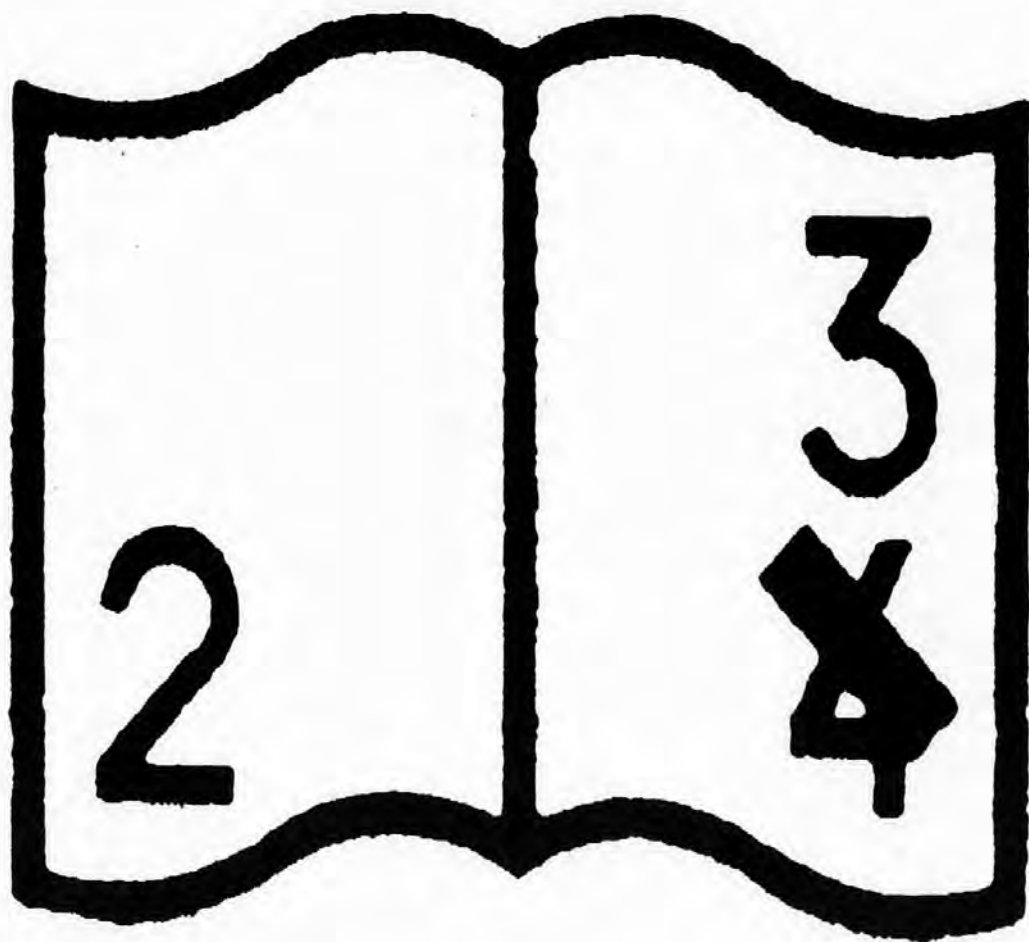
London.

THE VICTORIAN STAMPS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—In the paper on Victorian Watermarks, in your December number, the writer omits the two shilling blue of the present issue. I believe it first came over unwatermarked, like its predecessor, the green stamp of the same value. One of mine, which left Melbourne, February, 1866, has a decided figure 2, but as the mark is in one corner I cannot say whether the figure stands alone or has a stroke after it to indicate shillings instead of pence.

The present two shilling has, like its predecessor, the letters *v. r.* minutely introduced at the lower corners of the ornamental scroll, one on each side. The fact was first noticed in a French magazine; but I do not recollect that it, or any other, has pointed out that at the extreme lower



corners may be deciphered the letters A. P., no doubt intended for Prince Albert; the Victorians being determined not to be behind their Canadian fellow subjects in acknowledging the late Prince Consort on one, at least, of their postage stamps. The V. R. also occurs on the black sixpenny as well as on the yellow sixpenny stamp of the same type; but, as far as I know, the A. P. is not found on either of them.

The French magazine wonders at the word FLORIN being inscribed in minute letters on the two shilling stamp, arguing that it is not an English coin. I beg to disabuse the writer's mind on that subject, and to inform him that our first step, taken some ten or twelve years since, towards a decimal currency was to issue a coin of the value of two shillings, on which is engraved ONE FLORIN, THE TENTH OF A POUND.

The only other Victorian stamps that have the V. R. are the Registered and the Too Late, in both of which the letters may be found just under the respective ends of the scroll which bears the inscription in the upper part of the stamps.

I may add, in conclusion, that the two-shilling stamps, both of the old and present issue, the sixpenny yellow, and sixpenny black of the same type, together with the Registered and the Too Late are the only Victorian stamps which have the value repeated in minute characters in addition to the usual legible inscription. Though the latter is only a sixpenny stamp, it is, notwithstanding, inscribed one shilling; the anomaly being accounted for, that the same die did duty for both. The one shilling seems now the only Victorian stamp of the present issue still without a watermark.

Yours truly,
H. CAMOENS.

Johanniville.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

W. A. W., St. Mildred's Court.—The pink stamp you enclosed is the one newly emitted by Ceylon, noticed in our present number. The other we have never before seen or heard of; we therefore give a full description thereof in our article on "Undescribed Emissions," hoping to receive information.

S. H. B., New Haven, Connecticut, U.S.—We had ourselves made a mental memorandum corresponding with your suggestion. Please send the proposed information.

A. E. HART, Derby.—The 5 centesimi MARCA DA BOLLO in your packet is an Italian commercial, not a postage stamp. The 60 reis of Brazil, the 1 real Pacific Steam Navigation Company, the red Sydney, and the green Chili, are duffers. Notwithstanding the well-executed and perhaps genuine postmark on the yellow Buenos Ayres steamer, we do not believe in it; we doubt also the orange Kanton Bern. The dark blue 3 cents U.S. is perhaps an essay; that of Denmark is one of the well-known forgeries. The SOBRE FORTE and R. stamps of New Granada, with the orange Monte Video and yellow Modena, seem all right; and we hope, for your sake, it being a valuable specimen, that the Buenos Ayres cavalier is genuine, though we cannot vouch for it.

A COLLECTOR.—Your collection of 550 stamps may be worth as many farthings, halfpence, pence, shillings, or even more, according to the beauty or rarity of its components.

S. H., Shoreham.—The stamp respecting which you require information is an Austrian commercial.

DOUBTFUL.—Your Parma and Modena stamps are genuine; the Sydney is forged.

X. Y. Z.—We believe Mount Brown has long given up the notion of a 6th edition of his work.

ALICE, M. H.—If you do not object to destroy your old album entirely, the way to remove the stamps without injury is to cut them all out separately, and let them lie in water till the back paper is soaked off. Another, but a tedious method, is to lay pieces of blotting paper of equal size with the stamps on them, wetting the same until the latter become sufficiently loose for removal. Stamps should never be too firmly fixed in an album, as it precludes inferior specimens being changed for better; adhesion by one corner, or slightly by the centre, is the better way of fixing them.

A PHILATELIST.—The Saxon stamps are not yet abolished.—A complete set of Spanish has been estimated at £25, but like other objects of vertu, postage stamps bear an artificial and consequently varying value.—The New Caledonians sell at 5 or 6 francs in Paris.

W. H. YOUNG, Exeter.—The North American Confederation is not yet formed. When it is, no doubt the stamps thereof will not long delay appearance; the more especially as essays exist already.—Oppen's Album has a proper compartment for the Danubian Steam Navigation stamps. In other albums they may be lumped with Austria or Turkey, perhaps preferably with the former.

E. B., Hackney.—The blue stamp sent for inspection is Nutter's advertising label. The other is a Spanish bill stamp.—Under favourable patronage of the public, we hope to edit the *Philatelist* for many a long year.

E. ARNOLD, Maida Hill.—Your Bergedorf is the fac-simile of our own, which we purchased at Frankfurt-on-the-Maine, warranted genuine.

J. O., Kingston-on-Thames.—Your Sicilian is most probably a reprint, with a forged postmark. The 2 kreuzer blue, the Utah stamp, and the blue Confederate, are vermin for the barn-door.

VIRGINIA enquires if the proposed stamps for the Virgin Islands are intended only for those under British rule, or indiscriminately for the whole group, the possession of which is shared between Great Britain, Spain, and Denmark? As the inscription is in English, and as, moreover, the device is taken from the armorial shield of those islands belonging to Great Britain, we opine that the forthcoming stamps will be used by Her Majesty's subjects only.

CELESTINA, Clifton, expresses herself not satisfied with our explanation, that when the word CORREOS occurs on the Spanish stamps it stands alone, as on the officials of 1854, but that CORRO, the singular form of the same word, is always followed by another word, as on the current officials. While admitting the truth of our last assertion, she calls our attention to the inscription on the 1 cuarto Madrid, CORRO INTERIOR, instancing the similar inscription on the Philippine stamps, CORREOS INTERIOR, as a departure from the rule. We believe, however, that the apparent anomaly may be explained away by observing that the plural form of the word invariably has a full stop or colon after it, which the singular form has not.

ON THE ORGANIZATION OF A COLLECTION OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

TRANSLATED FROM THE CATALOGUE OF M. OSCAR
BERGER-LEVAULT.

IT is scarcely possible to set forth any precise rules for the organization of a collection of postage stamps, because those amateurs who have the good luck to possess first-class collections, must have generally re-arranged them more than once; and the experience thus acquired has resulted in the adaptation of a system practically applicable to the special character of their collection. To such, therefore, our advice is unnecessary; but we believe less advanced philatelists will readily welcome a few general hints from an experienced collector.

Some years back sheets apportioned into squares were pretty commonly used; but we conclude this most impracticable system has been completely abandoned. On the contrary, we think the different albums latterly published are of some utility to beginners, thanks to the information usually contained therein; but the greater portion of them, in our point of view, are sadly faulty in jumbling the stamps of several countries in the same page, for the sake of economizing space.

We argue that an entire page at least ought invariably to be reserved for each country; because the changes in postal issues can never be correctly foreseen, nor can it be consequently judged what pages ought to be left partially blank for probable issues. At times, moreover, the stamps of a place that had not previously emitted any, have to be crowded among those of two or more countries on the same page. Therein lies a deficiency rendering impossible the methodical classification and strict order indispensable in every well-arranged collection; whilst in the system we ourselves pursue, the publication of necessary supplementary leaves will respond for a long time to every requirement; and the loose pages can

be readily detached at any time for binding together in two or more volumes.

The period when the extent of a collection shall render impossible the single album system, will thus be conveniently reached. Such a system is really impracticable for important collections, containing, according to their possessor's fancy, a larger or smaller, yet still ever varying, number of stamps offering various peculiarities in colour, paper, watermark, or perforation. The loose pages, on whose temporary utility we insist, may be ornamented at will with fancy framework, armorial bearings, &c., coloured or otherwise.

In most respects the system commonly adopted in albums may be followed; the emissions of every state arranged in chronological order, those forming a part of the same series being placed side by side, and care taken that they be not mixed with other sets. The intervals between the stamps ought, moreover, to be so managed as to allow of all the individuals of the same issue to be in one row, which, with few exceptions, will be found practicable. The most natural arrangement is to place the lowest value on the left, the higher ones following in regular ratio.

Young collectors are earnestly recommended, especially in the case of rare stamps, not to detach them in the first place from the portion of letter or envelope to which they adhere. It must not be forgotten how greatly damaging to collections is too frequent a re-mounting of the specimens. However much care be taken, the risk of tearing them is necessarily augmented each time of removal. This warning is particularly needed in relation to such stamps as those of Sardinia, Portugal, the current Oldenburgs, &c., which, after two or three wettings almost wholly lose their cameo-like appearance.

The re-classification of a collection will, however, become imperative at a more or less remote period, were it only for the sake of replacing with better

ones such inferior specimens as would content the mere tyro. Experience will then readily show the degree of precaution required in handling each individual.

After many trials we find it the best mode of unmounting to place the *back* of a stamp on a well-wetted piece of flannel; not on any account, to lay the flannel upon the stamp. Several can be attended to at once in this manner, and the exact moment seized for detaching the stamps before they become too much saturated. This procedure is of course requisite for the choicer specimens only; common stamps being usually printed on strong paper may be dipped in water and left till detached.

With respect to envelopes, a good proportion of philatelists either choose an uncut copy, or two specimens, one of which is cut and fixed in their album, the other preserved elsewhere entire. It seems scarcely requisite to warn those who collect mutilated envelopes only, to eschew the barbarous method formerly adopted for collections, that of cutting them in ovals or octagons, &c., according to the shape of the impression. A quarter of an inch, or more, ought to be left round the stamp, for the following reasons:—

1. Because envelopes cannot otherwise be distinguished from their corresponding labels, as in the instance of the Austrian, Prussian, and current Saxon and Lubeck emissions, where, in the majority of impressions composing them, the envelope-stamp, if cut close, would not be distinguishable from the adhesive of like value.

2. Because the inscription, a characteristic peculiarity of most of the German envelopes, would be totally lost to view; and this very inscription is the sole distinguishing mark of difference between the 1st and 2nd Thurn and Taxis emission, those of Saxony, &c., and it is further interesting that nearly all the German States adopt a different colour for it.

We do not profess to have exhausted the subject in these few observations:

they are simply general hints, which may be found not without use to some of our readers.

HINTS ON COLLECTING.

ON THE SELECTION OF SPECIMENS.

(Continued from page 179.)

Mauritius. By a clerical error, the 9p. was given last month as on c c and crown paper; this value is not known in this state, however.

Mexico. The higher values are becoming daily rarer, especially in their unused condition. The stamps issued in 1864 bearing the head of Juarez, are by many considered simply as essays,—even then they are *bonâ fide* and of interest,—whilst others believe them to have been in use for a short time. All we have seen have been ungummed, upon plate or card paper. They were advertised in Nov., 1864, at two guineas a-piece, and now it is very seldom they are to be seen. They are: 1 real vermilion, 2 blue, 4 brown, 1 peso black. The 2 and 4 rs. have the value in smaller letters than the others.

Modena. Avoid unused sets as you would the gentleman with the orthopædical shoe. Owing to the absurd lengths to which reprinting has been carried, unused stamps of most Italian states are to be eschewed, particularly the Modenese errors, of which Levrault gives nineteen, which, with half-a-dozen exceptions, are all those bare-faced falsities, yeleft reprints. The original postmarked errors known are 5, 15, 40 cnet, 15 cnet, 49 cent, and 70 cent, violet.

Moldavia. Of the earliest or circular type, Dr. Magnus gives us five varieties. Of the "Scisorei," many genuine types exist, which the same writer will no doubt shortly describe at length.

Natal. The old blotting-paper series, as they have been aptly termed, are not complete without margins, especially the 3p. and 9p., which, from their large size and eccentric shape, are often frightfully mutilated. We may add that the 9p. postmarked is of the very great

test rarity, and is amongst the wants of ninety-nine out of every hundred collectors. This issue has been reprinted, and may be had unused through this source, in colours usually more vivid than originals, and of course much too new in appearance. We have been told by one competent to give an opinion, that this issue was merely provisional; can any light be thrown on this point? The head series, star watermarked, appeared first imperforate in one value, the threepenny, the few known copies of which are much valued, and may contest the palm of rarity with any other variety of perforation. The other values, 1p. rose and 6p. grey, were always perforated, and, with a 3p., formed the first perforate set.

New Brunswick. The Connell essay, said by some Canadian collectors to exist postmarked, in its original and genuine state, is gummed and perforate, and on paper of the stoutness of the ordinary stamps. Those on thin paper, imperforate, in brown and other colours, are worthless reprints.

New South Wales. The large hexagon stamps must all have good margins, else it is impossible to prove the imperforate state of any of them; these are, 5p., 6p., 8p., 1sh., and 5sh. This 8p. is in canary-yellow, and the same shade was perforated, we believe, for a short time; this is now scarce. The 5sh. imperforate is rare, as also is the registered red and blue, both of which require excessive margins.

New Zealand. There is room for great care in the selection of any of these stamps; the rare "roulettes" have to be looked for, and in the thick paper series are, 1p. and 2p. perforates. All the imperforate stamps must have margins. The pelure series is rare, especially 1p. imperforate, 2p. and 1sh. perforate, and the "roulettes."

Nova Scotia. The oldest issue, both of New Brunswick and of this colony, is upon a blue paper of more or less depth of colour, hence the absurdity of those dealers who profess to discriminate between a white and a blue paper

issue for each; the only difference existing is light and dark-blue paper. The 1sh. Nova Scotia is found in rosy-lilac, and purple-lilac, very clear shades.

Oldenburg. The $\frac{1}{3}$ gr. rect. of 1861, green on white, sometimes presents us with a curious variety, the name OLDENBURG being printed by error OLDEIBURG.

Papal States. Here again are stamps whose shapes used to provoke clipping in old days; such as are so mutilated must be avoided. The 50 baj. is liable to much variation in design; the oldest are pale-blue, the more recent are bad and variable lithographs, sometimes indistinguishable, and of a very dark blue or indigo.

Peru. Good clear copies are what we want here; the numerous varieties are fully chronicled by Levrault, of which the most important are: cornucopia on white, 1 pes. and 1 din. (the latter appears to us resulting from a worn plate), 1 peseta with unshaded banners, and 1 peseta on thin paper, colour deep blood-red; this last variety is not chronicled, but is distinct; the paper is so thin, that the colour (which is very decided) shews clearly through the back of the stamp. The oldest stamps of P. S. N. Co., are on a blue paper, and are: blue, 1, 2 rls.; carmine-red, 1, 2 rls.; on white we find carmine, 1 r.; blue and brown, 2 rls.; whilst all others on white appear to be reprints. The 1862 issue, with embossed centre, presents us with a curious specimen of economical printing. We often find specimens printed on two pieces of torn paper, one edge of which laps over the other about three-eighths of an inch, and is kept tight by the embossing of the centre.

Parma. In common with most Italian stamps, these have been reprinted, and should therefore be collected postmarked.

Portugal. The Queen's head stamps having been reprinted, the same remark applies here; the reprint 5 r. is not from the identical die of the original, as it has been altered a little, and

touched up, besides being printed in dark-brown, instead of chestnut.

Prussia. Of the various sets with heads, we find reprints abundant, and in purchasing unused, care should be exercised that originals are obtained. The reprints are brighter in colour, and the black on colour are on paper without watermark; the originals bear a laurel wreath. The three stamps of the second issue have been reprinted from an altered die, and are faintly in relief; these Levraut constitutes a bona fide issue. The envelopes exist with and without threads; the latter series is only of 1, 2, 3, 4 s. gr., and has an envelope inscription in grey-black. The reprints are all without threads, the 1, 2, 3 s. gr., with black inscription, the 4, 5, 6, 7 s. gr. without threads or inscription; when entire, the original envelopes are quite an inch deeper than the reprints. Levraut gives a 1 s. gr. without threads, on blue paper; this we have never met with, but we have seen this and other values on a very slightly bluish paper, scarcely perceptible in tone.

Queensland. The oldest sets are imperforate, and are :—

Star watermark, 1p., 2p., 3p., 6p.

No watermark, 1p., 2p., 3p., 6p., 1sh.

and both require full margins. The perforated sets are :—

Star watermarked, 1p., 2p., 3p., 6p., 1sh., and registered.

Star watermarked, larger perforations, and brighter colours than last, excepting the 1sh.

Unwatermarked 1p., 2p., 3p., 4p., 6p., 1sh.

The 1p. and 2p. also exist on paper watermarked in large letters, QUEENSLAND POSTAGE STAMPS, with an ornament in centre of the sheet.

Romagna. Same remarks as to other reprints.

Russia. The 10 k. is the only imperforate value, it is a very dark brown, and is rare now. The perforated sets are found with large and small perforations;

the present set in aniline colours are the latter—the colours will not stand water. The Finlands present a wonderful variety of types, papers, and colours, a full set of PORTO STEMPEL envelopes is extremely uncommon, and command a high price, reprints of 10 and 20 kop. are from one die, originals are from two dies, *i. e.*, one for each value.

Original PORTO STEMPEL have 39 lines in shield, exclusive of the outer line of shield.

Original oval (1856), have 26 lines, and the point of sword comes between the ninth and tenth line.

Reprint PORTO STEMPEL have 37 lines in shield.

Reprint oval (1856), 26 lines at top, 25 at bottom of shield, and the point of sword comes between the eight and ninth line.

It seems more than doubtful whether Levraut is correct in giving the PORTO STEMPEL as adhesive. It does not seem at all an established thing that they were ever issued otherwise than envelopes. The accredited varieties are,

10 k., rose-red, yellow wove.

10 „ rose, laid oblique.

10 „ brownish vermilion, oblique.

20 „ black, white wove.

20 „ Russian green, laid vertically.

20 „ „ „ laid obliquely.

20 „ dark blue (varying) „

20 „ black „

Some speak of 20 k. on yellow wove, but this wants confirmation. Collectors of entire envelopes find many curious varieties here, the envelopes of one series being used up for the succeeding set, by cancelling the old stamp with penstrokes; we find, perhaps, a PORTO STEMPEL or an oval stamp on the flap, and on the face of the envelope the 1860 design. We must refer our readers for full details of numerous and (in England) little known varieties of 1856 and 1860, to the exhaustive paper on Finlands, by Dr. Magnus, in Nos. 23 and 24 of *Le Timbrophile*, suffice to say

that the 1860 envelopes are from three dies, viz.,

8 stars, 14 lines in shield and 26 undulations, 5 k.

7 stars, 22 lines in shield and 40 undulations, 5 k.

8 stars, 17 lines in shield and 49 undulations, 10 k.

In the Russian envelopes are two varieties of watermark, the imperial eagle on one, is in a rect.; in the other, in an oval. This watermark is principally valuable to collectors of entire envelopes, as it covers the whole face of the envelope; yet, the two series present sensible differences in colour, for instance, the earliest, with watermark eagle in rect., dated 1848, by Levrault, are,

20 k., blue; 30 k., rose.

The latter, eagle in oval, dated 1866, are,

20 kop., ultramarine; 30, brick-red.

He also mentions the 10 kop. on blue laid paper, which is new to us. The local envelope 5 k., is found deep-blue and ultramarine.

St. Helena. Levrault gives two varieties of perforation of the rare perforate 6 p., viz., 14 and 15, we have only met with one. He further tells of 1 sh. imperforate, new to us; but, since chronicled by him, no doubt existing.

St. Lucia. The higher values of the star watermark series are daily getting rarer, they are (4 p.), deep blue, and (6 p.), deep green.

St. Vincent. These are imperforate, 1 p. (lake-red), and 6 p. (yellow-green), both scarce, and requiring good margins.

Saxony. We find the old 3 pf., figure of valne, in rose and in red. The 1850 set has been reprinted.

Servia. The 1866 stamps, arms, we find on thick and on thin paper; the oldest 1 p. is of a bronze-yellow, running through various shades to dark-green, the paper becoming thinner as the colour darkens; the thick paper 2 p. is in clear brown, on thin paper in brown-red; the series with head of

Michael III. are found perforate 12 and 9½ dents; the first in values, 10, 20, 40 p.; the second in 1, 2, 10, 20, 40 p.; of which the three last are on pelure paper, and colours differing from those of the previous issue with small perforations.

(To be continued.)

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

LAST month we stated, "on authority," that the expected issue of novelties for the Argentine states would not be forthcoming till the new year.



The actual appearance of the 5 centavos, here figured, with its congeners, compels us, "on still better authority," to eat our words. The lower value of the previous set having

been exhausted is the reason of its successor's arrival, here and elsewhere; the others will wait awhile. The cuts here given, saying all that is needful

respecting the design and monetary denomination of these stamps, we have but little to add beyond giving the colours, &c., and explaining the personality of the portraits. We have seen but one of the series ourselves, and this sufficiently evinces its origin from the prolific American Bank-Note Company. We cannot say much for the execution of the cuts before us, taking it for granted that the very "tall talk" of our respected con-



temporary respecting the original of the 10c. is warranted from observation of the portraiture thereon, we must suppose a poor rendering of the stamp itself. The Belgian

magazine terms the represented officer General Manuel; the surname may, perhaps, be omitted by printer's error. The trio are printed on plain white unwatermarked paper, perforated rather sparsely.

5 c., vermilion, portrait of Rivadavia.
10 „ green, „ Belgrano.
15 „ deep-blue, „ San Martin.

BOLIVIA.

In our October number is a representation of the Bolivian stamp. We hear it partakes of the peculiarity common to the New Caledonian and Corrientes queerities, presenting a slight but perceptible difference in each specimen on a sheet.

THURN AND TAXIS, SOUTH.

The adhesives and corresponding envelopes of the new series, though catalogued as being of the same respective colours, present very sensible diversity of hue. The orange, blue, and carmine of the latter, are of a much richer tint, and the shades of the green and brown perfectly distinct.

NORWAY.



The appended engraving represents the local to which we alluded as an unrecorded novelty last month. The fort or castle is of peculiar construction, and apparently on the sea.

RUSSIA.

An amateur informs us that in the earlier days of his stamp collecting, he used to meet with specimens of the 5 kopecs with Russian characters printed on the back. Varieties not being then much in vogue, he did not preserve any. We should like to ascertain if other collectors have remarked the same peculiarity, and if any competent authority can explain the circumstance.

AUSTRIA.

We had heard of the new set of Austrian locals, about to be chronicled as genuine, last month, but hesitated to

mention them until more reliable information arrived.

For the collectors of non-official issues and of every conceivable variety, they are an immense boon, amounting in number to no fewer than 55, being 5 values repeated each in 11 diverse tints. We give representations of three of the types employed, being the most remarkable; the two remaining being, one rectangular, the



other square. The former has the figure of value in the centre, LEITMERITZ above; name of director below; EXPRESS on the left, COMPAGNIE on the right. In the 10 kr., the right and left inscriptions change places. The orange specimens serve for Leitmeritz and Lobositz postage, the blues for elsewhere. Their values are 5 kreuzer, 10 kr., 15 kr., 25 kr., and 50 kr. Colours, pink, pale



and deep blue, green, brown, yellow, mauve, iron-grey, water-green, orange, and—wood—as our foreign informant has it; but whether he means mahogany, ebony, satin wood, deal, albuera, rosewood, or tulipwood, we cannot say.

We should imagine buff would be a good English equivalent, though, not having seen the original stamps, we cannot speak *ex cathedra*. It is not so stated in the source whence our information is derived, but we conclude they are printed *black on colour*, from the circumstance that M. Ed. Hofer

offered to forward a series also in colour on white paper, which would just double the number of varieties!

BAVARIA.

The returned letter stamps of Nuremberg afford, we understand, two distinct variations of type, printed side by side on the same sheet.

INDIA.

Exactly six months ago, we described in the pages of this magazine, the officially employed stamp which the sub-



joined representation faithfully renders, except that the black lines at top and bottom make it appear as if the stamp were complete, whereas our own specimen (and doubtless that from which the en-

graving was taken) is evidently a mutilated bill stamp pressed into temporary service. Our Brussels contemporary gives some additional values, two of which are doubtful, as appertaining to the provisional set we described last month serving for Singapore, the capital of the Malacca Straits district. They are:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 1 anna, altered to 4 cents, | black. |
| 2 " " " | 6 " purple. |
| 2 " " " | 32 " black. |

SPAIN.

The journal stamp emitted last summer for this country has received a companion of type very similar to itself, in the shape of the original of the annexed engraving. Slight comparison of the pair will show the trifling existing difference. It is printed in two shades of colour, pale and deep-green.



PAPAL STATES.

When we described the new set for the Roman territory last month, we had not seen the stamps themselves, and consequently gave the 80 cent. a deep-rose colour. Some of our contemporaries have certainly very misty ideas of colouration. It is of a rich pink, according to our specimens, which, we imagine, represent the rest. A 3 centesimi, described by one party as grey, by another as violet, was printed same type as the $\frac{1}{2}$ baj. One journalist states it to be in actual service, another that it was a useless value when prepared, and consequently suppressed. A letter from Rome informs us that higher denominations are forthcoming, and our envoy not containing any of the 3c., we conclude it is *not* current.

VICTORIA.

The watermark-variety-mongers are informed that the 1d. present emission for this colony is found with the figures 1, 4, 6, and 8, and also with a crown, a fac-simile of which will be given next month. The 2d. has for watermark a 2, a 4, a 6, and an 8 on plain paper, varying in consistency, in this respect well matching the specimens. The 4d. is now on very thin laid paper.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Few of our readers have not laughed at a Harlequin reappearing from one trap-door after having been hurled by clown and pantaloons down another. Without intending any irreverend comparison, we may apply this simile to the case of the apparently defunct Circular Delivery Company, cruelly smashed by the Post-office authorities, but entering appearance once more under the guise of the National Delivery Company. Doubtless, this is managed with all due respect to legalities; and we wish it now, as before, every success so well deserved by its perseverance and energy. This not being the part of our magazine devoted to advertisements, we can add nothing further but a description of such stamps as have at present appeared, referring enquirers to the office, the

locality of which is seen on the stamps themselves. Four of them lie before us, on which are portrayed the Imperial arms of Great Britain and Ireland, very well executed in lithography, colour on white. An upper scroll bears the word NATIONAL; a lower, DELIVERY COMPANY. At the base is 15, BASING-HALL STREET. Values are not specified, but we understand from official information that they are one farthing, one half-penny, three farthings, and a penny. The colours of these are, respectively, red, green, lilac, and deep-blue: the first three are perforated, but not the last.

CASHMERE.

The stamps of this country are invariably described as *hand-stamped*. The red one to which we alluded in our October number (but which we had not then seen), we find to be unmistakeably an adhesive, the gummy matter being perfectly distinguishable thereon. Moreover, it was not affixed to the usual corner of a letter, but covers the seal on the flap of an envelope.

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

Postage-Stamp Albums. The Mulready Series. Nos. 1, 2, and 3. London: E. Marlborough and Co.; Brighton: Stafford Smith and Co.

This trio of albums, graduating in price according to the expense of getting-up, &c., is well adapted in some one of its component parts, to meet the requirements of a large majority of collectors. No. 1 is frontispiced by a good engraving of the Mulready envelope, the blank portion of which is just suited to hold the names of owner—and donor. We trust the hint will be taken and acted upon at the fast-approaching gift season. The body of the work is neatly ruled with blue lines, each page holding twelve specimens, and headed by the name of some country. The perfectly alphabetical arrangement is employed, which is perhaps the best for general purposes. Altogether

this neat little volume will be A 1 as far as regards any postage-stamp album that has hitherto come out for the use of very juvenile collectors.

No. 2 will be suitable for the school-boy or college young lady, being larger and consequently fit for containing a more extended collection. The frontispiece is filled with engravings of stamps interesting from some reason or another. Each page has compartments to hold twenty specimens, and is headed, as in the other, by the name of a stamp-issuing country.

The more highly-priced volume is well worth the extra outlay, and suitable for a moderately good collection. The superior cover, gilt edges, &c., render it admissible among the fashionable litter of a drawing-room table. Besides the frontispiece at the beginning, the album No. 3 has a complete catalogue of all known stamps up to the time of publication, profusely illustrated by well-executed engravings. We should add that headings will be found in all three volumes for the Virgin Islands, Heligoland, Cashmere, Servia, Guatemala, Bolivia, Salvador, and other places that have but recently emitted postal issues. We trust a large sale of these will indemnify our publishers for their liberality in all appertaining to the preparations for these albums.

The Sixpenny Illustrated Catalogue of Postage Stamps. Second edition. London: E. Marlborough and Co. Brighton: Stafford Smith and Co.

This publication, equally valuable for commercial and collectorial purposes, answers at once the purpose of a postage-stamp catalogue, and acts as a guide to amateurs in purchasing additions to their albums, giving the marketable values of specimens, and thus checking the cupidity of extortioners who would prey upon the liberality of enthusiastic philatelists.

It is amply illustrated with engravings of many dozens of stamps; the dates of issue are noted as carefully as

acquaintance with the subject allows ; a complete index to the whole is given ; and an ornamental cover ensures its not being thrown aside as catalogues usually are for their unseemly appearance.

An edition bound in limp cloth can be obtained at a corresponding increase of price. This is well adapted for a Christmas box or New Year's gift at the forthcoming holiday time ; and we hope many a sixpence or shilling will be appropriated by parents, guardians, godfathers, &c., in this way.

Every Boy's Book. A complete Encyclopædia of Sports and Amusements. London : George Routledge and Sons.

It would entrench upon the space appropriated to the legitimate province of this magazine, were we to enlarge upon the excellence of this useful and highly ornamental volume. It is an 8vo. volume, containing nearly 800 pages of closely but clearly printed matter. There are eight full-page coloured, and we should not like the task of counting the plain illustrations. The name of the editor, Mr Edmund Routledge, is sufficient to ensure its answering the requirements of the title ; and in this respect we confidently recommend it to all our juvenile, and most of our maturer readers, there being plenty of interesting topics for the delectation of the latter. Notwithstanding all this, we should not have noticed the publication in these pages, had there not been a fair amount of room assigned to the subject with which we have more immediately to do—Philately or Postage-Stamp Collecting. To this are devoted sixteen pages, profusely adorned with good engravings of official stamps, locals, and essays. The article has been written by a well-known collector, and writer on philatelic subjects, who has endeavoured to epitomize much information for existent amateurs, and to excite at the same time the curiosity and enlistment of tyros into our ranks. The book is printed on the best strong paper, and the covers glow with gaily coloured imitative morocco and gold.

PUZZLES FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

CONUNDRUMS.

1. What is the difference between postage stamps and postage one penny ?
2. Which son of Adam and Eve in his infancy most resembled a postage stamp ?
3. What is the difference between a monkey and a successful postage-stamp forger ?
4. What stamps are most like a musical instrument ?
5. What is the difference between an English postage stamp and a short story ?
6. What is the difference between stamps when passing through the post and wretchedly-executed forgeries ?
7. When may a stamp be said to be slighted ?

TRANSPOSITIONS.

INSCRIPTIONS ON POSTAGE STAMPS.

1. Bad, boars.
2. Feel, rap, thence, O, sun.
3. Telling, age, so, on, ship.
4. Next, seal, in, cap.
5. Illustrious, man, I, neigh.
6. aaceef iimnoprrsst.
7. aaceeeeffgiikmmoorrrrrstv.
8. accdeeeeeeilnnooprrrssttuvv.
9. aaaaceeeegilnnooprrrsstttuww.
10. aaceinnoosstttvw.
11. ceeeinnnopsttv.
12. aceeeeghnoprrsstttu.
13. aaceeeeffggiikkkllmmnnoorrrrrstt
14. aaceeeeeejiilnnooprrrsstx.

DECAPITATIONS.

I.

Without the first letter.—What is *sometimes* worn out of doors by women, and is *always* worn out of doors by men.

Without first and second letter.—A preposition.

Without first, second, and last.—An indefinite article.

Whole—Familiar conversation.

II.

I'm what all stamp collections do,
As each new stamp appears.
Cut off my *first* and what I am,
You can't keep all your years.
Cut off my *first two*, and of length,
A measurement I am,
Both English, French, and Flemish, too,
But not in each the same.

CHARADES.

I.

1 and 2. What stamp dealers do for the philatelic public.

3 and 4. A support.

Whole—An insect.

II.

1. A word used in addressing a young lady.

2. The ruler of a clan.

Whole—What forgeries do to the cause of philately.

III.

1. A preposition.

2. What some birds are.

Whole—A town of great celebrity in ancient times.

IV.

My *first* is both upright and straight,
And sometimes thin and tall.

My *second* is a stage of life,
Which is not reached by all.

Friends far apart are by my whole
In words together brought.

To pay my whole, Sir Rowland Hill
Of penny labels thought.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

I.

I. A European country which has emitted many stamps.

II. An African country which has emitted few stamps.

1. Is cold.

2. Brings ships into port.

3. A girl's name.

4. What gives light.

5. A conjunction.

II.

I. What often deceives collectors,

II. The town from which many of them emanate.

1. What abound in the sea.

2. A large lake in Russia.

3. A spirit.

4. What frisky horses do.

5. A French word composed of three vowels.

6. A large stream.

7. What in ancient times a noble knight never thought of doing.

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

1. The busy ant I guard always.

2. His belief ran certainly to too high a point.

3. A box for departed men.

4. From elevated positions you see the sun rise.

5. I cannot come in at all to-day.

6. The first false step some take unconsciously.

7. Bury departed men with decency.

8. Eleven I certainly saw.

9. A doctor's argument one distrusts.

PRIZES.

Twelve rare Foreign Stamps will be given to those Subscribers answering most of the above Puzzles. Replies must be addressed to "The Editor of The Philatelist, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 15th of December.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

(Pp. 189.)

CONUNDRUMS.

1. Because it is entirely read (red).
2. One francs each note and the other notes each franc.

3. Because it bears the arms of its country.

4. Because of the blacking (black king) on them.

5. The crazy (crazie) ones.

TRANSPOSITIONS.

(Inscriptions on Postage Stamps.)

1. BERMUDA, ONE PENNY.

2. CEYLON, TWO SHILLINGS.

3. G. D. DE LUXEMBOURG CENTIMES.

4. BAYERN FRANCO DREI KREUZER.

5. DUE CENTESIMI POSTE ITALIANE.

6. FRANCO BOLLO POSTALE BAJ MEZZO.

DECAPITATIONS.

Start—tart—star—tar.

CHARADES.

1. Stock-holm—Stockholm.

2. Mull-ready—Mulready.

3. Ice-land—Iceland.

4. Sir-row-land-bill—Sir Rowland Hill.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

1. Spiro, Trash :—

S tree T

P ai R

I ot A
R at S
O — H

2. Reduced Postage:—

R a P
E ch O
D res S
U njus T
C ephaloni A
E ndin G
D anub E

PRIZES.

The following is a list of prize winners, with the number of correct answers sent by each:—

J. Perrett, jun., Bristol (15); W. D. Hemming, Deal (15); Henry A. Browne, Dalston (14); G. C. Fearn, Hackney (14); H. Wittich, London (14); F. Haywell, Brighton, (14); Jno. Wm. Ecklin, London (14); J. H. Greenstreet, London (14); Josiah J. Harverson, Hackney (13); R. Jameson Torrie, Edinburgh (13); — Lindsay, Banbridge (13); C. N. Elvin, East Dereham (13); — Webb, London (13); C. West (13).

The above prize winners will not be allowed to compete again until January, in order to give all subscribers a fair chance of winning our prizes.

Answers have also been received from the following:—

J. Wilson (12); L. Scarth (12); James Shelton (12); L. T. Waller (12); P. H. Carpenter (12); Alfred J. Red (12); A. Davis (12); Peter J. Anderson (12); H. Chittenden (12); Herbert E. Jones (11); — Drayton (11); — Murphy (10); David Robertson (10); E. Le Neve Foster (9); Arthur Jepson (9); R. Jameson (9); Reginald Horton (9); R. C. A. Boyd (9).

POSTAL SCRAPS.

POST-OFFICE QUERIES.—“The postal duty for a simple letter to or from America has been fixed by the Reichstag Committee at one silvergrosh.” This is the news from Berlin. How do the Prussian post-office authorities ascertain whether a letter is simple or otherwise? By opening and reading it? And is the postage on a simple letter heavier than on a wise one, or the reverse? And does the rate of postage on letters in other countries, England for example, depend upon their simplicity?—*Punch*.

PROGRESS OF STAMP COLLECTING IN AMERICA.—Great additions to collectorial ranks are being constantly made in America, and did none fall out again, timbrophilists would be a respectably large array; but from the number of applications we receive from persons wishing to dispose of their collections, we perceive that the increasing ratio is not so great as one would at first imagine. The deserters are mostly persons who commence with a grand rush, and obtain all the cheap stamps, such as Austria, Prussia, Saxony, &c., very easily. These being acquired, the real tug of war comes, —rare postals are not picked up so easily—and when they come to look, and see the great deficiency they will have to fill before obtaining anything like a perfect assortment, and the great difficulty they will experience in procuring them, they give up the attempt, and retire disgusted. We are always sorry to lose even one star from the collectorial firmament, still it cannot be helped,

and our great comfort is that the vacant places are filled as soon as they occur, while there is also surplus enough to create a steady increase. Were it not so, we would get disgusted ourselves, and throw stamps “to the dogs;” but we have every reason to be hopeful for the future of philately in America, from the fact that collectors are beginning to make stamps more of a study than heretofore—that is to say, study them as a branch of art, rather than gather them to make a show by their various gradations of colour, or their freedom from cancelling marks.—*Postman's Knock*.

AN AMERICAN CONTEMPORARY ON THE PERMANENT ALBUM QUESTION.—Watermarks, perforations, denticulations, and variegations of all sorts being pretty nearly exhausted, our European contemporaries have turned their attention to the discovery of a “Permanent Album.” Now we may be wrong, but we certainly think it as probable that they will be as able to solve the great riddle of perpetual motion, as they will be to succeed in their present very laudable efforts. An impossibility cannot be discovered, neither can the drops be counted in a running stream. Stamp collecting is a running stream, and as it is likely to follow the example of Tennyson's “Brook,” and

“Go on for ever,”

we deem it an impracticability to stop it at any given point and say “thus far shalt thou go, and no farther.” The supporters of the permanent album theory, are much divided among themselves. Some advocate the pasting of stamps on loose sheets until you get all the known specimens, and when that happy period arrives, have your leaves bound together in book form. This method is at variance with all our ideas of cleanliness, and we doubt if there is any one, who would save his stamps and sheets chaste and undamaged, through the numerous causes of handling, and shifting they would have to undergo. Other “permanents” say, make a book big enough to hold all the postals hereafter to be created; this idea also is utterly worthless, as it would necessitate such a ponderous volume that any kind of a moderate collection would be invisible, except to a diligent searcher. Our own idea is, that as postage stamps bear an analogous position to history, like it, they should be divided into certain periods, and for each period a volume.—*Postman's Knock, St. John's, New Brunswick*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LUBECK ERROR STAMP.

To the Editor of “THE PHILATELIST.”

DEAR SIR,—Since I wrote to you last month, I have seen in a friend's album, the last edition of Lalier, a space allotted to the stamp about which I wrote; but both he and you call it the 2 schilling lettered ZWEI EIN HALB. This is not the case; it is the 2½ sch., with figure 2, and coloured brown. You will probably not comprehend this distinction at once; but if you examine the stamps, you will see that in all the minutiae, the stamp in question accords with the 2½ and not the 2 sch.

The letters POST OF POSTMARKE are in the 2½ much closer together than in the 2 sch. The full stop after SCHILLING exists in the 2, but is wanting in the 2½. The three marks to the left of ZWEI in the 2½ are much farther apart than in the 2, &c., &c., and all these characteristics of the

2½ exist in the stamp in question. Again, the figure 2 in the right-hand bottom corner of the stamp is of an entirely different form, from the similarly placed figure in the 2 schilling stamp.

I cannot find this variety offered for sale in any price catalogue. Can you or any of your readers inform me how much it is worth?

I am,

Yours faithfully,
W. H. R.

P.S.—The "schillings" in my letter last month was a slip.

London.

THE PROPOSED PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—I think the Society proposed by Mr Bullock, in your October impression, would, undoubtedly, tend to promote philately, but still there is a difficulty to be surmounted, namely, the meetings. Could there not be branches of this Society in a few of the largest towns where philately is chiefly carried on, this would I think give a good many a chance of joining. Hoping my suggestion will be approved of,

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,
G. W. H.

London.

STAMPS ON BLUE PAPER.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—The "Hints on Collecting," in your number for November, are particularly useful, and contain many valuable hints to commencing collectors. There is, however, one point on which I think a question might be raised, and that is with reference to what is called the 4p. English on blue. I have examined many copies of this stamp, but have never found a blue copy on the same paper on which the rose-on-white is printed. The garter watermark is very much smaller on every blue copy that I have seen, and I have not been able to find this small garter in the stamps printed on the ordinary white paper.

Unfortunately, I cannot lay my hand on any blue copies bearing a dated obliterating stamp, but there must be many amateurs who are able to fix the date at which this particular paper was employed, whether at the commencement of the issue of the 4p. rose, or at a subsequent period.

It is clear that there are copies of the 6 anna provisional on white paper as well as those tinged with blue. This latter effect can scarcely be due solely to a "chemical action between the gum and the colouring ink of the stamp," as in all probability the same kind of gum has been employed for all such stamps. I believe that this chemical action is solely responsible for the bluish-green tint which is found on the Barbados Britannia, no value, the Ceylon 6d, the Chili 6c, the Cape 1p, the Great Britain 1p, the Mauritius Britannia red, and the Trinidad red; but I think that something else is responsible for the ½d Ceylon, the India 4 and 8 annas, the Great Britain 4d, the Malta ½d, and the Sierra Leone 6d. As to blue stamps on blue paper, I have scarcely ever seen a specimen, which appears to be free from the doubt whether the blue tinge does not result from some fault in the printing, which has caused the blue ink to run into the paper.

I am,

Yours faithfully,
S. W.

Paris.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

W. H. R.—We agree with the remarks, embodied in your letter respecting the Lubeck error-stamp.—If you wish to dispose of your unused blue English without lines, no doubt any respectable dealer would give you full market value.

P. H. C.—We do not appraise stamps. Like all objects of *virtu*, they are worth what they will fetch. See preceding reply.—The 20 centesimi Italian, concocted from the 15c., had no dots originally. We believe one of them arose from an accident to the plate, and the others were added for uniformity's sake. We remember remarking elsewhere a peculiarity of similar nature in some of our own fourpenny and ninepenny specimens, a small diagonal white line, non-existent in the first-printed individuals, being found at the angles.

W. D. H.—All three of your 2 parale Roumanian Couzas are perfectly genuine. Two distinct varieties of colour, the orange and the ochre-yellow, are universally recognized by philatelists. Your pale-orange one is merely an accidental variation, though decidedly worth preservation as showing such great difference of hue.

I. W. S., Leeds.—This correspondent highly approves the formation of a society such as proposed by Messrs. Bullock and Hemming; and suggests that the former gentleman should draw up a set of rules for the same, and call upon all who are interested therein for a small subscription, for the purpose of starting it. He is ready to put his own name down for 3s.

G. O. F., Hackney, writing a communication on the subject of a permanent album, prefers the oblong to the usual shape. We do not ourselves, because when one, two, or three stamps only of a country exist, as in the case of the Maltese, some of the West Indians, the Ionians, &c., so much space must be necessarily wasted. With respect to the white paper he recommends, alleging it to be best for contrasting the various colours of specimens, we agree with him that no decided tint should be chosen for the pages, but perhaps what is called toned paper would answer the purpose of contrast, and be less dazzling to the eye-sight. The strong paper single sheets, eyelet-holed with brass rims, and thus readily bound and unbound at pleasure, is a very good idea. Perhaps some enterprising publisher will take the hint. The fixing stamps with regularity in an unruled album is rendered easy by his proposal of a moveable machine (a piece of cardboard would answer the purpose), pierced with regular squares and laid upon the page intended to be filled. We think two or three of this species of apparatus might be prepared of various sizes; the Liberians, &c., requiring much more room than the Prussians, Indians, and most others. He concludes with the question, "How long ere we get a permanent album?" This we must leave—and pause for a reply.

I. P., Torquay.—We will endeavour to get the query you require answered, decided by some competent authority.

A COLLECTOR OF VARIETIES is informed that the second part of our remarks on perforations, being an alphabetical-geographical list of postage-stamp-issuing countries, and their various modes of piercing adhesives, will be commenced in the number for the New Year, as it could not have been completed, if begun, in the present volume.

GEOGRAPHICAL, OR GEOGRAPHICO-ALPHABETICAL ORDER.

BY OSCAR BERGER-LEVRAULT, OF STRASBOURG.

THE present moment seems opportune for a few remarks on the important question whether the geographico-alphabetical, or the strictly geographical order should be adopted for postage-stamp catalogues and albums, the subject having been broached page 28 of *The Philatelist*, in a review of M. Moens' album. On my own part, the question is an open one, inasmuch as I am necessitated to examine it anew in all its bearings with respect to an English edition of my catalogue now being under process of translation by a London amateur. Confessing my own predilection for the strictly geographical order, I am open to conviction on satisfactory evidence of its imperfections, and the matter appears of sufficient consequence to be worth treating on in detail.

I would first observe that I shall examine the question primarily in a theoretic point of view, leaving for future discussion to decide if the order admitted by M. Moens, or any other, be preferable to that adopted in my catalogue, which he might have followed without inconvenience, as far as I can understand, not knowing the motives which induced him to the contrary.

When collectors decide with a great majority on the superiority of any one geographical order, then will be the time for such to be universally followed. Till that period arrives, the principal object for attainment would seem to be uniformity. Immediately on my own decision in favour of the geographical order, I adopted, without the slightest modification, that originated for the interesting articles on postage stamps in the *Magasin Pittoresque*. This order, in my eyes, appears perfectly logical, and, even had it been otherwise, I should not have felt myself called upon to make innovations.

I have not yet seen M. Moens' album,

and do not fully understand the order followed therein. He appears to commence with Great Britain, and probably proceeds in general from north to south. While touching upon the point whether it were better to proceed from east to west, or vice versa, it is self-evident that the starting point ought to be the north, otherwise we could not logically commence with Europe, but must place Australia first.

Proceeding southwards, one naturally commences with Russia, and thence westward to Sweden. Denmark claims the next place, then Germany in all its entirety; still proceeding westward, we find Holland, Belgium, and Great Britain. Thence we turn eastward by a chain of countries comprising France, Switzerland, Austria, the Danubian Principalities, and Turkey; normally terminating Europe by the southernmost range of Italy, Spain, and Portugal.

Africa succeeds, taken simply by following the western coast from north to south, and ascending the eastern. Here must be recognised the propriety of concluding instead of beginning with Egypt, and then regularly passing on to Asia.

Asia necessarily comes last in cataloguing the great continent formed by its union with Europe and Africa, on account of its neighbourhood to Australia and especially the Philippines, which a certain number of geographers attach to Asia. America is easily treated, if from north to south, like Europe.

This far from illogical order is for the most part simple and easy of retention. The sole part presenting any difficulty is on arriving at certain states of Central America, and among the numerous islands and colonies in the West Indian seas. With regard to those countries whose geographical situation is less readily fixed in the memory, recourse must be occasionally had to the alphabetical table.

But it is easy to prove that the uncertainty will be quite as great, and

the difficulty of research greater still in following the geographico-alphabetical order. Take all the countries prefixed with St. (St. Lucia, St. Vincent, &c.), shall they be placed under the letter S, or otherwise? For instance, "St. John's, Newfoundland," may be as it reads here, or "John's, Newfoundland (St.)," or "Newfoundland (St. John's)?" Shall we write "Northern Confederacy," or "Confederacy (Northern)?" "Northern Germany," or "Germany (North)?" "Netherlands," or "Holland?" "Danubian Principalities," or "Principalities (Danubian)?" "Ottoman Empire," or "Turkey?" "States of the Church," or "States (Roman)," or "States (Papal)," or "Roman States," or "Papal States?" "Two Sicilies," or "Sicilies (Two)?" "United States," or "States (United)?" "Confederate States," or "States (Confederate)?" "New Granada," or "Confederation (Granadine)," or "Granadine Confederation?" "Monte Video," or "Uruguay?" "Argentine Republic," or "Argentine Confederation," or "Confederation (Argentine)?" &c., &c. How should one divine, how recollect the appellation adopted?

Having been formerly in the frequent habit of consulting Mount Brown's catalogue, in which the strictly alphabetical arrangement was observed, I remember how often I was driven to consult his table of contents from beginning to end, because I could not always call to mind the exact designation he had adopted for some particular country. In a purely geographical order such uncertainty is impossible, for without consulting the index, without ever knowing it, in fact, one is always safe to hit upon the neighbourhood of the required place, and come to it after turning over three or four pages.

For facility of research, then, there is no utility in following an alphabetic order, while its adoption entails terrible confusion with regard to any methodical arrangement. Let us instance Schleswig classified under S, and Holstein under H. What collec-

tor could disentangle the stamps of these two countries from the imbroglione consequent upon such a mode of cataloguing?

Common Emissions.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, 1850-1: 1sch.
2 sch.

Separate Emissions.

HOLSTEIN: March and April, 1864:
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. blue.

May and June, 1864: $1\frac{1}{4}$ sch. blue.

July, 1864, to March, 1865: $1\frac{1}{4}$ sch.
blue, pink check.

And SCHLESWIG: April, 1864: 4 sch.
pink.

April, 1864, to March, 1865, $1\frac{1}{4}$ sch.
green.

Common Emissions.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN: March to October, 1865: $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. pink, $1\frac{1}{4}$ sch. green, $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. lilac, 2 sch. blue, 4 sch. brown.

Separate Emissions.

HOLSTEIN: November, December, 1865: $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. green, $1\frac{1}{4}$ sch. lilac, $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. pink, 2 sch. blue, 4 sch. brown.

January, 1866, to June, 1867: $1\frac{1}{4}$ sch. lilac, 2 sch. blue.

And SCHLESWIG: November, 1865, to June, 1867: $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. green, $1\frac{1}{4}$ sch. lilac, $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. pink, 2 sch. blue, 4 sch. brown.

The 4 pfennige and 6 pfennige envelopes of the Prussian 1861 type having been emitted after the 1st of January, 1868, or at least continuing in use after that date, ought to be classed under the Northern Confederacy, as should also the special 10 s. gr. and 30 s. gr. Fancy seeking for their original types twenty pages off, under Prussia!

The 1st emission of the Kingdom of Italy in 1862, differing only in being perforated from the stamps of Sardinia, issued continuously since 1856, are to be sought after twenty pages in advance! In the same category are the early issues of Holland and Luxembourg, though of one identical type. Shall we classify under "India" the 1854

issue; and the subsequent one under "East India?" One portion of the same colony's stamps under "Tasmania," and the other portion under "Van Diemen's Land?"

The geographical system, without the least inconvenience, allows two separate summaries to be made for the stamps of New Granada, and those of the United States of Colombia; both being the same countries with a slight modification of boundary line. What confusion, on the other hand, if divided according to alphabetical order, which entails a similar entanglement on the issues of Monte Video, if classed in accordance therewith under that name for the earlier ones, under the Oriental Republic for those of 1866, and under Uruguay for the current set. The three subdivisions are in intimate approximation, if geographically catalogued. In like manner, the stamps of the provinces of Corrientes and of Bolivar, emitted during their temporary estrangement from the Argentine Republic, are permanently separated by the alphabet.

Finally, a methodical scientific classification, impossible under the alphabetic, or even alphabetic-geographical order, but so importantly tending to illustrate the history of many a country, becomes perfectly easy on the adoption of the geographical system, which we contend ought to be general and definite, as soon as all accessories are defined and settled.

When this consummation is arrived at, the same country will be ever found in an identical position in all stamp albums and catalogues, in whatever language published, and thus the solitary inconvenience to be dreaded in a geographical arrangement, that of an arbitrary classification, will be permanently annihilated.

TO BE STAMPED OUT. — On January 1st, all Germany, including the North, the South, and Austria, adopted the groschen postage for letters under half an ounce in weight. This change has been adopted as a delicate compliment to the philatelists who find the collecting of stamps so all-en-groschen an employment.—*Fun.*

FORGED STAMPS: HOW TO DETECT THEM.

SECOND EDITION.

(Continued from Page 25.)

BY EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

Italy.

OF the 1851 set, we have a fine series of forgeries, which are so good that they have been printed on card board as proofs, and require close inspection to distinguish them; they are 5c. vermillion, 20 dark green, 40 dark blue. The surest way to detect this fine forgery is, to notice that in it, the F of FRANCO is on a level with the last o of BOLLO opposite to it, in the genuine stamps the F is considerably lower than the last o of BOLLO, this may be instantly decided by laying a piece of paper across the stamp, if it hides the F of FRANCO and leaves the o opposite exposed, it is not this forgery we are now describing. In the forgeries, 5c. is too square; o of POSTE not so square as the other letters o; 20c., the figure 2, in the top or round part, curves inwards, touching the back of the figure; 40c. (and the others in a less degree), the inside left white line of frame, if carried to the top of stamp, would miss the c above it, leaving a clear space between the supposed line and itself. In the genuine stamps, this line would touch, though barely, the c above it; the 2 of the 20c. is like a thin block figure, not curved inwards at all.

There is another forgery, though a miserable affair, of which we have only seen a pale blue specimen; it has the value omitted, and its place supplied by a cross.

Of the 1851 and 1852 sets, reprints have been struck, colours too bright, and gum white and clear.

Of the 1856 we find specimens perforated very badly, about $8\frac{1}{2}$ to two centimetres, 5c. and 3 lire, which we have every reason to believe to be fictitious, and only made for sale. The largest perforation used is $9\frac{1}{2}$, according to our measurement. The 5c. and 10c. vary

from 9 to 13 in perforation, the 5, 10, 20, 40, 80c. existing perforated 12. No perforated 3 lire has been issued. The stamps of this set are to be found at times, with the central head upside down, and even sometimes quite wanting, so such errors do not of necessity prove the specimen to be bad.

Liberia.

Proofs are struck simply for sale, on very thin paper, from the old worn dies. The old 12c. lilac, of which we have seen a postmarked copy, is quite another thing, and is from an early die, being finely executed. Some better forgeries have appeared, which imitate the points of genuineness described by us in August last. Genuine perforations are 11 and 12, forgeries 9½, 11 or 13. In these better forgeries, 6c. has the C of CENTS, under the first I of LIBERIA, 12 c. has it under LI. Genuine 6 and 12c. have the c under IB.

Lubek.

There are many forgeries of the series issued in 1859. They are principally wrong in the following points. In all genuine there is a dot after POSTMARKE, but none after SCHILLING; in the common forgeries these are reversed, and we find that one claw of the eagle, touches the line of the label just over the E of POSTMARKE. The paper is very white and the colours bright, or else the paper is very thin and dull white with the colours pale. These forgeries are all lithographed, but we have one to describe which is not so. It is a copperplate engraving; it has the dot after SCHILLING but none after POSTMARKE, following the coarser forgeries in this oversight; the dots are too numerous over the eagle's head, besides being very small; the execution is too fine, few of the lines being coarse enough. We have only met with a 4sch. of this type, and in it, the claw of the eagle does not touch the line over E of POSTMARKE. There is one genuine variety, or error of engraving, in which the 2sch. brown, is inscribed ZWEI UND EIN HALBER SCHILLING, or two and

a half schilling, but the numerals in angles are figures 2.

Luxembourg.

The arms series 10 blue, 12 pink, 25 brown, 30 lilac, 37½ green, 40 orange-red, are forged by lithography. In these, on the lower band of the crown (where it would go upon the head) are seven jewels, in the genuine stamps there are three round clear jewels in this part. This is the quickest test to apply, the rest of the details are very closely copied, some say the test is to look whether the u x touch, if they do the stamp is bad, otherwise it is genuine but a superabundance of ink might invalidate this. The band of the crown is the only sure test.

The 1, 2, and 4c., are also forged, in which the ground is not clear and distinct in every line of the pattern, as in originals. They are imperforate, and the 1 and 2c. have a border of a single line all round, the numeral 2 in lower label of the 2 centimes stamp, is not so large as the lettering of the word CENTIMES which follows it. In the 10c. of the perforated set, we observe a great falling off in the style of printing, the colour is ultramarine and the impression looks like a lithograph, the jewels on the crown are smudged and look like those on the forgeries, the jewels and the spaces between not being distinguishable from each other. The same may be noticed in a less degree on some of the 25c. brown, imperforate, and no doubt arises from careless printing in both cases.

Mexico.

The first two issues of this country have been forged, but in the most wretched manner. The name has been spelled MEDICO instead of MEJICO, this, in conjunction with wrong colours, and the value on ½ and 1 real being in the plural instead of singular, will at once point out the character of the stamp.

Modena.

Eagle and crown between laurel branches, in rectangular frame, lettered POST

ESTENSI, with value below. Rectangular, on colour.

5 c. bright green, olive-green.

10 " rose, violet.

15 " pale and dark yellow.

25 " flesh.

40 " blue and clear blue.

1 lira, white.

Newspaper, 9c., B. G., red-lilac.

Of these stamps there are many forgeries, some very indifferent, others very close imitations. The following points are *all* found on genuine ones, whilst the forgeries are deficient in one or more particular.

Genuine. Cross on crown, very small, never very clear, and comes just under first E of ESTENSI; eagle's tail is in three points, the centre the longest, but none pointing acutely; the branches surrounding the eagle do not touch the black line above the value, one commences just between E and N of CENT; on right hand branch, at top, are two bunches of leaves, between which is a single black dot; eagle's head small, and not touching the crown; eagle's head never wider across than the lower rim of the crown. Of the 9c. B. G. there are two genuine varieties; one with larger letters B. G. than the other. Many of the varieties (errors in value, &c.,) given in Levrault, owe their existence solely to the reprinter, not many of them were known before the commencement of 1864. The 49 cent. blue, is that best authenticated, as many used copies are known. On some copies of 10 and 15 cents. we find the outside feather of the right hand wing is half of it wanting.

PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

Cross in shield, with crown, between two laurel branches, frame of single lines, lettered FRANCO BOLLO, PROVINCE MODONESI, value below. Impressed in colour.

5 c. green.

15 " brown.

20 " blue, lilac (light and dark.)

40 " brown rose.

80 " yellow.

There are forgeries of these, some of which are very good imitations, whilst on the other hand, some are very poor. The old and bad ones are principally conspicuous by the lower right-hand field of the shield, being smaller than the others, the cross in shield being quite upright, and the colours very bright. The best forgery has the cross at the top of crown, all but touching the border line, and has the cross in shield quite upright; the genuine PROVINCE MODONESI have the cross not quite upright, the fields of the shield very equal, the colours soft and pale, the cross on crown hardly discernible, and a good way from the border line above it. We find the lines in the upper fields of the shields, are five in each, the paper is woven and not surfaced, and the 20c. varies wonderfully in shade, from pure blue (rare) to violet and lilac. Levrault chronicles some very tortured errors of printing, none of which we have ever seen genuinely postmarked, viz., 5c. *brun*, 20 cent (with a block letter 2) *bleu*, 20 cent *lilas*, 8 cent *orange*, 80 cent *orange*, 80 cent *crey orange*. We feel tempted to enquire why *crey*? the word is too silly ever to have been otherwise than a reprinter's folly. To these, Mahé adds 1 cent *brun*, and 8 cent *orange*.

NEWSPAPER STAMP.

Eagle under crown in circle, circle lettered, TASSA GAZZETTE, CENT 10.

The old genuine stamp is printed on a rough greyish paper, and was once a very valuable stamp. It may be had reprinted for a few pence now, which of course stops the sale of forgeries; of these, however, we know two, the very old Swiss forgery given in the first edition of *Forged Stamps*, and a more recent one made in Hamburg. The first has the eagle's feathers represented by thin lines; the second is principally noticeable from the smallness of the dots after, and by, CENT. 10. The paper in both these is of a smooth woven texture, but in design they are almost identical. One would think the first forgery had

been transferred and then typographed, they are so alike, but both are lithographs.

(To be continued.)

HINTS ON COLLECTING.*

ON THE SELECTION OF SPECIMENS.

(Continued from Page 28.)

St. Helena. We find the perforated 6p., are as follows:—

Perf. 16 (barely) 6p., dark blue.

“ 14 6p., “ “

“ 14 6p., paler blue.

This last is that termed *azuré* by Levrault, who only gives it as not perforated. The dark blue 6p. is the oldest, and by far the rarest; the *azuré*, not perforated, is now in use.

Shanghai. Of the ungainly stamps comprising the first issue, we find many varieties of colour and paper, and many errors in the inscriptions both Chinese and English, which are quite ignored by Levrault, and by Mahé in his new *Guide* (which is to be “unvéritable guide”). These varieties are far more interesting and valuable than the shoals of English compound envelopes, or the Austrian complementary of Levrault, or than the fifty-five shades of Leitmeritz of Mahé, or the Hamburg humbugs of both. They are an official issue, and not the speculation of any private company, hence their superiority to the instances quoted above. The enumeration of their varieties would lead us too far in the present case, so we will here only observe that the 1 and 4 candareens are found on laid, as well as on wove, paper; that 2, 3, 4, 8, 12, and 16, are found with the value in the singular as well as the plural; that in 2 and 4c. we find errors in the Chinese characters; and that of 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 16c., there are two or three distinct shades each, and that all

seem un gummed, excepting some specimens of 1, 2, and 8c. Mahé asserts that all 4c. are in the singular, which is quite wrong.

Sierra Leone. Levrault gives these—

6p. Imperforate, on white and on blue.

6p. Perforate, on blue.

Mahé, in the new catalogue, gives them correctly—

6p. Imperforate, on white.

6p. Perforate, on blue and on white.

South Australia. Foreign catalogues tell us of 6p. imperforate. This is only known in England as a proof; we have the perf. 9p. in grey-black and lilac-grey.

Tasmania. Rouletted specimens are reported (4p. and 1sh.), but amongst great quantities of them, we have been unable to identify a single *satisfactory* specimen. Foreign catalogues do not tell us many of the fine colours of the various sets; that with figure in watermark, imperforate, is given simply by Levrault as 1p. red, 2p. green. Mahé (with a laudable desire to make his work a real guide) identifies the two colours as 1p. pale red varying, 2p. bronze-green—quite ignoring that 1p. is in every conceivable shade of pale red, red, red-brown, and brown-orange, up to rosy-vermilion; and the 2p. in bottle-green, olive-green, dark green, and bright clear green. The perforated stamps are not officially so used, being the work of private offices, their collection is, therefore, of little moment, as separate varieties.

Trinidad. The imperforate stamps of the issue of 1859 are not frequently found, the lilac 4p. being especially rare. This set is on unwatermarked paper; and we find a red, together with a 6p. and 1sh. (blue-black), perf. 14, but by a very imperfect machine, which leaves its marks, though not severing the paper. These must not be confounded with the rarer imperforate set. There exist sets variously perforated, 12, 13, 14, 15½, all unwatermarked, and varying greatly in colour; then we

* This paper was intended to have been published last month, in the place of the article then inserted, which, owing to its having been written some time since, required considerable addition. By an error, however, we gave our readers the original instead of the re-written article.

have the present set with the c c and crown watermark, perf. 13. We have found a 6p.—no watermark—perf. 15½ at top, and 14 at sides, which does not appear known.

Tuscany. Of the old lions we find reprints on unwatermarked paper abundant; we find genuine ones upon deep pure blue paper, and on pale or half-tinted blue, bearing fragments of watermarks, also on white paper watermarked by intersecting ellipses. The 2 soldi has been very little used, and the plate is destroyed, and all genuine are fine clear impressions. This stamp has been imitated by the reprinters, by altering a die of one of the "crazies" to the desired value, and printing stamps in intense bright red, on pale blue paper, deeply watermarked with an imitation of parts of that visible on old genuine stamps. We said that the original plate was very little used, and as a consequence, that all original impressions were clear. These reprints are extremely worn, heavily printed, and very bright and new. We have been told of a similar reprint of the 60c., the originals of which should be clearly printed, but with this we have not met. The genuine "lions" are very variable in colouring, and the following mem. of the principal shades may be of service—

1. Blue paper, varying in depth.
 - 1c., pale rose, rose-lake, vinuous red, brown-red.
 - 2c., pale blue, slate-blue, dull greenish blue.
 - 4c., yellow-green, green, blue-green.
 - 6c., dark blue, bright blue, indigo, slate.
 - 9c., dark violet brown, pale ditto.
- 1 soldi, greenish yellow, orange-yellow, bronze-yellow.
2. White paper (crossing ellipses in watermark).
 - 1c., rose, rose-red; 2c., pale green-blue, pale blue; 4c., green; 6c., bright pure blue, pale blue; 9c., pale violet-brown; 1 soldo, brownish yellow.

Turkey. The first series naturally divides itself into sets of thick and thin

paper. Of the thin papers we can easily trace two issues, the first deep shades, the second paler. Of the thick paper set, we find only 20p. canary-yellow, 1p. lilac, grey, and pale-green; it is curious to observe that the paper used here is only coloured on one side, although we have a solitary yellow coloured on both sides, like most other stamps on coloured paper. The unpaid letter labels are on thin paper and are in two sets, the one pale-brown, the other in pale-red. Of the 1864 issue, the earliest set contains the yellow and the lilac-grey, without rays around the star. There is also to be found the lilac-grey stamp, or 1 piastre, printed by error in green, the colour of the 10 paras. Of each of the values of this issue, excepting the 25pe., there are two distinct shades, and three of the 2pe. (dark blue, light blue, and mauve).

United States. All the envelopes of 1853 and 1857 have been reprinted, originals are on paper laid obliquely, reprints are laid vertically, and, in spite of affirmations to the contrary, on paper laid obliquely, as well. We have specimens before us on paper laid obliquely, which we cannot accept as genuine originals, as they differ in many important respects from them. Again, in Mahé's guide is given the small oval 10c. green on white, which is not given as existing by Levrault, and is mentioned by Dr. Magnus as of the greatest rarity. Mahé gives the reprint of this stamp as being on paper laid vertically, and quotes the stamp on laid oblique at two shillings. How could this be, were not the stamp reprinted on paper laid obliquely as well as vertically? The small 6c. is not to be accredited, as it only exists as a reprint.

Confederate States. Reprints exist of most of them. The originals are usually struck in an inferior manner; the reprints are well and sharply printed. We find the 5c. Jefferson Davis in its original state, on rather thick paper, soft and dull, and on thin paper, crisp and very slightly surfaced. The former

is a darkish dull blue, the latter a pale dull blue; reprints are on thin crisp paper, more or less surfaced, and white gum at back, colour pale clear blue. The large 5c., Jeff. Davis' head in oval, is in dark-green and dark-blue, on soft rather thick paper; reprints on surfaced paper, very sharp impressions, and in all colours. The 1c. Calhoun is one of the rarest of the Confederates, it is in yellow; the reprint, which is brought out very sparingly and keeps at a high price, is a decided shade of red, and, in common with the other reprints, is better printed than the originals. The *Guide* evidently considers the "blockade postage" as worthy some attention—we should like to know why? Nine values of these old and perfectly fictitious stamps are given, as also Nashville 5c. lilac, 10c. green, both utterly fictitious, and we have just noticed the enumeration, a little lower down, of the "Richmond postage," two more delusions. Would it not be better in offering a *véritable guide*, to carefully eliminate such gross errors as these, from a work full of merit as far as it relates to legitimate stamps? Why should a catalogue of postage stamps be cumbered with such things as the following, selected at random from the *Guide*?—

Bavaria. Timbres étiquettes, 17 varieties.

Danish. Railway stamps, 4 varieties.

Spain. Telegraph stamps, 20 "

Confederate States Blockade, 9 "

Great Britain. Circular and Railway Stamps, 62 varieties.

Telegraph, 12 varieties.

Hamburg. Private office, 138 varieties.

Italy. Hand-stamped for newspapers, 23 varieties.

Modena errors, 30 varieties.

Leitmeritz Co., 55 "

We only give such as are noticeable from their numbers, as plenty of odd stamps are interspersed throughout the catalogue, with which the collector of postage stamps can have no sympathy. The few examples we have mentioned furnish us with nearly 400 specimens.

We would not notice these given in a dealer's catalogue, did not M. Mahé wish us to understand, that it is not a dealer's list, but a collector's guide. In the face of these examples that is an absurd assertion, and we feel almost tempted to criticise the lists of *bonâ fide* stamps, which are frequently faulty and often weak, especially in our Australian colonies. In England, we accept what French writers elucidate: cannot they then accept what is written in England on our own colonies, and not continue giving Sydneys, laureated New South Wales, and half-length 2p. Victoria in the old heathen manner? It must be, that they are unwilling to acknowledge the correctness of anything which they themselves were not the first to notice. We can affirm of *Mahé's Manuel*, that, as far as regards legitimate stamps, it is, with few exceptions, a safe guide for the collector. We do not find that want of proper discrimination between colours, which is, beyond doubt, a great fault in Levrault; the latter writer gives as a rule only the normal shade of each stamp, though in the few cases where this rule is infringed, he give us a great many shades, which is inconsistent. As an instance, we will turn to p. 119. Mexico: the 1864 issue, eagle— $\frac{1}{2}$ real, brown, "lie de vin," pale brown, 1r. blue, ultramarine, 2 yellow, 4 green, 8 carmine; having given three shades of $\frac{1}{2}$ and two of 1 real, it seems inconsistent to omit the 2 deep brown-yellow, 4 yellow-green, bright green, and 8r. red. Mahé gives them $\frac{1}{2}$ brown, violet, grey, lilac, 1 blue, green-blue, ultramarine, 2 orange, pale yellow, 4 green, 8 red. This will shew the difficulty experienced by two makers of catalogues in describing shades, especially as neither give more than one shade of 4 and 8r., one calling the latter carmine, the other red, though two exist—carmine-red and dull red. It is much easier to criticise these things than to do them, and in forming his sets a collector should collocate from the best sources, and his own specimens, adding anything new to that

list which he prefers to take as his guide. Different shades are given more accurately by Mahé than by anyone else, and such a guide is indeed wanted by all who collect seriously; and we hope some day to go through it, in no unkind spirit, and to add to it anything in our power. Had the rubbish been sorted from it, it would have been of far greater use; nobody wants to know the colours of 130 odd Hamburg locals, or the remuneration M. Mahé expects for the seals off our returned letter branch envelopes, and we think it a pity they have found place. To return, however, to

Mexico.—The issue of 1866, Maximilian's head, is given by Levraut as lithographed, and engraved, of course, but he gives each set as identical in colour in each value.

- 7 c. brown.
- 13 " blue.
- 25 " yellow-brown.
- 50 " green.

Of course this is wrong. By 7c brown, does he mean a brown of the colour of the 3 centavos of the previous issue? Whatever is meant, no true *brown* 7c. exists, either from stone or die, although we have the following sets

LITHOGRAPHED.

- 7, pale grey, lilac, very dark grey-lilac.
- 13, deep blue.
- 25, brown-ochre, ochre, yellow-ochre.
- 50, dark-green, yellow-green.

DIE.

- 7, pale lilac, deep lilac.
- 13, deep blue.
- 25, clear brown.
- 50, dark green.

Vancouver Island. The 2½p. of British Columbia and this island, is found in two clear shades, yellowish rose and flesh, as given by Mahé. The imperforate stamp of Levraut is quite unknown to us, and is not given in the *Guide*. Neither of these catalogues give the 5c. (Vancouver Island) as imperforate; we have one postmarked, however, of which there can be no question, it came over by one of the first mails

in 1865. The 10c. was issued at first imperforate, but both values are common perforate.

Venezuela. The 1863 issue with eagle has three clear shades of 2 reals, although only one is chronicled; they are green, deep sea-green, and very dark (or sap) green, the last particularly uncommon. To the La Guairas we next turn, and find them perforated by ordinary machine 12½, perf. in points 10½, and by oblique parallel cuts, the latter rare; the list, as we have them, is—

Perf. 12½, ½ red, blue, 2r. green, yellow-orange, dark yellow, pale yellow.

Perf. points, ½ rose-red, rose, lake, blue, 2 yellow-green.

Perf. obliquely, ¼ rose, 2 green.

(To be continued).

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

CUBA.

IN accordance with what now seems a stereotyped arrangement, this Spanish island gives us an emission for the current year. The utmost we can



say in favour of the quartette before us is to pronounce them neatly lithographed. Her Catholic Majesty's head (chignon excepted) is identical with that on the 1866 issue of the mother country; it is likewise in a circular frame; there the resemblance ends. The word *ULTRAMAR* is printed in a straight line above; value and date below; spandrils ornamented with florets. The morality of the Spanish post-office must be at a low ebb if we may judge from the extraordinary precautions taken to prevent falsities from being used. We can testify to the fact, having sent English gold in a registered letter to the postmaster of Havannah without the slightest acknowledgment. The paper employed is plain white, unwatermarked;

and the stamps are perforated 17 by 15. Colours and values :—

5	centimos,	lilac.
10	“	blue.
20	“	green.
40	“	pink.

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.

Supplemental to the issue of the Northern Confederation,—as we are reminded, is the proper denomination of the general issue for North Germany,—appears a stamp very similar in design to the groschen and kreuzersets, but with no indication of value.



Concentric ovals replace the circles on the groschen emissions; the corner emblems remain identical. The same

wreath encompasses the central oval, the outer inscription being **NORD-DEUTSCHER POSTBEZIRK**
× **STADTPOSTBRIEF**



HAMBURG, in white letters on puce-brown ground. The stamp is impressed in colour, and line-perforated on paper in all respects like its semi-fellows. We believe its value is half-a-schilling.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

We do not remember describing or seeing chronicled an intensely deep red 5 centavos of the 1864 set. Levrault catalogues a 5c. red, both perforated and unperforated, and a 5c. carmine in the former state. We have a deep carmine copy before us in the latter condition, and the deep red one perforated as the original pale red emission. "Variety is charming," as say the old school copy-slips.

CEYLON.

One of our Parisian contemporaries mentions the arrival of a half-penny Ceylon, deep violet, watermarked c c.

FRANCE.

The 80 centimes has enlisted in the

laurelled head ranks. There now remains but the 1c., 5c., and 40c. for the recruiting officer's labours.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

We omitted chronicling the issue of a 5 cents blue numeral, with the word **INTERISLAND** on the left, replacing **HAWAIIAN POSTAGE**, which formerly appeared on both sides.

HOLLAND.

The 5c. blue, and 10 c. deep red of the current type came into circulation just before the commencement of the present year. We have not yet seen the 15 c., which we imagine will be yellow. The 1 c. seems adjourned *sine die*.

ST. HELENA.

We hear that the provisionally-permanent St. Helenas are to be nearly doubled in number by the issue of the following :—

2	pence,	yellow.
3	“	violet.
5	shillings,	orange.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

A portion of the expected regular series for this colony has appeared. We give a description of the one before us.



Her Majesty's profile, similar to that on the Bermudas and Vancouver's Island stamps lies within an oval frame inscribed—

STRAIT SETTLEMENTS
POSTAGE: value in letters below; spandrels ornamented. The values and colours are as below, though all have,

perhaps, not yet appeared here at the present date. There are two types, possibly more. We have described from the blue 12 cents. A rectangle contains the head in the other



variety, the inscription being at the sides. They are printed on plain white

glazed paper, watermarked, with crown and c c.

- 2 cents.....
- 3 "
- 4 "
- 6 "
- 8 " orange.
- 12 " blue.
- 24 " green.
- 32 " vermilion.
- 96 " brownish grey.

The provisionals have another value, hitherto undescribed.

32 cents, red ; on $\frac{1}{2}$ anna blue.

CASHMERE.

In an article of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* for last month is a notice of the emissions of this country, apparently on unquestionable authority, and containing a list as follows :—

- 3 pies, dull black.
- 6 " bright blue.
- 1 anna, orange-red.
- 2 annas, light yellow.
- 4 " green.
- 8 " deep vermilion.

The above are represented to be all of the rectangular form, and the writer takes occasion to impugn the accuracy of a notice on the same place's stamps in our own October number. It was furnished us by a correspondent, and the merits of the conflicting accounts must be left for future and further information to decide upon. Our contemporary remarks himself that no mention is made of the circular impressions by his correspondent, although they are generally accepted as genuine, and were in fact known previously to the rectangular ones. We believe we were the first to chronicle the rectangular red individual, which we did from actual inspection, and to note that it was evidently adhesive, having been affixed as seal to an envelope. We may add that it does not correspond with the well-known cut in scarcely any of the designed characters.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The following engravings represent some of the new stamps issued by the

Delivery Company, and which will be found duly noted in last month's num-



ber. The number on our sixpenny is altered from 5 to 6, watermark, the single rose figured on page 135, of last year's volume. The small 8 on our fourpenny has become 9, and the colour has been for some time much more intense than heretofore.



VICTORIA.

The three-penny stamp has lately arrived from this colony bearing the crown and V. watermark figured in our last. The same watermark also figures on a high value lately emitted for the colony, and which has come over by the latest mails. Five shillings blue, on yellow paper.

RUSSIA.

The handsome stamp of which we give a fac-simile, was originally, according



to facial evidence, 20 kopecs in value. The charge for a telegraphic dispatch for which it is employed, having been apparently reduced

50 per cent., a new value has been superadded. The stamp is impressed in pale brown on

plain white paper, and perforated. The additional numerals are red.

DANUBIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The 17 soldi, after changing for a brief period its mode of perforation, is now defunct, having retired into private life with the old year.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

The letters of the word UN on the stamps of the above state are now *both* in capitals, and the stamp is of a pinker hue than heretofore.

NORWAY.

The 24 skilling, latest issued, have their values doubly evident, as in others of the current set.

UNITED STATES OF COLOMBIA.

The 25 centavos and the 1 peso, of the SOBRE PORTE, stamps of this changeable republic, of which the 50 c. was represented in our February number, have been issued. The colour of the latter has already been changed, being now water-green.

EAST INDIES.

The subjoined representation of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna commercial stamp for the Government of India is officially employed for postage in similar manner as some of the regular postal set, noticed by us in last year's November number. It has the words SER-



VICE POSTAGE printed semi-circularly in green. The handsome watermark also figured is found on this and other commercial labels of the Government of India.



BAVARIA.

The latest issue of this country is greatly improved in appearance, owing to a greater depth of colour being allowed for the impressions.

MECKLENBURG SCHWERIN.

The 2 schilling envelopes of this state have been known for some time to present two varieties of colour, lilac and violet. The adhesives offer now the same distinction.

BOLIVIA.

The stamp for this state, figured in our October number, has three companions :

20	centavos,	red.
50	“	yellow.
100	“	pale blue.

MEXICO.

The revived Hidalgo set is increased by the following additions :—

$\frac{1}{2}$	real,	greenish blue, on bluish paper ;
1	“	blue,
8	“	black, on tawny.

The resuscitations and modifications of the whole set have now the name of MEXICO, or other town or province, in Gothic, not in Roman letters as previously.

LEVANT COMPANY.

The locals of this Company are at present impressed on a thinner paper than formerly, and their hues are rather paler.

PUZZLES FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

CONUNDRUMS.

1. What stamps might be supposed to resemble ships by persons who know no language except English ?
2. What stamps would the coxs. of an eight-oar name if addressing any one in the boat during a race ?
3. Why is one who sells forged stamps like a lunatic asylum ?
4. Why are the rivers of France mostly foolish ?

TRANSPOSITIONS.

1. aaaceeeeeeiiiiimnnnopssstttt.

2. aaaaccdeecgnnnopsstt.
3. aceghiiiiillnnoorstv.

CHARADES.

I.

My *first* is what those people are
 Who stamp collecting hate ;
 My *second* 's what you'd wish to be
 Of evil coming fate.
 My *whole* 's a town of Europe South,
 A town of splendour great ;
 Which once had locals of its own,
 But has had none of late.

II.

I am a word of eleven letters ;
 My 4, 5, 3, 7, 8, is a hard blow.
 My 5, 6, 9, is what all gentlemen wear.
 My 9, 10, 11, is a heavy weight.
 My 1, 2, 4, is a drunkard.
 My *whole* is a town in England con-
 nected with the departure of fo-
 reign mails.

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

1. Her wig and her chignon should
 surely be seen to.
2. The cooings of the turtle dove
 Resound throughout the leafy
 grove.
3. The maid has lost her love ; not
 e'en a grave
 Holds his wan sea-worn form ; his
 couch the wave.
4. The sunbeams shine athwart the
 cloudy sky.
5. I'll play a court card ; if four aces
 are out it will probably win.
6. Take back the sherry, 'tis too new ;
 port better suits my taste.
7. Don't make so dire a din ; go and
 play elsewhere.
8. The hurricane rages at sea ; it may
 reach us here on shore ;
 Then amid walls no longer abide,
 for death may be in store.
9. Does heaven indeed temper the
 wind to the shorn lamb ?
 Alas ; poor lamb ! a thicker fleece
 would be a safer trust.
10. A gentle western breeze bestirs the
 sea ;
 Keep from the shore, Hampshire is
 on our lee.

11. Ply well thy hammer, smith ; the
 iron 's laid.
 Hammer thy rod with skill ; the
 rail is made.
12. You've lost your bet, Tommy ;
 hand over the stakes.
13. He found a young cub among the
 bushes asleep.
14. They all agree, ceding their decision
 to public opinion.

PRIZES.

Twelve rare Foreign Stamps will be given to those Subscribers answering most of the above Puzzles. Replies must be addressed to "The Editor of The Philatelist, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 15th of March.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

(Pp. 29.)

CONUNDRUMS.

1. The Finnish (finish.)
2. American (a merry Khan.)
3. The Grecian.
4. The one is Cashmere, the other mere cash.
5. Tusk and eye (Tuscany.)
6. The bajocchi (bad jockey.)
7. Because they are Cingalese (single he's.)
8. The unreal (un real) ones.
9. Because they bear dates.
10. Because it has a sun (son) in its arms.

TRANSPOSITIONS.

(Inscriptions on Postage Stamps.)

1. CORREOS FRANCO BUENOS AIRES PESO.
 2. BRAUNSCHWEIG DREI SILB GR.
 3. POSTA ROMANA CINCI PARALE FRANCO.
 4. COMMISSION FUR RETOURBRIEF.
 5. BOLLO DELLA POSTA NAPOLETANA G.
 6. THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,
- POSTAGE CENTS.
7. SIGILLUM NOV. CAMB. AUST. SIC FORTIS
 - ETRURIA CREVIT, POSTAGE THREEPENCE.
 8. POSTA ROMANA DOUE PARALE.
 9. NICARAGUA POSTE POSTE DOS CENTAVOS.
 10. BARBADOS, SIXPENCE.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

1. Egypt :—

E	r	m	i	n	E
G		i			G
			Y		
P	u	m			P
T	r	u	m	p	T

2. Sweden, Greece :—

S	l	u	G
W	a	t	R
E	s	s	E
D	i	r	E
E	p	i	C
N	o	s	E

3. Turkey, Sultan :—

T	e	S
U	n	U
R	a	L

(late)

K en T
E urop A
Y ear N

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

1. Lyons.
2. Barbados.
3. Natal, Tenby.
4. Rye.
5. Trieste.
6. Altona.
7. Leicester.
8. Lima.
9. Peru.
10. Deal.
11. Peru.
12. Brighton.
13. Athens.

PRIZES.

The following is a list of prize winners, with the number of correct answers sent by each:—

W. H. Robson, London (34); R. C. Carrington, London (33); W. D. Hemming, Birmingham (33); Arthur Butler, Kilclare (32); W. T. Wilson, Birmingham (32); Peter J. Anderson, Inverness (31); H. A. Browne, London (31); F. H. Haywell, Brighton (30); G. C. Fearn, Hackney (30); J. G. Marsh, London (30); E. Kendall, Tunbridge (30); E. A. O. Sullivan, Newcastle (30.)

The above prize winners will not be allowed to compete again until April, in order to give all subscribers a fair chance of winning our prizes.

Answers have also been received from the following:—

Edmund Dashwood (29); C. Rugman (29); M. Stephenson (28); J. D. (28); E. Le Neve Foster (28); Ellen Burdon (28); — Webb (27); E. S. H. (27); David Robertson (26); F. J. Squire (25); J. M. Pletta (25); Caroline (25); F. Prideaux (24); W. F. Craies (24); Herbert E. Jones (24); E. A. Short (23); R. C. A. Boyd (23); H. P. Scott (22); — Winnom (22); R. A. J. Grieve (21); Edward Chambers (18); A. Jennings (16); E. L. Leeks (16); B. Johnstone (15); B. Harrison (15); J. P. Smith (11).

POSTAL SCRAPS.

IN 1865 1,200,000 postage stamps got lost from letters and newspapers in the post-offices, and 760,000 in 1866.

AT Manchester, a few days ago, a postman was fined the full penalty of £20 for being drunk while on duty.

A VALUABLE COLLECTION.—An American Collector (Mr Wyman, of New Jersey) lately sold his fine collection of stamps for 2,000 dollars.

THE POST-OFFICE AND ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.—In the year 1866 there passed through the London Post-office, for town and country delivery, 897,900 valentines, and last year the number had increased to 1,199,142, giving a revenue to the Post-office of £11,242.

A NEW MONETARY SYSTEM FOR ROUMANIA.—A new monetary system, in conformity with that of France, has just been carried out in the Danubian Principalities. The coin, which will henceforth form the unity, is of the same value as the franc, and will be called the new piastre.

THE RATING OF POLICEMEN AND POSTMEN.—A letter-carrier of the Birmingham Post-office has received a reply from the Chancellor of the Exchequer in answer to a question as to whether the supposed exemption of policemen from rating extends also to postmen. The reply states that policemen are only exempt from rates when they occupy a police-station or building used for public purposes, in which they are required to reside in discharge of their official duties.

PROPOSED NEW REVENUE STAMPS FOR THE UNITED STATES.—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue invites all persons desirous of furnishing designs for Internal Revenue stamps, or plans for their cancellation, to submit them for examination at that office prior to February 1, 1868, with a view to their adoption, if found to be satisfactory and effectual. Particular attention is called to the desire of the Department to procure such a stamp and to adopt such a method of cancellation as shall effectually protect the treasury against losses from counterfeiting and from the restoration and use of the stamp. Persons submitting propositions are requested to state the terms upon which their plans, designs, and stamps are submitted to the government. Each plan submitted will receive careful attention.—*New York World*.

MAIL FACILITIES in the Sandwich Islands are still of a somewhat primitive order. Every Wednesday afternoon, it is said, a travel-worn postman enters the village of Kawaihae with his rubber-covered bag strapped securely to his back. This he has brought from Hilo, since Monday morning, and as the shades of evening cool the rocky hill-sides, he starts on his return, reaching the bay on Saturday night, an arrival which, in steamer times, is no less welcome than regular. This journey which, measured on the many curved roads up and down the sides of ravines and including a detour into Waipio, must be not less than 160 miles in length, is performed in alternate weeks by two men who show great power of endurance. Sometimes, though rarely, a horse is brought into requisition.—*Stamp-Collector's Monthly Gazette*.

RATHER HARD.—An American, complaining of the "infernal revenue system," says he can't put his boot on without a stamp.—*Public Opinion*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE UNWATERMARKED SIXPENNY MALTA.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—Looking over *The Philatelist* for this month, I observe that your Brussels contemporary informed you that a sixpenny stamp without watermark has been issued here. This is true, but only one sheet was found to be unwatermarked, and was evidently printed by mistake.

Yours very truly,

Malta.

T. GOUDER.

THE VALUES OF THE NORTH GERMAN STAMPS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—Permit me to call your attention to a slight error on page 26 of *The Philatelist*, rela-

tive to the stamps of North Germany, or properly speaking, those of the Northern Confederacy.

You say that "excepting the last pair, the 5 groschen and 18 kreuzer which correspond precisely, the values are but close approximations."

Now it is the last pair but one, on the contrary, the 2 gr. and the 7 kr., which are alone in exact correspondence, because 1 silbergroschen, neugroschen, or simply groschen, is now mathematically equal to $3\frac{1}{2}$ kreuzer; 5 groschen equalling $17\frac{1}{2}$ kr only.

An English sixpence may be considered precisely equivalent to 5 groschen, whereas the same coin is really a trifle below the worth of 18 kreuzer.

Yours obediently,

OSCAR BERGER-LEVRAULT.

Strasbourg, France.

OLLA PODRIDA.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—For some time past I have been taking considerable interest in the subject of Cashmeres, and have from specimens of my own and of friends, amassed some notes of considerable interest and diversity, but in spite of it all they are rather "a sealed book" even now. The interesting account in the February number of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* is very valuable to all interested in the subject, but in denying the accuracy of that in *The Philatelist* of October last, they are not quite right, and, though I am not the writer of that notice, I can prove, from my own specimens, that there are two very distinct types of rectangular black stamps, though I certainly can only identify one type of each of the circular black and blue stamps. So few specimens come over to England, however, that it is hardly fair to judge from the limited number I have inspected. I should feel much indebted to any one who could give me any information about them, or could shew me specimens.* The original state of these impressions must be very bad, but they frequently come over without a line discernible, appearing one large smear. In this state they are not interesting, and they owe their condition to being wetted, a drop of water on a Cashmere will soon cause it to pass away, a few spots would spoil a page of these stamps, leaving so many dirty blots in the place of the former unsightly stamps.

There were some curious facts mentioned in *The Philatelist* a few months ago, relating to the perforation of the Belgian stamps of the 1861 issue. On examination, there appear many varieties in the perforation, and as far as they have been identified they are as follows: of the 1861 series Levrault mentions, perforated 13 and 14, we make them into three sets.

- (1) Perforated 13.
- (2) Perforated 14 at sides, and 1 dent less top and bottom.
- (3) Perforated 14.

Of the present set there are many varieties: firstly, on ordinary paper; secondly, on very thick paper. The thin paper may be again divided into London printed (fine clear impressions and pale

shades), and Brussels printed (coarser impressions and darker colours). They are both found perforated 14 at sides, by $14\frac{1}{2}$ top and bottom; the thick paper are all Brussels printed, and are 1 c. and 2 c. with the same perforations, and also 1, 2, 10, 20, 30, and 40 c., perforated 15. We must not overlook the fact that all the 1 francs are perforated 14 (on all sides), and are on the ordinary paper, but exist in light and dark shades. Of course it is not suggested that collectors should consider it necessary (for it is not) to take all these varieties, they are simply chronicled that they may be known to exist.

Another note, and I will conclude this *Olla Podrida*. Of the present 5 c. Bolivia, there have appeared three distinct shades already, which are given in their order of appearance in England, viz. :—

Rich olive-green, dull sea-green, and black-green. Like most green stamps, no two batches of printing come out alike in colour.

Yours faithfully,

EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

Birmingham.

THE DISPUTED ARGENTINE STAMPS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—Perhaps never, since the celebrated Prince Consort essays flashed like meteors across the philatelic horizon, have any candidates for admission into our albums attracted so much attention and excited so much warmth of debate as the three large-figure Argentine stamps.

Like the "Prince Consorts," they were introduced to public notice with beautiful simplicity. Mr Burn writes, in September, 1863, that he has just met with six of these novelties, "evidently torn from a sheet," and asks for further information; though, a few months afterwards, he contradicts himself by stating that there never were but two sheets allowed to be struck off, both of which had subsequently come into his possession complete, adding, "I have told all I know." The sponsor for the Argentines, after a general description of his bantlings, with equal simplicity, but with more caution, says, "We have now told nearly all we know."... But why not have told all? why make any reserve about stamps, respecting which evidence is so much needed to establish their legitimacy?

The information reserved may possibly be the knowledge, derived in confidence, as to the source whence the sheets were obtained." (See *Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, Dec., 1867.) Now this is just what we particularly want to know. And if, as stated on their first introduction, they "were received from an official of high rank at Buenos Ayres," who "obtained them direct from the Argentine Government," what can there be to conceal as to "the source whence" they were obtained? How can it be a "breach of trust" to reveal that? Though, according to our English ideas, to have traced them to the government, would be to have traced them to their source.

Like the "Prince Consorts," the introducer is the only person able or willing to give any further account of them, and certainly, if a profusion of words, if official or semi-official statements, if the most ingenious arithmetic, could in either case

* Any specimens directed to Mr Pemberton, care of the Publishers, shall be returned after examination, and shall be carefully treated.

save them from sinking into the rank of mere pretenders, truly they must survive the combined attacks of their opponents, among the number of which I am not ashamed to stand, for reasons which I shall presently explain.

That the 5 centavos is from the original stone or from a transfer of the original stamp there can be no manner of doubt. I have carefully compared it with a fine unused specimen sent to a friend of mine from Buenos Ayres about the year 1860 or 1861. There are some minute flaws in each (the pretender and the original) which could scarcely have been imitated. But the colour is wrong. It is the poppy-red of the small figure stamp, while the original has a crimson tint, which of course is brightest in clean specimens. And here Mr Pemberton's remark in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* of last month, respecting the whiteness of the paper of the pretenders, and the subsequent defence made, assists in strengthening my argument. For if, as affirmed, the care taken of these sheets of stamps during their (presumed) ten years' incarceration, had had the effect of preserving their whiteness, it ought, by parity of reasoning, to have preserved their colour also. But, on the contrary, if these 5 c. be original, their colour has miserably degenerated, while the paper has retained its pristine purity. Again, the air of South America, or rather exclusion from the air, has had the effect of thickening the paper of the foundling sheets, while those in various collections known to be eight or ten years old, have not thickened in European air. Certainly a remarkable phenomenon in the history of paper!

The 10 centavos is undoubtedly from the same stone as the 5 centavos, the figure being altered; and here it may be observed, that not having space to insert figures of a size corresponding with the lower value, the lithographer has been obliged to contract them to a size scarcely larger than the small figure series; from which, indeed, they vary more in the design than in this particular. The same observation applies to the size of the figures of the 15 centavos; but the impression does not exactly resemble that of the first two values. I think it may have been the last executed, and thus may have required touching up.

If these 10 and 15 centavo stamps were, in 1858 or 1860, prepared for the Argentine Government, why are they so much more roughly executed than the authenticated old 5 centavos? This seems inexplicable. Pemberton's description of them as "reprints" is, however, a manifest misapplication of the term, except as regards the 5 centavos, which, no doubt, is a reprint. The other two must either be originals, as contended for, or else fabrications effected by altering the stone for the higher values, which is the most probable hypothesis.

That it is not the first time that the Argentines have sent over questionable stamps may be recollected when the ugly *medio real*, *un real*, and *dos reales* appeared in 1865. A dealer charged me two guineas for a set! (See woodcut, *Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, Vol. IV., page 22, there said to emanate from Australia.) Therefore, that which has been done may be done again, though it may be fairly argued that these impostors never had so many supporters as the large figure series.

Yours truly,

Johannisville,

HERBERT CAMOENS.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

E. H. S.—The forthcoming edition of Oppen's Album, will afford a separate heading for the recent issue of which you write, under the name "North German Confederation."

C. H.—We have not heard of any contemplated emission for the Madeiras?—Your second query, referring to the Straits Settlements stamps, is anticipated in our present number, the individual alluded to being figured and described. You will find the provisional issue duly chronicled in our numbers for November and December last.

CHARLES.—The two reales pink of the Dominican Republic, figured in our March number, has long been denounced as fictitious.

R. EVANS, Clapham.—The new stamp magazine proposed to be issued was to have been termed *The Timbrophilist*; but we believe its publication is adjourned *sine die*.

H. S., Staplehurst.—We have repeatedly expressed our inability to appraise stamps. Our publishers will supply you with any you may want on reasonable terms.—We imagine that a well-known metropolitan amateur has the largest collection of postage stamps in existence.

GEORGE T.—We may occasionally notice a telegraph impression; but not with the idea of forcing their collection on our readers. Telegraphic being so closely allied to postal communication, a supplementary album might be appropriated without impropriety to the impressions employed therein.—The Egyptian officials are affixed to the flaps of envelopes.

A YOUNG COLLECTOR.—The English translation of Moens' album will be published in a few months. We believe its price will be the same as that of the French edition.—You can procure a copy of Mahé's catalogue at No. 9, Rue Clichy, Paris, where it is published by himself. We are not aware of his having any agent in England.

J. B. B., Norwich.—Thanks for your communication. We cannot give even a guess as to whether the 9 now on the fourpenny English will be succeeded by a 10.

PETER A.—The stamp you describe is a Bremen commercial one of the prettiest impressions we know. There are several congeneric emissions of the same city equally well engraved and tastefully designed. It is strange that the revenue stamps of all countries, our own conspicuously included, are so much handsomer than the postal sets.—The stamps for the Republic of Honduras are chronicled by Levraut as having been regularly issued in 1855.—The proposed general issue for British North America seems a dead letter.

W. F. C., Ashdown.—Many thanks for your polite communication respecting the recent set for the Straits Settlements. You will see many more noticed in the present number than those you enumerate. The 32 cents provisional is an entity, but rarer than some of the others.

T. H. B., Cranbrooke.—Respecting the distribution of prizes, we beg to refer you to the notice in the centre of this magazine.

SUMMARY FOR 1867.—Owing to want of space we are unable to insert the remainder of our "Summary for 1867" this month, but will conclude the list in our next number.

HINTS ON COLLECTING.

ON THE SELECTION OF SPECIMENS.

(Continued from page 41.)

Victoria. There are so many varieties to look for here, that it will be a work of time to collect them. We cannot do better than refer the reader to the comprehensive papers on these stamps, which have appeared in the *The Philatelist*. So many of these exist imperforate, perforate, and rouletted, that none but the margined copies should be taken. We must add rouletted specimens of the early 1sh and 2sh to our already lengthy list, and the new errors of watermark, given lately in *The Philatelist*. Mahé quotes 6p. blue, serpentine perforation, Queen on throne, and 6p. POSTAGE STAMP, perf. 12, both unknown to us; also 6p. throne, imperforate, equally unknown. We have been most positively informed that the 10p. grey exists with the 10 watermark, but have not seen a specimen. Can any of the readers of *The Philatelist* help us? Of the 6p. POSTAGE STAMP in yellow we have specimens, shewing the two serpentine perforations on the one stamp.

Western Australia. These stamps are very confusing, and we think the list in the *Guide* as clear as any. We can add to it, perforated by roulette, 2p. octagonal oldest, of which we accidentally found a specimen in an old collection. We decidedly question the admissibility of the stamps perforated by a large hole in the centre: whatever their use, the hole does not improve them. It may be interesting to know they exist, but there the interest ends. Again, Mahé tells us of 6p. green, with the word REGISTERED on it, hardly a variety we should say; in stamping the word on a letter, it would be very easy to accidentally stamp it on the stamp. These are varieties without significance; they do not shew any difference in impression, paper, or perforation, and when we know they exist, there seems little more to be told

and little need to collect them, whilst there is so much left, far better worth looking for. There is a 4p. octagonal blue known, having the swan upside down.

Wurtemberg. There are an infinity of varieties here, which, like all other varieties, are only a matter of time to secure. By the critical examination of all stamps, which we know to present varieties, we can alone hope to complete our sets of curiosities in watermark, colour, and perforation.

Having now briefly commented on the striking varieties of each country in connection with *The Selection of Specimens*, we would add a few words of general advice as to condition and colour of copies. As to condition, the cleaner the better, if postmarked are taken, but if unused, better still; and in the case of obsolete stamps, mind that originals are secured, and not worthless reprints.

If the distinction is made between perforate and imperforate stamps, mind that all your specimens of the latter are with sufficient margin to prove them so beyond doubt. For an imperforate stamp a margin on two sides at least, is an absolute necessity, a margin on one edge is quite insufficient, for such a stamp might be a corner one on a sheet, or one on an outside row, which usually have large margins on the exposed edge, and by cutting the dents off, sufficient margin may be left on one or two sides to counterfeit a state of imperforation. What constitutes a margin on some stamps would make others appear closely clipped, owing to the distances at which stamps are placed on the sheet varying so much. In the octagonal, and, indeed, all the old Ceylon, a very little margin will suffice to prove a copy imperforate, whilst other perforated stamps may be cut down, and yet leave a very large margin; a margin to an old Ceylon and that to an imperforate Trinidad, Barbadoes, or Hamburg, are two very different things, but these are things learnt only by study. Very often a postmark on a

stamp adds to its value, especially where reprints have rendered originals rare; instance the black 1kr. newspaper of Austria, which is of the greatest rarity postmarked *genuinely*, for reprints are to be had with false obliterations sometimes.

In selecting colours, always secure very dark and very pale (not faded) colours, for with such it is always easy to make an intermediate variety in shade if wished. In most stamps long in use, great variations in colour are perceptible, especially in blue and green, no two batches of which appear exactly similar. Another thing which exercises a great effect on the apparent colour of the stamp, is good or bad printing, the latter being struck with a superabundance of ink, presents from the greater mass of colour, a much darker shade, whilst a want of ink often gives a light shade; indeed, on one sheet of stamps we may find two or three shades of the same colour, the top rows being dark from abundance of ink, the lower ones fainter from a lack of it. Clearness of impression, too, depends wholly with the printer, a superabundance of colouring ink filling up the lines of the die, will present a smudged or coarse impression, very different to the beauty of those produced by a more economical style from the same die. It will be seen, therefore, that the task of selecting and arranging the varieties of shade to make the selection a good one, and illustrative of any given series of stamps, requires care and a little discrimination: the latter will soon come to the collector who practices the former. As a great thing to avoid in the selection of specimens is the purchase of reprints, we will glance at their different forms, and give a few reasons why they should be avoided. They may be divided into four classes, which are—

- (1) Successful imitations.
- (2) Unsuccessful imitations.
- (3) Forgeries.
- (4) Fictions.

In class 1, we find very few stamps;

instance, old Baden, Austrian Mercuries blue, Modena, Romagna, New Caledonia, &c. Here, where they are duplicates of the old issues, reprints are seen in their best light; but amongst the hundreds known, how many are there that are such, so exact that they cannot be detected? When they do approach this perfection of imitation, they are the least objectionable, and were it not for one point, they might be tolerated. The point, however, is this: should not an original in any state be worth far more than an imitation, however perfect? What are the facts though? That reprints, when closely assimilating to originals, bring down the valuable originals to their own worthless level, whether used or unused. How many collectors can shew a genuine used or unused copy of the new Caledonia, and yet what is the market value of so rare a stamp? Its value is that of a reprint, and who would give more when the reprint is so exact, and so few would appreciate its value?

In class 2, we find a great many specimens, such as

- Hanover oldest, with white instead of rose gum.
- Hanover Bestellgeld, horse or trefoil, adhesive instead of envelope.
- Corrientes, blue-green for yellow-green.
- Etc. etc.

In class 3, we find British Guiana PATIMUS and 1853, which we call forgeries, because they are issued perforated, and, therefore quite unlike originals; Austrian Heads, re-issued with the wrong perforation; Prussian envelopes, without inscriptions or without threads; Portugal 5r. Queen, from an altered die; Tuscany 2 soldi (and 60 crazie?) from an altered die—and plenty more.

In class 4, we come to the worst form of reprints, those which are altogether fictitious, to wit, Romagna 6 baj, and proofs, Spain 1857, 12c.; Argentine large figured 10, 15c.; Moldavia, first

or circular set; Finland 1856, 20 kop, second type; and others.

(To be continued.)

SUMMARY FOR 1867.

(Concluded from page 19.)

ASIA.

CASHMERE.

$\frac{1}{2}$	anna, black, circular.
1	" blue, "
4	" " "
$\frac{1}{2}$	" black, rectangular.
1	" " "

The above were chronicled on the authority of a correspondent, who had direct communication with Cashmere.

Value not known, red, adhesive, rectangular.

CEYLON.

New type, on glazed paper:

3 pence, pink.

Old types:

2 p., dull green, brownish yellow.

5 " olive-green.

The 1s. 9d. was reported to be changed in colour, but we received some very recently, still imperforate, and the same shade of green.

INDIA.

The "Scinde" stamp, introduced by Sir Bartle Frere.

East India Postage. 6 annas and 8 pies, lavender.

Provisionals.

6 annas, bill stamp, reddish-lilac, the word POSTAGE in larger letters than before.

Bill stamp, violet, stamped SERVICE, 2 annas.

1 anna, brown, stamped SERVICE, in black.

Envelope Stamp.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., envelope stamp, on newspaper wrapper.

SHANGHAI.

1	cand., brown.
2	" orange.
6	" grey.
12	" dull green.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Provisionals.

Indian stamps, impressed with crown and decimal values, in colour.

2	cents, red,	on 1 anna,	brown.
3	" blue	" "	"
4	" black	" "	"
6	" violet	2 annas,	yellow.
8	" green	" "	"
12	" red	4 "	green.
24	" blue	8 "	pink.
32	" black	2 "	yellow.

North America.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

10 cents, black on yellow (fictitious).

Central America.

GUATEMALA.

1 centavo, light-blue proof.

5 " black "

MEXICO.

Head of the Emperor Maximilian (engraved).

7 centavos, pale lilac.

13 " blue.

25 " orange.

50 " green.

Guadalajara (provisional?) emission.

$\frac{1}{2}$ real, white.

1 " white, blue, light blue, slate, violet.

2 reales, white, green, dark green.

4 " white, pink.

Earliest type, revived.

2 reales, black on lilac, green on blue.

4 " pink on blue.

SALVADOR.

$\frac{1}{2}$ real, blue.

1 " vermilion.

2 " green.

4 " brown.

SAN SALVADOR (fictitious).

Large numerals (1 real), black or blue on white.

West Indies.

ANTIGUA.

1 penny, bright red.

BRITISH GUIANA.

1 cent, 2 c., 6 c., 12 c., 24 c., fewer perforations.

8c., deep rose-lilac.

48 c., deep rose-pink.

CUBA.

$\frac{1}{4}$ real plata, black on buff, dated 66.

5 cmos., lilac. 1867.

10 " blue. "

20 " green. "

40 " pink. "

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

2 reales, pink (supposititious).

$\frac{1}{2}$ " pale pink (emission of 1862).

GRENADA.

6 pence, bright red.

ST. THOMAS.

3 cents, pink, on white paper.

TURKS ISLANDS.

1 penny, pink.

6 " lavender.

1 shil., black.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Small type.

1 penny, pink.

6 " green.

Large type.

4 pence, brownish-red.

1 shil., carmine and black.

" (broad bordered).

South America.

ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.

10 centavos, green, first issue.

15 " blue, "

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

5 centavos, very deep rose-red, unperforated.

5 " vermilion.

10 " green.

15 " deep blue.

BOLIVIA.

Red-brown (falsity).

5 centavos, green (eagle in oval).

BRAZIL.

" Blockade envelopes " (fictitious).

20 reis, reddish lilac.

80 " shades of lilac and violet.

Envelopes.

100 reis, green.

200 " black.

CHILI.

2 centavos, black.

5 " red.

10 " blue.

20 " green.

PERU.

10 centavos, vermilion-red.

20 " brown.

URUGUAY.

1 centesimo, black.

Official frank, blue ; do., red.

UNITED STATES OF COLOMBIA

10 c., rose, green (Province of Bolivar.)

1 peso, vermilion " }

5 centavos, orange. }

10 " lilac. }

20 " blue. }

50 " green. }

1 peso, vermilion. }

General
issue.

VENEZUELA.

$\frac{1}{2}$ centavo, yellowish green.

1 " water-green.

Oceanica.

NEW ZEALAND.

3 pence, violet, perforated.

QUEENSLAND

4 pence, lilac.

5 shil., pale pink.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

1 cent (gummed).

5 " blue numeral (INTERISLAND).

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

New type.

4 pence, lilac.

2 shil., pink.

VICTORIA.

3 pence, lilac.

COST OF ENGLISH POSTAL ENVELOPES. — By a parliamentary return of the cost of stamps and envelopes, from the beginning of 1841 to the 5th of April, 1846, it appeared that the cost per million of the envelopes, upon the average of the period, was £359 6s 11d, of which £371 4s 2d per million was repaid by the consumers, leaving a profit of £11 17s 3d per million; the profit per million in 1846 was £26 16s 1d.

FORGED STAMPS: HOW TO DETECT THEM.

SECOND EDITION.

(Continued from page 38.)

BY EDWARD L. FEMBERTON.

Mauritius.

The stamps without indication of value, vermilion, green and magenta, are to be had forged. As the imitations are, however, lithographs, and the genuine, die printed, they can easily be detected. The lettering will be found to be uneven instead of perfectly regular and natural.

Of the native stamps with error POST OFFICE instead of POST PAID there are imitations made, which we have never seen, although advertised in a French Catalogue at "1 franc the pair (unused), imitations." The same catalogue (that of Mahé) quotes the magenta, as existing hand stamped EIGHTPENNE. The existence of this is denied by English Amateurs; (see *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* for May 1866, page 77, for some interesting remarks on this and other Mauritius), the value of the magenta being ninepence, and no eight-penny rate existing to any part from the Mauritius, it appears very much as if the stamp had had eightpence printed on it by some enterprising person, who however, over-reached himself by impressing a wrong value upon it. No Mauritius have ever been reprinted, although Dr Magnus asserts somewhat positively, and on very untenable grounds, that the 6p. *Britannia pensée*, (or violet-slate,) perforated, is a reprint.

Moldavia.

Bull's head in circle, with posthorn below, &c., on tinted papers. 54, 81, and 108 paras.

This issue is always ascribed to 1854, and that there are many types, may be gathered from the elaborate article by Dr. Magnus, which appeared in the *Timbre-Poste*. He gives five types of these circular stamps, including amongst them, those which we have always con-

sidered as forgeries beyond a doubt, but, in our opinion, this is a matter of no moment, as the acknowledged forgeries are quite as valuable as the *very* dubious originals; though we never saw their existence as originals disputed, neither have we ever seen any information which would prove them to be beyond suspicion, or met with any one who could give us the least information about them, and very few are the collectors who profess to distinguish between a forged and a genuine one. Who can show us a specimen, with a postmark whose genuineness can be proved beyond suspicion? Of course, there are plenty of them to be seen post-marked, but what is that postmark? A rather close imitation of one found on some of the 1861 stamps, and the shape of which is very peculiar.

1861 series. Upright, with rounded corners. Dr. Magnus gives as genuine, two types of 5 p, two of 40, and three of 80, which are all that exist genuine. What Dr. Magnus includes under "fourth type" are old forgeries, rather too well known in England, to leave a shadow of doubt as to their characters. Many other forgeries exist of which we have specimens, but as the description of them *in extenso*, would necessitate an equally full account of the originals, we must refer for elaborate descriptions of the latter, to the *Timbre-Poste* for December last.

Monte Video.

The old block-printed stamps, value repeated, are extensively forged, but in a very slovenly manner. They are values—120 deep prussian-blue instead of pale blue, or indigo-blue; 180 bright yellow-green instead of dark green; 240 dull red instead of bright red. The postmark is of two small ovals, lettered CORREO FRANCO, with M in the centre one, this is a mark we never found on a genuine Monte Video. The most usual is of two long intersecting ovals, lettered ADM^{ON}. DE CORREOS REP. O. DEL. URUG, in centre name of town, &c. (DOLORES, CERRO LARGO, MERCEDES, PAYSANDU

are some we notice), another is of two ovals, the centre one inscribed SUCURSAL, no other printing at all. Another has a central oval solid black with white leaves in it, within a circle, between the two sides of the oval and the circle are small strokes, no lettering. Sometimes the obliteration is the simple word CERTIFICADO in an oblong.

The second postmark of two ovals we find with date, &c., in centre, and inscribed in outer oval ADMON DE CORREOS MONTE VIDEO. The ovals in all these postmarks are about twice the length of their width. We have the last mark repeated, but in an oval very much shorter and wider. There is one set of forgeries now rare, meant to imitate the second series; we have of this type six values:—

- 60, dull pink.
- 80, yellow.
- 100, lake-red.
- 120, dull blue.
- 180, dull green.
- 240, dull red.

In this forgery we find each alternate ray round the sun is long, the background is of lines crossing at right angles very closely placed to imitate a solid ground, the two ornaments by CORREO on the left both point upwards, whilst those on the right, point in opposite directions. The postmarks are incorrect imitations of the intersecting ovals, inscribed ADM^{CE} DECORREO MERCEDES, and inside 13 APRIL 1861. This being in bad Spanish, and the date in *English*, at once condemned the stamps, or else at one time, from their rarity and neat execution, they were regarded as something valuable. The postmark should read, to be good Spanish, ADM^{CE} DE CORREOS MERCEDES, 13 ABRIL, 1861. The study of postmarks, it will be seen from this, is not always unproductive of useful results. We think a few papers on the subject of postal obliterating marks (not the actual postmarks bearing the date) would be very interesting.

The issue of 1859 exists in two distinct types, the first with thick figures,

the second with thin ones. There is no 240c. of the thick type, only of the thin type; we have forgeries of the complete set, but do not know precisely which type they are meant to imitate; however, they may at once be known as counterfeits, as the figures and lettering are of the same height. There is no accent over the second E of CENTESIMOS, and the letters of MONTE VIDEO touch (N and T, also VID). In the genuine the figures are longer than the lettering, the second E of CENTESIMOS is accented, and the letters are all separate. The 240c. thick figures exists as a forgery, but never as an original; it is printed in a very rosy shade, instead of vermilion, the shade of the real 240c. The colours of all the numbers of this set of forgeries are very bright and good. We have a forged 60c. in blue very well done; (of course there is no blue 60c.,) but if it existed in the right shade it would puzzle many; it is the thick-figured stamp, and the figures are very large, the ornament in frame in the right-hand corner by CENTESIMOS, is the same height as the S just before it; in the genuine it is much shorter.

(To be continued.)

POSTAL CURIOSITIES.

THERE are two very curious points in the revelations which occasionally reach us from the archives of the Post Office. One is the remarkably vague way in which ignorant people address their letters. Take this example:—

Mr—, Travelling Band, one of the Four playing in the street,

Persha (Pershore),
Worcestershire.

Please to find him if possible.

This really looks as if some wayfarer had found an acquaintance at Pershore in the guise of an itinerant musician, and had faith that the ubiquitous Post Office would trace him wherever he might be. Here is another instance of similar faith in the mysterious power of the Post Office:—

E. R—, a cook as lived tempory with a Mrs L—, or some such name, a shoemaker in Castle-street about No.—Hoborn in 1851; try to make

this out. She is a Welch person about 5 feet 1 stoutish. Lives in service some ware in London or naboured. London.

We fear this stoutish Welsh person will never get her friend's letter. And we really do not much care about it ; but we have more sympathy with the poor little servant maid who bought a pair of spectacles for her father, and sent them in a letter addressed thus :—

My dear Father in Yorkshire at the white cottage with green pailings.

Surely this is real poetic simplicity. The little *ancilla* had no notion that there could be more than one such humble cottage-home in the vast county whence she came.

Here are two examples of addresses without names :—

This is for her that "maka" dresses for ladies, that "lives" at tother side of road to
James Brocklip,
Edensover,
Chesterfield.

This is for the young girl that wears spectacles, who minds "two babies,"
• 30, Sherrif-street,
Off Prince Edwin-street,
Liverpool.

When names are remembered, they frequently appear phonetically spelt : thus, one came addressed to "Mr Owl O'Neil, being intended for the great postal reformer Rowland Hill himself. It was probably from an Irishman. Sometimes idle people take the trouble of making bad jokes by post. Thus, there is a letter addressed :—

The biggest fool in the world,
Tunbridge.

This is drily endorsed by the Postmaster, to the effect that it cannot be delivered, as he does not know the writer.

A second curious matter is the enormous credulity of persons who answer swindling advertisements, and whose letters, when the swindler to whom they are addressed is obliged to decamp, are opened at the Dead Letter-office. We recollect noticing not long ago, the following pretty little trap.

An elderly bachelor of fortune, wishing to amuse himself by testing the credulity of the public, and to benefit and assist others, will send a suitable present of genuine worth, according to the circumstances of the applicant, to all who will send him seventeen stamps, demanded merely as

a token of confidence. Stamps will be returned with the present, carriage paid. Address (varied according to circumstances)."

This is cleverly worded ; still, it seems almost incredible that any person of ordinary intelligence could be deceived by it. However, no doubt the elderly bachelor received plenty of applications ; for when he ceased to call for his letters, between three and four hundred were found, all containing stamps. And they were not all from illiterate persons. A clergyman wrote thus :—

The Rev. — encloses seventeen stamps. He is a clergyman with very limited means, and the most useful present to him would be five pounds. If his application be not agreeable, he requests that the stamps be returned.

Here is a lady's letter to the same scoundrel :—

I have enclosed the seventeen stamps, and shall be very pleased to receive any present you will send me, as I am not very well off ; what I would like would be a nice black silk dress, which I should consider a rich reward for my credulity.

A very rich reward indeed. What a disappointment for the fair applicant ! But here is the choicest *morceau* :—

Mrs—presents her compliments to the "elderly bachelor," and in order to amuse him by her credulity encloses seventeen stamps, and thus claims the promised present. Her position and circumstances are good, she mixes in gay society, and is quite an adept at dancing the polka mazourka. Those details may determine the suitability of the present.

Had it been Miss—we might have thought this fair lover of the polka hoped the elderly bachelor would offer himself. But perhaps she is a widow.

That educated people should be so credulous is almost beyond belief. It is satisfactory to find that these same swindlers frequently checkmate themselves by such proceedings as we have described, and that the letters which fall into the hands of the Post-Office often enable the police to trace fraudulent debtors and other professors of roguery.—*Globe*.

"PUNCH" ON FORGED STAMPS.—STAMP COLLECTOR.—Most advertisers sell forged postage stamps. We can't see that they are not quite as good as genuine ones, but perhaps it is hardly fair to sell stamps as the production of a country in which such things are unknown. When you are in doubt, however, call on the Ambassador for the place in question, and he will either certify or condemn the article. You pay him sixpence a dozen.—*Answers to Correspondents in "Punch."*

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

ORANGE FREE STATE.

ACCORDING to the general rules of politeness, we give precedence to the greatest strangers, and introduce

the emissions of a territory so little known that the name of its capital does not even figure in the Postal Guide or Supplement. The state being a republic, no monarch's head embellishes the stamps, and the Herald's College would be puzzled to give its armorial bearings. In substitution, a device has been ingeniously adopted, announcing at once both name and nature—a fine orange tree, loaded with fruit, and the post horns, whose lively sound gladdens the heart of many an expectant. The set of three is printed on plain white paper, and perforated. Values and colours—

- One penny ...deep orange.
- Sixpencepink.
- One shilling...pale yellow.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

By some error of the press, the colour of the new 6 cents, which is lilac, was omitted last month; and the value on the provisional half-anna blue was given as 32 cents in red, instead of three half cents, equivalent to the normal denomination of the stamp, or three farthings English.

VICTORIA.

The appended cut, representing the new high value for the above colony, impressed in dark blue on yellow paper, is a reminder both of the current and of the very queer superseded shilling labels.



PHILIPPINE ISLES.

M. Moens announces the resuscita-

tion of a 1 real deep bottle-green, differing from the light green of similar value in the following particulars: extremity of the bust rounded, and not so close to the circumference; side ornamentations interrupted by the circle as in the 1 real grey-green; figure 1 very near the word RL, of which the



latter letter is clearly marked; and lastly—a safe identification—the word CORREOS is neither preceded nor followed by a full stop.

EAST INDIES.

Another of the very handsome Indian bill stamps is pressed into postal service, the super-added words being printed in green.

AZORES.

The current Portuguese stamps do duty in these islands, horizontally impressed in black, with the word AGORES. The 5, 20, 50, 80, and 100 reis unperforated, are thus found; and the 10, 25, and 120 perforated.

SAXONY.

Notwithstanding the suppression of the regular series of Saxons, the Dresden Express Company seems allowed not only to continue the employment of its labels, but to issue a novelty which is here represented. It is embossed in sky-blue, on white wrappers, for printed matter, and was first used on the 15th ultimo.



BRITISH COLUMBIA.

We have just seen the pretty three-penny of the above colony, printed in tawny, colour of the French 10c., and stamped across in black (perhaps provisionally), with a new value—2 cents.

DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The adoption of a decimal currency in the Principalities would seem to have necessitated a new issue of postage stamps, one of which is here figured.



They appeared on the 1st of February, and are printed in colour on white, not black on colour, as previously. At first sight they look exactly like their predecessors, value excepted, but comparison will soon point out trifling discrepancies. The head and upper inscription remain as before; but small ornamentations replace the figures of value at the angles; and the Greek border is more neatly executed. The values do not precisely correspond with the former, being—

- 2 bani, orange.
4 " blue.
18 " pink.

UNITED STATES OF COLOMBIA.



This pair of engravings are the facsimiles of the SOBRE PORTE emissions announced in our last number. It turns out that the stamp for Magdalena, figured and described in January last, is a revenue, not postal label.

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

Lallier's-Albums. Postage Stamps with Maps, Flags, and Arms. Paris: A. Lenegre. 1867.

This is the English version of the seventh French edition of M. Justin Lallier, professing to be thoroughly revised and enlarged.

Though engaged for upwards of five years in writing on postage stamp

matters in general, we have never chanced upon one of M. Lallier's albums for review till now. The work has been so highly lauded that we were surprised to find so much objectionable therein. In an edition got up expressly for the English collector, surely some party might have been found to revise the translation. The very title, "Lallier's-Albums," is meaningless. Then we meet with "archeological;" "Tukey;" but this may be the printer's fault.

Had the enormous amount of labour bestowed on this work not been misdirected it would have been much more valuable; but it unfortunately shares in the defects common to all similarly prepared albums, that of deficiency and redundancy. In the pages devoted to Central America and the West Indies, there is little or no room left for the addition of future emissions; while the whole page wasted on New Caledonia is certainly useless to the general collector; as are the numerous spaces devoted to telegraphic and certain newspaper stamps. Smith and Elder's private impressions are catalogued under England, and have, moreover, spaces for them under India, opposite the enumeration of Stafford Smith and Smith's! If they are to be collected at all, why is the 3d omitted? An infinitesimal proportion of our railway labels are chronicled, as well as some officials. There ought to have been either all or none.

The provisionals of Naples, Tuscany, Parma, and Modena, &c., are absurdly separated from the regular issues of those countries. Our contemporary wonders at the interpolation of the Italian countries between Hanover and Lubeck; but that objection is readily answered by the circumstance that the letter I comes between H and L. M. Lallier having apparently changed his mind respecting the order of arrangement; sometimes being geographically, sometimes alphabetically, at others miscellaneously inclined.

We are spared the trouble of animadverting on this absurd method of

location, by a communication from the insulted alphabet in another part of this magazine; and will next glance at the money table, where we are gravely informed that a kreutzer and a silbergroschen of three kreutzers are each worth $\frac{1}{4}$ d; an Austrian florin, 23.4d.—whatever that may imply; that a Costa Rica real is equivalent to rather more than $\frac{1}{2}$ d (only the trifling comparative amount of 6d more); that a piastre is Tuscan; and soldi, crazie, and lire, are Turkish monies.

A leaf turned over brings us to bibliographic information. Here, among some standard works, figure such valueless ephemerals as "The Postage Stamp Collector's Monitor," "The International," &c. &c. Even the "Leisure Hour" is included, because one of its numbers contained an article on postage stamps.

Of course M. Lallier could not descend to acknowledge the existence of "The Philatelist," but we think he need not have ignored "The Stamp-Collector's Magazine," the "Timbre Poste" of Moens, the German and French catalogues of Berger-Levrault, Mount Brown's five editions, or Pemberton, Stourton, and Dalston on forgeries; either of which might have advantageously filled the space occupied by the "Newcastle and Gateshead Monitor and Postage Stamp Review—14 pages, 8vo."

Alfred Smith and Co.'s Descriptive Price Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of all Nations. Ninth edition. London: Marlborough and Co; Bath: Alfred Smith and Co.

This copious list of the principal issues of stamps, of which an overwhelming majority are priced, would form a cheap sixpenny worth without the accompanying illustrations and specimen number of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*. The illustrations, now grouped for the first time in pages containing twenty-five, besides half-a-dozen on the ornamental wrapper, are printed in alternations of red and black, peculiarly pleasing to the eye.

We are frequently asked to appraise stamps. The purchaser of such a work as the one under review, or that of our own publisher, giving the fair price of rare or common specimens, would obviate the necessity of spending many a penny on postage. A reference to the catalogues mentioned, or any others of a really honest vendor, where a Reunion stamp, being comparatively priceless, is not valued at all, might open the eyes of buyers of certain "cheap and nasty" sixpenny packets where the rare stamp just noted is included, without a single word of explanation to denote its being an infamous—we must use parliamentary language to avoid an action for libel—fac-simile.

PUZZLES FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

CONUNDRUMS.

1. Why is the highest value of the 1861 United States envelopes like *The Philatelist*?
2. Why may an Indian postmaster be said to be a cheap pastry-cook?
3. What stamp most resembles a co-operative store?
4. When is a postage stamp like the letter it franks?
5. When do manufacturers of postage stamps resemble people who are not liked?
6. What stamps most resemble a spirit?
7. Why may the provisional Tuscan be said to be disagreeable inhabitants of an album?
8. When do clothes that are a bad fit resemble a series of Spanish colonials?
9. Why were the Indian very stupid stamps before they did duty for the Straits Settlements?
10. Why do collectors when they inspect suspicious Bergedorfs resemble good catholics?
11. Why were there no postage labels in Henry the Eighth's time?
12. What promontory on the coast of Scotland is like an English penny postage stamp?

13. What stamps remind us of the pilgrims who returned from the Holy Land?
14. What difference is there between the human heart and an engraver of a postage stamp.
15. What difference in position, literally speaking, is there between the city of New York and a person convulsed with laughter?

TRANSPOSITIONS.

INSCRIPTIONS ON POSTAGE STAMPS.

1. Sent, a, page, coat, done, can.
2. Some, nice, lot, can, grace, a, court.
3. adegghiiiiillnnnorsssv.
4. aacdeceefiilnnnorsstuvvv.
5. aaceeeeeeeghlnnnooppssstttuwv.

CHARADE.

I am a word of nine letters.
 My 1, 2, 6, is generally found near a door ;
 My 4, 3, 1, is a spirit ;
 My 8, 9, is a personal pronoun ;
 My 2, 7, 4, is what we could not live without.
 My *whole* is a well-known island which has emitted many rare stamps.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

I.

- I. A country in Asia which has issued few stamps.
- II. A country in Europe which has issued many stamps.
1. A scientific game.
2. A musical instrument.
3. A mental image.
4. Three-fourths of a measure.
5. The fruit of a tree.

II.

- I. A printed work.
- II. The title of a work useful to stamp collectors.
1. A sly look.
2. What gruff persons are.
3. The abridged name of a coin inscribed on certain stamps.
4. A state of equality.
5. A Spanish princess.
6. An ancient engine of war.
7. The pupil of the eye.
8. A showy thing of little value.
9. Three-fourths of a brilliant phenomenon of nature.

10. A grain.
11. A reptile.

III.

- I. A stamp-producing country.
- II. The denomination of its postal currency.
1. The country itself.
2. A recluse.
3. An importunate creditor.
4. An island in the Mediterranean.
5. A beast of burden.

IV.

- I. A country of Asia.
- II. A large city of the same.
1. What common stamps are to buy.
2. A county of England.
3. Something used in writing.
4. Half nine.
5. A town of Southern Arabia.

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

1. I will call as I arrive in town.
2. Perhaps one visit will be sufficient.
3. Do not bend the snap, lest you break it.
4. How can a damaged dress look well?
5. His studies, I fear, will come to nothing.
6. We should always make a proper use of time.
7. The rich I like to see helping the poor.
8. We may now set sail, yon sea is calm, and the wind fair.
9. One's age no art can exactly discover.
10. At every step a risk he runs of falling headlong.
11. The hat looks well on: do not take it off.
12. Oh! What find I? A crochet needle.
13. Pass the lens. I want to see these animalcula.
14. Hay tied up in trusses was sold in the city.
15. On being asked, he replied, "Can a day once gone return."

PRIZES.

Twelve rare Foreign Stamps will be given to those Subscribers answering most of the above Puzzles. Replies, accompanied by the cheque given with each number, must be addressed to "The

Editor of The Philatelist, Colonnade, Brighton, and received not later than the 15th of April.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

(Pp. 44.)

CONUNDRUMS.

1. The kreuizers (cruisers).
2. Row man (Roman).
3. Because he takes in the simple.
4. Because there is only one sane (Seine) among them.

TRANSPPOSITIONS.

(Inscriptions on Postage Stamps).

1. POSTE ITALIANE SESSANTA CENTESIMI.
2. CANADA POSTAGE TEN CENTS.
3. VICTORIA ONE SHILLING.

CHARADES.

1. Mad-rid—Madrid.
2. Thump-hat-ton-sot—Southampton.

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

1. Wigan, Ely.
2. Dover.
3. Agra, Swansea.
4. Neath.
5. Cardiff.
6. Newport.
7. Reading.
8. Ayr, Bideford.
9. Perth, Bath.
10. Lewes, Shoreham.
11. Hammersmith, Merthyr.
12. Andover, Dover.
13. Cuba.
14. Greece.

PRIZES.

The following is a list of prize winners, with the number of correct answers sent by each:—

F. W. Joy, Winchester; J. H. Greenstreet, London; — Drayton, Woolwich; A. W. Brodie, Winchester; — Webb, London; R. J. Torrie, Edinburgh; E. B. Wyke, London; A. W. Moore, Liverpool; E. Dashwood, Brighton; J. W. Ecklin, London; W. F. Craies, Wandsworth; J. I. Lushington, Winchester; James Shelton, Birmingham (23 each.)

The above prize winners will not be allowed to compete again until May, in order to give all subscribers a fair chance of winning our prizes.

Answers have also been received from the following:—

C. Rugman, "Fidelis," J. D., J. J. Cadell, G. Regester, A. Ellis, J. M. Pletts, J. A. Winnam, W. Beaumont, J. P. Smith, T. B. Udall, A. J. Ashton, R. T. Balfour, P. H. Carpenter, C. West, E. A. Craig, E. Burdon, F. J. Squire (22 each.)—D. Murray, J. Osler, Miss Horley, J. Starkey, J. W. Chapman, R. T. Red, A. Wise, M. Stephenson, J. C. Reddie, H. P. Scott, E. L. Leeks, A. W. Chambers (21 each.)—L. T. Waller, J. A. Hornes, jun., H. O. Weare, E. R. Kenyon, J. A. Cooper, M. A. C. W., R. L. James, J. Brooks, L. Gibb, E. Wells, A. Jennings, B. Johnstone, A. Cardwell, D. M. Robertson, E. Le Neve Forster, G. Frampton, E. R. Short, "Moorlands," (20 each.)—A. Turner, E. C. Corbet, B. Murphy, P. A. Buckland, D. H. Seary, "A. B.," G. Barthés (19

each.)—"Moa," J. E. Hart, A. Napier, F. Molineaux, R. C. A. Boyd, S. Shephard, A. Beauclerk (18 each.)—H. D. Macnamar, H. E. Jones, F. R. Hills, H. Willis (17 each.)—B. Harrison, J. S. Barber, M. Samuel, J. Z. Thornton (16 each.)—Miss Loveden, 15.—F. S. Clarke, M. E. Coogan (14 each.)

POSTAL SCRAPS.

A YEAR'S PENNY STAMPS.—An inland revenue return which has just been issued shows that in the financial year 1866-7 no less than 136,978,045 penny stamps were supplied to the public for use on receipts, drafts, and other documents (other than letters) requiring a penny stamp.—*Standard.*

CURIOSITIES OF THE POST-OFFICE.—At Adlestone, near Chertsey, in Surrey, a curious parcel was received by an angler, some time since, containing a quarter of an ounce of the common house flies, which was found to amount to the astonishing number of 1273.

A NEW METHOD OF CANCELLING POSTAGE STAMPS.—A gentleman of New York has invented a method of mutilating postage stamps which he thinks will be effectual. Only gum half the stamp, he says, and let the clerks in the post-office tear off the other half.

DISHONESTY AT THE POST-OFFICE.—Recent mail robberies frightened a Cleveland man, who added to the address of a letter: "To dishonest Post-Office officials; for God's sake let this go through, there is no money in it."—*The Stamp Buyer, Middletown, U.S.*

CAUTIOUS.—The other day a little girl presented a letter at the post-office. There being no stamp on it, the postmaster enquired whether she had not brought a penny. "No," she replied, "father has put the stamp inside."

A GOOD CUSTOMER.—A boy, some time since, went to the post-office at Totness, and tried the following:—"Please, ma'am, bante a going to gio me anything for Christmas?"—"For what reason?"—"Cause I always brings my letters to your post-office."

A NEW PAPER MONEY.—The paper money now in use is the postage stamp. This postal money is essentially the poor man's bank-note, as it enables him to pay a sum as low as a penny, or draw a cheque for twopence. When crossed over, it is a sign that the payment of the note is stopped. It is endorsed with adhesive gum, which is a very great convenience for persons who are noted for sticking at nothing when they wish to raise money.

THE IRISHMAN'S POST-OFFICE ORDER.—An Irish railway labourer, located somewhere in Lancashire, transmitted to his wife, residing in Kendal, a post-office order, and to evade the payment of the postage, hit upon the following expedient:—Having procured a newspaper, he placed the document inside, folded it up, and directed it as follows: "Take care, Judy, who opens this paper, as there is a post-office order for ten shillings, and I don't want it staling by any one, barring yourself. Mistress Judy O'Rourke, Kendal. To be left at the post-office till I write again."

THE RUSSIAN POST-OFFICE ASSOCIATION FOR STEALING MONEY FROM LETTERS.—Public attention in Russia has been much occupied by the trial of upwards of fifty post-office officials for stealing money from letters. It appears that a complete organization existed for this purpose in

the department, and that it has been carrying on its operations since 1862. An elaborate code of regulations, by which this society was bound, has been discovered, in which the capital of the society, the mode of division of the profits, and the sums to be given as rewards to those of the members who were most skilful in their thefts, are minutely described.—*The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*.

TIMBROPHILIC NOTABILITIES.—Though it is said that timbrophilic exercises a softening influence on the brain, it is nevertheless true that it counts among its adepts a great many intelligences of the first order, engaged in the sciences, the arts, the army, the magistracy, the industry, and the chief commerce of all countries, not to speak of a goodly number of dignitaries and diplomatists, some of whom occupy positions bringing them into close contact with the throne. Without, however, going to these heights, we have pleasure in making an announcement of a very satisfactory nature to timbrophilic spirits, viz., that two of our friends, M. O. Berger-Levrault, and J. Marcou, have received the decoration of the legion of honour, the one for the services rendered by him to industry in his important printing and publishing house; the other for his learned geological works. We are happy in addressing to them our sincere felicitations on the honour which they have so fully merited.—*Le Timbrophile*.

SIX O'CLOCK AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE.—One of the sights of London which you should always take your foreign friends to see is the General Post-Office at the time when the last great rush is made to catch the evening mail. If your foreign friends have been rather a bore to you of late, you had better quietly allow them to become entangled with the crowd. If you do this adroitly you will see nothing more of them for hours; indeed, they will be lucky if they don't get into the wrong box and find themselves despatched with other unconsidered trifles to remote parts of the United Kingdom, not to say the world. We once heard of a small boy who was taken to witness the scene at St. Martin's-le-grand, and became inextricably mixed up with the rush. His agonised parents saw him disappear, and he was not heard of again until he was returned from a place in the north of Scotland, where he had been refused on account of the excess of postage charged on him. This may seem improbable—in fact, we think it very likely it does appear so, but that is no fault of ours; all applications on the subject may be made to the Postmaster-General, and, by the way, there is no necessity to enclose a stamp for the reply.—*Fun*.

POST-OFFICE COLLOQUY.—The *Salem Observer* says that the following colloquy once actually took place at a post-office within a few miles of that city:—*Patrick*: "I say Mither Postmaster, is there a letter for me?"—*Postmaster*: "Who are you, my good sir?"—*Pat*: "I am myself, that's who I am."—*P. M.*: "Well, but what is your name, sir?"—*Pat*: "Oh, niver mind the name."—*P. M.*: "I must have your name, sir."—*Pat*: "By the holy St. Patrick, an' what do you want with my name?"—*P. M.*: "So that I can find your letter, if there is one."—*Pat*: "Well, Mary Burns, thin, if you must have it."—*P. M.*: "No, there is none for Mary Burns."—*Pat*: "Is there no other way to get in there, except through this pane of glass?"—*P. M.*: "No, sir."—*Pat*: Well for you there isn't. I'd tache ye better manners

than to insist upon a gentleman's name! But you didn't get it after all, so I'm even with you."

THE HUNGARIAN POST OFFICE.—The aversion the Hungarians have to what is German, has manifested itself in a way which is rendered prominent by its great stupidity. When a letter or packet is registered in the post-office the sender receives a printed receipt, at the back of which are notices as to the time to which the responsibility of the postal authorities extends, what is to be done in case the letter or packet should not reach its destination, and a whole lot of other instructions. Since the Hungarians have their own special post-office these papers are no longer written in German, but in Hungarian. Now, Hungarian being, as we may say, a dead language, these papers, when they had to be sent to any postal authorities beyond the frontier, were quite unintelligible, as few persons read or learn Hungarian. It was requested, therefore, that they might be translated into some civilised language of Europe. Accordingly the Hungarian Minister at Pesth has given orders that in future the said papers shall be translated into French and Italian. German, which was the most natural language to choose, and which had always been in use hitherto, was ignored. Indeed, as we have shown by facts over and over again, Hungary is determined to have nothing in common with Austria. She only goes with Austria when something is to be gained by doing so, and then she is ready enough to be, for the nonce, her friend and ally. She also goes with Austria when she is unable to avoid doing so; otherwise never.—*Standard*.

"FEYTHUR" AND "SON."—The following anecdote, illustrative of the comical incidents which now and then interweave themselves with the sober realities of post-office life, was related the other evening at a literary supper-table. A letter from the wilds of Cheshire was received one morning, having the simple superscription, "For moi Son, London." After passing through a succession of hands, it was at length duly deposited, along with a thousand other letters, at the left-till-called-for office, there to await the chapter of accidents. A few days afterwards a simple-looking countryman presented himself, and inquired, "Han yo gotten a letter for me fa moi feythur?" A titter, a whisper, a significant nod of the head on the part of more than one official, then a rummage amongst the pigeon-holes, and "feythur's" letter was found and handed to the son, who looked upon the whole proceeding quite as a matter of course.—*The Postman*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE FIGURE ON THE FOURPENNY AND SHILLING VIRGIN ISLANDS.

To the Editor of the "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—I am glad to see that you avoid all remarks which may offend persons of other persuasions than your own, but the Virgin Islands stamps of the last issue are not intended to exhibit "penitents," the figure is that of the Blessed Virgin as she is usually seen in engravings of the *Immaculate Conception*, with the earth and moon under her feet, crushing the head of the serpent, and crowned with twelve stars.

Wishing all success to your magazine,

I remain, yours obediently,
Kingston, Jamaica. H. J. BURGER.

THE ARGENTINE REPRINTS AND THE LARGE FIGURE SERIES.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—Mahé writes in the last *Timbrophile* to this effect, "République Argentine. Les 10 and 15 centavos sur papier uni non dentelés, ont également existé," and in the *Timbre Poste* the issue of these two reprints is duly chronicled as that of two legitimate stamps; the *Timbrophile* backs up the discovery by a passive acknowledgment of their existence. That the facilities for reprinting the Argentine are very great, and that they are abused in the most unscrupulous manner, not only seems probable to the casual observer, but can be proved to all who will take the trouble to investigate; and, for the benefit of English buyers, allow me to make a few remarks on the various issues. First and foremost will stand the large figured stamps, of which only a 5c. is known original and postmarked, the 10 and 15c. now sold everywhere are reprints, or, more likely, fabrications.

The discovery of these stamps is enveloped in mystery, and their *debut* was in such a mass of bewildering statistics, names of high sounding officials, vague recollections, and contradictions, that I should be sorry to hint even at the time I have wasted over their examination, and the attempt to refute them, though, if the cause of philately has been aided, or a barefaced Argentine imposition unmasked, I cannot consider the time wasted. This is not the place to critically examine the claims of 10 and 15c., large figure, as they have been fully discussed, and those who wish to examine them at length can do so by reading the various official accounts in the *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, and the extensive correspondence beginning with the letter of "Nisus" in the second number of *The Philatelist*, the truth and justice of which may be well measured by the outburst it caused in *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, and in which the only reply given was insult, refutation was not even attempted, for the simple reason that it was impossible. The correspondence has been carried on up to the present time, the last number of *The Philatelist* containing a simple recapitulation by Mr Camoens of what had been before stated, and *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, a letter from Fentonina, containing a useless quibble, which could only have struck that writer. Camoens objects to the use of the term reprints to the 10 and 15c., and stated that it should not be applied to them; by his theory they are either originals or fabrications. According to our view, they are either reprints or fabrications. Camoens, by giving them the alternative of being originals, gives them some slight claim upon us, but, since reprints can never have the value of originals, I, by allowing that if not fabrications they are reprints, lessen their claims still more. I cannot accept them as originals on any account, the *best* I can say of them is, that they are reprints. These are the reasons. If there were really such stamps ever issued for use as the large figured 10 and 15c., those now offered for sale are *not* those originals; because, as I have proved the 5c. to be a reprint to my entire satisfaction, and beyond a doubt, and, as I find both 10 and 15c. identical with it in paper and newness (and so, too, does Mr Camoens), then, the 10 and 15c., if not fabrications, are reprints from old

existing dies. I will not admit them as originals. This distinction is not so trifling or absurd as it at first sight appears, because, supposing them ever to be proved *not* to be fabrications, *then*, my definition of them (as reprints) would prevent them ever having that value which Camoens' term (originals) would cause them to bear. I cannot *prove* them to be fabrications, whatever I may think, but I *can* prove they are not originals; therefore, in saying they are reprints or fabrications, I am on the safe side in the event of any proof being attempted to show that they are not fabrications. An examination of "Nisus's" letters will show why it is probable that they are fictions, but without proof positive we must be content to brand them as most suspicious reprints, and to assert most distinctly and emphatically that they are not original varieties, as advertised and sold.

The next issue has been extensively reprinted, and is characterised by brightness of colour, newness of appearance, and the same thick paper which characterises the rubbishy large figures. Whether the first set of the Republic of 1862 has been reprinted, I am unable to say, but should any great demand arise, we may be sure it will be promptly met. Many stamps of this 1862 issue are from dies so extremely worn that to reprint passable specimens does not seem possible, but then these worn dies may have been replaced, so it is difficult to say.

The next and latest reprint is that mentioned by Mahé in the quotation I give. The Rivadavia set, AR watermark, issued in 1864, was at first not perforated, and in this state they are extremely rare, especially the 15c. Quite recently a new issue has been determined upon, and, pending the arrival of the sheets, the 5c. Rivadavia had to be issued provisionally on thin paper unwatermarked and not perforated, the 5c. watermark AR being exhausted. The 5c. of the new issue is the only value in use whilst I write, as there is a stock on hand of the old 10 and 15c., watermarked AR, on the exhaustion of which the new 10 and 15c. will be put in circulation. Now, simply for sale to collectors the 10 and 15c. have been fabricated on thin paper, imperforate and unwatermarked, and sent over with many deceptive appearances of being genuine; the fact, however, that the supply of 10 and 15c. watermarked is not exhausted, and that of the new issue only the 5c. is in use, is positive proof that the 10 and 15c. on unwatermarked paper are a "do," an issue *à la Pivolet*. There can be no such necessity for such a provisional issue for the very sufficient reason that the old stamps are not exhausted, and those of the new issue which are to supply their places are already in hand, waiting their exhaustion.

The sets of the new issue which are offered have been obtained complete by favour, as the two highest values are not in use. Proof again that anything can be done through the P. O. officials there. The watermarked 5c. Rivadavia being run out before the receipt of the new 5c., necessitated a provisional issue of the Rivadavia 5c. without watermark on thin paper, both perforate and imperforate; but I have no hesitation in denouncing the 10 and 15c. to match it, as fabrications, not reprints, because the originals are not out of use.

Proofs of the 1864 set (Rivadavias, upon which I am writing) exist, 5c. rose, 10c. blue, 15c. green, but from a different die to the issued stamps, so

they may well be classed with forgeries (as mentioned in "Forged Stamps.") I would also call attention to the rude fabrications— $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2rs., which appeared in 1865, and were brought out as an early emission of the Argentine Confederation.

These many examples will put us on our guard, and shew us the knaveries to which we are subjected, and the extent to which the dies of all these stamps are tampered with, to the detriment of collecting, but to the enrichment of the speculator who does it or causes it to be done. Probably the Argentine officials themselves are at the bottom of it, and being in possession of all statistics, can easily pitch a plausible tale and plenty of figures into the unlucky importer, who, however blameless himself, participates in the blame attached to these issues *à la Pivolet*.

Yours truly,

EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

Birmingham.

GEOGRAPHICAL, OR GEOGRAPHICO-ALPHABETICAL ORDER?

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—M. Oscar Berger-Levrault seeming to challenge discussion respecting the preponderating advantages of either of the proposed arrangements—one of which is the invariable alternative in a postage-stamp album or catalogue—will you favour us with space for a few remarks thereon?

It may be deemed presumptuous to argue against the views taken up by so talented and experienced a writer on philatelic matters as the gentleman above named; but we cannot refrain from taking up the cudgels in defence of your earliest literary acquaintances, A, B, C, &c.

In the comparison of any two or more competing candidates (animate or inanimate) for public approval, each must have *some* peculiar qualification to adduce, otherwise the competition would be "frivolous and vexatious." We will, therefore, first adduce the more prominent advantages of the strict geographical system advocated by M. Levrault.

That author contends that his plan alone allows the numerous emissions of Schleswig and Holstein, distinct and conjoint, to be classified under one head. We contend that the greatest alphabetical precisionist would never dream of separating them—Schleswig-Holstein being the fountain-head of the whole series. In like manner, the issues of New Granada, whether actually so facially denominated, or adopting the current name of the republic—United States of Colombia, must certainly be placed in direct succession under the former appellation. In like manner the sets both for Montevideo and Uruguay are naturally classed with the earliest name for their heading. The inconvenience of a collector's not knowing whether to look for Holland or the Netherlands, Ottoman Empire or Turkey, United States, or States (United), &c., &c. is trivial compared with that of ascertaining whether an author chooses to travel on his map from west to east, from east to west, or like a spider crawling over a sheet of paper.

The learned author's final, and, we are bound to confess, unanswerable argument, on behalf of his pet plan is—that *when* the adoption of one uniform geographical system becomes universal, the same country will be ever found in an identi-

cal position in all stamp albums and catalogues, *in whatever language published*. This is, undoubtedly, a clincher, which can only be got over by the patent fact that such a "consummation devoutly to be wished," is perfectly Utopian; the geographical purists not being at all likely ever to come to a concordance on any permanent arrangement.

In our zeal for the superior claims of the alphabet, we must not be misunderstood as wishing to fall back to the arrangement of the earlier postage-stamp catalogues—Mount Brown's for instance, which began with Antigua, and concluded with Wurtemberg. Except in price-lists, such an order is exploded; and the second alternative of the title of this article pretty usually adopted.

In the review of Moens' newly-published album, alluded to by M. Levrault last month, (the unvarying order of the alphabet, (a always preceding b, s following r, and z never commencing,) is argued in favour of its superior claims to attention; and we think with justice, geographers not being in unison which way to travel. Let some of these gentlemen's works be taken and collated—what a pretty conglomeration of confusion one lights upon!

We cannot quite comprehend what order M. Lallier means to follow in the last English edition of his album. Commencing with Europe, he takes (on national principles?) France as the starting point, jumps to the Thurn and Taxis offices, leaps back to England, then proceeds alphabetically through the rest of Europe. Asia and Africa are similarly catalogued, St. Helena being out of its place for convenience sake; but the countries of Oceania seem to have been shaken in a hat and tossed out at random. From South and West Australia one makes a spring to New South Wales, then to Hawaii, thence back to Queensland, skipping down to Tasmania and Victoria; concluding with a flying leap to Luzon. America presents "confusion worse confounded;" North, South, Central, and the West Indies being catalogued in an inextricable jumble. Canada, the Argentine Confederation, and Brazil, are succeeded by New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Buenos Aires, and Chili! Further on we find Peru, Honduras, Prince Edward Island, and Costa Rica; and conclude with Newfoundland and the West Indies, with Vancouver's Island and British Columbia figuring in their midst!

After this, the geographical arrangements adopted by M. Levrault in his catalogue, and M. Moens in his newly-published album, are comparatively lucid. Let a collector, however, take the two works and try to arrange his stamps thereby. What an infinitude of trouble in turning and re-turning their pages!

In the album, M. Moens commences with Great Britain, jumps over to Norway and Northern Europe, thence to the German States and western countries, recrossing eastwards to conclude with Turkey, Greece, &c. The catalogue begins at Russia, zigzags through Germany, bounds from Wurtemberg to Holland and the neighbouring governments; thence traversing central Europe, one reaches Turkey, &c.; whence it diametrically contradicts the album's ideas of geography by proceeding westward to conclude with Portugal.

With the exception of Egypt being out of its place, as the author himself avows, a correct geographical sequence is carried out in Africa by M. Levrault; and the album gives a similar arrange-

ment. In Asia, Cashmere separates India from Ceylon in the one instance; and the Dutch Indies, Hong Kong from Shanghai in the other!

The Philippines head Oceania, according to both authors; but they are separated from New South Wales by Western and Southern Australia, *vide* the album; while Swan River flows between South Australia and Tasmania, according to M. Levrault. That gentleman groups North America and the West Indies perhaps as well as could possibly be done under any geographical system; though we cannot understand why the Bermudas should be squeezed in between the Confederate States and Mexico, or how the Bahamas divide Central America from Jamaica; but in South America one would require some seventy-times-seven-leagued boots to walk from Brazil to Peru, thence returning leisurely to Buenos Aires, and proceed once more westward to rest in Chili. In the album the latter country comes in more naturally in the neighbourhood of Bolivia and Peru.

Trusting our humble remonstrances will be favourably received by geographers, and our own claims for consideration carefully weighed, we beg to subscribe ourselves,

Your obedient servants,
A, B, C, &c.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, it is proposed to set apart a portion of *The Philatelist* each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements must be accompanied by the cheque given with each number.
2. No advertisements should exceed sixty words.
3. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 15th of the month.
4. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.
5. Subscribers wishing to reply to advertisements can obtain a list of the names and addresses of the advertisers, by sending a stamped and directed envelope to the Editor of *The Philatelist*.

MARIE.—I wish to exchange the following stamps: Norway 1st issue (lion), Nicaragua blue, St. Lucia black, Ionian yellow, Confederate 20c., Belgium (1850.) 10c. 20c., Brazil 90r., (italic figures,) Chili 5c. 10c. For any of these, Finland, Poland, Shanghai, Liberia, Sierra Leone, St. Helena, Buenos Ayres, Monte Video, Nevis, Antigua, Newfoundland.

S. J. H.—I have for exchange: New Granada 1c., Nicaragua 2c., Virgin Islands 1d., Heligoland ½sch. 1sch., St. Helena 1d., New Brazil 10 and 20reis., Servia 20p, 40p. Will any one send me a list of theirs to choose from?

PHILATELIST.—I have the following stamps amongst others which I wish to exchange, viz., Mexico, Turkish (first issue, lilac and red), Cuba, United States Essays. Collectors are invited to send me a list of their duplicates.

H. S.—I wish to exchange the following stamps: Cape of Good Hope, wood block, 1d red, Liberia 6c., Romagna 8 and 20 bai., Sardinia 5c., 1851, &c. I am in want of New Granada, old Brazil, &c.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

GERTINELLIANNIE.—We have never heard that the island of St. Kitts has adopted postage stamps of its own; though an essay for that purpose was circulated some time since.

MRS CAUDLE, Launceston.—The Straits Settlements derive their name from the Straits of Malacca, and comprise the town of that name, the island of Penang (or Prince of Wales' Island), and the island of Singapore, which three settlements were, in 1825, united under a governor, subordinate to the Presidency of Bengal. Penang had been ceded to the English in 1786, and, till incorporated with the other Straits Settlements, its capital, George Town, commanded the chief trade of the Indian Archipelago.

NINCUMPOOP, North Shields.—Your geography is at fault. Singapore is the capital of an island of that name, situated to the south of the Malay peninsular, and carries on such extensive transactions as a trading colony, that it is called "The Liverpool of the East." It owes its present commercial greatness, and the freedom of its port, which is open to vessels of all nations, to the exertions of the celebrated Sir Stamford Raffles, who having been governor of Java during the short time it belonged to Great Britain (from 1811 to 1816), employed the experience he then gained in establishing the power of the East India Company in this settlement.

MARMADUKE.—Your strictures respecting the frequent mis-spelling of the word Sphinx are quite necessary. We can only account for the fact by the excuse that the association of ideas connecting the creature with the pyramids is overpowering enough to make a writer naturally obtrude a y in the former, because there happens to be one in the latter.

E. DANIELS, Barbados.—Please remit the amount of your subscription by a P.O. Order, or by used West Indian stamps, at the rate of 1s per 100. We return the fourpenny unused stamps by book post.

J. W., Portsmouth.—The stamp you forwarded for inspection is a Russian telegraph impression, as the inscriptions denote.

C. H. H.—The values of the new Roumanians do not precisely correspond with those of the preceding. If 2 pare be equivalent to 2 bani, 4 and 18 cannot equal 5 and 20.—The new set for the Orange River Free State is described in the present number.

R. EDWARDS.—In reply to your query respecting the Cashmere stamps we refer you to a skit in Punch, as follows: *The Height of Impudence*. Going into an umbrella shop to take shelter from the rain.—A general issue for the Dominion of Canada has been both announced and disavowed. Time alone will show.

L. T. W., Tottenham.—We have the 4 bajocchi of the Papal States in three perfectly distinct colours; pale yellow, light brown, and pure yellow, all genuine.—The blue Victoria threepenny to which you allude, was printed of a dull rose colour in 1866, and used for a few months, previously to the current threepenny of a new type.

W. H. R. and F. H., Brighton.—We will reply to your queries in our next number.

NOTES ON SOME OF THE AUSTRIAN STAMPS.

AUSTRIAN NEWSPAPER STAMPS.

ACCORDING to the opinion of the celebrated German Professor Weiss, these, as well as the rest of the series of stamps for foreign newspapers, have no place in an album, as, he argues, they are not so much "marks" for the defraying of postage expenses, as "tokens" of a tax inflicted upon foreign journals. But we must beg humbly to differ from him, as it seems to us that the postage system itself is a species of taxation, and that the newspaper stamp is merely an evidence of a separate postal expense, exacted by Austria for the privilege of introducing foreign newspapers into that country. Anyhow, we have never yet seen a good collection of postage stamps in which the Austrian foreign newspaper stamps were not included, the three under mentioned of which are of considerable value and rarity.

Some few years ago the 1 kreuzer (black) and 4 kreuzer (red, brown—two separate stamps) newspaper labels were among the rarest stamps, and in the possession of very few collectors, who had purchased them at heavy prices. Indeed, as we learn from a correspondent of the *Briefmarken Sammler*, good specimens were sold in Paris at 20 and 25 francs a head. Then, later, they became much more frequent, and fell to a tenth, and even twentieth, part of the above-mentioned price, so that nearly every collector of that period was enabled to obtain specimens cheaply.

To explain this sudden change, we cannot do better than translate from the German *Briefmarken Sammler* the communication of a Vienna correspondent:—"It will interest you to receive some information respecting the 1 kreuzer (black) newspaper stamp. Newspaper stamps form, as is well known, one of the taxes imposed by Austria upon foreign papers; and the 1 kreuzer (black) 'marks' are em-

ployed in Venetia for the taxation of newspapers coming from Germany—not, however, those taken by *abonnement* from the post-office or a bookseller, as in these cases no 'mark' is required, the newspaper stamp being included in the subscription. Anyhow it is an enigma why so few *stamped* (used) specimens are to be met with, inasmuch as the stamp is in circulation at the present moment." This was written in 1866. "That altogether, up to the present time, few were for sale is clear, from the fact that new or unstamped specimens were not to be bought, and the few unstamped specimens that were to be met with were obtained either through fraud (as in Venetia from two to four hundred specimens), or through 'protection.' By this latter means Professor von Volpi procured 200 specimens (one sheet), and Von Latour-Thurnberg 400 specimens; and through their medium the market became suddenly supplied. As a matter of fact no newspaper stamps are allowed to be sold, and the few unused ones that are met with are generally only to be procured through favour of some official, who, however, in case of detection would not get off without a severe reprimand. The 4 kreuzer (red) newspaper stamps are no longer so rare, for this reason, that they are used instead of the 2 kreuzer (red) stamps, in order not to exhaust the stock of these latter; and this appears to be the case also with the 4 kreuzer (brown) newspaper stamps."

Since this was written the three above-mentioned newspaper stamps have once more become rare, and are seldom to be purchased at less than 10f. or 12f. a head. There is, moreover, but little doubt that the price will greatly increase, as these stamps are no longer in circulation.

"POSTHUMOUS" AUSTRIAN STAMPS.

The name "posthumous" is rightly applied by a correspondent in the *Briefmarken Sammler* to three Austrian Levant postage stamps, of the respec-

tive values of 2, 3, and 15 soldi (with the head of the emperor to the right). These three stamps were never in actual circulation, and are consequently of great rarity and value, being only procurable through favour of some official.

We give in free translation a short account of these stamps, published by the above-mentioned contributor :

"It is well known that, at the time when the third series of postage stamps was issued in Venetia, only those of the values of 10 and 5 soldi came into circulation; while for the remaining three, of the respective values of 2, 3, and 15 soldi, the corresponding ones of the second emission—the provision of which was not even then exhausted when the fourth emission came into existence—were used. Of late a few persons have, through interest with the Finance Minister in Vienna, obtained some of these never-circulated stamps; so that we have, in fact, to deal with really 'posthumous' stamps. According to the Folio—laid at present before us—of Ordinances issued by that particular branch of the Austrian Ministerial Finance Department on the 29th of December, 1860, it is true that the issue of the bespoke stamps, of the respective values of 2, 3, and 15 soldi, was announced to take place after the exhaustion of what remained of the second emission; but this exhaustion never took place. These three stamps occupy, consequently, quite a peculiar sort of mongrel position. They are not 'essays,' because they were officially announced, and actually cast, as the succeeding (fourth) emission was at this period declared; but they have never existed as circulating stamps, and it cannot therefore be called a caprice on the part of a collector, who collects only actually circulated stamps, if he refuses to insert in his album these three stamps that were unfortunately destined to non-existence, or, rather, non-circulation."

We fear this would only be the "caprice of such collectors—and their name

is Legion—who are unable to procure these three rarities.

Before we conclude our remarks, we will add that the envelope stamps issued in 1861 (with the head of the emperor to the right), of the values of 20 kreuzer (orange), 25 kr. (dark brown), 30 kr. (lilac), and 35 kr. (pale brown), as well as the entire corresponding emission—the value being in soldi instead of kreuzer—of the same year for the Levant post (it must be understood that we are referring only to the emission of envelope stamps), are rapidly becoming very rare, and ought therefore to be secured by collectors on the first available opportunities.—*The Queen.*

FORGED STAMPS : HOW TO DETECT THEM.

SECOND EDITION.

(Continued from Page 54.)

BY EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

Moldo-Wallachia.

1862. June. These stamps vary much in colour and paper on which printed. The earliest are on excessively thin paper, clear impressions, gum very thickly laid on, and cracked all over, shewing through the face of the stamp; later the paper is somewhat stouter, but still thin, gum smoother, not so thickly laid on, and not cracked; still later, are some bad impressions, ungummed, paper varying, perhaps reprints. Amongst the early impressions we find specimens on laid paper, excessively thin. We thus find the following varieties of this issue:—

I.—OLD GUM, THIN PAPER.

- 3 paras, lemon-yellow, dark yellow.
- 6 " rose lake, lake-red, vermilion.
- 30 " dark blue.

II.—LAID PAPER.

- 3 paras, ochre.
- 6 " lake-red.
- 30 " ultramarine.

III.—THIN GUM, THICKER PAPER.

- 3 paras, pale yellow, deep chrome-yellow.

6 paras, pale vermilion.
30 " ultramarine.

IV.—NO GUM.

3 paras, ochre.
6 " rose-lake, lake-red.
30 " dark blue, pale blue.

The most recent of these stamps being very badly struck, makes the identification of any given minutiae difficult. There is an old forgery of the 30p. in Prussian blue, on soft unsurfaced paper, impression smeared, star large and touching head, eagle's wing on the left side rounded at top, O of FRANCO nearly circular, and one thickness throughout. We have another and very superior set of forgeries, of which the following points will at once strike us, and condemn them:—

Forged.

3 PARAS.—Indistinguishable, first s of SCRISOREI touches the c. Star too large. No dot after 3 at top.

6 PARAS.—Wing on the left side is pointed at top. End of horn same width as the width of the foot of the eagle above it. Star, lowest ray below the others, and almost touching the head.

30 PARAS.—Top of wing on the left side points towards the left. Feathers on wing nearest head of bull cannot be counted. Eyes are both on one level. End of horn small, as in forged 6 para. There is a dot over the R (of PAR) at bottom.

Genuine.

However indistinctly printed, the reverse of these two will be noticed.

Wing is rounded at top. Left-hand top ray of star lengthened curiously. (This is not *always* clear.) End of horn wider than the foot of the eagle.

Top of wing on the left side rather rounded to the right. The wing nearest the bull's head has four pinion feathers. Right eye is lower than the left. End of the horn larger than the foot above it. Very rarely there is a dot over the R of PAR.

Natal.

The oldest series of stamps, the blotting-paper series, embossed on colour, are forged; in all we have seen we find the lettering sunk instead of raised, and the design in all, differs materially from the originals. The forgers of these have printed them from type, striking the impressions on very damp paper with great force, so as to press the lettering into the paper. The 9p. blue of the genuine set, is one of the rarest of the rare, *original*, but the whole set has

been reprinted from the original dies, which will eventually tend to lower the value of postmarked copies.

Naples.

Of the series with arms, we have forgeries of $\frac{1}{2}$, 2, 10, 20, and 50 grana. It is well known that the real $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. has a small initial G in the white border line just under $\frac{1}{2}$; all the other values have an initial, but whether all are a letter G, or a monogram containing G, or what letters they are, we are unable to state precisely. We find two distinct sets of these stamps, the first in dull brown-lake, the second in pale pure rose; the forgeries are, $\frac{1}{2}$ and 50 gr., red, 2 gr., rose amaranth (or dull magenta), and 10 and 20, lake or rose.

Forged $\frac{1}{2}$ gr.

T of NAPOLETANA very badly shaped, A after it is higher; fleur-de-lis are unshaded, the initial G is wanting, one foot in the arms points at O of NAPOLETANA; in genuine, it points just clear of it, *i.e.*, between it and the L following.

Forged 2 gr.

LO of BOLLO very large, especially when compared with DELL following, ET of NAPOLETANA touch, and T has not room on the left side.

Forged 10 gr.

Horse's mane touches the line under DELLA. The lines of ground slant a little in upper right-hand angle.

Forged 20 gr.

The three fleur-de-lis in the arms are pointed. The lettering is heavy.

Forged 50 gr.

No stop after G in G: 50. The horse's tail does not touch the line of the circle.

The Provisional Government of Naples in Sept., 1860, issued a stamp from the $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. plate, altering the G to T by engraving the T upon the G. This is the celebrated $\frac{1}{2}$ tornese blue, arms, called *trinacrie* on the continent. In October, they erased the central arms of each stamp on the plate of $\frac{1}{2}$ tor., and engraved a white cross in their place.

The best test for the $\frac{1}{2}$ tor., is comparison with the $\frac{1}{2}$ gr., with which it is identical, except that the value is T : $\frac{1}{2}$, showing remains of the G. The oldest forgery makes the T clear, and without any trace of the old G, and the head which joins the three legs in the arms is wanting; in another forgery we find the clear T, which, combined with its being a lithographic impression, at once proves it to be false. There is still another and a better forgery, one which imitates the double T G, and also imitates the small initial G under $\frac{1}{2}$, although no one could say what letter the latter was. In the genuine, the horse's fore-legs do not touch the line in front of them, whilst the tail just touches the shading of the circle; in this forgery, these points are reversed.

We now come to the $\frac{1}{2}$ tor. cross; as this was from the plate of the preceding stamp, with the central arms erased, we find traces of these arms remaining in all genuine $\frac{1}{2}$ tor. cross; odd bits, scratches, and lines appear in the cross. There are several forgeries, as well as several varieties of the genuine, each stamp on the plate having been erased and the cross separately engraved, we find the lines in the quarterings vary, usually in the left lower quarter, they are eight, nine, or ten; in forgeries we find their number varies from eight, twelve, fourteen, and sixteen. The best forgery we know is one known as the $\frac{1}{2}$ tor. "with ball," it takes its name from the T showing the old G with a round dot or ball instead of a square end as the letter G is always printed. This forgery imitates the remains of the arms as seen on genuine; the lines which divide the three quarterings of the arms are drawn, and two can be clearly traced under the cross and lines; one of them points up the upstroke of the last N of NAPOLETANA; in the genuine this line will point between A and N.

New Caledonia.

These stamps being engraved in plates of 50, each impression separately

and roughly, of course they all vary, and to such an extent that it is impossible to select any point which is quite constant in each of the fifty stamps. The whole sheet may be had reprinted. The lettering at top is N^LE CALEDONIE, and not NIE CALODONIE, as erroneously stated in Mr Dalston's *How to Detect Forged Stamps*; moreover, the English name is not NIE CALDONIA, as that gentleman seems to imagine.

Original postmarked Caledonias are of very great rarity, quite as rare as original unused ones.

New Brunswick.

The great rarity here is the Connell essay, which, in its original state, was issued gummed and perforated. The issue of these took place in 1861, and extended to five thousand copies. The "Connell" is found in the following forms:—

1. Chocolate brown, on thick paper, gummed and perforated; the issue.
2. Chocolate brown, on thin paper, ungummed and imperforate; this is the first proof from the die.
3. Reddish brown, on still thinner paper; reprint of 1863.
4. Orange, as 3. Reprint of 1863.

There must be some mistake in the idea that the die was destroyed; fifty Connells were advertised for sale in America some three years back. There are photographs of the Connell offered for sale at times; but their glazy appearance and wrong colour condemns them at once, even without noticing the paper.

Of the current 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. there is a miserable forgery extant, in which the paddle wheels of the vessel seem wanting.

Nebis.

Here is another of those vile imitations which ought to be easy of detection, from their rough drawing and uneven lettering. The 1p. forged has the background of wavy vertical lines, instead of rocks and a spring of water. Genuine 1p. are not all from one die,

but a sheet consists of several types repeated.

New South Wales.

The Sydneys have always been of sufficient value to be worth forging, and we accordingly have imitations in various stages of mediocrity. It is amusing to notice that one writer on forged stamps evidently knew as little about the originals as the makers of the following wretched thing. The engravings, side borders, and grounds, of all three values of the views of Sydney are *quite different*, and full details of all varieties will be found in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* for last May. The oldest and by far the worst forgery exists in two values that we have seen, 1p. red, 2p. light blue, from one die, and that an imitation of the 3p. value! The legend is mis-printed CAMBR. SIEGILLUM for CAMB. SIGILLUM; the writer to whom we allude, had not discovered that the borders are both wrong, and that the spelling is incorrect, for his sole description of it is, that the first I of SIEGILLUM is shorter than the S, and that there is something radically wrong with the star in the lower right-hand corner; pleasingly unconscious that SIGILLUM is spelt without an E, and that 1p. and 2p. each have different borders, and never have that of the 3p. Had he known this very simple fact, this peroration about the square, the stroke, and the small cross, we might have been saved from. Such things as these, mislead the many who have not the opportunity of seeing undoubted specimens. The next forgery is a fair imitation of the 1 penny of the rough type, but the paper is very thin, white, and woven, instead of very stout and hard, and either bluish or yellowish in tone; the colour of the genuine is never very bright red, like this forgery,—this, and the thinness of the paper, is a ready means of detection; moreover, the letters of the word POSTAGE are too long. The next is a forgery of 2p., No. 2 (see *S. C. M.*), and is to match the last; it is on the same paper, thin

and white, though we have one artificially "aged," and quite browned. It is found in dark slaty-blue and blue-black, the last to imitate the discoloured stamp. This 2p., and the preceding 1p., are both forgeries of colonial make; they come from Melbourne, and in quantities, we are told. This 2p. may be detected, irrespective of the different paper with its white gum, by the peculiar flame-like shape of the church spire, and by the absence of the deep shadow on the right side of the two left-hand segments of the fan, the corner stars are lanky and "spidery," rays equal, not like the genuine, which shows four thick, large, and four smaller.

The next (and last) forgery is a very close imitation of the rough 2p., type 1; it is on a thin paper, with a coating of white gum, differing in this essentially from the genuine (see *S. C. M.* again.) The lines that divide the segments of the fan run between each, and not up the centre as in the true type. There is a variety of the true type 1, with lines of division like this forgery, but is so rare that there is little fear of confusing them. Moreover, the paper is sufficient to tell anyone that it is a forgery. There is a slip of the engravers in the forgery, a line running through CAMB., and following the shape of the circle. Ground on which pick and shovel lie is quite bare.

Newfoundland.

The 1p., 3p., 5p., and the rectangular set, in lake, are all found forged. The ground of these stamps is a beautiful turned pattern, with every line clear; the forgeries all fail more or less in their imitation of this; in fact, the pattern can hardly be traced in any of them; the paper is very white and smooth, also thicker than that of originals, which is always a little tinted by the colouring ink of the impression.

Nicaragua.

The forgeries of these stamps are very inferior to the originals, some of

the best of the American Bank Note Company's productions. The forgeries are on a very white paper, and badly done; the originals are on a toned paper, and gems of the engraver's art.

Norway.

There is a lithographed forgery of the oldest 4 sk., blue, arms; of which Mr. Stourton says, "the words FRIMERKE and SKILLING are smaller, and very indistinct; the colour ultra-marine."

(To be continued.)

NOTE.—On page 54, last month, near the bottom of the first column, in place of "to be good Spanish, Admce., &c.," read "to be good Spanish, 'Admon.," a typographical error.

WHAT NEXT!

NO bounds to the progress of human genius! Another proof of it.

Struck with the loss of time required for handling a letter before it reaches its destination, an American, Mr Ap. Fool, has just invented a new sort of stamp, perfecting the idea of those made of gold-beater's skin now used in Prussia. The stamp is printed on a peculiar paper, and smeared on the coloured side with a kind of glue, which will adhere only when the stamp is placed at the *upper right hand corner*. Owing to some inscrutable property the impression could not be fastened to the left corner. But, why in one corner rather than another? our readers may ask. Because the inventor has also contrived a machine for obliteration, which imperatively requires the franking stamp to be always in the same place. We are told the whole secret of this invention consists in the preparation of the glue alone.

A week ago, we saw this so-called *self-registering machine* in full action for essay, in one of the post-offices of this city, and all the by-standers were, like ourselves, electrified at the result. This system must thus, in a short time, be adopted; and we are assured such is the case already in the United States.

The most striking peculiarity in this

invention, is that the obliterating stamp serves for two purposes: it cancels the postage labels, indicating at the same time the issuing office; and the colouring ink is supplied from above, instead of requiring the application of an ink pad: the work is consequently uninterrupted. By means of some mechanism, difficult to be explained, the letters are brought from a bag, in which they are thrown anyhow, one by one under the stamping machine to be marked; then thrown alternately right or left for greater speed, where they are weighed and their weight registered in small red figures.

Compared with what the machine has done, there remains to the clerk but a slight labour—that of taxing the unpaid or insufficiently paid letters, whose weight he thus knows, and their distribution.

Learning of such inventions as these, we are certain our readers will re-echo with ourselves: What next!

E. BLACKMAN.

The Hague,
April, 1868.

The foregoing, from *Le Timbre Poste*, will amuse without edifying our readers. The name of the so-styled inventor explains the joke.

STAMPS ON BLUED PAPER.

BY EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

TO refer again to this subject, which has lain dormant since the correspondence in the January number, we should like to lay before the readers of *The Philatelist* a few considerations which have struck us in an examination we have been making of these stamps. The following are the results we have arrived at:—

- First.* That the acknowledged stamps on blued paper may be divided into three sections.
- Second.* That all of them owe their blue tint to a chemical action between the gum and the colouring matter of the ink.

These results we will, without preamble, give our reasons for advancing, taking each section separately.

1. Here we place all those well-known stamps which present a deep-blue appearance in all parts, except round the edges and those parts which are not heavily covered with the ink of the impression; in such places the paper appears either less blue than in other parts, or else quite white. The specimens which we would so class together are—

Ceylon, 6p.

Chili, 5c.

Cape, 1p.

Great Britain, 1p., 2p.

Barbadoes, oldest three.

Trinidad, “

P. S. N. Co., old values.

We notice that the papers of these are nearly all old, strong, and hand-made; not being at all thin, the chemical action between the colouring ink and gum can only affect those parts where the attraction would be greatest, *i.e.*, where the ink is most thickly laid on. In the parts where there is little or no ink, as in centre of head, white parts of letters sometimes, or on the margins, no blue is to be found; when the paper varies, as in some of our early English perf. 1p. and in some of the Barbadoes, on the thin paper copies, the action becomes complete, producing a stamp with a permanent blued paper, with the blue of equal surface on every portion of the stamp.

2. Here we class those stamps characterised by thinness of paper, (yet hard and crisp), and of one uniform pale blue all over. The stamps are seven—

Ceylon, $\frac{1}{2}$ p.

Sierra Leone, 6p.

India, 1, 4, 8 annas; 8 pies.

Malta, $\frac{1}{2}$ p.

The paper is that thin yet strong glazed paper, so familiar to us in our own higher values. The blue tone of these is not usually very intense, but is perfectly even in surface on every por-

tion of the stamp. That there is not much intensity in the blueness of these stamps we consider due to the lightness of the impressions, which are struck without any superfluous ink. The gum is a thin coating, therefore ink and gum being lightly applied, we are not likely to find specimens of the intensity so familiar to us on our early English, of which the impressions are heavily struck, and the gum laid on unsparingly. The reason that there are no portion of these stamps left white is perhaps due to the thinness of the paper; sometimes the blue is scarcely perceptible except by contrast with a pure white one. The present Sierra Leone (those now coming over), we have recently seen quite white in the paper, whilst those in use before have been of a scarcely appreciable blue tone; the very oldest Sierra Leone have been a real blue. No doubt age has much to do with the greater or less depth of colour. The Ceylon, Malta, and India 8 pies, being struck in very pale colours, (as also the recent 6p. Sierra Leone,) may account for the exceeding paleness of their blued papers.

3. The English 4p., on blue, is the only representative. The characteristic is a deeply-enamelled impression, which cracks and chips off wherever the stamp is doubled. The paper itself is not very thin, and the blue seldom shews strongly through the stamp, owing, no doubt, to the enamelled surface. The Indian bill stamp, used provisionally for the 6 annas rate of postage, presents the same characteristic of enamelled surface, the backs of some of these are deeply blued, whilst others are a pure white: perhaps age has something to do with this. Of the English 4p., we notice the following forms, shewing three different watermarks, whereas only two have been hitherto chronicled. The old well-known 4p., on blue, with the small garter watermark, bears a garter, measuring half an inch inside. Mahé, in his *Guide Manuel*, quotes this, and 4p. large garter on blue and on white. It

was in searching for this latter on blue that we found it did not exist; but what do exist on blue and on white are the following:—

- 1.—Small garter, inside measurement, half an inch, enamelled impression, deeply blued paper.
- 2.—Middle garter, inside measurement, five eighths, enamelled impression, deeply blued paper.
- 3.—Middle garter, as 2, but ordinary impression, on ordinary, and on very thin, paper, very little glazed, and just tinged with blue.
- 4.—Large garter, inside measurement, eleven sixteenths, ordinary impression, on white paper, colours varying from bright, deep rose, to pale rose, afterwards vermilion and brick-red.

It will be seen that the middle-sized garter first appears on blued paper with enamelled face, afterwards losing the enamel, it gradually loses the blue, until it becomes almost imperceptible, though none are on pure white, until we come to the large garter, which has been in use for so long.

The want of some fixed term renders it curious to notice the various definitions applied to these blued papers by M. Berger-Levrault. Under the term P.A. (blue, or blued paper), are classed: Ceylon, 6p.; Sierra Leone, 6p.; India, 1, 4, 8 annas; Barbadoes, oldest. Under the term P.V.A. (hand-made blue paper), we find Chili, 5c.; Cape, 1p.; Great Britain, 1p., 2p.; Trinidad, oldest; Old P.S.N. Company. The Ceylon $\frac{1}{2}$ p., on blue, and India 8 pies, on blue, are omitted in the catalogue. Under the term P.M.A. (machine-made blue paper), is the Indian provisional bill stamp; but the English 4p., on blue, which is similar to it, is termed P.V.A.A., or English hand-made blue paper; the same term is applied to Malta, on blue. That these terms, P.A., P.V.A., P.M.A., and P.V.A.A., are none of them strictly applicable to papers which owe their blueness seemingly to some accidental, though constant, chemical action, is

clear, if we note some other stamps which appear under the same definitions. The contrast is the best proof that these require some other term. How is a novice to understand that P.V.A. means a true blue paper in some cases, and one partially blued by gum in others?

P.A. is also applied to New Zealand oldest three, Greece 10l., 40l., several of the Sandwich Islands, &c.

P.V.A. is the term applied to Tuscany, 1849, Spain 1855 set, Cuba 1855 set, Victoria 1sh. present, Great Britain, a 1p. envelope, with threads, &c.

P.M.A. also defines some of the 1861 Moldavian, and one variety of the Prussian envelopes, head, without threads.

P.V.A.A. is also applied to some varieties of the Sydney stamps, they and the 4p. English, and $\frac{1}{2}$ p. Malta, on blue, alone monopolize this term. Who ever saw a Sydney on paper like that of our 4p., and high value English?

As a rule, M. Berger-Levrault's method of classifying the postage stamp papers is characterised by very great accuracy, but (we hope he will pardon us for saying) is wanting in clearness. Four things were attempted in his catalogue, which at the time of publication were comparatively new to English collectors, descriptions of the following, viz., the paper, watermark, method of engraving, and perforation, and as no labour seems to have been spared, it is no wonder that its publication formed an epoch in the annals of philately.

Still, to our English views, the classification of the papers is wanting in that clearness which is indispensable in a catalogue. The great thing wanted in a catalogue is accuracy combined with clearness; here we have accuracy, but a want of clearness. The consideration of the proper term to apply to these stamps with blued gum, has led us farther than we had intended, and to matters irrelevant to the subject, so we will bring this somewhat lengthy paper to a close.

MR. ANTHONY TROLLOPE has gone to the United States to arrange a new postal treaty.

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

SOUTH African strangers held the place of honour in our paper on novelties last month ; a South American heads the present article.

PARAGUAY.

The stamp here depicted is impressed in bright red, on white paper. Our contemporary, *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, pronounces it "beautiful," which epithet gives much amusement to the Belgic journalist, who pulls it



to pieces without mercy. Not content with this, he takes occasion, from various circumstances which appear to ourselves very confirmatory of his suspicions, to cast considerable doubt on its authenticity. Imprimis, he adduces the long existent war between the country and Brazil, too likely to occupy the authorities with graver matter than the emission of postage stamps. Again, whence was derived this concoction ? Scarcely from native talent, which does not seem adapted for the fine arts in any way : and if entrusted to European or North American engravers, we should assuredly have long since heard tidings of such an approaching appearance. We lately met an individual who assured us he had seen the Orange River stamps so long since as last September ! Finally, the experienced objector states that all the specimens he has seen are very slightly marked with what appears to be a fictitious annulation, not sufficient to detract from the marketable value of the stamp. With these warnings to collectors, we leave the matter for further and future confirmation.

MADEIRA.

The Potuguese current set, stamped with the word MADEIRA same way as those for the Azores, have entered appearance. We understand the latter, and most probably both series, are

merely provisional, until a regular emission takes place.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Brussels editor calls this a pretty exact copy of the Jamaica six-penny—and so it is, indeed, "with a difference." In the West Indian, the queen has little or no crown ; in the Australian, she has ; in the former, the profile lies in an octagon formed by the upper and lower bands and the sides of the stamp ; in the latter the bands make a complete lozenge frame for Her Majesty, as will be seen in the above cut. The stamp came out in December last ; it is printed dull red on white ; perforated, and watermarked with the figure 4, composed of single lines.



MEXICO.

The 2 reales, black on lilac, and the 4 r., red on yellow, are in course, and complete the current list.

TURKEY.

The publisher of the *Timbrophile* announces the preparation by a Frenchman of a complete series of new adhesives and envelopes ordered by the Turkish government. The same values will appear as heretofore, but each stamp is to have a different design.

CANADA.

It is nearly four years since we had the office of chronicling anything new from this colony.



The annexed represents a novelty both in design and value. The American Bank Note Company are the engravers. The stamp is impressed on plain white paper, perforated, and, we believe, unwatermarked. Contrary to general precedent, it will be noticed Her Majesty's head turns to the right. A further issue, partly of old, partly of new

values, appeared on the 1st of April, consisting of $\frac{1}{2}$ c. black, 1c. light vermilion, 2c. green, 3c. lake-red, 6c. brown, $12\frac{1}{2}$ c. blue. The device is nearly the same in all, the heads being identical with that depicted, which is lilac. The framework and disposition of monetary denomination vary in all. A full description, for which there is no time now, shall be given next month.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Our Bath *confrère* announces the preparation of a new set by Messrs. De La Rue, to supersede the existents.

DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

We are informed that the word BANI on the latest issue of Roumania, is the equivalent of centesimal parts of lei, the new piastres, answering to French francs.

PAPAL STATES.

The Roman authorities seem wonderfully quickened for modern innovatory improvements: first we find the adoption of a decimal currency; and now, behold the newly-issued set makes its appearance perforated!

SAXONY.

The Dresden Company are about to emit another set of locals, values and colours as below:—

$\frac{1}{2}$	groschen,	green.
$\frac{1}{3}$	“	violet.
$\frac{1}{4}$	“	orange.
1	“	red.
2	“	blue.

UNITED STATES.

The philatelic journal, reviewed in another portion of this magazine, reports the forthcoming advent of a new and complete set for the United States; particularizing three impressions, which the editor “hopes and believes will be adopted.” The 12c. is expected to be blue.

2	cents,	device	post-cart,	for city	delivery.
3	“	“	steam cars,	for inland	postage.
12	“	“	steam ship,	for ocean	postage.

NOVA SCOTIA.

New stamps are stated to be in contemplation for this colony. We hope one of the designs will be that of our Queen as a widow, which now figures on some of the revenue labels of Canada, and which are also employed with the addition of N S, in black letters, for Nova Scotia itself.

GREAT BRITAIN.

It has been discovered that the octagonal sixpenny, emitted in 1842, bears the letters V R watermarked thereon. We can trace it on our lilac specimens, not on the violet ones.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

Of the current emission is now announced a half-real, black on very thin bluish grey, and the same on lilac-blue paper, rather thicker.

THE AMERICAN DEAD-LETTER OFFICE.

OUT of 462,279,719 letters which annually pass through the United States mails, 4,306,508 are misdirected or unpaid and go to the Dead-Letter Office at Washington. Our own correspondence—by no means light, since we have had very frequently to open over a thousand letters a day—has taught us that there are a great many careless people who consign not only their effusions but their money to the mails with the most reckless negligence; what must be then the experience of the venerable clerks of the Dead-Letter Office who examine the misdirected ones of a daily correspondence of over one million letters? It is hardly credible that frequently letters reach the Department at Washington which have the name of the town as well as that of the state omitted from the direction; or that often there is no other address than that of the town and state, the name of the person being omitted as totally unimportant. And occasionally letters thus carelessly directed contain money or other valuables.

But if the misdirections of the dead-

letter offices are curious, often their contents are far more singular. A great many persons have a singular idea of the nature of mailable matter; and in the Museum of the department at Washington may be found articles of every character resurrected from the dead-letters. While we were there a worn-out gaiter boot was disembowled from a defunct package and consigned to the waste bundle. Hoop-skirts, night-gowns, embroidered slippers, as well as lace collars and such light wearing apparel, are supposed by some deluded females to be mailable matter; while oil-paintings, jewelry, and sometimes even glass ware pass by Uncle Sam's express rather than those of Adams's.

The work of opening the letters and arranging them in bundles is done by male clerks, some of whom have been for many years engaged in the department. When the letters have been opened, they are tied up in bundles and passed to female clerks, who occupy a balcony which extends around the apartment. Those letters which contain money or valuables are passed directly to the chief clerks or "heads of divisions," and by them registered and carefully noted and examined. It is the duty of the female clerks to investigate the bundles of opened letters and discover all information that may be contained which will facilitate the return of the dead-letter to the sender.

The latest statistics of the Dead Letter Office show that of the 4,306,508 letters consigned thereto during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1867, 3,619,062 were domestic, and 179,466 foreign. Nearly half a million were held for non-payment of postage. These statistics show that the number of dead-letters diminished nearly one million during the last year, and this gratifying result is attributed to the use of envelopes with a request for the return to the writers of unclaimed letters directly from the post-office addressed. It is estimated that fully fifty millions of these envelopes were used during that

year, the department supplying about one third of the number.

There is very little of this great amount of paper wasted. Such letters as can not be returned to their owners are sold by contract, and by a patented process reduced to a pulp in the presence of a post-office official; from this the ink is extracted and the pulp worked into paper.

So profitable has this proved that the other departments at Washington are saving their waste paper, and the Treasury Department has lately made a proposal to supply the Postal Department with envelopes made from defaced fractional currency. — *Harper's Weekly Journal.*

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

The American Journal of Philately.

Published monthly by the New York Philatelic Society. No. 2. April, 1868. New York: Charles Watson.

Ever ready to hail the appearance of any philatelic publication, evidencing as it does the non-decadence of the pursuit it encourages, we are happy to note the above-mentioned periodical, and cordially wish it success. In another part of this number will be found some extracts from its contents, giving a fair idea of the talent employed in its preparation.

The work consists of eight octavo pages, devoted to notices of new issues, answers to correspondents, original articles, &c., &c., and a wrapper containing four pages of advertisements, both from local and European vendors.

We could have wished the notice of the transactions of the New York Philatelic Society had comprised an epitome of the paper read by Mr. Scott upon the early issues of the Mauritius stamps. It would have been much more interesting to postage-stamp collectors in general than the fiscal matter so conspicuously set forth to view. We have all reason to believe the Society *bona fide* existent, otherwise the peculiar

name of the gentleman chosen honorary member, added to the date of appearance of the number of the journal under review, would have inclined us to imagine (the Moresnet-Moens affair of this time last year taken into consideration) that the whole affair was a gigantic joke.

There are some sensible remarks on Philately by a lady collector; we say *sensible* advisedly, because the writer states her own views on sundry matters thereto pertaining, without kicking mud over fellow collectors, as is too generally the case with many writers on this side the channel, who may not precisely approve their own peculiar views. We would suggest a little more attention in the correction of the proofs, more than one clerical error having crept in to spoil the neatness of a paragraph.

In *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* for February, 1866, was a conundrum querying why Cadmus was the first post-boy. This (taken in earnest) the editor of the American magazine seems to deny, instancing the verse in the Chronicles representing Hezekiah's sending posts through all Israel and Judah to bid the people to the Grand Passover. This took place B.C. 726. The objector seems unaware that, according to generally-received chronology, Cadmus was in existence between seven and eight hundred years before Hezekiah! He is supposed by some to have led the "mixed multitude" that accompanied Moses and the children of Israel in their exodus; by others, not to have left Egypt till the year after. Anyhow, he died ages before Hezekiah was born.

In the notices of new emissions, some anticipated United States stamps are described, which we transfer to our article on the subject. The editor has confounded the new Bolivians with the solitary individual of Bolivar, one of the united states of Colombia. We hope to be favoured with a sight of the number for May as soon as it is published.

Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine. Vol. II., No. 1. April, 1868. Philadelphia: Mason and Wells.

The International Stamp Recorder and Curiosity Magazine. No. 1. May, 1868. Dewsbury: A. Tolson and Co.

We are trebly gratified this month, having the pleasing duty of noticing two other stamp publications, in addition to the American reviewed above. The former may be briefly mentioned and disposed of; because, out of its ten pages, somewhere about that number of lines are devoted to philately; and that only in the shape of a couple of replies to queries, one of which states that "other stamp matter is crowded out." There is also half a column of price-list. *Voilà tout.* Perhaps the next number may be more interesting in our view of its purposes. We are, however, bound to add that the coin department is replete with interest and information.

The other publication, from Yorkshire, is really what it professes, and contains several articles worth reading. That on the half-penny postage for England, holding the same views we have ourselves held forth in previous numbers of this magazine, is sound in argument, and we trust may fall under the notice of the proper authorities. The Somerset House "down stairs" papers promise to prove interesting; we can testify to the correctness of the author's description, as far as contained in the present number, from personal observation. We cannot say much for the "sensation" affair; and it has not even the merit of originality. We should recommend the corrector of the proofs to pay more attention to the spelling department; and we would suggest the addition of a few French *accents* to the printer's stock of types. The French words and phrases (not particularly correct by the way), so liberally interlarded in the "collector's adventures," are totally spoiled for want thereof.

There is a good account of the Post

Office, as it was; the anecdote of the loitering express-boy is amusing. A number of advertisements fill seven additional pages, the number contained in the body of the work being eight; title, table of contents, &c., making up sixteen. Half the price of the subscriptions is returned in the presentation of an unused Baden envelope impression! There is, moreover, a prize ticket accompanying each number; which entitles the subscriber to participate in a drawing containing such a number of really good prizes as to necessitate a very, very large sale of the work, before a single penny of profit can swell the exchequer of the publishers. We fear they will find the glory of wafting their names to all parts of the compass the sole reward for their labours.

PUZZLES FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

CONUNDRUMS.

1. What stamp does a traveller make on going down a mountain?
2. What trade does one of the East India stamps remind us of?
3. What South American city transposed becomes the receptacle and means of conveyance of a countless number of postage stamps?
4. What stamps may be considered as the most accredited provisionals?

TRANSPOSITIONS.

INSCRIPTIONS ON POSTAGE STAMPS.

1. aaacccceijjnnunoprsttv.
2. aaaaccdceceegnnnopssttv.
3. aaccccdceceefhillnnnooooooprrrrssttv.
4. bccddeeeceghhiiknnnoooprrrrssttuwz.
5. aacdeeeefggghhiillnnnoooooopppsst.
6. acceeecegilnnnooppsty.
7. ceeeinnopssttt.

CHARADES.

I.

I am a word of eleven letters.

My 1, 2, 9, 10, is an emblem appearing on certain stamps;

- My 3, 1, 8, 6, is an island;
 My 6, 9, 7, 8, is a title of nobility;
 My 2, 9, 8, 4, 5, is a kind of dance;
 My 4, 3, 10, 11, 6, 7, is a most inflammable material;
 My *whole* is a well-known country, which has issued a variety of stamps.

II.

I am a word of fourteen letters.

- My 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 3, is where a train stops;
 My 13, 9, 2, 10, is a wild beast;
 My 1, 6, 12, 14, is a promontory;
 My 7, 6, 12, 13, 14, 4, is a large town of Italy;
 My *whole* is a town of Europe which has issued local stamps.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

I.

- I. A British colony.
- II. What that place is.
1. A province of South America.
2. What every one has two of.
3. A loud shriek.
4. Four-sixths of a name for certain stamps which especially abound in America.
5. What every collector tries in respect to a rare stamp.
6. An inclination of the head.

II.

- I. A stamp-producing country.
- II. The title of the same.
1. What torn and obliterated stamps are.
2. Half a French measure of length.
3. Three-fourths of a herb.
4. An element.
5. That which is requisite to make stamps look well in an album.

III.

- I. A stamp-producing country.
- II. The name of its sovereign.
1. A town in Cornwall.
2. One of the Sandwich Islands.
3. A city of Sweden.
4. A town on the Black Sea.
5. A town of Asiatic Turkey.
6. An island in the Mediterranean.
7. A country in Asia.

IV.

- I. A stamp-producing country.
- II. The denomination of its postal currency.

1. A buffoon.
2. A diphthong.
3. That which may be either an adjective or substantive.
4. A temporary habitation.
5. A part of the human frame.
6. Three-fourths of that which is bad.
7. The Latin for "there."
8. A mother.
9. A river in Spain.
10. A burden.

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

1. The invalid makes a voyage to recover his health.
2. One war keeps the army engaged.
3. The clerk sits at church in an old pew.
4. The brewer has a tub as leaky as possible.
5. The sailor was never on a horse in his life.
6. The captain cannot stay here, for duty calls him hence.
7. How healthy the sea air is in the summer.
8. We all are well convinced no harm a ghost can do,
And this Professor Pepper further still can shew.
9. The famous Joan of Arc
Marched out with sword in hand ;
And from the castle gate,
She address'd the valiant band.

PRIZES.

Twelve rare Foreign Stamps will be given to those Subscribers answering most of the above Puzzles. Replies, accompanied by the cheque given in the advertisement sheet of each number, must be addressed to "The Editor of The Philatelist, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 15th of May.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

(Pp. 58.)

CONUNDRUMS.

1. Because it is printed in black and red (read).
2. Because he often disposes of eight pies for less than a penny.
3. A provisional (provision hall) one.
4. When it is red (read).
5. When they create a bad impression.
6. Geneva.
7. Because there is a cross look about the whole of them.

8. When they are loose on (Luzon).
9. Because they had no cents (sense) about them.
10. Because they count their beads carefully.
11. Because a queen's head was not worth a penny in his reign.
12. The Red Head.
13. The Parma (Palmer) stamps.
14. One stamps the character and the other characters the stamp.
15. One is in America (a merry K) and the other is in a merry cue (Q).

TRANSPOSITIONS.

(Inscriptions on Postage Stamps.)

1. CANADA POSTAGE, ONE CENT.
2. GUATEMALA CORREOS. CINCO CENT.
3. VIRGIN ISLANDS, ONE SHILLING.
4. VANCOUVER ISLAND, FIVE CENTS.
5. NEW SOUTH WALES POSTAGE, TENPENCE.

CHARADE.

Mat-rum-us-air—Mauritius.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

1. China, Spain :—

C	hes	S
H	ar	P
I	de	A
N	a	I (l)
A	cor	N

2. Publication, Philatelist :—

P	ee	P
U	ncout	H
B	a	I
L	eve	L
I	nfant	A
C	atapnl	T
A	ppl	E
T	inse	L
I	r	I (a)
O	at	S
N	ew	T

3. India, Annas :—

I	ndi	A
N	u	N
D	u	N
I	vic	A
A	s	S

4. China, Pekin :—

C	hea	P
H	ertfordshir	E
I	n	K
N		I (ne)
A	de	N

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

1. Asia.
2. Nevis.
3. Naples.
4. Canada.
5. Eton.
6. Peru.
7. Chili.
8. Lyons.
9. Genoa.
10. Paris.
11. London.
12. India.
13. St. Helens.
14. Hayti.
15. Canada.

PRIZES.

The following is a list of prize winners, with the number of correct answers sent by each:—

I. D., Ipswich (39); Arthur Butler, Killclare; W. Homersham, jun., Kentish Town (34 each); Wm. T. Wilson, Birmingham; W. H. Robson, London (33 each); J. M. Stourton, London (32); W. A. Ridle, Gosport; Edith, Killaloe; J. A. Winnom, Great Malvern; H. Soames, London; J. P. Smith, Putney (31 each).

The above prize winners will not be allowed to compete again until July, in order to give all subscribers a fair chance of winning our prizes.

Answers have also been received from the following:—

A. Turner, F. J. Squire, W. D. Hemming, No Name (30 each), Joseph Starkey (29), H. O. Wear (28), R. H. Clarke, M. Stephenson, E. Wells (27 each), P. B. Redall, R. C. A. Boyd (26 each), A. C. Hills, A. Ellis (25 each), F. Molineaux, C. N. E. (23 each), F. G. McClintock (16).

POSTAL SCRAPS.

THERE are, in the United States Post-office department, 10,000 photographs of Union soldiers, taken from the dead letters which accumulated during the war.

It is stated to be the intention of the Government and the Post-office authorities to put an end, as much as possible, to subsidies to steam ship companies for the conveyance of mails, and to establish free trade.

WEIGHTY MATTER.—The Post Office department having now to carry official correspondence without charging the postage to the several Government offices, have given an estimate of the quantity for the year. It is calculated at 14,121,300 ounces.

NOTWITHSTANDING the immensely greater wealth and business activity of Great Britain beyond Belgium, the latter country is able to show a far greater proportion of inland telegrams to inland letters than the former, and it is the same with Switzerland.

CARELESSNESS.—In 1865, 12,000 letters were posted in Great Britain without any address, and these letters contained valuables in the form of checks, notes, and money, to the amount of £3,700. On one occasion £5000 in notes was sent, improperly addressed, open at the ends, like a book packet.

POSTAGE STAMPS.—A young lady, being desirous of covering her dressing-room with cancelled postage stamps, has been so far encouraged in her wish by private friends as to have succeeded in collecting 16,000! These, however, being insufficient, she will be greatly obliged if any good-natured person who may have these (otherwise useless) little articles at their disposal would assist her in her whimsical project. Address to E. D., Mr Butt's, glover, Leadenhall-street; or Mr Marshall's, jeweller, Hackney.—*Times*, 1841.

THE POST OFFICE AND ST. PATRICK'S DAY.—It may appear incredible, but it is, nevertheless, true and authentic, that at least 3,000 letter packages containing shamrocks, and addressed, were sent to all parts of England and Scotland for Irish relatives and friends to display as emblems of nationality and the patron saint of Ireland on St. Patrick's day.

THE ONE PENNY BLUE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—A letter, published in the *Timbre Poste* a short time since from a gentleman at the Cape, states that he had taken off a letter a one penny blue block, Cape stamp, and a fourpenny of the same sort uncut, proving that the one penny blue was an error occurring only occasionally, or perhaps only once on a sheet of fourpennies. Doubtless, the fourpenny red may be ascribed to the same occasional error, which would account for their extreme rarity. Query,—did the two stamps alluded to, represent fivepence according to their facial value, or did they represent a double fourpenny postage in accordance with their colour. Perhaps some of our subscribers at the Cape can enlighten us.

ABOLITION OF UNITED STATES POSTAL LABELS.—We see it stated that hereafter we are to have only stamped envelopes. The old-fashioned postage stamp, once considered so great a convenience, is now voted as a nuisance, says a contemporary; they are so often lost when used, and are so often forgotten by writers of letters, that the department has decided to discourage their further use. Accordingly, discontinuing their further manufacture, it has determined to issue in future only stamped envelopes. These will be issued of all sizes and rates of postage, and to encourage their general use they will be sent to any address, when three hundred are ordered, with the printed notification on the back to return to the writer if not called for in a specified time. This re-mailing, also, will be done free of postage. *Mason's Stamp-Collector's Magazine, Philadelphia, U.S.*

STATUE OF SIR ROWLAND HILL.—Mr Peter Hollins has just completed, for the sum of 950 guineas, a statue of Sir Rowland Hill. The statue has been cut out of a block (three tons weight) of Carrara marble. The figure is represented in a standing posture, the left foot being slightly advanced, and the left hand resting on a low pedestal. In the right hand Sir Rowland holds a roll of penny postage stamps, suggesting the work on which his fame chiefly rests. The figure is six feet eight inches in height. The statue is to be sent to the Royal Academy's exhibition previous to being fixed in its site at Birmingham.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE NEW GRANADA STAMPS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—My peace of mind is somewhat disturbed by reading in Mr Pemberton's remarks on forged stamps, in your February number, that the genuine 10 cent. stamp of 1863 should have a *dot* after the numeral of value, as I have one on blueish paper in my collection deficient in this particular, and never, till now, had the least doubt of its authenticity; and, what is still more remarkable, I obtained the stamp some three or four years ago direct from Mr Pemberton himself! I should, therefore, much like to learn whether other experienced collectors think the dot indispensable as a test of genuineness. I should also like to know whether the dot is any proof, for or against the 1864 series, as I have the 5 cent. *yellow*, with dot after numeral of value, and the 5 cent. *orange*, without it.

Johannisville.

Yours truly,
H. CAMOENS.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, it is proposed to set apart a portion of *The Philatelist* each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements must be accompanied by the cheque given with each number.

2. No advertisements should exceed sixty words.

3. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 15th of the month.

4. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.

5. Subscribers wishing to reply to advertisements can obtain a list of the names and addresses of the advertisers, by sending a stamped and directed envelope to the Editor of *The Philatelist*.

MELONA.—I have 600 duplicates to exchange with those who will send me sheets to look over. I will return more than an equivalent. I cannot reply to lists.

PENDRAGON would like to communicate with any person possessing rare stamps in duplicate; has the following amongst others to exchange—Chili 5c. on blue, New Zealand 2d. on blue and 6d. roulette, Newfoundland 3d. green, Parma 40c. blue obliterated, Provisional Straits 3c., 4c., 8c., 24c., and 32c., and Provisional Azores and Madeira 120 reis, Fed. Administration Swiss 5 rap. black on blue with shaded cross, present 2d. Victoria fil. 6, &c.

J. C. B.—I have to exchange Ceylon 10d. and 5d., New Zealand 3d, Antigua 6d., Barbadoes black, blue, green; Austria 1st issue arms, blue, brown, red; Prussian annexation, New Roman, New German, Hong Kong, Victoria stamps. Wanted, Brazil (head), Singapore, Bahama, St. Helena, Bermuda, Cuba, Newfoundland (except 12 cents.) Not less than three exchanged.

ALFPH.—I have a large number of very good duplicates for exchange, and want in return good stamps only, as I have a large collection. I will gladly send some of my duplicates on inspection to any collector who will send some of his best to me.

M. T.—I have many of these stamps I wish to exchange: Prussian, Bavarian, Baden, old Sweden, Norway, West and South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria 1st and 2nd issues, Nova Scotia, British Guiana, Cape, Grenada, St. Vincent, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and many others. Should be glad to communicate with other collectors.

E. R. KENYON.—I wish to exchange the following stamps: Malta ½d., Van Diemen's Land (queen's head) 4d., New Brunswick (engine) 1 cent., Natal 3d. blue, 6d. mauve, Cape of Good Hope (rect.) 1s., Nova Scotia 5c. blue, Naples 2gr. blue, Greece 20 and 80 lepta, Luxemburg new series 1 cent., France repub. 40c., colonies 1c. England, W. H. Smith and Son, 1d. private.

IVANHOE.—I have for exchange: Block Mauritius 2d., greek border; Shanghai 6 cand. large series, vermilion; Singapore 2, 3, and 4 cents., unused; Cashmere round black; Spanish 1854, 1 real, 2 reales, 1855, 2 cuartos, 1856, 2 cuartos, 1857, 12 cuartos; also, some good varieties of watermarks, perforations, &c.

CAMBRONE.—I have about 400 varieties of duplicates for exchange, including Nova Scotia 6d., Newfoundland 1d., 2d., 2c., 5c., Guatemala, Sandwich Islands, old Spain, Confederate States, &c. I want Mulready envelopes, Buenos Ayres, Mauritius, Ceylon, and many common stamps. My collection numbers over 1100.

MARGUERITE.—I have the following stamps which I wish to exchange for equally good ones, new to me: Brazil large 60, italics 60, small 600, 60, 10, 20; New South Wales, view of Sydney, green; Russian envelopes, black; Republica Argentina head, 5c.; Victoria, queen on throne, 2d.; Nicaraguan, Egyptian, old Turkish, St. Lucia, and many others.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

C. H. S., Gosport.—Thanks for your communication. This correspondent writes stating that he called last month at the address, 105, Exmouth St., Stepney, given by some advertisers in this magazine, Messrs. Nicholls, Griffiths, and Co., but was informed that no such people were known there! We hope the firm in question will give some satisfactory explanation of this circumstance. We have had frequent occasion to caution purchasers against parties giving false addresses. We see that a continental advertiser in European magazines last year, but from whom no reply could be got to repeated applications for stamps ordered and paid for, has transferred his favours to the New York magazine noticed elsewhere. We hope our transatlantic cousins will not be taken in.

"MANNERS MAKETH MAN."—You will find the cheques for the Stamp Exchange and Puzzles on the sixth page of advertisements.

CORPUS.—The publishers' charge for advertisements is 6d. per line of ten words. We consider you ask a moderate price for your collection.

W. H. R.—The most natural way to account for the unchanged (colour excepted) type of the 6 pfennige Prussian during the first three issues, would be the supposition that, perhaps from infrequency of use, its die had not been worn out like those of the other four values, and that a new one was consequently unneeded. That, however, cannot be the case, because those four values, as well as the 6pf. itself, have been reprinted on unwatermarked paper. We cannot, therefore, render a satisfactory reason for the anomaly, and hope some correspondent may be able and inclined to set the question at rest.—The 1-10 thaler of Hanover was probably issued contemporaneously both on large and small diaper. The 3 pfennige, 1 gutergroschen, 1-15, and 1-30 thaler, on small diaper, are pronounced by Levraut to be either reprints or essays.—Your penny English, brown-red on white, large crown watermark, perforated 14, is most likely a discoloured specimen.—Mr Pemberton is decidedly mistaken in saying that "in all genuine Lubeck stamps there is a dot after POSTMARKE, but none after SCHILLING." You say you have the 1, 2, and 4 sch. undoubtedly genuine, with a dot. We have them also, purchased by ourselves direct from the Lubeck post-office.

F. H., Brighton.—This correspondent also remarks Mr Pemberton's error respecting the Lubecks, having received the 1, 2, and 4 sch. like W. H. R.'s and our own, direct from Lubeck.

THE SHANGHAI STAMPS.

BY THE EDITOR.

WE are not aware of any article having ever appeared in either of the philatelic magazines of this country, touching upon the singularly designed locals, which we propose grouping before our readers to the best of our ability.

The first meagre notice respecting them we find in the July number of the third volume of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*. A short paper on the Asiatic stamps by Overy Taylor gives occasion for a cursory remark that some queer looking labels produced by a local steam-ship company plying between Hong Kong and some Chinese port now share the honour with those of the former place in bearing a Chinese inscription. No doubt the Shanghai impressions are referred to.

In the number for the January succeeding, it is remarked that a Chinese local is said to have been sometime in use, which is described without its genuineness being vouched for. The testimony of two continental magazines, of which one could not have copied the other, both appearing simultaneously, is considered to be in favour of the outlanders; while the jumble of English and Chinese, and the dictum of a gentleman resident of Shanghai who denied the existence of the value designated thereon, is adduced as contra-evidence.

In the very next number the whole set (one of which heads our paper) is summarily dismissed without any description of number, colour, or value; and a newly issued superseded set, the one here depicted being a representative, elaborately described: the points of simi-

larity and difference being fully pointed out. Two months afterwards it is noted that the originals could not have been wholly suppressed, the last mail from Shanghai bringing over one of the early impressions.

Further, and in many respects exhaustive information is embodied in the June number in a letter from a gentleman formerly well-known on "Change." The whole is much too lengthy for re-insertion here; but we give the more interesting, informatory, and salient points thereof.

The mixture of Chinese and English is accounted for on the supposition that Shanghai really belonging to China, the conventional dragon was chosen as an apt emblem; and the objection to the term candareen is met by the information that it is a weight not a coin; business being transacted in the Celestial manner by *weight* of metal. The sole *coin* used is the "cash." How many British accountants talk Chinese every day, as Moliere's *bourgeois* talked prose—without knowing it!

13 cash=1 candareen= $\frac{1}{10}$ d.

10 candareens=1 mace.

10 mace=1 tael=1 oz. and a fraction.

With regard to the interpretation of the Chinese characters in the inscription; the right-hand top corner bears CHANG OR SHANG, the left hand HAI OR HAE; the Chinese reading either perpendicularly or from right to left like other Eastern nations. The lower angles contain KUNG POO, according to the correspondent, KOUNG POU, as spelt by a French translator; the variation making no difference in the pronunciation: the words imply the name given to the English municipal council. The right side of the stamp has SHU SHIN KWAN, or (Frenchified) CHOU SIN KOUAN,—Book Letter Company, *fide* the English, Post Office, *fide* the French translator. All these characters are found invariable in every individual of all the emissions: those in the left hand column, signifying the monetary value, vary, of course, in each



several instance. We transcribe as follows—

YIH FUN YIN, <i>i.e.</i> ,	One candareen silver
LIANG " "	Two " "
SAN " "	Three " "
SI " "	Four " "
LEH " "	Six " "
PAH " "	Eight " "
YIH T'SIEN UHR " " ...	{ One mace, two candareens silver—12 candareens.
YIH T'SIEN LUH " " "	{ One mace, six candareens silver—16 candareens.

The writer alluded to tells us that these stamps are struck off by hand from wooden or ivory dies, doubtless of native make ;* adding that a party applying at the Post Office for some which happened to be exhausted, they were manufactured while he waited.

The *North China Daily News* contains a notice from the Council, dated 4th December, 1865, to the effect that a branch office had been opened at Ningpo, to ensure security in the delivery of letters ; and that the rates are,

Letters, circulars, newspapers for town delivery	1 candareen.
Newspapers and printed circulars to or from the River, Coast, or Japan ports	2 "
Native or foreign letters or packages, .....1 oz. and under	3 "
Ditto ... ..2 oz. and under	6 "
Ditto .....4 oz. and under	12 "
Every additional oz., or fractional part.....	3 "

"Stampede" (the writer in question) remarks that no mention is here made of the 8c., 12c., or 16c. values, perhaps because the rate had been lowered by this notice. A glance at his own table will show that the 12c. is mentioned. We should scarcely imagine the 8c. and 16c. denominations had been then abolished, because those very values with two lower ones were afterwards in use : for, on the 5th of the following March, is another official notification that what is now known as the second issue of Shanghai had just arrived from England, and that the superseded emission might be exchanged for them on

application to the manager of the local post office. The translation of the lower angle characters as OFFICE OF WORKS, and those in the right column as POST OFFICE, is confirmed by M. de Rosny, professor of the Oriental language in the Imperial School at Paris. We learn from another source that a French postal bureau has been established at Shanghai since 1863, and that the 80 centimes prepays a single rate for letters to the mother country.

The earliest emission was printed on slips of thin wove or thicker laid paper, containing six impressions about half an inch apart. It was stated that the 1c. blue was the sole label gummed, but others in our own collection are so prepared, as will be noticed hereafter.

A great peculiarity in this issue is that the monetary denomination is at times found in the singular for values above the unit. This is the case with all except the 6c. and 12c., which are invariably plural. Our Belgian contemporary jocosely remarks that their printer, doubting the propriety of adding an *s* for the plural, manufactured half in one way, half in another ; thus assuring himself of having a moiety correct. There are two other errors noticeable in two individuals of the Shanghai labels. One, which is rather a discrepancy than an error, is that two horizontal lines are substituted for the character denoting the word LIANG on the 2 candareens stamp. It will be noticed that one horizontal line is seen on the 1c., and three on the 3c., which would lead one to wonder why the two lines were not originally on the 2c. There are, perhaps, distinct names as well as characters, for the figure and for the word ; inasmuch as we find LIANG given for the interpretation of the complicated, and UHR for that of the simple double-line character.

A more decided error is the substitution of the character for T'SIEN (mace), in lieu of FUN (candareen), in the earliest specimens of the 4c. stamps. A further variety is noteworthy in some of the 3 candareens, the Arab figure

* The dies, which were wooden, not ivory, that material being inapplicable for the purpose, were supplied, as well as the paper, &c., by Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co., of Cornhill.

being diversely formed. This discrepancy has not been observed, as far as we are aware, in those of the same value where the singular is employed.

The second emission had no longer a reign than their predecessors; having been speedily supplanted in their turn by the current set, four also in number, and like the defunct ones, from the atelier of Messrs Nissen and Parker, the makers (we believe) of the elegant Nevis and the new Orange River stamps.

Cents were substituted for candareens in the second; but the original denomination was restored in the third emission. A correspondent in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, writes that two kinds of cents are current at Shanghai: the tael cent or candareen, of which 100=1 tael or 6s 3d; and the dollar cent, equivalent to that of Hong Kong, or the hundredth part of 4s. 6d.

Much more information could be gleaned on these stamps, but we fear to weary our readers with dry details, and proceed to give a tabular view of the stamps and their varieties, as far as we have fallen in with them ocularly or aurally. There are probably others equally noteworthy; but we think there are enough here to rile the Pendoronites to their antagonists' hearts' content. It may be well to add that previously to the appearance of the 1st emission, a set of forgeries, 3c. blue, 5c. red, 10c. yellow, had been fabricated. The concoctor must have had an inkling of the proposed emission, and concluded that it would be mistaken for the realities, and consequently sold to advantage, at the first certain news of an official issue. To return from this digression, and proceed to our table.

FIRST ISSUE, 1865.

- 1 candareen... blue; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- “ ... deep blue; Mahé, own coll.
- “ ... azure; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- “ ... pale blue; Mahé.
- “ ... gummed; Stampede.
- 2 candareen... black; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- 3 candareen... deep brown; Mahé, Moens.
- “ ... on toned paper; own coll.
- 4 candareen... yellow; Mahé, Moens.
- “ ... error noted above; Stampede.

- “ ... gummed; own coll.
- 8 candareen... dark green; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- “ ... gummed; own coll.
- 16 candareen... vermilion-red; Mahé, Moens, own coll.

All these are impressed on very thin, plain paper; the following are on laid paper:—

- 1 candareen blue
- 2 “ black.
- 4 “ yellow.

The following are also on plain, thin paper, but have the word of value in the plural:—

- 2 candareens... black; Mahé, Moens, own coll. (value in word.)
- 2 candareens... greenish black; Mahé, Moens, (value in figures.) own coll.
- 3 candareens... dark brown, Arabic figure well-formed; Mahé.
- “ ... brown; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- “ ... dark and light brown, Arabic figure loosely formed; Mahé.
- “ ... brown; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- “ ... gummed; own coll.
- 4 “ ... yellow; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- “ ... one of the characters repeated by error; Moens.
- 6 “ ... brown; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- “ ... orange-red; Publisher of the *Stamp-Collector's Magazine*.
- 8 “ ... green; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- 12 “ ... brown; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- “ ... pale brown; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- “ ... deep brown; Mahé.
- 16 “ ... pale vermilion-red; Mahé, Moens, own coll.
- “ ... dull vermilion-red; Mahé, own coll.

Of these marked variations in paper, colour, &c., we would ask the Pendoron school which it would eliminate. Would it reject the gummed specimens? Those on laid paper? One of the distinct shades of hue among the brown, blue, or red stamps? The well-formed or the loose Arabic 3? The 2c. with double bar, or that with the character? Or, finally, the singulars or the plurals? We pause for a reply.

SECOND ISSUE, 1866.

- 2 cents..... pink Moens, own coll.
- “ pale pink Moens, own coll.
- 4 “ lilac Moens, own coll.
- “ pale lilac Moens, own coll.
- “ lilac-grey Moens, own coll.
- 8 “ blue Moens.
- “ light blue Moens, own coll.
- 16 “ green..... Moens, own coll.
- “ yellow-green, Moens, own coll.

These, as well as the succeeding, are

printed in colour, on plain, thick, white, unwatermarked paper, and perforated; the 3rd issue rather more closely so than the 2nd.



THIRD ISSUE, 1866.

1	candreen.....	brown.
3	"	yellow.
6	"	sea-green.
12	"	olive.



We may appropriately conclude with a little geographical matter for the benefit of our junior readers. Shanghai, the capital of a district, was founded so long ago as the 8th century; fortified in 1552; and received its present name about 1074. It is a walled town rather more than three miles in circumference, in the district of Sung Kiang Foo, in the province Kiang Soo. The port is the seat of enormous traffic, employing 600 vessels, and turning over about 32 millions sterling per annum. It was opened to the English on the 29th August, 1842; the advantage extended to the French, September 10th of the following year; and to all other foreign powers on the 8th of October ensuing. Since the admission of foreigners, the town has become the residence of a superintendent called Tao Tai, who manages the province of Soong Kiang Foo, and the two neighbouring ones. A large number of European and American commercial houses is established at Shanghai; there are, also, European and Chinese banks;

and many agencies of fire and marine insurance companies.

THE GROWTH OF PHILATELY IN AMERICA.

IT is now eight years since obliterated postage stamps first became an article of merchandise in the United States, and from the first introduction of this fascinating science to the present day, we have noticed a continued increase in the number and ability of its followers.

We recollect seeing for the first time, in the fall of 1860, a poor man standing at the end of the City Hall park with a hundred or so foreign postage stamps nailed (!) to a board for sale; (how any philatelist would be horrified at such a sight now.) These were all sold at the uniform rate of five cents each, the proprietor not having the slightest idea of the comparative scarcity of the different varieties. The rapid sale of the specimens exposed to view soon induced other parties to engage in the same money-making business, till a reaction was thus brought about; this, however, was caused equally by the excitement attending the breaking out of the rebellion. This slight cessation of the demand for our little *proteges* was of but short duration, and those amongst the speculators who had not sold out their stock soon received the reward of their faith in the power of those "dirty little bits of paper" (as they have been spitefully called by some who have not the ability to understand them) by large sales at any prices they chose to ask.

The next era in stamp collecting was the arrival in this country of a gentleman thoroughly conversant with the business he professed, and, by buying all the scarce stamps that any dealer had, and selling the common varieties at a low price, he at once placed himself at the head of the list of American dealers.

During the time of which we write, there appeared on the stage many papers, professedly, to give information

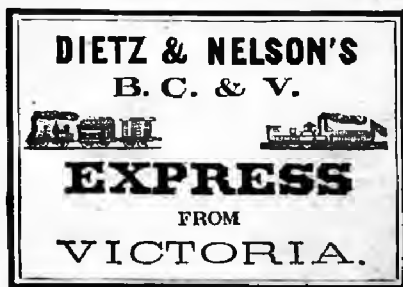
concerning the new science, but really to advertise some dealer's business ; they, however, all proved short lived affairs ; there were also several albums got up with more or less ability, of which Appleton's was the best, but it is now far behind the times. Notwithstanding the large number of publications purporting to enlighten the community, there remained a great lack of information in regard to many points highly interesting to philatelists, which the formation of the New York Philatelic Society did much to obviate, but still, by the seclusion of its members, and their having but few facilities for conveying the information acquired to their brother collectors, its sphere of usefulness was very limited. Now, however, that the Society has merged from its slumber, and, by the publication of this journal, convey to all the results of their labours, we predict a glorious future for our beloved science in America, more especially as we notice the increasing interest taken in the progress of our work ; even the various periodicals are beginning to enquire into the new science, and one of the ablest of them, *The Industrial American*, has presented its readers with a long article on philately. A new feature also appears for the first time in an American directory, we refer to the placing Dealers in Foreign Postage Stamps amongst the list of trades, as will be seen by turning to page 226 of *Wilson's Business Directory* for this year.—*The American Journal of Philately*.

A FARTHING POSTAGE.—At the twentieth annual conference of Trade Protection Societies of the United Kingdom, held at Westminster lately, it was decided to memorialise in favour of a farthing rate of postage for letters posted and delivered in large towns.

THE NEW YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY—We extract the following from the July number of *The American Journal of Philately*:—"Our Bath friends, like *The Philatelist* the previous month, review at length the April number of our journal. All seem deeply interested in the welfare of our Society, but look upon it with an air of distrust, we think uncalled for. However, *Baron Munchausen* and *Prof. Bunge* are just as venerable subjects of humanity as their *Drs. Viner, Boley, Magnus* and other celebrities."

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.



THE series of four labels, of which our illustration represents the largest and handsomest, was described last month. We may add that Dietz and Nelson are the successors of Barnard, of "Cariboo Express" notoriety ; that the printer's error we remarked, viz., **FOHAWARDED** for **FORWARDED**, exists in the largest but one type ; and that all four are impressed in black on highly glazed vermilion paper, like so many of the tribe of American locals. *Le Timbrophile* seems to entertain doubts of their authenticity ; hinting they might possibly be due to the speculations of a correspondent of the company on this side of the channel.

CASHMERE.

An additional individual must be classed with the set, described in our last number, for this country. It is of a rich blue colour, in hue precisely like the 6 pies stamp, but the type, and consequently the value, represents the 1 anna. It is local for Cashmere only. This latter is on laid, the others on plain paper. A foreign contemporary speaks of having received a complete set on laid paper. He remarks also that the colours of that set were less vivid than those printed on plain paper ; and that the 8 annas of the latter is much larger, its exterior oval broader, and the whole stamp squarer than any of its congeners. This discrepancy certainly exists, and appreciably so with regard to all the others, excepting only the 1 anna, whose approximation in hue would seem to necessitate extra

distinction, whereas it seems to be always broader also than the black, blue, yellow, or green impressions.

DRESDEN.

The Express Company has issued its promised new set: the type remains as in the former emission,—arms in oval. The values correspond precisely with those of the North Postal Confederation; but, most probably by an error in their preparation, the colours of the two lower ones are transposed, the $\frac{1}{4}$ groschen being green instead of violet; the $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. *vice versa*. The four higher values are $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. vermilion, 1 gr. pink, 2 gr. blue, and 5 gr. pale brown, as in the government emission. There is a set of envelopes to match in every respect but in design, which is represented above.



HOLLAND.

The current series is completed for the present by the 15 cents stamp, which is of a much browner yellow than its predecessor. The lower values, armorial device, still exist, but in expectancy.

SERVIA.

The 1 para green and 2 para brown of this principality are now much deeper in hue than previously, and are imperforate. Collectors may anticipate additions to their Servian page bearing the effigy of the young Prince Milan.

BOLIVIA.

In addition to the two values chronicled in June and July, the 5 centavos, and the 10 centavos, the latter being here depicted, we have to announce, on authority, the existence of a 50 centavos or $\frac{1}{2}$ dollar, blue, of the same beautifully designed and engraved type. Our Bath contemporary reports a



1 peso or 100 centavos, blue also, giving

the *Timbre Poste* as his authority. The number of that magazine for July mentions that value as being yellow. There exist, perhaps, the intermediate 15c. and 20c.

ECUADOR.

The Belgian magazine for this month quotes the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* as chronicling a 10 reales of this republic. On turning to its pages we find a 12 reales, dull red, noted as having been received on the fragment of an envelope dated "New York, April 15."

JAMAICA.

The shilling brown and the four-penny scarlet of this island are of a deeper tint than heretofore.

LEVANT.

This represents one of the set of four, described in our last month's magazine. These stamps have been much vilified, but we think without reason. They are neatly designed, distinctive, and of well contrasted colours.



GREAT BRITAIN.

The colour of our own sixpenny label is about to be changed from lilac to deep purple.

ST. LUCIA.

The sixpenny is now of a much richer violet hue than formerly. Two varieties of the shilling may be quoted: one is of the same type as the earlier emissions, being of a more cloudy appearance, with the background less distinctly patterned; the second, which we have lately received, has the figures, &c., more finely developed, and is of a brighter orange.

PARAGUAY.

The stamp figured in our number for May is authoritatively pronounced to be genuine.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Varieties of the stamps of this colony may be multiplied to an extent alarming in a frightful degree to the extra-purists. Individuals of every

value are found each marked with the initials of some public office, amounting to about forty in number, for official use exclusively !

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The latest arrivals of shilling, six-penny, eightpenny, and threepenny stamps of this district vary in tint from the earlier issues. The pink is brighter; the violet more vivid; the orange more buff; and the green more emerald.

VICTORIA.

We have just received a new and greatly improved edition of the five shilling stamp of this colony. The type is precisely that of the former issue, blue on pale yellow paper; but a variation of colouring has materially tended to ameliorate its appearance. It is perforated and watermarked with the V and crown as before; and the paper is of the same texture, but *white*. The major portion of the impression remains *blue*; while the crown, and inscription VICTORIA, FIVE SHILLINGS, are *vermilion*. We presume so marked a variety will be recognised even by the purest of Pendragonites.

QUEENSLAND.

The sheet of twopenny stamps of this colony has now the word QUEENSLAND watermarked in large single lined capitals extending over nine stamps out of the twelve which lie in a horizontal line, in addition to the stars on each individual. This occurs, however, *four* times only in one sheet, the remaining stamps merely showing the star.

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

Catalogue Prix-Courant de Timbres-Poste, essais divers, timbres-télégraphes, timbres-fiscaux, timbres de chemins de fer, &c.

Timbres d'Offices Américains, avec leurs prix de vente, précédé d'une Introduction sur leur origine, par feu M. James Lesley, Vice-Consul des Etats-Unis, il-

lustré de 135 types de timbres. Brussels : J. B. Moens.

These useful publications, the former of which comprises the first and second, and the latter the third portion of a complete postal and other stamp catalogue, require something more than a passing notice.

They are portable duodecimos, containing respectively ninety-seven and thirty-one pages, besides eight more with representations of American locals, &c., illustrative of the latter work, and the elaborate introduction by Mr Leslie, reprinted from the *Timbre-Poste* of November, 1863. Both volumes are neatly and very closely printed in small but perfectly distinct type, interspersed with several cuts of stamps.

The pair may be conveniently bound in one volume. At present, they are covered with wrappers, that of the latter work bearing legitimate illustrations of its contents; but the specimens depicted on the former will, doubtless, give fits of the bile to the Pendragonites. In evidence of this, we have but to say that out of the ten impressions represented, there are but five postage stamps proper; the rest comprise a Sicilian essay, a fancifully-designed one for Moldavia, the hexagonal Belgian telegraph stamp, one of the Bremen commercial labels, and, to crown all, the Moresnet April Fish affair !

One might be inclined to treat the diatribes of the self-styled legitimate school of philately alluded to in a jocose way; yet really it is no joking matter that a harmless, interesting, nay, instructive pursuit like that of stamp-collecting should be damped with vinegar and all sorts of acids by parties who rage simply because their narrow views of the subject are not adopted by all its votaries.

For our own part, we draw the line of demarcation at every description of label or envelope appertaining to postal transit; and include locals, essays, reprints, varieties of paper, watermark, and perforation; and even, (for the

purpose of comparison,) the bettermost imitations. We, moreover, collect railway stamps, as far as used for newspaper carriage; and should telegraphic messages be eventually entrusted to the postal officials of government, the labels employed must claim admission into our album.

At the same time, we certainly should never think, on the one hand, of penning pages of impolite abuse against those who reject other than strictly recognizable government issues, excluding minor variations in colour, mode of perforation, &c.; nor, on the other, inveigh against the folly of the collectors of receipt, bill, and other commercial labels and stamps; those formerly employed in our customs, which were, perhaps, the handsomest of British specimens; the endless tribe of chancery, common law, admiralty, probate court, inland revenue, bankruptcy, patent, companies' registration, and others, *ad infinitum*; or even such speculations as the beautifully got-up Shakespeare memorial stamp.

After this apparent but by no means real digression from the objects of our review, we may proceed to say that the requirements of the unfastidious as well as those of the extra rigid school of philately are met in the pair of productions before us. They contain a list of four hundred and ninety one American locals; one thousand one hundred and eighty eight essays, imitations, telegraphic, fiscal, and railroad emissions; and no fewer than four thousand three hundred and forty four government issues, inclusive of every well-marked variety in paper, colour, perforation, and watermark.

To give an example at random of the utility of such a catalogue as the one before us, we will take Ceylon. We will suppose an antipendragonite wishes to complete his collection of the multifarious emissions of this most capricious of islands. Wishing to procure all varieties of hue, &c., the generality of catalogues will be of no assistance. That of our own publisher, for

instance, contains 24 individuals; the much more elaborate one of M. Berger Levrault numbers fifty six distinct varieties; while that of M. Moen's comprises the marvellous amount of six dozen!

Again, M. Levrault catalogues eighteen Shanghai stamps only; while the Belgian writer gives thirty! We possess, ourselves, nearly all these varieties, and can consequently vouch for the correctness of the numeration; and can confidently pronounce that not *one* of them ought to be rejected by any philatelist who lays claim to the possession of a tolerably perfect collection.

In another part of this number we present our readers with as complete a description as we can manage, of the various varieties of these strange-looking but interesting impressions. Some of them are much scarcer than others; especially the earlier emissions, with the word *CANDAREEN* instead of *CANDAREENS*, and also the gummed impressions. Wishing to get a collection of them lately, as by some strange chance we did not possess a solitary individual, we procured some from five different quarters, and were fortunate enough to meet with almost every variety. We mention this to exhibit the utility of cataloguing every acknowledged discrepancy; leaving collectors the option of admission or rejection.

PUZZLES FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

CONUNDRUMS.

1. What letters gave rise to the penny postage?
2. What stamps remind us of matrimony? and what others of a renewal of friendship?
3. What difference is there between a stamped envelope, and an engraver of the arms of Madrid?
4. When may the postage of a letter be said to resemble the Cape of Good Hope?

TRANSPOSITIONS.

INSCRIPTIONS ON POSTAGE STAMPS.

1. Rope, fen, vice, sun.

2. Hag, can, face, and, pelt, a, sot.
3. aaccddeeggghhhiiiiillllllnnnooss
4. aaceeeeeeggillmnnoprsssssttttttww
5. aaaaacccddeeeefgiilnnnnnoooooooprss
6. aaaabimnnooprst.
7. aaaacddeeeegnnnoopstt.
8. aaabccddddddeeeehiillnnnoooooorrrrr
sssstuuy
9. aabbbccdddeeeefghhiikmuoooprrrrrr
sstttttuuz.
10. aaceeeeeegilmnnorrssssstttttt.

CHARADES.

I.

- I am a word of nine letters.
 My 3, 2, 7, 9 is a musical instrument.
 My 6, 2, 1, 4, is an edifice.
 My 5, 8, 6, 4 is part of the tackling of
 a ship.
 My 7, 9, 2, 8 is a medley.
 My 3, 2, 6, 4, 5 is a venomous reptile.
 My *whole* is a town connected with the
 departure of the American mails.

II.

- I am a word of ten letters.
 My 1, 10, 8, 5 is fashion.
 My 1, 7, 3, 9 is a cavern.
 My 8, 7, 5, 4 is food.
 My 8, 2, 6, 9 is a bird.
 My 9, 6, 5, 3, 4 is an occurrence.
 My *whole* is a stamp-issuing town of
 South America.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

I.

- I. A stamp proposed for adoption.
- II. A stamp printed for approval.
1. Two-fifths of a town in England.
2. A statesman.
3. A kind of grain.
4. A term in music.
5. A possessive pronoun.

II.

- I. A plan.
- II. That which is a characteristic of many postage stamps.
1. Half an island in the Mediterranean.
2. One of the Sandwich Islands.
3. A town in Belgium.
4. Eight-ninths of one of the Canary Isles.
5. Half a city of Europe.
6. Half a country of Asia.
7. A stamp-producing country of South America.

8. A celebrated mountain between the Black and Caspian Seas.
9. Half a river of Africa.
10. An island in the Archipelago.
11. A town in England.

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

1. No well-disposed person likes wicked men.
2. A dark night on the ocean is often perilous.
3. A lecturer should speak loud enough to be heard by the whole audience.
4. The prince's retinue was very showy; he excited the admiration of the whole assemblage.
5. The keeper of the menagerie exhibited a wild beast and called it a lynx.
6. When a boy is stubborn or wayward, and guilty of mischievous acts, we deny him all indulgences.
7. In the year 753 B.C. Rome reared her imperious head.
8. The flowers and fruit in Covent-garden Market are the choicest I've seen.
9. The bears in a den at Berne are very entertaining to visitors.
10. Find out if this is the right path ere fording the river.

PRIZES.

Twelve rare Foreign Stamps will be given to those Subscribers answering most of the above Puzzles. Replies, accompanied by the cheque given in the advertisement sheet of each number, must be addressed to "The Editor of The Philatelist, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 15th of August.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

(Pp. 100.)

CONUNDRUMS.

1. Because it is deep red (read).
2. Because it is always in print.
3. 1. Ceylon (sail on). 2. Rouen (row on).

TRANSPOSITIONS.

(Inscriptions on Postage Stamps.)

1. INDIA, FOUR ANNAS.
2. ST. LUCIA, POSTAGE.
3. BRAZIL, VINTE REIS.
4. CORREOS BOLIVIA CONTRATON CENTAVOS.
5. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, POSTAGE FOURPENCE.
6. WURTEMBERG EIN KREUZER.
7. ST. VINCENT, ONE PENNY.
8. CANADA PACKET POSTAGE SIXPENCE STERLING.

CHARADES.

1. Core, cure, rice, crier—Courier.
2. Mail, seal, mile, Mars—Marseilles.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

1. Holland, William :—

H	ornelo	W
O	stun	I
L	anre	L
L	ione	L
A	lkal	I
N	aph	A
D	rea	M

2. Collector, Duplicate :—

C	ancelle	D
O		U (de)
L	ea	P
L	oya	L
E	r	I (e)
C	ogna	C
T	arantul	A
O	utcas	T
R	evenu	E

3. Ceylon, Island :—

C	hil	I
E	ye	S
Y	el	L
L	oc	A (le)
O	btai	N
N	o	D

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Assam. | 4. Swindon. |
| 2. Ambleside, | 5. Bengal. |
| 3. Kew. | |

PRIZES.

The following is a list of prize winners, with the number of correct answers sent by each :—

W. A. Riall, Alderney ; L. E. Evelyn, London ; W. A. Soames, jun., Brighton ; G. K. Woodgate, Tonbridge ; S. Shephard, Tulse Hill ; Edward Jones, Falmouth ; F. C. Preston, Leeds ; H. Soames, R.A., Alderney ; D. Murray, Calne (21 each.)

The above prize winners will not be allowed to compete again until October, in order to give all subscribers a fair chance of winning our prizes.

Answers have also been received from the following :—

E. Le Neve Foster, — Royse, X. Y. Z. R. F. A. Ellis, A. Butler, M. J. Bentham, W. W., H. H. Trevor, A. W. Brodie, R. C. Carrington (20 each), A. Turner, J. Winnom, J. B. Bright, C. N. E., J. P. Smith, M. Stephenson, S. Mitchell, O. A. Bowman (19 each) ; L. A. West, W. Robinson, — Bower, Edward T. Beaumont, Hon. Lady Nugent, P. E. Reeve, George Barthes, M. Tayler (18 each) ; E. Wells, P. J. Anderson, A. J. Ashton, — Murphy (17 each) ; M. Millar, E. L. Leeke, S. Adkins, (16 each) ; H. E. W. Cooper, A. Wise, E. Boulton (15 each) ; no name (12),

A NOVEL LETTER-BOX.—M. Replovsky, deacon of the Russian church at Stutgard, has presented to the Post-office authorities of St. Petersburg a letter-box, organised in such a way that the person who deposits a letter in it receives immediately a ticket showing the year, month, and day of the act.—*The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*,

CORRESPONDENCE.

A CHEAP STAMP EXCHANGE.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—A few days ago, I being in the City, followed the instructions given by you a few months ago (quoted from *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*), respecting a Stamp Exchange, which is held daily (Sundays excepted), between the hours of 1 and 3 p.m. It is, as the letter states, a cheap place for buying, and I think it is a capital opportunity for such of your subscribers as live in or near London; for while there I bought the 1d., 2d., and 3d. Sydney at the rate of 8d. apiece, the second issue of Mexico (head), red on yellow, at 1d., the St. Lucia orange (1s.), for ½d, the set of Papal States (used) for 1d., and many others equally cheap.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

London. A. J. YOUNGHUSBAND.

WHAT SHALL WE COLLECT? THE NEW CALEDONIAN STAMP AND OTHER MATTERS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—Under the first heading, Mr R. F. Wilme (in *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*) writes in a moderate spirit and well chosen language upon the extended manner of collecting practised by those who are usually termed the French school. Though condemning their principles, Mr Wilme is not blind to the value of their labours, for he speaks of them as "still doing so great and increasing a work." With this gentleman we can argue, but with those dogmatic collectors of the so styled English school, who never attempt to disprove the truth of our principles, but unceasingly refer to the number of years they have collected, and to the fact that they have never yet noticed such things as the watermarks or perforations of stamps, with those collectors no arguments are of use, because they continue to contradict what we say, but never prove that they are right in doing so. After a time this becomes monotonous, and so too does their other means of offence, the selection of some word used by an opponent, to which, "by the bye" (having for the first time in their lives, of course, come in contact with the word), they would be glad to possess the meaning. All this is very absurd, but to show that it is true, I ask your readers to refer to the letters in *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* of either Mr J. M. Stourton or T. H. Bullock, between whom there is a strong family resemblance. Another gentleman, Mr W. D. Hemming (bailing from the same part of Kent as Mr Bullock) writes in *The Philatelist*; like the other two he has been "going it" to a great extent, and it is evident to the meanest capacity that they want pulling up, and, as a means to that desirable end, I would observe that it is most unfortunate they should select Pendragon for their leader, and that they should talk of enlisting under his banner, because that sensible man is now an ardent collector of the French school, and there is no getting over this fact. They swear by Pendragon, quite unconscious that he has changed his views, and if any of our readers will refer to the April *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, they will find that I said that, as he found we should not turn to his way of thinking, he would most probably turn to ours,

and so he has; "the torrent of sarcasm," in bearing which Mr Bullock is good enough to join him, has not been without effect.

Those who desire to be placed in full possession of the views of the French school, with sensible reasons for all their leading principles (the common sense of which has been proved by their never having been refuted), should read and reread a most excellent article in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* for October last, an article written in the most temperate manner, and the whole tone of which I cannot too highly commend. Philatelists who take an interest in the opposite tenets of the two schools, should peruse that article again; there is nothing dogmatic about it, and page 151 contains the whole gist of the present discussion. In the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* for Dec., 1866, is a letter of mine in which are many cogent reasons why I support the French system of philately, but there is a large body of collectors who have not the time to devote to a more minute study of stamps than their faces, or who perhaps do not care to go to the slight extra expense consequent on collecting all the varieties of the French school, and to such a body the tenets of the English school are acceptable. Even amongst themselves, however, they differ, but I think if they constitute themselves into a school distinct from the French, they ought to have some fixed articles of belief; these are, or ought to be, their tenets.

Since paper, watermark, perforation, design, and colour, all go to form the stamp proper, it is only that which arrests the eye that we should collect, the printed portion of the stamp, for that alone (say they) forms the stamp. A stamp can be a stamp to all intents and purposes without either perforation or watermark, but no blank piece of perforated or watermarked paper has ever yet been, or ever will be, recognised as a postage stamp; the true stamp, in the shape of printed or embossed matter, must be impressed on that paper before it can legitimately have a place in albums; anything which affects the appearance (as a thread through the stamp, or an inscription through, or to the right or to the left, of an envelope stamp) is to constitute a variety, of course including alterations of die, however minute. This our opponents will acknowledge is the proper way to look at the subject, and yet they differ among themselves as to what makes a fresh variety; some will have nothing to do with envelope-stamp inscriptions, forgetting that the inscription is part of the stamp, and that a stamp cut out of an envelope and pasted on an ordinary one, minus inscription, would not be acknowledged by the foreign posts, so a mutilated or cut-round envelope stamp is of no use for franking letters, consequently, is not a perfect stamp; as to alterations in die, see *Stamp Collector's Magazine* for October last, last paragraph on p. 151.

To the other section of philatelists, who have the time to devote to their stamps, we recommend the study of the tenets of the French school, the great principle of which is, CLASSIFICATION. If you only collect stamps by their faces, your album is valuable for illustrative purposes alone, but if you once go beyond this system of accumulating designs, you admit that they, "apart from their illustrative value, have sufficient interest to justify the study of their specialities; that the history of every design is worth tracing through the various mutations of shade, paper, watermark,

and perforation." We might say to a botanist, for example, that it was folly to term two plants alike to the eye, different species, and to make it a point to obtain specimens of each, but he would soon prove upon whose side the folly lay, when he came to explain his classification. The French school say, let us, like collectors of all other objects, have a system with our work; let us show those who call ours a pursuit only fit for children, that it may be made into something more than the idle acquisitiveness of schoolboys; let us study our stamps, and learn from them everything we can; let us follow them through all their phases, and then we shall be able to classify them; and whilst making it a relaxation, let us not forget that, like all other things, without classification, it is not systematic collecting, but the accumulation of objects. Why should collections of any given things be arranged scientifically, and according to most minute varieties, and one of the stamps be arranged by facial similitude, without reference to anything else? A collection of any sort is nothing without proper classification, and it is impossible to classify stamps without due regard to the paper, watermark, and perforation.

In the June *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, I noticed an article on the New Caledonian stamp, the materials for which are supplied by *Der Briefmarken Sammler* (our old friend) in one of the earliest impressions of that enlightened magazine. I was glad to see M. Berger-Levrault write as he did in the next number, for although the story is too foolish to bear strict investigation (as I will soon show), still the bulk of collectors are apt to be deceived by articles written in that positive style, and to feel disgusted that such things as this alleged tale professes to expose should be. The stamp has been known for seven or eight years, I should say, and I have heard long ago of one coming over direct on a letter to Paris. In the face of M. Berger-Levrault's experiences, the tale of "Wild Hunter" is positively refreshing at this season of the year. Without entering at all into the merits of the tale of the Marseilles' mariner's doings at Port-au-Prince, I might observe that the idea of a "clever" lithographer being "induced to manufacture for him the New Caledonian stamp" is rather too much. Where does the genius of this "clever" lithographer burst "the narrow trammels of art" on the stamps under discussion? By what means was he "induced" to devote his incomparable talents to the manufacture of stamps? The Marseilles captain must have been a briny Mephistopheles to beguile a man of such ability as the engraver of the New Caledonian stamps into doing his behests. The story fails in one of the simplest possible points,—its geography. It is stated that the stamp "is really the offspring of that South Sea Island New Caledonia," for that it was at Port Prince that "this child of the Southern Ocean first saw the light." Unfortunately for this theory, our friend's geography is a little out. Port Prince or Port-au-Prince is in the island of Hayti, in the West Indies, and separated by an ocean or two from the Port de France of New Caledonia; Port-au-Prince belonging to the Atlantic, Port de France to the Pacific, with the continent of South America intervening, as any gazetteer or atlas of modern date will show. *Der Briefmarken Sammler* is fond of discoveries. This is on a par with its history of the Austrian mercuries.

In reference to a supposed error of mine respect-

ing the 10c. New Granada of 1863, on examination Mr Camoens will notice what I failed to chronicle, that the 10c. on white paper is always without a dot, that upon blue is as invariably in my experience with a dot. If I recollect rightly, the same applies to the 50c., which is found both upon white and bluish paper; but of this I am not sure, not having my specimens at hand. There are some specimens of the 5 and 20c. known, with a star after NACIONALES. This shows that the stamps vary to some extent.

I remain, yours faithfully,
EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

Birmingham.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE

NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, it is proposed to set apart a portion of *The Philatelist* each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements must be accompanied by the cheque given with each number.

2. No advertisements shall exceed sixty words.

3. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 15th of the month.

4. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.

5. Subscribers wishing to reply to advertisements can obtain a list of the names and addresses of the advertisers, by sending a stamped and directed envelope to the Editor of *The Philatelist*.

MARGUERITE.—I have a great many stamps which I wish to exchange, some very good ones. I should feel obliged by lists or packets of stamps being sent by any person who may wish to exchange.

J. S. F. has a large quantity of duplicates, including many good Colonials, which he will be happy to exchange with collectors.

LEODIENSIS has for exchange 1 set of Liberian used, several 1 and 3 cents United States unused, and 10 and 100 reis Brazil, new issue, &c.

M. T.—I have many stamps, foreign and colonial, to exchange with other collectors; also some foreign bill stamps and a few fac-similes.

A. B.—I wish to exchange a few stamps, including Baden Land Post, 1 kreuzer; Ronmania, 2 pare, yellow; Austria, present issue, 2 kr.; Italy, 60 centesimi; and several other stamps. I require Canada, new issue, all but the $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, also St. Helena 2d, 3d, and 6d.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

SAPIENS.—In the early days of stamp-collecting, when there were no regular dealers, meetings for the purpose of exchanging duplicates were both convenient and necessary. Since the establishment of agencies by stamp-vendors in every town of note in the United Kingdom, such a barbaric way of traffic is exploded. You can dispose of specimens not wanted at a shop quite as advantageously, and with as little probability of being taken in, as you would do at an exchange with a particularly wide-awake customer.—Your ideas of philanthropic lecturers are somewhat too flattering. We can imagine a duly-qualified ama-

teur public-spirited enough to lecture on philately with an entrance fee of one penny, as you suggest, but the presentation of a "rare foreign postage stamp,"—gratis to every hearer—is certainly a cool proposition. Would you choose one of the rarer italic Brazils, a blue penny block Cape, a yellow Peruvian, a veritable Reunion, or a blue $\frac{1}{2}$ tornese Naples? They range in value from one to two sovereigns each, only!

QUÆDAM, &c., Winchester.—The Reunion stamp has been disused more than ten years. The originals are peculiarly rare; the stamps remaining after their active employment was suppressed, having been all destroyed by insects. There are fac-similes to be met with, impressed on paper such as was originally used; but those now advertised in cheap packets, are totally worthless; being quite different in pattern, value, and colour, from the veritable stamp.—We do not know when there will be a new edition of Lallier. If you prefer one in that style to a plainer but more useful sort, such as Oppens, or Stafford Smith's, we should recommend that of Moens, now being translated into English, and which will be published in the course of the present year.

I. A. F., London-road.—Besides the 1 franc of the French Republic, with which you are of course, familiar, and of which there are four shades of colour, there is the 1 franc of the Empire. It came out on the 17th of August, 1853, and was suppressed in favour of the 80 centimes, in the November of the year following. Lasting so short a time, it is, necessarily, very rare; in an unused state almost unattainable, except on the breaking-up of a first-rate collection. Reprints, however, struck off to oblige some influential members of the British Government in 1862, may be purchased "for a consideration." In many choice albums may be observed, also, essays of the same, printed of a beautiful green colour.

C. S. PAIN.—Prize-winners are entitled to receive one rare stamp to the value of 1s, or, if they prefer it, a shilling's worth of common stamps.

D. M.—No loose leaves are published for insertion in Moens' album.—The charge for the insertion of advertisements in *The Philatelist* is 6d per line of ten words.—We presume *The Stamp Recorder* is defunct.

CHARLES WATSON, New York.—We are unable to accept your proposal.

BARRIERE DE BOIS.—Your article on stamp albums declined with thanks.

T. WETHERILL, Philadelphia, U.S.—The unused stamps you send are of no use to us. We return them per book post.—Please remit in gold, or U.S. paper currency, at gold rates.

J. C. CLARENCE, Cape of Good Hope.—Please remit by Post-office order.—We return the stamps you sent us; they are of no use to us.

A. ELLIS.—Declined, with thanks.

A. BUTLER.—You will see by the notice in our May number that you were not entitled to compete again until July.

P. J. A., Inverness.—You will find an engraving and description of the Hamburg stamp issued by the North German Confederation in our March number.—No stamps are at present likely to be issued for Persia or Siam.—Your third query shall be replied to in our next.

R. S.—You will find a full description in our fourth number.

THE POST-OFFICE AND ITS WORK.

WHEN "Thank Rowland Hill for this," used to be a popular seal motto, in years before the adhesive envelope had come into universal favour, the annual reports of the Postmaster-General were naturally scanned with curiosity. A generation ago, the present postal system was in its infancy and on its trial; and in proportion to the public gratitude expressed in this obsolete motto, was the public concern lest the boon for which gratitude was invited should be found too costly and too transient. But now that the success of the cheap postal system is above all question, the Postmaster's reports are somewhat apt to induce that *ennui* which the British mind experiences in contemplating the statistics of monotonous prosperity. It is rather the side-light cast by the reports on the social progress and commercial condition of the country—it is rather what the reports suggest, than what they state—that is of interest in these days, when we reckon as confidently on increased traffic and augmented profit through the Post-office, as we do on the steady waxing of the new moon.

The Fourteenth Report of the Postmaster-General, issued the other day, groups its information round the central fact, that the number of letters delivered within the United Kingdom in the year 1867 was 774,831,000—an increase of 24,831,000 on the number delivered in 1866. For an increase, of course, everybody was perfectly prepared; and it is handsome enough; although it is not quite at the same rate as in years immediately preceding. For while letters delivered in 1866 numbered 29½ millions more than in 1865, in 1867 there were only about 25 millions more, and our progress has been so far less vigorous. It is a little strange, considering how widespread were the commercial and financial causes for this restriction of correspondence, that in Scotland and Ireland the rate of

progress should have become more rapid, while in England it became more sluggish. In 1867, the number of letters in proportion to the population fell from 30 to 29, while in Scotland it rose from 22 to 24, and in Ireland from 10 to 11; the figures plainly telling us that in England the contraction of commercial correspondence was too considerable to be neutralised by the continued natural growth of general correspondence. Another evidence of the sensitiveness with which the Post-office responds to the state of commerce is given in the statement that, while the registered letters in 1866 exceeded by 154,000 those sent in 1865, the excess for 1867 was only 10,000.

The number of valentines sent from London to the country was, as usual, twice as large as the number sent from the country to London. Of course, the facilities for obtaining valentines of every kind in the metropolis may, to a great extent, explain the difference; but perhaps we may fairly ascribe the difference to the fact that the habit of writing, and of using the Post-office, is stronger among Londoners. In 1866 the number passed through the Post-office was 998,000; in 1867 it rose to 1,119,000—though in this, as in other branches, the increase of 1867 over 1866 was smaller than that of 1866 over 1865. More than three millions and a half of letters failed to find the persons to whom they were sent; and it should put a check upon the reckless and extravagant fashion of advertising by circulars, to know that the great majority of the returned missives were of that description, and had miscarried because the addresses had been taken from inaccurate sources.

Two important changes are foreshadowed in the report—one of them of considerable interest to the advertisers who already waste 3,000,000 circulars yearly; the Post-office authorities are considering whether the rate of postage for printed matter not exceeding 2oz. in weight should not be reduced;

and it has been decided that the licences for dogs shall henceforth be distributed through the Post-office, from the money-order offices. These are changes that will conduce to the public convenience; and as nobody believes that the Post-office can overwork itself, they will probably be accepted with confidence, notwithstanding the large amount of additional labour which the department is about to undertake in the management of the telegraphs.

The great suggestive facts with which the report presents us, however, are three—that, in round numbers, 900,000,000 articles, such as letters, newspapers, books, and book-packets, annually pass through the Post-office; that is at the rate of nearly 30 per head of the population; and that the number of letters carried by the Post-office annually increases at the rate of about one letter for each inhabitant. Strike off the thirty millions within these islands, the large proportion who do not write letters, or write but rarely, and you leave in the hands of a comparatively small minority the actual work of the country's correspondence. It is not making a random guess to suppose that these real letter-writers are most numerous in the towns. There, the habit of correspondence on business has rendered the task of writing on personal affairs far less irksome than it often is in the country districts. But wherever it may have been most developed, the very increase in the habit of writing has made correspondence more comprehensive, more sympathetic, more fully and faithfully a reflex of what passes from day to day in the mind of the country. Distance no longer creates difference, no longer excuses indifference. The railway, the telegraph, the Post-office, have taught populations sundered by hundreds or thousands of miles that they are, after all, of the same human family. Nature may have put them far apart; the common spirit of nationality, the common interest of humanity, must draw them close together, when they have once seen each

others' faces, have shaken each other's hands, and sounded each others' minds. To the man from beyond the Tweed, or from beyond St. George's Channel, the denizens of Lancashire or of London are no longer mere numerical abstractions of the statist, or suspected and uncomprehended dwellers in a remote land. Britons have come to know that, in the main, all their countrymen very much resemble one another—have the same likes and dislikes, the same energy, the same pride, the same aspirations, the same conscience in things moral and things political. Correspondence has, therefore, become more expansive than in the days of indifference, of suspicion. You know that your correspondent, like yourself, reflects on things of wider interest than the cotton packs or the iron pigs about which you are primarily writing. You have seen him, talked with him, discussed with him some question of the day; you know what is the political bent of his mind; you are pleased to be able to fortify your arguments, and illustrate your positions, by a reference to the ideas on this or that question of distant localities which are most interested and most instructed. Even if you have not seen your correspondent, the freemasonry of commerce warrants you in writing your opinion and inviting his on the great question of the day; at least, you gather in some fashion from intercourse with him how people think or feel at Newcastle or at Glasgow. Thus no man, no community, no locality, no interest, can remain in isolation. The pulses of the whole country—indeed of the whole world—beat more and more in unison, as free and rapid communication levels barriers and dispels prejudices. "The great heart of the world" is sound, and kind, and true. Every new avenue for travel, every new facility for correspondence, is one more vein unclogged, one more artery unclosed, to let the generous streams of human sympathy course freely from end to end of the earth.—*Daily Telegraph*.

HINTS ON COLLECTING.

ON THE SELECTION OF SPECIMENS.

Continued from page 50.

IN the *Timbrophile* for March last, Dr. Magnus strongly urges the collection of reprints, and advances many reasons in support of their collection. What do the adherents of the English school say to this? The learned doctor says (and his opinion is always well worth a hearing,) that, since proofs and essays are admitted through being the first state of the die, every complete collection should contain the reprints, for they have an equal right to admittance, being the last state (and considerably worse than the first,) of that die. We really cannot agree with him in this, for we think the addition of reprints to the other classes of stamps which we have to collect, is an innovation fraught with the greatest danger to philately, and for these reasons.

Good genuine essays and proofs of any sort, proofs not made to sell, but real, fine, impressions, taken in the best manner, and as specimens of the state of the die, are of interest to all, and to many amateurs of the greatest value. How can either interest or value be attached to a reprint, the first object of which is to defraud by passing as the original stamp, and which very seldom approaches in any degree to the original in either paper, colour, or beauty of impression. Dr. Magnus advances some secondary reasons why reprints should be collected, but they are all unimportant, and we can attach no real weight to any of them. That they who are being continually consulted, should possess every known form of every stamp is one thing, but that the generality of collectors should do so, is quite another. Those who are continually investigating and adding to the discoveries in philately, should possess reprints as well as originals, simply for reference, upon which principle the writer has made an extensive collection of forgeries and such things; this is as it should be, but to advocate the general

collection of reprints, *even as reprints* because we ought to show *the last state of the die*, is really absurd.

Were the collection of reprints ever to become general their number would wonderfully increase; the essay mania, which was rampant some years ago, is an instance in point of the manner in which the supply for anything non-official can be regulated to meet the demand. Suppose we consider the issued stamps as the first state, taking Romagna as an example, we have the set as originally used, of $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, and 20 baj; reprints or second state, the same eight stamps; and a 6 baj., quite unknown until reprints appeared. Then, as a third and very bad state, the above values in colours varying with the taste of the re-printer. And so, because we are to acknowledge the last state of the die, we must take all the rubbish given under reprints, second and third above, rubbish without a name, not even reprints, for they pretend to be what never existed, not real proofs, because they are struck when the issued stamps have been obsolete for years. This is but one case out of many.

Dr. Magnus' papers on reprints are written in his usual accurate style, and it is no slight boon to have them for reference at any time; they are characterised by very few omissions, and fewer errors, and amongst the few latter stand prominent the assertion that the Britannia Mauritius 6p., violet-slate, and 1sh., dark green, perforated 15½ are reprints. They have long been known as genuine in England, and can be traced to letters from whence taken. We are further told somewhat positively that the United States old envelopes are reprinted only on paper laid vertically. This we feel sure is incorrect, for we have seen for some months past specimens on paper laid obliquely, identical in shade with the reprints laid vertically. The colours of these should be the means of distinguishing, and we feel convinced we are correct in asserting that a re-issue has taken place on both papers.

We are, however, wandering from the subject of our consideration, the admissibility of collecting reprints even as reprints. They are, as we before said, struck for the purpose of defrauding the philatelic public. Why therefore, should we take any interest in them, or attach any importance to them, beyond learning that they exist? If we study them in all their forms, it is not that we may sedulously seek for them, but that we may always be able to avoid them at sight, and this is the only good which can accrue to the student who collects them; and buying such things, is rather a heavy item, and certainly not counterbalanced by any proportionate gain to the buyer.

Before taking our leave of this portion of our work, "the selection of specimens," we would make a few remarks on the stamps of the Granada Confederation. For a long time it has been thought that the issue of 1860, which is so abundant unused, has never been reprinted, and it is pretty certain that numbers of these immaculate specimens are quite genuine, but there is a 1 peso in blood-red (of which we have only seen two or three specimens, heretofore postmarked,) lately offered unused from the continent, which is horribly printed and on thick paper, and amply proves that reprinting has been at work there; the 10c. of the same issue appeared in bright green about nine months ago, and is of course a reprint. The 5c., rosy lilac, of the 1859 issue, is known genuinely postmarked on laid paper, and some time since a few unused copies turned up; the 5c. of 1860 also exists in rosy lilac (genuinely postmarked), but is of great rarity. The 2½ c., triangular, was withdrawn from circulation about fifteen months ago. Moens chronicles a 50 c. of 1863, printed by error in red instead of green, and of 5 and 50 c. there are specimens with a star in the frame after *NACIONALES*. This variety, 5 c., is in yellow and orange, on white, the 50 is green on blue. We also possess Canada blue-black 6p postmarked, on pelure

laid paper; this we believe to be very rare.

THE POST-OFFICE AS IT WAS.

PREVIOUS to 1784, the mail-bags of the Post-office were carried by postboys on horseback, at an average rate, including stoppages, of from three to four miles an hour. Of these postboys and their doings we have some curious accounts. Mr. Palmer, of Bath, who originated some considerable reforms in this department, says of them in his report, when introducing his schemes to Mr. Pitt: "The mails are generally intrusted to some idle boy without character, mounted on a worn-out hack, and who, so far from being able to defend himself, or escape from a robber, is more likely to be in league with him." This testimony, though it might not be unbiassed, seems in the main to have been true. Anybody might rob a postboy, and that by the simplest contrivance. Letters of any great value were so seldom sent by these means that the booty was often found worthless. The French mail on its outward-bound passage, *via* Dover, was more than once stopped and rifled before it had got clear of London. A string stretched across a street in the borough through which the mail would pass, has been known to throw the postboy from his horse, who, without more ado, would coolly retrace his steps, empty-handed, to the chief office, and report the loss of his bags.

About this time, it was a frequent complaint of the officers of the post-office that the runners did a considerable business for themselves, to the great detriment to the public revenue. Post-letters were not unfrequently found upon them, when they would urge in extenuation of the fraud that they had no wages from their masters — the proprietors who farmed the mails. One high official complains grievously that the gentry "*doe* give much money to the riders [for services rendered no doubt], whereby they be subject to get in liquor,

which *stopes the males.*" We have seen upon what a slender thread the arrival or non-arrival of the mail really hung, and that to "stope the males" was by no means a difficult task. Nor did the speed at which they travelled form any obstacle. From old records, we learn that when Mr. Harley (afterwards Lord Oxford) complained that an express to him had been delayed, the postmasters-general (two were required in those days) replied, "that it had travelled one hundred and thirty-six miles in thirty-six hours, which," added they, "is the usual rate of expresses."

In Scotland, about the same time, this work was done even slower, and accomplished with greater hardships. The postboys walked all distances under twenty miles; longer distances required that the person should be mounted, though no relays of horses were allowed, however long and tedious the journey might be. Many years later, the English order of "post" and "express" would appear to have been reversed, "expresses" travelling the slowest. Campbell, the poet, relates a story which shows how things were managed in his younger days in the Highlands. "Near Inverary, we regained a spot of comparative civilization, and came up with the postboy, whose horse was quietly grazing at some distance, whilst Red Jacket himself was immersed in play with other lads. "You rascal," I said to him, "are you the postboy, and thus spending your time?" "Nac, nac, sir," he answered, "I'm no the post;" and then, as if ashamed of his connection with it, added, "I'm *only* an *express*!"

REDUCTION OF POSTAGE.—The *Panama Star* states that there is likely to be a considerable reduction of postage on letters passing between Great Britain and the Pacific coast.

SUNDAY DELIVERY OF LETTERS IN SCOTLAND.—In the House of Commons, a few days ago, Mr. McLaran moved with reference to the delivery of letters on Sundays in the rural districts of Scotland, that where two-thirds of the householders residing in a district should forward a memorial praying that such delivery should be suspended the Postmaster-General should give effect to its prayer.

FORGED STAMPS: HOW TO DETECT THEM.

SECOND EDITION.

BY EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 70.)

Oldenburg.

1852. *Value in centre shield, surmounted by arms, black on colour.*

1/3 silb. gr.	green.
1/30 thaler	blue.
1/15 "	rose.
1/10 "	yellow.

The quickest test for these forgeries, is to note the cross and two small bands in the small shield, below the crown at top. In all genuine these bands and the cross are minutely dotted, but the forgeries are left quite white; this will detect two different forgeries, one poor, the other good. Of the 1/30 genuine, there are two dies; they differ principally in the lower outline of the shield. One has a stroke on the top of the A of THALER (like the other values), but the indentations in the shield, respectively under H and R, are less acute, and not so decided; the other type has these indentations as usual, but no stroke on the A of THALER, the lower part of the T unfinished, and a large dot after GR in the left-hand label. The other type has a smaller and more distant dot.

Dr. Magnus, in the June *Timbrophile*, seemed rather surprised that the English journals had not got up a discussion on the propriety of reversing our present applications of the terms right and left in our descriptions of stamps. As the matter now stands, we use right and left to represent those sides which appear to the right or to the left hand as we look at the stamp. Technically, this is of course wrong, for that which appears to the right as we see the stamp, is actually the left hand of the stamp, and vice versâ. Dr. Magnus wishes us to alter this incorrect method of description, and to term left what we have inaccurately termed the right-hand side of a stamp, and to term right what

we have as inaccurately termed left. Were philately quite in its infancy, we should strongly counsel the adoption of the correct terms, but our science is now getting on in years, and such a change of terms, however desirable for the sake of technical accuracy, is, in our opinion, quite impracticable; we have only to look at the dire confusion which the existence for years of the old system would occasion to future students, and the frequent impossibility of knowing which system had been adopted by each writer. There is nothing to be gained by calling our present right and left, left and right, *gauche et droit*, or *sinistre and dextre*. In Dr. Magnus' own interesting papers, we shall always require to be told by which system he is describing, supposing he continues to support his own innovation; however desirable—and for accuracy we admit that it would be desirable—such a change is impracticable, and we have no hesitation in saying, as useless as impossible.

1860. *Arms in central oval, rect., black on colour.*

$\frac{1}{3}$	groschen.....	green.
1	“	blue.
2	“	rose.
3	“	yellow.

1861. *Same stamps, colour on white.*

$\frac{1}{4}$	groschen.....	orange-yellow, brown-yellow.
$\frac{1}{3}$	“	green.
$\frac{1}{2}$	“	brown, yellow-brown.
1	“	red.
2	“	blue.
3	“	yellow.

The forgeries are smudgy affairs, but the genuine are pretty well engraved, though some $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, and $\frac{1}{2}$ are very indistinct. They all vary much, the $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ genuine have the ground of solid colour, the other values have it of lines crossing at right angles. The white bars and the cross in the shield are, in all genuine, minutely and closely dotted. The forgeries—in common with those of the first series—fail here.

Genuine $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$, as opposed to the

forgeries, have the hanging ends shaded by crossed lines, and the upper labels with vertical lines of shading very strongly engraved. The $\frac{1}{3}$ has the shading in upper label of very fine vertical lines, and that on the pendant ends is of crossed lines; the forgery has the shading very strong, and that on the ends of vertical lines simply. The 1gr. we have not seen forged. The 2gr. genuine, and also the 3gr. resemble the $\frac{1}{3}$ in the points of shading we have indicated. The forgeries of these are all too coarse and heavily printed, shading strong and coarse, instead of being rather indistinct and fine. Of the $\frac{1}{2}$ gr., there is a photograph sometimes seen. Of the genuine $\frac{1}{2}$ gr., varieties exist with the following errors of inscription: OLDEIBURG for OLDENBURG, DRITTO and DRITTEO for DRITTEL.

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

SARAWAK.

ONE solitary new illustration is all we can offer our readers this month. We cannot help it; if governments will not emit novelties, we cannot figure them. The new emission in question is lithographed brown on yellow paper, and is the work of the well-known firm of Maclure, Macdonald, and Macgregor, the engravers of the current set of Montevideo, and other stamps. The portrait is that of the late Sir James Brooke, Rajah of Sarawak. We presume the initials in the corners signify James Brooke, Rajah (of) Sarawak. We are informed, on the best authority, that only a three-cent stamp has been engraved, and that the supply is now on its way out.



SPAIN.

Our contemporary, on the authority of a Hamburg correspondent, states that the 10 milésimas de escudo of

Spain, having been forged, is to be withdrawn from circulation; and, consequently opines the speedy emission of a substitute.

FINLAND.

It was omitted to be announced last month that the local for Helsingfors has had its colours changed, though not for the better. The green portion of the original stamp has been altered to brown; a blue bar replacing the red one.

VENEZUELA.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ centavo, $\frac{1}{2}$ real, and 1 real current are now circulated with the peculiar scallop perforation adopted by some of the La Guaira labels.

URUGUAY.

The green 10 centesimos of the existing type, with value impressed on the figure, is found in some instances erroneously printed CENECIMOS.

INDIA.

We have to announce a new 8 anna stamp for our Indian empire; differing very slightly from the superseded stamp in appearance. The colour, &c., is much as before, with the elephant watermark; the ear of Her Majesty's profile is not quite so conspicuous as before, and the crown is not like that formerly depicted.

SUEZ CANAL COMPANY.

One of our Parisian contemporaries announces the appearance of a series of half a dozen locals issued by this company. He concludes they are provisionals, promising further information on the subject next month.

RUSSIA.

The 20 kopek Russian envelopes, in lieu of blue as hitherto, are now printed pearl-grey.

GERMAN POSTAL CONFEDERATION.

We give as reported, without being able to vouch for the truth of the statement, that the Prussian government, desiring to utilize the large stock of envelopes (with eagle) remaining in the Post-offices, has decided on issuing them with the 1 or 2 groschen of the

newly-emitted type additionally printed thereon; they will be traversed with the legend "Envelopes of the Northern Germanic Confederation," and the value. 13 pfennige, will be the charge for the 1 groschen, and 25 pf. for that of the 2 groschen.

QUEENSLAND.

The lilac fourpenny of this colony, so recently emitted, is said to be now slate coloured.

ECUADOR.

In our last was chronicled, on contemporary authority, the existence of a 12 reales for this republic. The editor of a Parisian magazine, who has had opportunities of examining specimens, entertains serious doubts of its authenticity, remarking that "the vessel occupying the centre of the oval is misshapen; the ropes incomplete; the flag is missing, as are also the wheel and the equatorial line crossing the sun's disc. Lastly, the lictorial fasces are indistinguishable." All this considered, we submit that a pretty good case against the spurious stamp is made out.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Pale brown (usually called bistre by the French writers, which, by the way, is one of the darkest browns found in our colour boxes) seems a fashionable shade at present for postage stamps. The current 2 cents of British Columbia adopted it; and the same ineffective hue has been chosen for the same value in the permanent issue for the Malacca peninsular and adjacent territory. Some of the lower valued provisionals of the Settlements, we understand, are still in active service.

DANUBIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The 10 soldi of this company, formerly lilac, has now donned a green coat.

PORTUGAL.

The perforated labels of this kingdom have received an accession by the adjunction of the green 50 reis, which will be prepared also similarly for the

dependencies of Madeira and the Azores.

MAURITIUS.

It is long since we have had to chronicle any novelty in value, colour, or otherwise, for this once postally fertile island. We hope to do so ere long; meanwhile have to caution philatelists against impostors now being offered for sale, purporting to be specimens of the exceedingly rare and long extinct shilling envelope. A lot of these unprincipled productions were sent to the continent for sale from Liverpool, in which city they are supposed to have been fabricated. The points of difference between the false and the genuine stamp are as follow:—

The fictitious bust is longer, more distinct, and nearly fills the interior oval; from the nose to the chignon the reality is a trifle narrower, and the same remark is applicable to the neck; the diadem ought to have stars, not small balls; and the inscriptions, when compared with the original, will be found somewhat larger. The real stamp is of a rich yellow hue; the falsity much duller. Finally, the tint and texture of the paper are different, and the flap does not bear the makers' name, DE LA RUE & CO, LONDON.

SCOTLAND.

The Highland Railway Company have discarded the plain double thread which had heretofore framed their emissions, substituting a fancy framework. They are all perforated.

There are two sets: 1st, "Perth and Inverness," black on colour.

1½ penny.....	white	(above 3lbs.)
3 pence	yellow	(from 3 to 7lbs.)
"	"	(from 7 to 14lbs.)
"	"	(from 14 to 28lbs.)
9 "	lavender	(from 28 to 56lbs.)

"North of Inverness," green on colour.

2 pence	pink	(above 3lbs.)
4 "	white	(from 3 to 7lbs.)
6 "	yellow	(from 7 to 14lbs.)
8 "	buff	(from 14 to 28lbs.)
1 shilling ...	lavender	(from 28 to 56lbs.)

SHANGHAI.

From the Belgian magazine we ex-

tract a notice of several varieties of the queer emissions of Shanghai, to serve as supplementary to the summary given in our account of them last month.

On exceedingly thin paper:

4 candareens	pale yellow.
8 "	yellow-green.

On rather thicker paper:

1 candareen	blue, pale blue.
(The cipher of value is Roman, not Arabic.)	
1 candareen	pale blue.

(The figure is Roman, but much larger.)

3 candareen	full brown (no stop after the value).
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On similar paper:

3 candareens	dark brown (no stop after value).
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6 "	pale brown.
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8 "	yellow-green.
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12 "	red-brown, dark brown.
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(The first figure is much larger and thicker than the 2.)

16 candareens	(same peculiarity.)
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In addition to the above, which, it must be understood, are varieties distinct from any enumerated in our paper last month, there are yet to be added a 2 candareens black, of that type alluded to as having the parallel bars in lieu of the more complicated Chinese characters to denote the value; the variation in this case consisting in the much larger size of the figure 2. The following are on thicker paper than any of the preceding.

1 candareen	greenish blue, deep blue.
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(The figure is larger than usual.)

2 candareens.....	black (parallel lines type).
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3 "	dark brown (well-formed figure).
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4 "	bright yellow.
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(These three have no stop after the value.)

The only errors noticeable on the stamps of the current set are these:

1 cand* (notice the s).....	brown.
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6 " (error for 3)	yellow.
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These are found on the actual sheets of stamps of their respective denominations, viz., that of the 1 candareen brown, and the 3 c. yellow.

IN ROUND NUMBERS 900,000,000 articles, such as letters, newspapers, books, and book-packets, annually pass through the Post-Office; this is at the rate of nearly 30 per head of the population.

WATCH THE WASTE PAPER.—A girl, employed in an American paper mill, in separating the waste paper purchased from postmasters, some time since found several letters, one of which contained 30 dollars in U.S. Treasury notes, and another contained a note for 500 dollars.

PUZZLES FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

CONUNDRUMS.

1. Why do postage stamps in free circulation resemble soldiers on a field of battle?
2. What stamp-producing country without its capital leaves an unpleasant sensation?
3. What stamp reminds us of a meal? and what other stamp reminds us of a consumer of what sometimes constitutes part of that meal?

TRANSPOSITIONS.

INSCRIPTIONS ON POSTAGE STAMPS.

1. Red, not, den, clan.
2. A, friar, crops, ripe, acorns.
3. addeeecegilnnqrrsstu.
4. abceefffnopprrrrsstu.
5. aaaaceefghihiiillnnooopsssttuuvv.

CHARADES.

I.

- I am a word of eight letters.
 My 6, 2, 7, 4 is a public way.
 My 6, 5, 8, 1 is a plant.
 My 1, 5, 6, 2, 3 is an American lake.
 My 1, 2, 7, 6, 4 is a treasure.
 My 6, 2, 5, 3, 4 is a circle.
 My *whole* is a stamp-producing country of America.

II.

- I am a word of ten letters.
 My 2, 7, 3 is a measure of length.
 My 5, 4, 7, 3 is a liquid measure.
 My 5, 6, 7, 10 is a metal.
 My 1, 8, 3, 7 is a part of a house.
 My 5, 3, 2, 9 is a valley.
 My *whole* is a stamp-producing island belonging to Great Britain.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

I.

- I. A stamp-producing country.
- II. The title of the same.
1. One of the United States.
2. A town in Wurtemberg.
3. Half a town in England.
4. Half a town in Holstein.
5. An English city.
6. An English county.

II.

- I. That which spoils the beauty of a postage stamp.

II. That for which letters are posted.

1. An attack.
2. A wild beast.
3. A thin plate.
4. A discovery.
5. A sign of the zodiac.
6. A symbol.
7. Half a circle.
8. The earliest inhabitants of a country.
9. Military art.
10. Half a pendent of ice.
11. An American river.
12. A point of time.

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

1. Green, the aeronaut, used to go up an amazing height in his balloon.
2. The darkest cloud sometimes passes overhead without rain.
3. A comic song always causes laughter.
4. The company said they never enjoyed so pleasant a festival.
5. On account of the long continued drought, the people were in great want, a general dearth prevailing.
6. Our gardener has cut a ripe bunch of grapes.

PRIZES.

Twelve rare Foreign Stamps will be given to those Subscribers answering most of the above Puzzles. Replies, accompanied by the cheque given in the advertisement sheet of each number, must be addressed to "The Editor of The Philatelist, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 15th of Sept.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

(Pp. 112.)

CONUNDRUMS.

1. A. Y. Z. (a wise head).
2. United States. Reunion.
3. One bears a stamp, and the other stamps a bear.
4. When it is doubled.

TRANSPOSITIONS.

(Inscriptions on Postage Stamps.)

1. NEVIS, FOURPENCE.
2. CANADA POSTAGE, HALF CENT.
3. HELIGOLAND SCHILLING, HELIGOLAND SCHILLING.
4. STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, POSTAGE TWELVE CENTS.
5. CONFED. GRANADINA CORREOS NACIONALES PESO.

6. POSTA ROMANA BANI.
 7. CANADA POSTAGE, ONE CENT.
 8. CORREOS DE HONDURAS DIOS UNION Y LIBERTAD DOS REALES.
 9. NORDDEUTSCHER POSTBEZIRK STADTPOST-BRIEF HAMBURG.
 10. STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, POSTAGE CENTS.

CHARADES.

1. Viol, pile, rope, olio, viper—Liverpool.
 2. Mode, mine, diet, dove, event—Monte Video.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

1. Essay, Proof:—

E		P (som)
S	enato	R
S	ag	O
A	llegr	O
Y	oursel	F

2. Contrivance, Perforation:—

C	y	P (rus)
O	wyhe	E
N	amu	R
T	enerif	F (e)
R		O (me)
I		R (ac)
V	enezuel	A
A	rara	T
N		I (le)
C	erig	O
E	to	N

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Keswick. | 6. Norway, Sweden. |
| 2. Knighton. | 7. Cromer. |
| 3. Oude. | 8. Denmark, St. Ives. |
| 4. Owyhee. | 9. Aden, Rye. |
| 5. Italy. | 10. Hereford. |

PRIZES.

The following is a list of prize winners, with the number of correct answers by each:—

H. Long, Yarmouth; W. Douglas Hemming, Walmer (28 each); F. R., Walmer (27); W. F. Craies, New Wandsworth; Edith Mayne, Killaloe (26 each); A. Jennings, Gravesend; A. Butler, Killeclare (25 each); Edith Yolland, Bideford; L. E. Gray, Notting Hill; F. Robertson, Kensington; E. Wells, Brighton; F. J. Squire, Bridgewater (24 each).

The above prize winners will not be allowed to compete again until November, in order to give all subscribers a fair chance of winning our prizes.

Answers have also been received from the following:—

C. N. E., — Cumine (23 each); Thomas Ferguson (20), E. C. Corbet (18), M. Millar (17), A. D. Southgate (16), P. W. W. Alleyne (14), Blair Cochrane (7).

POSTAL SCRAPS.

THE POSTMAN'S SUNDAY IN PRUSSIA.—Between the hours of ten a.m. and five p.m. on Sundays no letters or papers are delivered or forwarded by the postal authorities; and, moreover, the whole staff of the Post Office is, in virtue of a stringent bye-law, compelled to attend public worship. Piety is—or, at least, the Government will have it so—as peculiar an attribute of a Prussian official as the Red Eagle of the

fourth class; and so, if you happen to enter Protestant church here, in Homburg or Frankfurt, you will perceive with pleasure that the tim *escamulé* from the service of the public by the godly clerks and letter-carriers, under compulsion is at least not spent in vain amusements, but is devoted to the bettering of their future condition.—*Daily Telegraph*.

PUNCH DOING JUSTICE TO THE POST OFFICE.—There is good sense and justice in a paragraph which we belied the other evening in the *Glowworm*. Somebody wrote to it, alleging that the Post-Office did not deliver his letters regularly, and the luminous journal intimates, in reply, first, that it does not believe him, and, secondly, that if his letters miscarry, it is most likely his own fault. *Mr Punch* is so terribly, yet so justly severe upon all public departments that fail in their duty, that he deems it right to say that he endorses both the *Glowworm's* answers to its correspondent. The Post-Office does its business better than any establishment for which we pay. Of course, if you choose to direct your letters in a villanous hand, and to give them to your servant to post, who, not wanting to wet her feet, gives them to the butcher's boy when he calls, who, not being at the moment *en route* for a post-office, carries them in his pocket until he can entrust them to a butcherly young friend, who puts them into his tray and finally jerks them down an area, the probabilities of their being delivered are somewhat reduced. But direct your letter in a legible hand, with no fewer and no more words than are needful, and post it yourself, in a mild but determined manner, and Gladstone's head to Rearden's, your missive arrives safely. *Mr Punch's* complaint of the Post-Office is, that it delivers much too regularly, and much too often, correspondence which is simply waste paper; but that is not the Duke of Montrose's fault, but *Mr Punch's* misfortune.

THE CIRCULAR DELIVERY COMPANY.—A conference of the shareholders and friends of this company was held on the 8th ult., at the company's offices, 317, High Holborn, "for the purpose," as was stated in the circular convening the meeting, "of getting the Post-office monopoly restricted to reasonable limits, and to advance free-trade principles in the delivery of newspapers, circulars," &c. Mr J. Baxter Langley, chairman of the company, in opening the proceedings, alluded at length to the origin of the dispute between the company and the Post-office—namely, the establishment of a company to deliver circulars and other documents. The company was formed, he said, as a co-operative association, and its benefits were to be confined to the members. The Post-office act undoubtedly gave the postal department a monopoly; but an exception was made in the case of private individuals employing their own servants, and this company was in a similar position. The company wished to discharge a function which could not be fulfilled properly by the Post-office. In conclusion, he expressed a hope that the public would support the company against the postal authorities. Mr W. F. Robinson moved the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this meeting the prosecution by the General Post-office of the Circular Delivery company (limited), for performing the work of its members by their own servants is unjustifiable, and in direct contravention of the

principles of free trade; that the existence of the Post-office monopoly is contrary to the spirit of the common law of the land, and prejudicial to the commercial interests of the country; and that the said company is entitled to the support of the trading community at large for its endeavour to establish a cheap, prompt, and trustworthy delivery of circulars, newspapers, &c., for the members of its association."

CORRESPONDENCE.

PENDRAGON'S CONVERSION CONTRA-DICTED.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—I was much surprised, and far from pleased, to find Mr Pemberton, in your number for August, making such free use of my name.

Not having the pleasure of personal acquaintance with that gentleman, I cannot understand how he can venture to make the assertions respecting me which he has done, and which he has never had my authority to do.

I trust you will do me the justice to insert this, as his remarks, though unfounded, might prove very prejudicial to the interest of the "English School," of which I shall only be too proud to be, as I have been hitherto, the sole champion.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

London.

PENDRAGON.

THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH SCHOOLS OF PHILATELY.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—I shall feel obliged by your contradicting Mr Pemberton's assertion, that I am either a follower of "Pendragon," or have ever "talked of enlisting under his banner." Inasmuch as my last letter appeared in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* for November, 1867, and "Pendragon" was never even heard of till March this year, I think you will agree with me that Mr Pemberton's statement, as far as it regards myself, is as unfounded as it is uncalled for.

Respecting the accusations contained in the first part of Mr Pemberton's letter, also partly levelled at me, I can only say that if certain writers will make use of far-fetched and inappropriate terms with reference to stamp collecting, it is only natural that they should be called to account by others.

Mr Pemberton will have perceived, ere now, his error, as to "Pendragon" having come over to the French school, "Pendragon's" article, in the August *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, being a direct contradiction to Mr Pemberton's statement.

On the principle *audientis alteram partem*, allow me, on behalf of the English school of philately, which has been most unjustly assailed at different times by Messrs. Pemberton, Overy Taylor, and other writers, to draw the attention of those of your readers, who are unprejudiced, to an admirable letter signed "Sentinel," in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* for August, 1866, and headed (very appropriately) "Too much of a Good Thing." I fear, however, this letter will not give a very vivid picture of the common sense of the French school. "Sentinel's" letter was replied to in the following number by "Fentonia," who, by her writings, is evidently an ardent disciple of

the French school of philately. I would recommend, however, a perusal of "Sentinel's" answer to the lady, which, while correcting a few of the writer's misapprehensions in regard to his letter, was temperate in the extreme, and, to my mind, a peculiarly convincing argument in favour of the English school, of which, I am proud to say, I have always been a member.

Collectors of the French school must, indeed, be hard up for arguments, when they adduce botany or horticulture, of all things in the world, in support of their theories with regard to postage stamps! It would be difficult to conceive two more opposite things than plants and postage stamps! I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

Knaresborough.

J. M. STOURTON.

THE PROPOSED PHILATELIC SOCIETY AND OTHER MATTERS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—I think it is a great pity that the collectors of London cannot form a Philatelic Society amongst themselves; everything must have a beginning, and why not a Philatelic Society, commencing as a private matter amongst a few? I wrote to Mr Bullock immediately upon seeing his first letter on the subject, but, as my letter never reached him, I was obliged to let the matter drop, still I am ready to do everything in my power to assist so capital a work. I think that if a Philatelic Society were once commenced in London, it would soon become known, and the advantages to philately would be past calculation.

I have a paper on Cashmere, to be published in the ensuing number of *The Philatelist*, which contains details quite unknown to the general public, and particulars of which would be of value to many. The inscriptions being Arabic and Sanscrit, and the impressions fearfully bad, render it impossible for a collector with half a dozen, or even more, specimens, to make out much about them, it is months of observation alone which will enable a single collector, by himself, to arrive at the facts I have been fortunate enough to do. A Philatelic Society would obviate this to a wonderful extent, by bringing together a number of specimens, and through such agency could we alone hope to get complete lists of all the varieties of the stamps of each country. The list of Victorian stamps, in the July *Philatelist*, might have been published long before had a Philatelic Society existed, but for single individuals to compile such lists is a long and tedious undertaking; and, without the kind assistance I experienced from the well-known amateur, who makes the stamps of Australia his objects of special collection, it would have been a well nigh impossible one. I propose to work out New South Wales next in the same manner, and shall feel much indebted to any one who will bring fresh varieties, or information, under my notice.

There has always been an explanation wanted for the fact of New Granada having stamps of such high values as 5 and 10 pesos for postal purposes (the peso of New Granada is worth about four and two-pence.) I mentioned their existence to a friend at Bogotà, from whom I recently received the following reply,—"The 5 and 10 dollar stamps you speak of, I have never heard of, but think they must be used in Eucomienda offices, to send down specie." There is nothing definite

here, but I give it for what it is worth. That they are not for *interior postage* is certain, or I should have received them; and had they been for *foreign postage*, it is equally certain that some would have appeared, post-marked, in England or France ere now. My friend informs me, that the correspondence of the interior is next to nothing, and mostly done by private messengers. This is, no doubt, due to the unsettled state of the country.

In addition to the interesting list of Shanghai varieties in *The Philatelist* for July, and the *Timbre Poste* for the same month, I can add a 3c., spelt CANDARFENS instead of CANDARENS. In the second set, I have the lilac stamp, printed 3c. instead of 8c., and have noticed several of them.

Yours faithfully,

EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

Birmingham.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE

NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, it is proposed to set apart a portion of *The Philatelist* each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements must be accompanied by the cheque given with each number.
2. No advertisements shall exceed sixty words.
3. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 15th of the month.
4. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.
5. Subscribers wishing to reply to advertisements can obtain a list of the names and addresses of the advertisers, by sending a stamped and directed envelope to the Editor of *The Philatelist*.

W. H. R.—I have the following stamps to exchange:—Unused 2d. English, without lines; 10 cent Canadian envelope; Sandwich Islands, 5c.; and many other commoner ones; used New South Wales, 5s.; many varieties in watermark of Victoria and Queensland; Spain, 1867, 12 carantos, &c.

PEUR has to exchange Argentine Republic 5 cents, 1864; Shanghai, 1 cand., brown; Brazil, small figures, 300, head. 10, 20, 80, 100, and 200 reis; Servia, 2p., head: Roumania, 2 paras, and 2 bani; Romagna, 20b.; Virgin Isles, green; Sierra Leone, &c. For any of these I will take a 30 kr. German, 4d. English envelope, Costa Rica, Finland, &c.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

W. H. RONSON.—The 1p. crown and v was the first value so issued, but it appears that they are using up all the old stocks of paper, before commencing to use the crown and v watermark uniformly for the series. This is instanced by the present 6p. having recently appeared in a fresh variety, as chronicled this month by Mr. Pemberton.

T. N. SMITH, Leeds.—*The Philatelist* is published in London on the last day of the month.

W. H. S.—Mr. Pemberton's papers on forged

stamps are continued in the present number.—Stafford Smith's *Illustrated Stamp Album* is out of print.

P. A. J., Inverness.—The latest edition of Oppen contains separate headings for the Orange River, Straits Settlements, German Postal Confederation, and all other stamp-producing localities up to the present year, inclusive of dependencies, such as Venetia, Livonia, &c.; Magdalena and Bolivar may be classed under the Granadine Confederation. The Liverpool, Manchester, &c.: locals are not included by all collectors, and can be placed on an extra sheet, which may be obtained of the publishers, The Azores and Madeiras may be classed under Portugal.

G. O. F., Hackney.—Your ideas are superior to your spelling, which is sadly susceptible of improvement. What do you mean by accusing Pendragon of being English in public, and French in private? Does he really collect each, all, and every variety; at the same time rallying those who do so? There seems some misunderstanding as to what his views really are; but he surely ought to know them himself; and the present number contains a communication from him on the subject.—You complain of the great expense and the roomy album requisite to form a complete collection. Few purses certainly could stand such an outlay; nor is it at all probable more than a very few would ever entertain such an ambition. The question is easily dismissed in a few words; and we have more than once made a similar remark. Let every amateur follow his own ideas irrespective of others; wasting neither time nor temper in useless discussions. Philatelic writers and dealers alone are necessitated to collect every attainable shade of variety; the latter, in case of demand; the former for purposes of correct comparison.

LEODIENSIS, Leeds.—The black penny label was first issued; then was substituted the brown penny on blue paper as it apparently is; but competent authority assures us that it was really red on white, discoloured by the execrably bad gummy matter employed. Next appeared the same perforated: this and the former were watermarked with a small crown, and we may remark that the gum employed must have been purer, and the colour redder; these being of a more brilliant colour than the former. Three or four years after, viz., in 1854, appeared the same type with a deeper red hue, and a larger crown for the watermark. All these had letters on the lower and Maltese crosses at the upper angles; except the official black rarity, which contains the letters V.R. at the upper corners, and variable ones like the rest at the lower. The final change was ten years later, when the current stamp came into use, having variable letters at all four corners. We hope the next change will present us with a totally new type. We suppose by the several dates you mention, you mean postmarks; but that proves nothing; as the original black or blue red would frank a letter to the present date.—We believe the magazine to which you allude did not survive its first number.—The new issues are almost invariably advertised on the covers of the several magazines, and added to the catalogues in due alphabetical order as the several editions appear.—Your remarks on the wished-for Society are echoed elsewhere.—Like the preceding correspondent you would find a dictionary not supererogatory.

LITTLE-KNOWN STAMP COUNTRIES AND THEIR RULERS.

III.

BY W. D. A.

SARAWAK.—RAJAH JAMES BROOKE.

"What he got by fortune,
It was the state that now must make his right."

TEMPLE wrote that "there seems to be but two general kinds of government in the world: the one exercised according to the arbitrary commands and will of some single person; and the other according to certain orders or laws introduced by agreement or custom, and not to be changed without the consent of many."

After this prologue, we will raise the curtain and place before our readers a sketch of a country governed on the latter principle. That a civilised nation should be so ruled is certainly not extraordinary, but the man who could cause a state, almost steeped in barbarism, to become the abode of commerce and a home of industry, is worthy of more than a passing remark. Such a one was James Brooke. He was born in London, on the 29th of April, 1803, being a son of Thomas Brooke, Esq., of the East India Company's civil service, and a descendant of Sir Robert Viner, who was lord mayor of London in the reign of Charles II. He entered the army in Eastern India as a cadet, and distinguished himself in the Burmese war; being wounded, he was obliged to return home. He re-entered the service on his recovery, but resigned shortly after, and made a voyage for the benefit of his health, and for amusement, from Calcutta to China and the islands of the Indian Archipelago.

Since the time of Sir Stamford Raffles, the East India islands had been almost neglected, until Mr Brooke turned his thoughts in that direction. His greatest wish was to suppress piracy, extirpate the slave trade, and carry to the Malay races the blessings of civilisation. He was often foiled, but with a perseverance worthy of the cause, he was enabled at last to leave England in

October, 1838, in furtherance of his pet scheme. During his stay here he devoted himself to preparation and enquiry, and by testing the capabilities of his ship, the "Royalist," by a year's cruise in the Mediterranean. Even the least sanguine of his friends felt that he had left nothing undone to secure the success of his enterprise. He said, "I go to awake the spirit of slumbering philanthropy with regard to these islands; to carry Sir Stamford Raffles' views in Java over the whole Archipelago. Fortune and life I give freely, and if I fail in the attempt, I shall not have lived wholly in vain."

The Royalist, belonging to the Royal yacht squadron, had the same privileges in entering foreign ports as a man-of-war. She carried a crew of twenty hands, under the command of Mr. Brooke; after touching at Rio Janeiro, the Cape, and Sincapore, she was anchored off the northern coast of Borneo.

This, the largest island of the globe, with the exception of Australia, was at that time almost a *terra incognita*. The Dutch expedition in 1823 obtained information of the rivers Borneo, Sambas, Banjarnassin, Passir, and Pontianack. They also discovered the two lakes, Danayo Malayu and Keeneebaloo. The products of the country were found to be rice, maize, batatas, yams, cucumbers, mandioca, pulse, tobacco, capsicums, several oil-yielding plants, the sago, and areca palms, the cocoa-nut, betel, cotton, bamboo, the sugar-cane, various kinds of fruit, and many spice, teak, and timber trees. Among the animals were the elephant, leopard, ourang-outan, buffalo, and deer, with a few horses, fowls, and ducks. The lac insect and bee were also seen. On the north coast of the island is Sarawak, termed by the natives Kuching; this province is so fertile as to grow almost every species of vegetable production.

"Where plenty, rising from the reeking soil,
Bends with the load that asks no human toil,
And ev'ry charm luxuriant Nature brings,
Spontaneous from her teeming bosom springs."

It is intersected by numerous streams,

most of which are admirably situated for purposes of commerce. Many minerals were found there, as, for instance, gold, antimony, diamonds, tin, copper, iron, and coal. Sarawak is about sixty miles in length along the coast, and fifty in width. The inhabitants were chiefly Malays, Chinese, and Dyaks, the latter being the aborigines, who had been placed in subjection by the conquering Malays.

Such was the state of the island when Mr. Brooke first arrived there. The following is an extract from that gentleman's "Journal," giving a glimpse of Sarawak before it became the capital of his dominion :—

"The town consists of a collection of mud huts, erected on piles, and may contain about 1,500 persons. The residence of the rajah and his fourteen brothers occupy the greater part, and their followers are the great majority of the population. When they depart from Borneo, the remainder must be a very small population, and apparently very poor. The river affords a few fish ; but there is little sign of cultivation, either of rice or other grain. Fowls and goats seem the only other means of subsistence of these people. The geological features of the country are easily described. Vast masses of granite rock are scattered along the coast ; for instance, Gunong Poe, Gadang, Santobong, &c., which have evidently, at some former period, been detached islands. The spaces between these granite masses are now filled in with alluvial soil, intersected in every direction with rivers and streams, and on the low alluvial bank of the Sarawak river stands this little town. The distance from the sea is about twenty-five miles, through banks of mangrove and the Nepa palm, until approaching the town, where jungle trees first appear. The breadth is about 100 yards, and the depth six fathoms at low water spring tides, in mid river, opposite the rajah's residence."

After a visit of state to the rajah, Muda Hassim, Brooke, having first ob-

tained permission, proceeded through the country, going up several of the rivers, and adding greatly to his stock of information. In the "Journal," he gives a very interesting account of some of the Dyak customs, which we think worth transcribing :—

"The men marry but one wife, and that not until they have attained the age of seventeen or eighteen. Their wedding ceremony is curious ; and is performed by the bride and bridegroom being brought in procession along the large room, where a brace of fowls are placed over the bridegroom's neck, which he whirls seven times round his head. The fowls are then killed and their blood sprinkled on the forehead of the pair, which done, they are cooked and eaten by the newly-married couple alone, while the rest feast and drink during the whole night. They seem to have little or no idea of a God. They offer prayers to Biedum, the great Dyak chief of former days. Their dead are put in a coffin and buried, but different tribes vary in this particular."

Brooke left for a short time, but on returning in 1840, he still found his friend Muda Hassim endeavouring to quell the rebellion among the Dyaks. Feeling the rajah's cause to be a just one, he, with his crew, helped to suppress this revolt. These services were esteemed so highly, that the Sultan called him to the capital, and conferred upon him the governorship of the province. He was therefore installed "rajah" with the usual native ceremonies. He commenced by instituting a court of justice, and by giving a kind of constitution, which, however, was closely assimilated to the old laws and customs of the island. Murder and theft were severely punished ; Dyaks, Malays, and Chinese were considered equal as to privileges and duties. All the coasts and rivers were open to commerce, and the taxes regulated by a system. This legislation soon bore the best fruits, and Mr Brooke became respected by the people and a terror to evil-doers.

Two campaigns against the dreaded

pirates on the rivers Sarebus and Sakarraw in 1843 and the following year, were crowned with most favourable results. For the services rendered by England during this war, the island of Labuan was added to our dominions.

An attempt was made in 1845 to poison the rajah, but it was happily frustrated. In 1847 Brooke came to England. He went to Windsor, and was created by Her Majesty Knight of the Bath. He was also presented with the freedom of the City of London, and had the honorary degree of D.C.L. conferred upon him by the University of Oxford.

He returned to Sarawak the year following as Commissioner and Consul to the native States of Borneo, and Governor of Labuan. In 1850 he went as ambassador to Siam, returning again to England in the exhibition year.

In 1853 he had to defend himself against manifold accusations of cruelty and avarice, but was acquitted upon every point in December, 1855, by the commission of enquiry. The Chinese residing in Sarawak revolted in 1857, attacking the town, setting on fire several of the public buildings, and massacring the Europeans. Brooke saved his life with great difficulty; however, at the head of the Dyaks and Malays, he soon dispersed the rebels, and re-established his authority. In the meantime, Sir James Brooke was recognised as sovereign of Sarawak by England, the United States, and Italy, and the succession guaranteed to his nephew. His last visit to his dominions was about five years since, when he had the satisfaction of consigning it to his nephew's charge in peace and prosperity.

Sir James Brooke having suffered for some time from a paralytic attack, died, on the 11th of June last, at his estate of Burrator, in Devonshire, at the age of sixty-five.

In conclusion, we sincerely trust that it may always be said of Sarawak—

"Here right is fix'd; here equal law prevails;
Here steady justice holds impartial scales."

EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS.

THESE stamps are strictly official; employed for the transmission of communications from one office to another. They are adhesive, and always affixed to the flap of an envelope. In all cases the stamp is circular, with an inscription, either in Arabic, Turkish, or Italian, lying in a central circle. The words VICEREGAL EGYPTIAN POST, in an Italian guise, as POSTE VICEREALI EGIZIANE, fill more than half an encompassing circular frame; the name of the emitting city or town being almost always below. Thirteen of one species and six of the other were catalogued in the summary of last appearances, given in our February number. We can more than double these in our own collection, which is yet destitute of one or two there mentioned. Most probably, half a hundred, at fewest, may be in real existence. We shall be glad to receive notice of any not here chronicled.



I.—Colour on white.

Central inscription, in Arabic characters, BOSTED MASRIEH EL MIRIEH (Egyptian Government Post.)

- * *Alessandria*violet.
- * *Atfe*dark blue.
- Atfe*light blue.
- Abuhomus*puce-brown.
- Benha*grey.
- Birket-el-Saat*light green.
- Birket-el-Sab*dark green.
- Cairo*black.
- Costantinopoli*vermilion.
- Damanhour*light green.
- * *Gedda*light blue.
- Gedda*dark lavender.

*Jaula	carmine-pink.
Jook.....	pale red.
Konstantinopoli ...	vermillion.
Mahalla	buff.
Mahallat Roh.....	red-brown.
Mansura	violet.
Minet-el-Gamh ...	dull red.
Porto Said	blue.
Samanua.....	black.
Samanud.....	black-green.
Smirne	lavender.
Suez	green.
Zagazig	blue.
Zefta	greenish-grey.



II. — Black on colour, paper usually thicker.

Central inscription in Turkish (?) characters, totally different from the former.

Alessandria	pale violet.
Benha	drab.
Benisueff.....	white.
Birket-el-Sab	reddish-yellow.
Cairo	reddish-brown; light blue-green.
Chaluf-el-Taraba	red-lilac.
Desuh	grey.
El Telekibir	blue.
Fascene	dull violet.
Galiub.....	light brown.
Ghisa	lavender.
*Jaula	dark blue.
Kafer-el-Zayat ...	red-mauve.
Kafer-Zayat	chocolate.
Mansura	drab; brown drab.
Medinet-el-Faium	pale lilac.
Minia	light blue.
Serapoum	blue.
Tanta	lavender-blue.
Zagazig	light green.
*Zagazig	dark brown.
*Zifta	grey.



III.—Similar to those in the first list, but printed in black on colour and with single-lined frames.

Birket-el-Sab	red-brown.
Ramle	buff.
Suez	mauve-lilac.

IV.—Similar to the first, but the words DIREZIONE GENERALE replace the central inscription.

Alessandria	vermillion.
(No name specified)	vermillion.

* The individuals marked with an asterisk are not in our own collection. Some of them, Atfe, Jedda, for instance, may have been erroneously noted as to colour in our former list; and Zifta placed under the wrong heading.

ADDENDA TO THE STAMPS OF VICTORIA.

(See page 98.)

TYPE VI.—QUEEN ON THRONE.

§ One Penny.

M. large serp. Bright yellow-green.

TYPE VII.—EMBLEMS.

(4) Laid paper.

§ Fourpence.

Perf. 15? M. Deep rose.

TYPE X.—NETTED CORNERS.

(4) No watermark.

§ One Penny.

M. 12. Yellow-green.

TYPE XI.—LAUREATED HEAD, IN CIRCLE.

(2) Watermark, value in words.

§ One Penny.

Erroneously watermarked *sixpence*.

M. 12. Green.

(3) Watermark, thick numeral.

§ **Twopence.**

Erroneously watermarked 1.

M. 12. Lilac.

TYPE XIII.—LAUREATED HEAD, IN OVAL.

(3) Watermark, value in words.

§ **Sixpence.**

M. 12. Deep blue.

(4) Watermark, thick numeral.

Erroneously watermarked 1.

M. 12. Dark blue.

TYPE XVII.—VARIATION OF TYPE XVI.§ **Five Shillings.**

M. 12. Blue on white, red inscription.

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

NORTH-GERMAN POSTAL CONFEDERATION.

The city of Frankfort, as well as other communities employing the kreuzer currency, under the influence of Prussia, in lieu of the groschen envelope chronicled in our last, have adopted, since the 1st of November, an envelope stamped with the 3 kreuzer pink impression used for the current adhesive. It is crossed by the inscription DREI KREUZER POST COUVERT. The same people employ the 1 kr. green adhesive stamp for newspaper and journal-bands. In the more northern parts, a $\frac{1}{2}$ groschen, green, is similarly used.

HUNGARY.

The Emperor of Austria has been graciously pleased to allow an emission of fiscals for this kingdom, for the peculiar use of its inhabitants. They are to be similar in value and number to those of the dominant empire; but embody the Hungarian arms in various designs and ornamentation, printed in black on a white ground. The whole is encircled by bright green foliage. In the interior of the design is the value in figures, and the same above in the Hungarian language. On their appearance, they will probably be offered to collectors as postals; this is our principal inducement to their mention.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The current twopenny, with arched inscription, is found watermarked with the figure 3. A distinguished collector possesses a shilling stamp of the colony, watermarked 12, colour *violet*.

BELGIUM.

An emission of envelopes is decreed for this kingdom; but the well-known dilatoriness of its postal authorities renders the accomplishment of the intention a remote possibility. Witness the non-appearance of the 6 and 8 centimes adhesives, which were decreed to be issued, as "necessary for the public service," so long since as the 14th March, 1867!

GRANADINE CONFEDERATION.

The current 5 centavos is now olive-yellow. A Parisian publication announces the existence of two new types for this republic, promising facsimiles of the same next month.

NORWAY.

On comparison of the previously issued locals for Drontheim, sensible differences will be perceived between them and those now current. The inscriptions are in smaller characters; and the monogram is non-identical. We suppose the disciples of the "pure, undefiled English" school will reject one of these diversities. Which?

FINLAND.

A variation of the 10 penni is in circulation. It is printed reddish brown, on lilac-coloured laid paper.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

An individual from this colony of a hitherto unemployed value, and bearing a novel watermark, is announced. Particulars reserved.

ROMAN STATES.

The 40 centesimi and 80 c. are now perforated. The series thus improved is therefore complete.

LA GUAIRA.

The 2 reales yellow is no longer perforated in holes, but scalloped like the

blue $\frac{1}{2}$ real. The type in both is that with large figures at the corners.

MOLDAVIA.

The doubted individual, the 27 paras of the earliest emission, on pinkish laid paper, has been received by a continental collector perfectly obliterated, and will be noted particularly in a forthcoming pamphlet on the stamps of the Danubian Principalities, by Dr. Magnus.

SPAIN.

As soon as the distracted state of present affairs in this country will allow postal authorities to look to such minor matters, we may certainly expect a completely novel series of stamps. Meanwhile, the variety-mongers can add to their collections specimens of the still current set, which our Bath contemporary announces to have been disloyally and ungallantly mutilated by having Her Catholic Majesty Queen Isabella's head "punched out!"

BRUNSWICK.

We understand that the emission noted in our last, the 4-4ths g.gr., printed in brown on white paper, had been really prepared for postal service, and would have come into use ere this, had not the dominant power of Prussia "at one fell swoop," annihilated the whole brood.



ENGLISH RAILWAY LOCALS.

To those of the South-Western Railway Company chronicled last month, are to be added two extreme values, which had escaped our notice. A one shilling label, unperforated, red-mauve, type similar to that of the one penny, &c., and a halfpenny label, same type as the three halfpenny, but perforated.

BAVARIA.

A 7 kr., corresponding with the 2 groschen of North Germany, is reported to be on the point of issue for this kingdom. Our contemporary states that it will be blue, and that the blue 6 kr. will, in future, be brown. This

would necessitate a change in the 9 kr. entailing useless trouble; though, on the other hand, commercially advantageous to stamp dealers, and *riling* to a frightful degree, the would-be Pen-dragonites. We should rather be inclined to fancy that in this case, as in the preceding, the 6 kr. will have to be classed among the dowagers.

ROUMANIA.

Competent authorities announce that a postal revolution being contemplated after New Year's Day next, extra values, higher than hitherto issued, will be emitted for the Danubian Principalities. The denominations will be, severally, 10, 25, and 50 bani. The design is expected to be the same as that in actual vogue.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

A triangular fourpenny blue of this colony has been received with parallel dentilations similar to those used in the 15 kreuzer and 30 kr., and 5 silbergroschen and 10 sgr., disused Thurn and Taxis stamps. It is supposed to have been the work of some private office for individual convenience, like the French of Susse, and certain of the Van Diemen's Land adhesives.

LUXEMBOURG.

The 4 centimes, much brighter in hue than formerly, is now issued with the perforations unmarked by coloured lines, as is the case with some of the other values.

MEXICO.

This ugly cut is a handsome likeness of the highest value of the new Mexicans described last month.



The portrait turns out to be that of the Curè Hidalgo, as we at first suggested. One of our contemporaries thinks—but in this instance we opine "the wish is the parent to the thought"—that such an uncouth abortion must be provisional. The 4 reales black on yellow has also been in recent

nse; and a couple more of the Guadalajara type have turned up: a 2 reales, pink on laid paper (1867); and a 1 real, green on plain paper (1868).

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

We recently received the penny value of this colony in bright rose-red, and the sixpenny in rich violet; both watermarked with double-lined figures, and perforated, but in a most clumsy manner.

SAXONY.

The Dresden Express Company have re-emitted their elegantly-designed embossed type on yellow laid paper. The colours are the same as before; but on account of the differently coloured paper, the hues produced form distinct varieties. The Saxon and Bohemian Steam Navigation Company will issue, on New Year's Day, a set of three stamps. Their values are—

1 groschen or 5 kreuzer	...	blue.
2 " 10 "	...	pink.
3 " 15 „	...	gold.

It should be remarked that these colours are confined to the space between the central oval and encompassing framework; the rest of the impression is black on plain white paper.

WURTEMBERG.

Simultaneously with the nominal appearance of this number of our magazine, will appear, one value of a set, or rather, perhaps, part of a set, in a type novel to this kingdom, but painfully reminding us of the Prussian domination. It will be blue, and accompanied by a 3 kr., red. The forerunner is a 1 kr., green. The election envelope stamp, lately chronicled, can scarcely fall under the category of a postal, because the elector is bound to be *his own* postman.



TRINIDAD.

We have just received specimens of the current stamps of this island,

among which we find the sixpenny slightly varied in hue; the fourpenny of a much deeper violet than any hitherto used for that value; and the penny of a bright, rather rosy-red.

BARBADOS.

The same mail brought the shilling stamp, same colour as formerly, but on a slightly tinted paper; the sixpenny still remaining a bright vermilion, but the fourpenny in two shades of red, one brighter than the other, and neither of them corresponding with those we had seen previously.

BADEN.

Our readers will remember the new emission for this duchy, chronicled in our last number. The subjoined re-



presentation is a faithful likeness. This and the other noted value (the 7 kr.) appeared about the middle of October; a 3 kr. will shortly

follow. It will be remarked that the colours and values correspond with the new Würtemburgs, except that the 3 kr. of Baden is stated to be pink, not red.

CEYLON.

Some little time has elapsed since the announcement of a novelty from this once capricious island. The anomalously missing tenpenny envelope has at last appeared on slightly blue tinted thin paper, colour like the current adhesive of same value. The sixpenny has been printed also on similar paper. The florets on the flaps are unlike the preceding ones.

UTILIZATION OF OBLITERATED POSTAGE STAMPS.—It appears that the Chinese have contracted the habit or passion of covering their umbrellas and rooms and houses, everything in short, with old European stamps, and they buy them by thousands and millions. The Rhenish Mission, which has a station in China, collects these stamps, and sells them at three shillings the thousand. For the money so acquired, the mission educates such children as have been either exposed or sold as slaves by their unnatural Chinese parents.—*Bath Gazette.*

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

A Descriptive Catalogue of American and Foreign Postage Stamps, issued from 1840 to September, 1868, splendidly illustrated with coloured engravings, and containing the current value of each variety. New York: J. W. Scott and Co.

An ingenious circumlocution designatory of the priced catalogue before us. It contains some twenty or more pages of a neatly, and, errors excepted, correctly printed list of postage stamps, alphabetically arranged. The splendid illustrations, however, consist of half a dozen blue and five scarlet cuts. Published for the almost sole use of new-world collectors, the principal object of noteworthy interest to philatelists in general therein, is the very high prices quoted for specimens. This is surely cause for congratulation to our community, instancing the popularity of stamp collecting among the upper ten, who alone could afford the outlay required for certain individuals, their cost ranging from one to three, seven, ten, twelve, and even twenty dollars! We should have scarcely thought our transatlantic cousins disposed to pay so liberally for a mere fancy; and are most agreeably surprised at the fact, wishing a continuance and increase of patronage to Messrs. Scott and Co.

Le Timbre Poste. No. 70. October, 1868. Brussels: J. M. Moens.

This well-known, and long established publication, not falling under the category of new works, would not have needed notice here, but for the following reason. The body of the number contains additional to the usual supply of useful philatelic matter, the continuation of an elaborate article by the distinguished Parisian amateur, Dr. Magnus, on stamped envelopes in general. This particular October number is devoted to certain illustrated envelopes, comic and otherwise, the offsprings of caricaturists and enthusiasts many a long year back. It fully describes

some, probably all, those published in derision of the original Mulready's; also those of the Ocean Postage Society, the Society for the Abolition of Slavery, the Peace and the Temperance Societies.

The mere descriptions of these would have been insufficient; but the interest excited by reading of them is greatly enhanced by a supplement of twelve pages, on which are correctly engraved two dozen fac-similes of the productions above mentioned; many of which are now of extreme rarity, and, in fact, have been preserved from utter destruction and oblivion by the merest chance. The price of the number in question has been raised from 40 centimes to a franc; but, we assure our readers, its value is proportionably enhanced. We recommend its purchase to all postage-stamp fanciers as a great curiosity.

The Permanent Postage-Stamp Album.

By H. STAFFORD SMITH. London: E. Marlborough and Co.; Brighton: Stafford Smith and Co.

The purpose of this addition to the swelling number of postage-stamp albums is explained in the preface thereto. Many communications having testified to the great need of such a work as the above, our publisher has set himself to produce such, and has, in our opinion, met with all reasonable success.

It is obvious that all albums provided with compartments for every known stamp only, must fail in room at each additional issue. For these, either a supplementary album is required, or loose leaves will have to be added, either of which methods is plainly inconvenient. In the album before us the want of space is met by the interleaving of additional pages, sixty in number, allowing the intercalation of seventeen hundred stamps more than are catalogued therein, according to actual issues.

At the side of each page devoted to countries, possessing few, and of the earlier pages, when extensive series of emissions exist, stands a simply explanatory catalogue of all normal indi-

viduals, each numbered in accordance with the compartments destined for the described individual. A few blanks are left, which may be filled up either with accepted varieties or future emissions of similar types; and many more will be found at the end of the country's pages. In addition are the extra leaves noted above, for the insertion of future sets, the issues of states yet unrepresented in a postal way, or even (if in accordance with the views of any particular collector) for the preservation of receipt, telegraph, railway, or other impressions of like nature. These supplementals are distinguished by an asterisk.

The volume is carefully got up; the paper of the finest quality, and the printing and binding peculiarly neat and effective. It is worth remark that the book is provided with gilt clasps, strongly rivetted; not affixed in the unsatisfactory method usually adopted for stamp albums.

The work is composed of upwards of two hundred pages, and includes a copious index, a correct money table, and a specially engraved map of the world, specially signaling all postage-stamp producing countries. That we may not be accused of partiality, we may venture one slight objection—the shape of the volume. However much we may approve of the French style of collecting, we do not like the oblong form invariably found in continental albums, decidedly preferring the usual quarto adopted in England. With this one exception, we cannot write in too exaggerated praise of our publisher's latest candidate for the suffrages of the philatelic world.

LETTER-WRITING IN ENGLAND.—All letters, even those of a private nature, were composed in Latin, until the commencement of Edward the First's reign, when it was superseded in a great measure by the French language. The only known letter previous to the Norman Conquest is preserved in the Cottonian MSS. It is from Wuldhm, Bishop of London, to Beretuald, Archbishop of Canterbury, who lived from 692 to 731. The first private letter in English is one written by the lady of Sir John Felham to her husband in 1399. Parchment was used until the reign of Edward I., when paper was introduced.

PUZZLES FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

CONUNDRUMS.

1. What post town in Ireland ought to be most interesting to a botanist?
2. What letter confronted becomes what obliterated stamps are?

TRANSPOSITIONS.

INSCRIPTIONS ON POSTAGE STAMPS.

1. Stop, sit, get, task.
2. adegghiiiiillnnnrsssv.
3. aceceeffginnopsssttu.
4. aaaaabcccccdeeeeeeiiilnnnoopprrsstt uuvvzz.
5. aaaccccddeeeceefiilmnnnoooooopp qrrrrssssuuu.

CHARADES.

I.

I am a word of seven letters.

My 7, 6, 5, is fortune.

My 4, 3, 2, is a title.

My 1, 6, 7, 5, is a dart.

My 5, 6, 3, 7, is labour.

My 2, 3, 6, 5, is a tumult.

My *whole* is a city of England.

II.

I am a word of eight letters.

My 4, 7, 6, 1, is a plant.

My 4, 2, 7, 6, is the ocean.

My 4, 8, 3, 1, is part of a ship.

My 3, 1, 8, 7, 6, is a blot,

My 3, 1, 5, 4, 7, 6, 2, is the principal strength of any thing.

My *whole* is a stamp-producing British colony.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

I.

I. A stamp-producing country.

II. The name of its capital.

1. A grand entertainment.

2. A floating frame of woodwork.

3. A point of time.

4. A machine.

5. A rule.

6. A figure of syntax.

II.

I. What some stamps are.

II. What other stamps are.

1. A military ornament.

2. Three-fourths of what every one possesses.

3. A destructive insect.

4. Half a well-known bird.
5. A plant.
6. A planet.
7. A compendium.
8. A written document.

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

1. A collector of stamps has many a good specimen in his album.
2. The banditti at break of day retired to the mountains.
3. We must not give way to lethargy, lest all our faculties should fail.
4. Some navvies had undertaken to complete a job at a viaduct.
5. Van Amburg, the famous lion-tamer, I can well remember.
6. The Emperor, with much ceremony and grandeur, opened the Exhibition.
7. Charles the First laid his head on the block with pious resignation.

PRIZES.

Twelve rare Foreign Stamps will be given to those Subscribers answering most of the above Puzzles. Replies, accompanied by the cheque given in the advertisement sheet of each number, must be addressed to "The Editor of The Philatelist, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 18th of Dec.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

(Pp. 152.)

CONUNDRUMS.

1. In Reading.
2. Because it is the first in formation (information).
3. Sligo (sly go.)
4. One designs the stamp and the other stamps the design.

TRANSPOSITIONS.

1. REPUBLICA DEL PARAGUAY, CINCO CENTS.
2. ULTRAMAR CENT. C. O. R. R.
3. SAHAWAK, THREE CENTS, J. B. R. S.
4. CORREOS DEL SALVADOR, DOS REALES, DOS REALES.
5. STRAITS SETTLEMENT, POSTAGE TWELVE CENTS.
6. WESTERN AUSTRALIA, POSTAGE ONE PENNY.

CHARADES.

1. South, wold—Southwold.
2. Rim, acre, mace, crime, camera—America.
3. Van, zeal, nave, even, value, eleven—Venezuela.
4. Tear, bat, Siberia, Rye—Aberystwith.

DOUBLE ACROSTICS.

1. Brazil, Empire :—

B aal E

R	otterda	M
A	lep	P (o)
Z	ur	I (ch)
I	lminste	R
L	isl	E

2. Austria, Kreuzer :—

A	rrac	K
U	proa	R
S	chem	E
T		U (be)
R	a	Z (or)
I	mag	E
A	nswe	R

3. Repub., Franc :—

R	ebuf	F
E	a	R
P	hil	A (telist)
U	ncommo	N
B	ri	C (k)

BURIED POST TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Namur. | 7. Worthing. |
| 2. Haiti. | 8. Taunton. |
| 3. Hebrides. | 9. St. Helena, Spa, Abo, |
| 4. Ostend. | India, Asia, Rome, |
| 5. Ingatstone. | Autum, Oude, Ur- |
| 6. Germany, Nevers. | sel, Lynn. |

PRIZES.

The following is a list of prize winners, with the number of correct answers sent by each :—

Arthur Lincoln, Devonport; E. W. Braseholn, Hackney (26 each); L. E. Gray, Notting Hill (25); Wilson Greene, Falmouth, J. H. R., J. Squintani, Highbury, — Robinson, E. Yolland, London (24 each); E. Dashwood, Brighton, W. D. Hemming, Notting Hill, no name, A. Jennings, Gravesend (23 each).

The above prize winners will not be allowed to compete again until February, in order to give all subscribers a fair chance of winning our prizes.

Answers have also been received from the following :—

W. F. Craies, E. Wells, A. Butler, E. Carbonell, "Ignoramus," F. D. Hunt, M. Stephenson (22 each); A. Ellis, J. R. Smith (21 each); F. Robertson (20); W. Lacy (19); "Panay," G. B. Silke (18); R. R. Cole, Edinburgh (16).

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CASHMERE STAMPS AND OTHER MATTERS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—With reference to my Cashmere paper, and the supposed omission of the 1 anna blue, which occasions such surprise to "A French Collector" and to Dr. Boley, also several doubts by *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, I have simply to say that my paper being unfinished their criticisms are premature; that by the "French Collector" anticipates part of the concluding portion of my article, which is again held back, as it is not as complete as I could wish it.

In your last number there is an account of a 3 cent (error for 8c.) Shanghai of so mysterious and unfathomable a character, that, as the original chronicler and possessor of the variety, I feel bound to notice it. In your number of Sept. 1st I added to former lists, a 3 candarfeus of the first set, and a 3 cents of the second. In the *Timbre Poste* of the 15th, the latter is recorded, as "type

en usage" "semblable au 8 cents même nuance." In the *Timbrophile* of the 30th we get a little further, for M. Mahé boldly announces that M. Moens indicates the existence of a variety of "3 cents actuel qui, au lieu d'être jaune, est bleu." The benefit of these two accounts is given us in the last *Philatelist*. You evidently forget that it was not known until chronicled in your own pages by myself, and that M. Moens and M. Mahé get it indirectly from thence.* M. Moens first says it is of the current type; M. Mahé copies that and says it should by rights be yellow, whilst everyone overlooks the facts that the current series has the value in candareens, and that in the cent series there is no yellow value at all. A delightful confusion, and resulting when it gets back to England, in being one of those things "no fellow can understand."

I was very sorry to find no notice taken of Mr Hemming's letter about the Philatelic Society. I put myself in communication with him, and I hope that the January number of *The Philatelist* will contain the notice of the foundation of a Society. Will no collector give us his support unasked for? The names we already have, as our supporters, are all correspondents of mine, and have all required writing to, since no one has responded to Mr Hemming's letter in the September *Philatelist*. The advantages of such a society are clear, and I cannot but think when it is once established, its success is certain.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD L. PEMBERTON.

Birmingham.

* [We think it by no means certain that M. Moens chronicled his variety from Mr Pemberton's.—ED.]

THE CASHMERE STAMPS.

To the *Editeur* of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—Allow me a small space for further remarks on the highly-interesting Cashmere stamps, so carefully, clearly, and freshly brought before the philatelic public, first by your able contributor, Mr Pemberton, and again by "A Parisian Collector," last month. It would appear circumstantially settled that the round, red individual (not unreasonably imagined by M. Maury, under the mazy circumstances attending the earlier appearance of these outlandish impressions) is really a myth.

That matter may be considered at rest; but there still remains uncertainty respecting the values of the blue rectangulars. I hope Mr Pemberton will give us a pendant to his paper, clearing up, in some measure at least, this doubt. He is, perhaps, waiting for reliable information. As before remarked, it is singular that he makes no mention of the tolerably well-known blue 1 anna. Respecting this and other blue rectangulars, there seems a further imbroglia, rendering their disentanglement still more difficult. This will be evident, on reference to an article in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, for last month.

It is there remarked that, in addition to the blue 6 pies, (which is the stamp usually included in the set of six now current), there is not only the 1 anna, but a half anna of the same blue colour. I cannot at all understand this; because I have always concluded that 6 pies and a half anna come under the old saw, "six of one and half a dozen of the other." To make "confusion

were confounded," the writer of the paper in question gravely states that the blue 1 anna cannot be, as M. Mahé states, (on the authority of your editor, by the way,) a local for the city of Cashmere—because there is no town of that name! He adds that Serinagar, probably, is really the locality intended to be referred to. That it certainly is, the latter name being *de jure et facto* identical with the former. In fact, the small circle denoting the locality of the capital of the beautiful and fertile shawl-valley, will be oftener found in an atlas marked with the former and better known name under one of its various orthographical aliases than with its uncouthly sounding substitute Serinagar.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,
PUZZLED.

London.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, it is proposed to set apart a portion of *The Philatelist* each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements must be accompanied by the cheque given with each number.
2. No advertisements shall exceed sixty words.
3. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 18th of the month.
4. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.
5. Subscribers wishing to reply to advertisements can obtain a list of the names and addresses of the advertisers, by sending a stamped and directed envelope to the Editor of *The Philatelist*.

A. B. has the following stamps to sell or exchange:—Austria, envelopes eagle, 5, 10, and 15 kr.; Brunswick, $\frac{1}{2}$ gr., oval black; Denmark, 4 r. b. a. brown; Holland, 2nd issue, 5, 10, and 15 cent.; present issue, 5, 10, 15, 20, and 50 cents; St. Helena, 4d rose and 1s green; Canada, new issue, 1, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 15 cents., and many others.

MEDICUS has for exchange:—Bermuda, 6d; Barbados, 1s; St. Helena, 1d; Cape, 1s; French Republic, 20 c.; Jamaica, 1d; Egypt, 5 p., old and new issue; Hamburg, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ sch; New Brunswick, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; Hong Kong, 6 c., 30 c.; Russia, 1, 5, and 20 kop.; Portugal, 120 r.; Canada, 5 c. beaver; Sardinia, 10 c.; all used. Bergedorf, $\frac{1}{2}$ sch.; Brunswick, $\frac{1}{2}$ gr., black, unused. Wanted: Nevis, Grenada, St. Lucia, Virgin Islands, Barbados, &c. &c.

H. S.—has the following unused foreign stamps for exchange amongst others are La Guaira, St. Helena, rare Bremen, Papal States, Luxemburg, Heligoland, Russia for Levant post, all kinds of French, Brazil, Egypt, Prussia, Venezuela, Switzerland, Bermuda, Spanish Officials, Spain, Canada, and many others, would exchange for any other stamps of equal value used or unused.

SHOEBURNESS.—I have to exchange—1d Cape on blue paper, Cuba 1855; Tasmania, unperforated 6d mauve and slate 1s red; Barbados unperforated 1s black; Bavaria, 1k black; New Zealand, 6d star unperforated; St. Vincent, Bermuda, Sierra Leone, Roman 80 cent., Argentine Republic

5 cent., Rivadavia, Parma 25 and 40 cent., Barbados, Nova Scotia, Antigua, old American, Malta, and many other good stamps. I am in want of unperforated Queensland stamps, ditto New South Wales, Sweden 3 k. green; Portugal Maria 5 r. red-brown, 100 r. violet; Pedro V. 5 r. red-brown, curled hair; British Guiana 1 c. rose; Barbados, name at bottom; red perforated and unperforated Trinidad. Send sheet of stamps with prices marked under each.

T. B.—I have 10 sets of Brunswick; 1 Bolivia; 20 new Canada, 1 c., 3 c., 2 c., and 12 c.; 30 new Dutch, 10 c., 15 c., and 50 c.; Egypt Official, 4 sets of new Egypt; Madeira. I want Grenada, St. Lucia, Newfoundland, and any kinds of rare or common Colonials or Continentals.

J. G.—I have for exchange Western Australia, Canada, Barbados, British Guiana, Bremen, Switzerland, Victoria, &c. I am in want of Brazil (all the large italic figures) 300 black, Mexico, Parma, Turkey, Egypt, Spanish, Peru, &c.

W. J.—I have to exchange Jamaica, New Zealand, Confederate States, Servia, Constantinople, Roumania, Rigi Kaltbad, and St. Lucia. I am in want of Bremen, Barbados, British Guiana, Brunswick, Shanghai, Tasmania, and Western Australia.

P. H. C.—I have to exchange Brazil, small figures, 300, 480 reis; Portugal (queen), 5 reis; Don Pedro, 100 reis; Don Luis, 100 reis; Don Luis (present issue), 10, 50, 80, and 100 reis, imperforate; Austria, envelope head, 25kr; Thurn and Taxis, South, 30kr; Oldenburg (1852) 1-30 1-10 thaler; Western Australia, 1p black, imperforate; Wurtemberg (figure) 1kr; Hanover (1854, waved), 1-30, 1-15, 1-10 thaler; India, 4 and 8 annas (blue paper); Victoria, 1p. fil., 4, 6, 2p. fil. thick 4; Vancouver Island, 10 cents; New South Wales, 4d and 5s; and Nova Scotia, 3d.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

D. H. H., Geelong.—Thanks for the Victoria governmentals. The gazette stamp, according to your information, franking from the office direct only, can scarcely claim admittance in a collection. The TREASURER FRANK STAMP, actually passing the post, several of which we have seen of similar natures, may be included with greater propriety; but the difficulty in procuring such impressions will prevent their attaining much popularity.—Although yourself may never have met with the variety chronicled by Mr Pemberton, it may yet exist. Your mention of the current 2d., watermark 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, twopence, and sixpence, crown and v, and none, is proof of the anomalous man-

agement in the printing of the Victorians. The variety on tinted paper seems the one alluded to by our next correspondent.—You should have read the *whole* of our instructions, and you would have found that exception is made "to those British colonies or places where Post-office orders are obtainable."

P. H. C., Regent's Park.—The 3 pfennig and 1-10 thaler of Hanover having, with others of the same issue, been reprinted, is no proof of the non-genuine character of those actually postmarked, such as you state yours to be.—Your 20 cmos. lilac Spanish type of 1864, was actually emitted in 1866.—The colours and watermarks of the Victoria stamps are so erratic that it is almost impracticable to chronicle them.—There is no doubt of the issue of a new set for Spain as soon as the government is in a state to attend to such matters. We have no expectation of any issue for Madeira and the Azores other than the "doctored" Portuguese.

J. M. S., Ryde.—This correspondent forwards the drawing of a stamp, description as follows: Size of the Liberians; head to left under arched band, containing the word LETTER; U. STATES on the left, EXPRESS on the right, TWO CENTS below, U. S. C. C. at the four angles; perforated, light green. Though gummed, we should pronounce it a Yankee speculation on credulity.—Your U. S. fac-similes are well known. You cannot complain of their dearness at 10d. per dozen. For some reason, as you say, the blue variety has ever been the rarest.—There is no probability of another edition of *Moens' Illustrations*.—The publishers of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* would, doubtless, be in favour of your patronizing them as well as ourselves.

T. S. F., Liverpool.—You speak of a 2 c. Honduras, pink on white. We do not know such a value; but think it unlikely that the same colour should be selected for two values.

J. E. M., Boston.—In all probability your suggestion will be attended to. Any catalogue published for general use would be too bulky and expensive, if containing all varieties, such as those chronicled by Mr Pemberton in his elaborate paper on the Victoria stamps. The better way in all cases of the kind would be the publication of complete monographs in the postage-stamp magazines exhaustive of the subject.

J. H. H., Geelong.—We shall be happy to send you a copy of the *Permanent Stamp Album* advertised in the present number, on receipt of a Post-office order. The postage of album would be 3s.—In future, please remit by Post-office order.—Thanks for your offer, but we do not wish to appoint an agent.—The seals you send are of no use.

END OF VOL. II.



RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

EGYPT.

FOR once the philatelic writers seem in complete concordance, uniting one and all in abuse of the new Egyptian issue. And with good reason; they are a very inferior semi-reproduction of the superseded type. An Arabic inscription (not the same) remains above, but the lower one is displaced for the words *POSTE KHEDEUIE EGIZIANE*, in block letters. Pompey's pillar gives place to some more Arabic characters, and Cleopatra's needle to the word of value. This latter circumstance is the only improvement of practical value, the letters at the upper corners



of the higher values in the late set not sufficiently designating the monetary denomination. Numerals figure in each angle in the series now in use, to which is added a hitherto unrepresented value, the $2\frac{1}{2}$ piastres. In the central oval the sphinx has receded a little to the left of the pyramid; at all the corners between this oval and the outer frame are

a star and a half-moon. They are watermarked with the same design as their predecessors, coloured impressions on white, and perforated as before. We have now :—

5 paras,	pale brown.	1 piastre,	vermilion.
10 "	mauve.	2 "	yellow.
20 "	blue.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ "	purple.
		5 piastres,	pale green.

The lowest value is represented above. In another part of this number will be found a communication from a philatelist, some time resident in Egypt, ruthlessly knocking on the head all our preconceived notions respecting the numerous tribe of circular impressions, so long designated Egyptian locals. We must own to a feeling of great disappointment thereat, after the great pains taken by ourselves and friends to prepare complete lists of these nondescripts.

SIERRA LEONE.

A new set, consisting of five values, is reported for this colony; the circumstance may have some relation to the late changes that have taken place with regard to our West African possessions. Not improbably, the issue in question will do duty alike for the above colony, the Gambia, and the Coast settlements in general.

CHILI.



IMPRESA ALBION.—2483-11-71.

We are indebted to an esteemed correspondent at Valparaiso for a specimen of the post card of which the above figure will give some idea. The original measures about $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{10}$ inches; is printed black, on white cardboard of the same consistency as our own. It is perfectly plain on the back; the front has a neat framework of outer wavy, and inner plain lines, enclosing a row of diamonds dotted in the centre. The inscription, CARTA TARJETA (letter card) is composed of fancy letters like those in our cut, but thinner, and encompassed by lines and unshaded. The S.D., IMPRESA ALBION (Albion Press), and date mark, are slightly larger in the original.

In common with the new Russian post card, this emission has the disqualification of bearing no impressed stamp; 1 centavo, 2 c., or 5 c. adhesives having to be affixed; the former two for land routes, the latter carrying per steamer. These are the first postals of the kind issued in South America, and will doubtless prove pioneers for many more.

As will be seen, the card bears the date of November last; but none were sold to the public till the 23rd December. They very soon became popular, and the public began agitating for some with impressed stamps. This urgency was quickly acceded to; a batch of 2 c. black and 5 c. red correspondence cards being ordered to be prepared by the authorities.

At the same time announced to be forthcoming, are envelopes of these respective values and colours:—

2 centavos	bronze	|	10 centavos	blue
5 "	red	|	15 "	(?)
	20 centavos			green

In conformity with the additional value here quoted, an adhesive 15 centavos will come out; the colour of these is not yet decided on. The envelopes will be composed of white, and yellow and blue tinted paper. They are to be manufactured in the United States, most probably by the

American Bank-Note Company, and will, presumably, bear the same head hitherto employed for Chilian postals.

Our correspondent calls attention to a fact which, we believe, has been previously noticed in our pages, that the earliest 10 c. has been frequently employed in lieu of 5 cent stamps by being diagonally divided; stating also, that the lower value being scarce at present, the same contrivance is being used.

VICTORIA.

The same correspondent mentions the possession of a fourpenny beaded oval of this colony, watermarked with the words FIVE SHILLINGS placed diagonally, the letters F and SH not showing.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Except the slight notice of the original of this stamp in the last number, many a long month,—nearly seven years, in fact,—have elapsed since we have had the chance of noticing any novelty from this once-pregnant colony. The Swan River stamps have always met with deserved popularity, both here and on the continent, from their quaint but appropriate design, effective colours, and artistic execution. The new comer may be said to cap the lot; and we hope it may prove the forerunner of a whole set of similar type. It even surpasses its predecessors in excellence of engraving, and the bird shows to still greater advantage than before in its oval frame. We understand this new value is designed for inter-colonial postage. The impression is fawn-coloured, perforated, and watermarked with crown and c c.



CEYLON.

We have seen two values of the new set recently emitted for this island, and reported last month. They come, indubitably, from the *atelier* of Messrs. De La Rue; bearing a very strong family likeness to all their productions, especially to the current set for the Straits Settlements, with which, in size and most other respects, they are identical. Her Majesty's crowned head to left, with central circular frame, inscribed CEYLON POSTAGE in capitals; value at full length in straight band below:—

4 cents, slate | 48 cents, full pink

We are informed that a 96 cents also has appeared; colour next month.

SWEDEN.

This cut portrays the envelope impression duly chronicled in our pages last month. The new post card has the same impression in deeper blue on white; the rest of the printing being mauve. A 6 öre, and a rix dollar value, are stated to be forthcoming; and the 17 öre is said to be on the point of suppression.



CANADA.

The larger 6 cents of this colony having been exhausted, the same

value has come into use impressed in smaller type, like the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 3 cents. Colour nearly as before, but rather brighter.

NORWAY.

The individuals (of which this cut is an uncoloured fac-simile) have a charming appearance, the engraving being finely-executed, and the colour a rich carmine. There is a 4 sk., violet, of the same type; and we were assured there are, or will be, other values to complete the set. The watermark is a post-horn. There is also an envelope bearing a similar impression, and of like value with the 3 sk. (here figured), which same stamp is printed on a yellow post card, narrow oblong, with carmine border, inscribed BREV-KORT. (PAA DENNE SIDE



SKRIVES KUN ADRESSEN). TIL.

RUSSIA.

The new post card for this country is a disappointment to collectors, there being no stamp impressed. Printed in black on thin white pasteboard, are explanatory inscriptions in Russian characters. The sole attempt at ornament is the armorial bearings of the empire. A large black border gives the idea of a funeral card. The reverse destined for written communications bears the unsatisfactory information that the safe arrival of the missive is not guaranteed by the post-office!

Locals. In last year's *Stamp-Collector's Magazine's* catalogue of these interesting emissions, is mentioned a 3 kopecks red-brown for Soummy, and on page 89 of the same volume is quoted a 5 k. We are empowered to add another value of similar type, a 1 k. dark blue, which was probably a much earlier issue, extinct before the higher values appeared. The specimen in question, presumably while they were in contemplation, is surcharged with the figure 5, hand-impressed in red ink. We have on view also, another of these queerities hitherto uncatalogued here or elsewhere. It is a second value for Novgorod. Except, perhaps, the 3 k. Belosersk, it is the most poorly-executed specimen of the numerous tribe to which it belongs. It is hand-stamped in black, on sky-blue glazed paper; rectangular, smaller sized than any of its congeners, the impression itself measuring three-fifths by barely two-fifths of an inch; the whole rectangle, which has one advantage, that of perforation, being seven by nine-tenths of an inch. The device is almost undecipherable; consisting of central shield, containing armorial bearings of the same nature as those on the 5 k.: viz., chair, supporting sceptre, trident, and cross, guarded by bears. The legend encircling this is, "Rural Administration of the Novgorod Government, Demensk, 3 kop." Initial letters of the same are at the four corners.

GERMAN EMPIRE.

The existing pair of registration stamps are similar to those lately employed; but the colours are rather brighter, and the inscription DEUTSCHE REICHS-POST displaces the previous NORDDEUTSCHER POSTBEZIRK (NOT NORDDEUTSCHES BEZIRK, as remarked in *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine.*)

A compound post card has been emitted; one half of which is devoted

to the reply, which is prepaid by the sender. These cards are printed in black, on pale pink, in two types, in which the size of the arms and lettering vary.

SPANISH COLONIES.

Last month's *Stamp-Collector's Magazine* announces the report of a set issued on New Year's Day for the current year. The type is figured of a pale brown colour in *The Philatetical Journal*, copied from a proof impression. The peculiarly long-faced King Amadeus is here portrayed within an oval frame inscribed ULTRAMAR above; 25 CENTS. DE PESETA below; CORREOS on either side. The spandrils are filled in with ornamentation, amid which is dimly perceived small figures of value. The above-mentioned journal confirms the existence of the whole of the 1868 set of Cubans, Habilitado-märked.



GREAT BRITAIN.

A description of the new telegraphic post card, impressed with our green shilling envelope stamp, appears in another part of this number; the peculiarity of the emission demanding distinctive notice. Interesting varieties of our penny envelopes, in the well-known Smith & Elder style, have been prepared by Messrs. Parkins and Gotto. Her Majesty's head encircled by a ring bear their names, &c., in white cameo letters on a ground of dull plum colour, or bright green. The latter hue, contrasting with the pink, has a pleasing effect. A correspondent announces the possession of an envelope on Dickinson silk-threaded paper, dated 24-4-60. Most likely many more of similar nature will turn up.

UNITED STATES.

The envelope of which this depicts the postal impression, was described many months back, when first issued in conformity with a postal convention with Germany. This having proved abortive, the envelope, in conjunction with its congeneric adhesive, bearing the head of the same worthy, is used but rarely if at all. They fully, however, answer the purpose of adorning postage-stamp collectors' albums, from beauty of engraving and great brilliance of colour. The portrait is that of Edwin Stanton, late war secretary, and



is in high relief on bright vermilion. The envelopes are pale lemon coloured. *The Philatetical Journal* queries the difference between the two types of 15 cents envelopes catalogued in our Summary last month. They are figured in proximity in last year's volume. The shapes are peculiarly unlike, as are the portraits represented; one being Webster's, the other Lincoln's!

WEST INDIES.

We should imagine there would shortly be a variation, however slight, in the type of the Nevis stamps; the sheets of the penny value, just received, bearing strong marks of the deterioration of the plate employed. A late mail brought us a sheet of black St. Vincents, with reversed watermark. The stock of the French colonial 1 centime

stamps has been exhausted for nearly two years; no more are apparently forthcoming from the mother-country. Our West Indian correspondent writes that he has received those of the empire in lieu. His letter was franked also with an impression of the 40 c. *republic*, side by side with the 5 c. and 80 c. eagles. What an amalgamation of issues!

FIJI ISLANDS.

Since chronicling the new set for these islands, we have met with the penny blue, surcharged with TWO CENTS; the former word above the crown, and the latter below the initials. Our contemporaries mention also the other two values treated similarly. We annex an engraving of the sixpenny value, which, it will be observed, differs but slightly in design from the threepenny represented last month. *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* very judiciously copies a list from *The Philatetical Journal* of all the known varieties of the newspaper issue, in order that collectors may henceforward distinguish the genuine article from any future reprints "made to sell."



Paper, *quadrillé*: 1d., 3d., 6d., 1s.
 „ laid: 1d., 3d., 6d., 9d., 1s.
 „ *batonné*: 1d., 3d., 6d., 9d., 1s.

JAPAN.

The Philatetical Journal adds a third shade of green to those usually seen; giving two varieties in hue of each of the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 tenpo values, and one only of the 1 t. We have light and dark specimens of this latter, which are possibly unintentional deviations from the normal tint; and one of our brown specimens is on much thinner paper than the other. The editor gives the equivalent of a tenpo as a Java or Ceylon cent; adding, that a hundred of them are equal to two shillings and a penny or twopence. In that case, the 48 cents Ceylon new issue, described by us previously, is a substitute for the old shilling stamp, not for the two shilling as we imagined.

SWITZERLAND.

The original of this cut, received on a letter by a correspondent of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, so long ago as September, 1870 (query, 1871), was issued for similar purposes to those of the Rigi labels, &c., by the proprietor of an hotel erected in the valley of Maderaner, or Kerstelen Thal, which Murray pronounces "little visited, but well worth exploring; full of waterfalls, glaciers, and fir-woods without equal." A pilgrimage in search of these stamps from the fountain-head, will be a nice holiday excursion for philatelists next summer or autumn. They are printed ultramarine on white paper. Device and value may be seen above. The hue of the 25 c. is now sea-green.



DECCAN.

Last month's *Philatetical Journal*, noticing the current 1 anna, remarks that it has never yet been chronicled, though in another part of the same number the editor criticizes our mis-description of its colour in the summary of last year's novelties! On page 123 of *The Stamp-Collector's*

Magazine a proof of this stamp is noted by Mr. Pemberton himself,—the colour is pronounced deep lilac; in the last number of the same volume the colour is quoted russet-brown! It is neither of the two; nor is it almost black, nor a rich black-brown, as fixed by *The Philatelic Journal*: still less is it lilac, as copied in our summary from its first notice in the magazine from report, before we had ever seen the stamp. With a specimen before our eyes, we find it much easier to tell what colour it is not, than what it is. A very dull puce-brown is the hue most approaching the truth.

HELIGOLAND.

The 2 schilling adhesive has followed suit with the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1, being now hole-perforated.

ON TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

BY THE EDITOR.

“To be, or not to be (collected); this is the question.”



THE recent issue of a telegraphic postal card for home use, impressed with a stamp identical with that employed for our shilling adhesive, naturally suggests enquiry, whether it should or should not be admissible into philatelic albums. Our own opinion is decidedly in its favour, both reason and analogy ranging themselves on the side of the “yeas.” After a few confirmatory remarks, therefore, it must be left to the opposition to prove—if not, why not?

Since telegraph stamps have been in use, partially or otherwise, for about fifteen years, it may be objected that the matter in question ought to have been settled long ago. This would probably have been the case, and that affirmatively, had not the telegraph offices of Great Britain universally belonged to private companies. Their adhesives, consequently, even if considered postals, fell under the category of locals; and were consigned to the background, together with our own abortive circular deliveries, the Hamburg tribe, and others of similar nature. The transfer of the telegraphic department of correspondence to the government, and its being placed solely under control of the post office, throws quite another aspect on the moot point. Telegraphic despatches are neither more nor less than express letters, and the stamps that free, or rather prepay them, are rejected with just as much reason as a race-horse's saddle could be argued not to be a saddle because it is carried so fast!

Some half-dozen or more foreign states have emitted stamps of this nature, under strictly postal supervision, for a considerable period; and continental collectors, accepting the analogy, in some instances have enriched, in others supplemented, their albums with specimens of the impressions we now plead for. In the third volume of *The Philatelist*, page 57, we reviewed an album published by M. Moens, of Brussels, expressly for the admission of telegraph stamps. In the present number will be found a review of that same well-known writer's latest edition of his album, in which are spaces assigned for all the known telegraphic impressions in conjunction with what have been termed postals proper.

The state of the case lies thus: postage stamps and telegraph stamps

are manufactured and supplied solely for and by the postal authorities; they equally prepay all correspondence, according to their nature. In most instances, their nature, designs, and proportionate values are similar, if not identical; and in that of the new arrival, which has formed the basis of this article, it has lost the dignity of a special message communication, entailing the trouble of dictation, and much tedious form, and may actually be dropped into a letter, or even a pillar, box like any humble half-penny post card!

Most of our readers have possibly seen the card we have been alluding to. Those who have not, lose no treat. It is severely practical, and frightfully unprepossessing in appearance. It is about the usual size of post cards; one side filled with elaborate directions for use; the other has ruled compartments for names and addresses, and one for each of the twenty words allowed; and, contrary to the universal custom ever observed on all our own postal cards, envelopes, and letters, the impression is impressed on the left hand upper corner. The ruled lines and inscriptions are black, on a white card of that particular consistency which never looks clean.

After this long preamble, without attempting to dictate, but leaving the option to collectors to follow their own judgment, we have only to add that we purpose, in future, to describe all telegraphic emissions as they appear. We have hitherto done so occasionally only: to bring, therefore, before our readers' eyes every information on the subject, we shall compose a descriptive list of all the telegraphic impressions that have yet appeared, commencing next month with the earliest of our own.

THE SPUD PAPERS; OR, NOTES ON PHILATELIC WEEDS.

BY W. DUDLEY ATLEE.

XIV.

British Guiana.

1860.—ONE, TWO, FOUR, VIII., XII., AND XXIV. CENTS.

ALTHOUGH each value of these stamps is from the same matrix, two dies are found of the 1, 2, 8, and 12 cents. The sole difference is in the lower lettering, which in the earliest has the value and CENTS farther apart than in the later stamps. Only a single type exists of the 4 and 24 cents. For the benefit of our readers, we extract the following condensed list from *The Philatelic Journal*:

Type I.	}	1, 2, 8, 12 c., each perf. 12 and 13 c.;
		12 c. perf. 10.
„ II.		1, 2, 8, 12 c., each perf. 13 and 10.



The forgeries are badly perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$, with diamond-shaped dents. It will suffice to add, that the forged are all inscribed RETIMUSOVE, to prevent anyone from being taken in.

The genuine have PETIMUSQUE, but with the tail of q badly defined.

VI. CENTS.

Forgery.—Very coarse; above and below the lettered circle is a white

oblong space, with three lines; and at sides are short strokes of shading. The *o* in the inscription is almost square. The Roman numerals touch each other. Neither of the letters *n* have a top stroke on the left side.

Genuine.—The background, with the exception of the corner ornaments, is solid; and the lettering is well formed. *v* and *i* are separate.



XXIV. CENTS.

Forged.—A poor lithograph, having a whitey washed-out look. Mast of ship touches lettered-circle, but the bow is some distance away from it. Pattern at bottom of circle too much to the left, and nearer the upper line than the lower.

Genuine.—Sky heavily shaded; mast of vessel does not touch the circle, but the bow does. Pattern in circle is in the centre of the lower portion. Corner ornaments clear and graceful.

Turks Islands.

ONE PENNY, SIXPENCE, AND ONE SHILLING.

The imitations of these stamps are simply execrable, and may be detected by the paper and gum.

Forged.—Background speckled, without any attempt at pattern, except a few loops on the left side. Profile of Queen very poor and indistinct. Lettering not nearly so deep as the labels containing it. Paper thin and white, and white gum.

Genuine.—Finely engraved, with clearly-defined background. The lettering almost as deep as the labels. Paper crisp, with yellowish gum.



THE PHILATELIC PRESS.

A GREEABLY to notice, we have a large batch of monthlies to comment on; but our remarks this time must be very cursory, neither time nor space allowing much to be said.

Commencing, as before, with the new comer, *The Philatelic Journal*, although our highly respected friend, the editor, fancied himself aggrieved by a remark we intended to be complimentary, we must repeat the same, and persist in the assertion, especially now that we have seen and perused his second number, to the effect that the two numbers alone would be a valuable addition to philatelic literature, were they never to have any successors. We think no higher compliment than this *could* be paid the publication, never having known any other periodical of which the same has been, or could be, said.

Our long-established collaborator, *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, comes next, replete, as it ever is, with readable, useful, and novel articles. We acknowledge the editor's politeness in allowing us the credit of the first mention of the early round Moldavians, which we have often taken occasion to stand up for since; but which now, at last, seem to have been assigned their frequently disputed, but true rank.

The English edition of *The American Journal of Philately* scarcely fulfils the promise of the first number. The sole novelty noted, such as it is, being the blue-banded penny English envelope, issued as a sort of advertisement by Messrs. Lea, the coal merchants.

There are two other home publications to notice,—*The Stamp-Collector's Herald* and *The Star Stamp Journal*. The former, as we observed last month, is not strictly confined to postal literature; what there is, if not particularly novel, is readable. One would imagine the inscriptions on the new Egyptians must be peculiarly illegible, judging from the various readings. This magazine prints it, POSTE KHEPUIE EGIZIANNE! The other journal is conducted by the Warrington Foreign Stamp Company, and is, like the *Herald*, of a complex character, including romance and Christmas fireworks, &c. The article copied from one of Dr. Gray's, though published long since, is aptly included in the first number of a work promoting philately. We are favoured with the novel information that the post card of Canada has no value indicated; and the German field post cards are obsolete!

We have to thank the Hamburg *Allgemeiner Briefmarken Anzeiger* for information respecting the new issue for Norway. The same journal notes one of the Chilian novelties, but misprints the descriptive appellation.

A. Moschkau's Magazin continues a faithful exponent of philatelic information. To it we are indebted for being the first in England to chronicle the change of perforation in the 2 schilling of Heligoland. The editor acknowledges our favourable remarks in last December's number. In an article on the etymology of the word "philately," he falls into the common error of supposing the word is derived from φίλος and τέλος (friend and tax). In such case, the compound would be "philately," not what it is. The second Greek word is ἀτελεια, (exemption from taxation). The idea of M. Herpin, the inventor of the term, was, that a postage stamp exempted the letter on which it is affixed from any further charge.

The United States journals before us are four in number. *The Stamp-Collector's Guide*, Elizabeth, New Jersey, noticed last month: the same remarks are applicable to it. A second, *The Stamp-Collector's Monthly*, New Market, N. H., is smaller still, but has the advantage of coming within the reach of small means, the subscription being 15 cents only per annum; but low as the amount is, the editor does not seem disposed to give his fellow-countrymen trust, prepayment being imperative. *The Collector*, Newburgh, New York, is just double the price, ditto the size, and the third number has a supplementary leaf. This magazine is devoted professedly to autograph, as well as postage-stamp collecting; but does not object to inserting facetiæ having nothing to do with either. Two or three of them would be worth copying, were they ever so slightly philatelic. The last of our transatlantic cousins' productions on view, is *The Philadelphia Monthly*. One page only out of twelve is assigned to postal matters; and we conclude the editor takes but little interest therein, from his considering the interesting Russian locals disgrace our albums. Two or three pages of the wrapper are filled with stamp advertisements.

The Canadian Philatelist for January and February also requires notice. The first number commences with a regret that philately, properly so

called, is so little rife in Canada ; but the editor hopes his magazine will succeed in putting matters in better train. The second number has an article styled, "What shall we Collect?" The writer of the paper does not seem to belong to the exclusive school. We wish the publisher the success he deserves.

Last, not least, remain on view two numbers of the oldest existing magazine devoted to philately, excepting only our old friend *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*. The January number of M. Moens' *Timbre Poste* commences its tenth volume ; and is, as usual, replete with interest. Dr. Magnus concludes his article on the Bavarian envelopes, and commences describing those of Würtemberg. The February number, which was published on the 1st of the month (in lieu of the 15th, as heretofore), had a fortnight's novelties only to chronicle. It introduced, however, some varieties not hitherto chronicled,—viz., British Guianas (date, 1860), of which all the values, except the 48 cents, are discovered to have been printed with the numerals or words of value, in some instances, close to, in others, far apart from the monetary denomination "cents." "Live and learn !"

An interesting article on some early British essays, from the pen of Baron Arthur de Rothschild, takes up the lion's portion of the magazine.

NOTES ON POSTMARKS AS AIDS TO DETECTION OF FORGERIES.

BY W. DUDLEY ATLEE.

I.

FORGERIES are becoming so painfully numerous, and have gained such ground, that every idea must be adopted, and every plan tried, to obtain their extermination. To detect counterfeits by means of the obliterations upon the genuine stamps, may seem strange ; but as most beginners only take used copies (except of those cheap kinds that it does not pay to imitate), we think an examination of postmarks may often prove as advantageous to others as it has sometimes proved to ourselves. Many young collectors have, in a great measure, only themselves to blame ; for if any advice is written for their guidance, they very often pass it by unread, and, as might be expected, are robbed by unprincipled dealers. Although it is not the rule, it will be found that it is the careless tyro who is generally the victim of wholesale swindling ; for the majority of fac-similes could not deceive anybody who *studied* his specimens, as every amateur ought to do. It is quite time some one spoke up about a certain style of collecting, that we once fondly hoped had departed, but which, from the sight of several boys' albums lately, we find is still as rampant as ever. "Ill weeds grow apace" of a verity. We need scarcely say, that we allude to the plan of buying anything like a stamp haphazard, and then sticking it down in a book, no matter how torn or soiled, and still less whether it is genuine or forged. Now, what earthly enjoyment can the possession of such an album as this give to a collector ? He might just as well make a collection of cotton-bobbin or beer-bottle labels, and derive quite as much information, at a less expense. We

cannot improve on the terse advice given by Mr. Pemberton: "Learn to examine stamps, learn their peculiarities, their styles of engraving, their watermarks, and their perforations." Unless this is done, all the papers upon forgeries will have been written in vain.

In these papers it is our intention to note anything relative to the obliteration of stamps that may seem to us valuable, curious, or interesting. The subject of postmarks is a large one, and opens to us an extensive field of study, in which we may cull many flowers of information. We do not recommend the keeping of the same stamp with different marks of cancellation; in fact, we strongly depreciate such a course, as tending to the direction of study into a wrong channel; for if varieties are required, let them be those of either shade, watermark, or perforation.

For convenience of future reference, we will take the countries in their geographico-alphabetic order; and will now, without further prologue, commence our investigations.

Europe.

ALSACE AND LORRAINE.

The stamps for these provinces, having been issued by the Germans, have similar obliteration-marks to those used upon the Imperial stamps,—namely, the town and date, in either an oblong or circle.

AUSTRIA AND ITS PROVINCES.

The postmarks under this heading are so very numerous and uninteresting, that it seems almost a waste of time to chronicle them; in fact, to do so fully is more than we will attempt. We find the name, with date (either in full or in figures), within variously-formed single-line frames, including transverse rectangular, oval, circular, pointed oblong, and octagonal. Another common obliteration upon the earliest stamps, is the name and date without frame, either in roman or script type.

In Venice, a square with angles cut off was at one time used, lettered DA VENEZIA COL VAPORE, above the date in figures. Among the curious obliterations, we have a circle of four concentric rings, with nine dots in the centre; the usual circular mark, surrounded by a cog-wheel; and an impression, similar to the one now in use at most of our provincial post-offices, but with name in centre. Upon the various journal labels, in addition to the marks before mentioned, there is often found a circle containing the imperial eagle, and lettering stating that the stamp has prepaid a *zeitung*, *magazin*, &c., as the case may be.

Forged Obliterations.—These consist of either single or double circles, or a transverse rectangle, with name and date. Upon the commonest forged Mercuries we have the first-named, inscribed WIEN.

BADEN.

The earliest stamps were cancelled by annulations, sometimes three, sometimes four, with numerals in the centre. A similar mark has been adopted for the imitations. Upon some of the second issue we find the numerals within a ring, surrounded by a serrated circle. Afterwards the name and date were placed in a double circle, or in an oblong.

BAVARIA.

The black 1 kr. was cancelled by the cog-wheel mark, so well imitated on the forgeries. This device was continued for some time upon the first series; but the cogs were afterwards broken, and divided from the circle. The present mark is the name and date, after the manner of the lately current Baden; also name and date in two lines.

BELGIUM.

The horrid smudges upon the early issues are so well-known, as scarcely to require description. They seem to have always consisted of figures within bars, varying in thickness and number, but forming either a circle or oval. This hideous design afterwards gave place to the current one, numeral within a diamond of dots. The printed-matter stamps are generally cancelled with the date impression.

BERGEDORF.

Used copies are scarce, and the only cancellation we have seen is the date of day and month, overarched by BERGEDORF.

Forged Obliterations.—There are generally four or more parallel bars, but we have seen an imitation bearing three concentric rings.

(*To be continued.*)

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

Notice sur l'Origine du Prix Uniforme de la Taxe des Lettres, et sur la Création des Timbres-Poste en Angleterre. By ARTHUR DE ROTHSCHILD. Paris, 1872.

This small publication, of some eighty pages, whose title may be freely translated "Notes on the Origin of a Cheap Uniform rate of Postage in England prepaid by Stamps," gives an interesting epitome of Rowland Hill's bold and successful reform. The mere account is supplemented by a running commentary of the writer, introductory of numerous apt observations on the history, causes, modes, and final success of the experiment. An early observation is to the effect that England's motto has been ever, "Without a trial, there's no denial." Equally true is the remark that the opposition party usually contends less against any proposed measure, than the glory of accomplishing the same; frequently passing, when in power, one which it had virulently resisted previously!

The former portion of the title, though soon proving a complete success, caused some inconvenience. Country shopkeepers, combining the post-office business, complained that all their customers were driven away by the crowd of applicants rushing with letters to be stamped and paid for, and resigned their appointment in consequence. This was one grievance. Another was, the door opened for fraud, owing to the enormous increase of coin-circulation, unprotected by any possible surveillance. The remedy was found in that invention of which the most unexpected result is the marvellous rise and progress of philately.

It must not be omitted to state that the work is published expressly for the profit of the French peasants ruined by the late war, to the Society for assisting whom the Baron is secretary.

Album Illustré pour Timbres-Poste et Télégraphe, par J. B. Moens, avec traduction Anglaise par le Docteur C. W. Viner, 9ème édition; entièrement refondue et considérablement augmentée. Bruxelles: J. B. Moens.

This long-established publication, universally acknowledged to hold supremacy over all foreign albums, has been considerably enlarged, to meet the requirements of collectors and collections. It contains representations of no fewer than 780 distinct stamps, not that number more than before, as the printer's English of the preface would give us to understand.

Since the previous edition, a number of countries have joined the ranks of postal emitters, as the Azores, Angola, Mozambique, the Fiji Isles, &c., &c. To all these are assigned roomy compartments, which, equally with the old standards, are so arranged as to allow the admissions of future individuals without spoiling the look of the page. Though nominally published at the beginning of the present year, it was in the printer's hands many months since, which accounts for the omission of the interesting Japanese set. The anticipated German empire issue was, however, so certain of appearing, that blank pages have been left for it.

The money table has been greatly augmented, and, in some few necessary instances, corrected. The principal feature of this new edition remains yet to be commented on,—viz., the addition of whole pages in Great Britain, Spain, &c., where the emissions are numerous, and a smaller allowance in other cases, as in Belgium, &c., for the introduction of telegraph stamps. These impressions being really employed to carry communications, which are virtually express letters, are fully entitled to a place in collections, and, in our opinion, will eventually be generally considered so by all philatelists.

With regard to the so-called geographical arrangement, we have long since entered our protest against it, necessitating, as it does, a constant and wearisome recurrence to the index, which is certainly elaborate and complete. This unnecessary trouble is very poorly compensated for by the compliment of placing Great Britain first in the volume. English collectors would willingly have taken their legitimate place in the alphabet, in preference to the trouble of searching through the frightful jumble of localities presented to their eyes. This spot on the sun excepted, nothing but good can be said of our Belgian father's last contribution to the library of the philatelist.

ON COLLECTING.—From the time that Noah entered the Ark, to the present day, mankind has been afflicted by a mania for collecting various articles,—from the rare and exquisite works of art, to the vulgar one of collecting notes and rents. Noah's collection is the only one on record that can be said to be entirely free from the taint of "humbug." His imitators in these days are "humbugged" and "humbugging" with mermaids, cynocephali, &c. But this article has nothing to with this branch of collecting, but with the art, science, trade, mania, or folly,—call it what you will,—of postage-stamp collecting. When they are collected with the idea of

exhibiting them as specimens of an engraver's skill, it is then an art; when collected to show the progress of civilization, and carefully and systematically arranged to show their properties, it is art and science combined; when collected in quantities to sell at a profit, it is then reduced to a trade. But it is absolute folly to collect them with the design of seeing how many can be gathered, and of putting them in a book without regard to nationality, system, colour, value, or anything else, other than number. These persons soon become tired of collecting, and immediately pronounce stamp collecting a "humbug!"—*The Collector.*

OUR PRIZE ESSAYS.

A GUINEA PRIZE, consisting of Foreign Postage Stamps, is offered each month for the best contribution on the following

SUBJECTS :

- DESCRIPTION OF A HUNDRED FORGERIES, to be accompanied by the Counterfeits themselves. Those mentioned in *Spud Papers* not admissible. By 20th of March.
- ON THE VARIOUS MODES OF PRINTING POSTAGE STAMPS. By 1st of April.
- DESIGN FOR A CARD TO BE USED FOR POSTAGE TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES, at half the usual letter-rate. To be equal in size to our current post card. By 1st of May.

RULES.

1. Articles to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Royal Colonnade, Brighton."
2. Contributions to be written on one side of the paper only.
3. Each page to be numbered.
4. The full name and address of the competitor to be written on the first page, and his initials on the back of each succeeding page.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE EGYPTIAN CIRCULAR STAMPS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

Dear Sir,—A great deal has been written and much labour wasted upon what have been styled "Egyptian Locals,"—a misnomer; for these tickets or labels are not used to frank any letter or even parcel, being actually and simply seals, or marks of the office whence or whither letters are sent.

A slight examination of one of the many lists given in this and other philatelic publications, will tend to refute the idea of their being "Egyptian Locals." It will be found that "Konstantinopoli," "Bairouth," "Tripoli," and other cities, are not in Egypt; and "Latachia," "Salonica," "Scio," &c., Turkish islands, have their names on some of these labels. Now, though the places just named are not in any way governed by the Egyptian authorities, but the Egyptian post-office attends to its own mails throughout Turkey, it is evident that the labels in question are fixed to the packages of letters for this or that place, simply to mark their destinations.

The writer observed one day on the notice board of the Egyptian post-office at Alexandria, a writing concerning the departures of mails. This notice was attached to the board by means of twelve labels, of

type No. IV., Alessandria, lilac-rose. A few days afterwards, this being removed by tearing off, the remains of the labels could be seen for some time, still attached to the boards.

Another time, a brown-paper parcel was handed to the station master at Ramlé (who is also postmaster), which parcel had been sent from Alexandria, sealed by one of the same (type IV.) labels. This also was witnessed by the writer.

Again; a gentleman travelling from India, being a stamp collector, called in at the Alexandrian office to purchase some of these impressions, and received a handful, for which the official charged nothing,—a convincing proof of their non-postal value.

These facts will enable anyone to judge to what position these so-called "Locals" should be delegated, and also whether an album devoted to postals proper is the fit place for them.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

London.

W. E. H.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, a portion of *The Philatelist* is set apart each month to facilitate exchanges.

[For Rules, see *The Philatelist*, for Jan.]

F. CAVELL, Thwaite Rectory, Hanworth, Norwich, has several sheets of good stamps, and is desirous of entering into a correspondence with collectors, for the exchange of stamps. F. C. is willing to correspond with American and other collectors, and will supply them with British Colonials, in exchange for Confederate States, &c. F. C. will give a good exchange for any Cashmere stamps. Among many other good stamps, F. C. has, Denmark, hd. Mercury, brown imp. sq. 4 R.B.S.; French Empire, 1 fr., and Republic, 1 fr.; Mauritius, Britannia, red, value indicated; Ceylon, Confederate States, St. Vincent, Grenada, Chili, &c., &c.

H. WATKINS wishes to exchange for rare genuine stamps, a large quantity of forgeries (over 400 varieties), very useful to collectors who require such for reference, comparison with *Spud Papers*, &c.—H. Watkins, Wisteston Court, Marden, Hereford.

G. HOLT, Wellington College, Berks, has for exchange a good Oppen's Album with 200 stamps, containing many rare ones.

J. A. FOWLER, 3, Franklin Road, Lewes Road, Brighton, has many stamps for exchange, including Roumanian 18

bani (68-69) red; 50 bani light and dark blue; Finland, 20 pen. blue; Mauritius (1861), id., brown; 4d., rose; 6d., green (1863); Western Australia, id. and 2d. (1865), &c., &c. Wants 5/. Great Britain, North German States, old issues, &c.

R. W. BROWN, 3, Aubrey Road, Notting Hill, London, W., has Guatemala 5, 10, and 20 centavos, Salvador ½, 1, 2, and 4 rls., Honduras 2 rls., Costa Rica, New Granada, &c. to exchange for others of equal rarity, or common stamps in large quantities.

EDWARD H. BOWERS, Drogheda, Ireland, will exchange duplicates with any other collectors so disposed.

MISS A. M. CRELLIN, Orry's Dale, Ramsey, Isle of Man, has all the numbers of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* for 1869, which she will give in exchange for foreign stamps. She has also some foreign stamps for exchange.

F. A. GRAY, 10, North 5th Street, Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A., is desirous of obtaining copies of old English stamp-magazines, manuals, and price lists. Will either pay a fair price for them, or give in exchange copies of various similar American publications. Parties having copies of the above, which they are willing to dispose of, will oblige by sending names, condition, and prices.—All letters to be prepaid.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

G. G., Bridge of Allan.—Our best thanks are due to you for your early information and specimens.

F. A. G., Philadelphia, U.S.A.—Our publishers can supply you with *The Illustrated Price Catalogue* (2nd edition), at 9d., or in cloth at 1/3; post-free.

F. W. M., Valparaiso.—We are highly indebted for your attention in the early information of the Chilean novelties, &c., of which, you will observe, we have availed ourselves.

C. L., Bournemouth.—We acknowledge receiving the name of the vendor whence came your forgeries; but our publishers have done business with the firm for a considerable period, without any cause for complaint, and conclude there must be some mistake on your part.

M. R., St. Kilda, Victoria.—The New Zealand and Fiji novelties are chronicled already in our pages. We thank you, nevertheless, for your courtesy in taking the trouble of writing with information of them.

AN ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENT is begged to receive our acknowledgments for his confirmatory note.

F. H. S., Carlsruhe.—We are grateful

for your communication respecting the Baden stamps.

HANOVERIAN, Hamsterley.—Your possession of the Dickinson paper envelope is quoted in its proper place. Correspondence on the subject of any varieties noticed in the magazine is always acceptable.

F. C., Hunworth, Norwich.—Your Hong Kong stamp will be found chronicled in last year's Summary, concluded in the February number. It was therefore duly noted at its first appearance.—The green 16 c. is one of the United States fiscals, whose names are legion. The New South Wales twopenny has its normal mark, a single-lined numeral of value.

A CORRESPONDENT writes in confirmation of our belief, that the Japanese and Chinese written characters are identical, with the information that he asked a Japanese acquaintance if his countrymen could read a Chinese book; to which he replied, they were perfectly able to do so, although giving the words a totally different pronunciation.

ERRATA IN THE LAST SUMMARY.—

For the following corrections, we are indebted to the great courtesy of the editor of *The Philatelic Journal*, who has kindly undertaken to note any errors, &c., that may creep into this magazine:—

Deccan, 1 anna, lilac ...	lege	dull puce-brown
South African envelopes ...	"	black impression on thin brown paper

Bolivia, eleven stars :

5 c., red ...	"	green
10 " green ...	"	vermillion
100 " black ...	"	orange

Guatemala :

1 c., light brown ...	"	yellow-brown
5 " pale brown ...	"	dark brown

Tolima :

5 c., blue ...	"	red-brown
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Some of the editor's comments, however, seem superfluous. The Guadalajara stamps being always impressed in black, the 1 real described as green is evidently one on paper of that colour. The Crosby's Special Message 2 c. is *not* condemned by *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, but fully described (page 121), with the mere remark that it "cannot be considered of great importance from a philatelic point of view." The Cundinamarca adhesives were chronicled in a previous summary; the *engravings* of the same, not appearing till the next year, required due mention. The editor of *The Philatelic Journal* may do our readers another kindness, though we fear he may not possess the forty-horse arithmetical power to do so,—viz., give a rule to find the commencing page of any of our last year's numbers, in a similarly ingenious way to that he proposes for our contemporary.



RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

SWITZERLAND.

SOME few miles from the magnificent glacier of Aletsch, the largest in Europe, lies the superbly situated Hotel of the Belalp, enjoying one of the most magnificent views in the Bernese Oberland. Following the example of the landlords of the Rigi Kulm, Rigi Scheideck, and Maderanerthal, the proprietor of the Belalp hotel provides a postal adhesive for carrying the letters of his inmates to the nearest village. A cut of this novelty is adjoined. The small central oval contains a view of the hotel, backed by the glacier and snow-clad mountains overtopping it. The cut sufficiently portrays the rest of the stamp. Colour, violet on white unwatermarked paper, imperforate. Value, 5 centimes.



The post card described at page 46 of last year's volume has been altered in hue from pink to brown, presumably to be in accordance with the adhesive of similar value. We believe it has hitherto escaped observation that some of the cards in question are signaled by an error of inscription like the Belgian, Spanish, &c. The official examiners, as well as the printers, in such cases must be deplorably ignorant either of spelling or grammar. We allude to the Italian word for communications, which is originally misspelt as well as ungrammatical! The grammar was altered in the later editions of the pink emission, but the misspelling was retained, and the latter error continues in the new brown cards, which are of better quality than their progenitors, which were merely a stout paper. The error was *COMMUNICAZIONE*,—singular instead of plural, and wrongfully spelt with a double *m*. This latter mistake remains, but the terminal *x* is corrected for the plural ending *i*.

SPAIN.

One reason given for doubting the authenticity of the Don Carlos stamp described on page 110 of last year's volume, was the absence of *liquid* mark over the *n*. This error is now rectified by the appearance of other specimens, wherein the proper pronunciation of the equivalent for "Spain" is duly marked. In other respects the stamp is unaltered, though the blues of the specimens before us are not quite

identical; but this may be accidental. The editor of *Le Timbre-Poste* possesses a regularly postmarked individual, preserved on a letter. This finally disposes of the mooted subject of the philatelic value of these stamps. The obliteration is composed of a lozenge in the midst of three rows of points, also disposed lozenge-wise.

By the kindness of that indefatigable Spaniard, M. de Ysasi, we are enabled to describe an adhesive of a totally novel species. It is now obligatory to stick one of these on every letter posted in Spain! The inscription tells us why. It represents a war tax, and shows the ingenuity of the fiscal managers of the republican government. One halfpenny on every postal missive, must amount to a considerable sum-total. Were the closed mouth and lamed pen of Pendragon at work again, we might have a long tirade against the admission of this stamp into our albums, though to all intents and purposes it is a postal, because if it does not prepay a letter, the latter cannot be prepaid without it. The individual itself is unpretending enough in appearance, being printed black on thin white unwatermarked paper, and duly perforated. The arms of Spain, surmounted by mural crown on a horizontally-lined ground, lie within an oval frame inscribed *IMPUESTO DE GUERRA*,—5 CENT. PESETA; spandrels very slightly ornamented by the simplest form of the key-pattern, disposed so as to indicate part of a rectangular framework.

A correspondent forwards for inspection a 20 centimos of the 1864 type, dated 1866, printed either designedly or otherwise in green, instead of the normal violet. We do not remember seeing this error previously.



GERMAN EMPIRE.

On page 99 of last year's volume will be found a notice of the surcharge on the $2\frac{1}{2}$ groschen and 9 kreuzer adhesives of the empire, to distinguish them from other values with which they get confounded by gas light. A representation of the former stamp is here given.

DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Le Timbre-Poste gives an elaborate description of sundry types for the forthcoming cards for the Dutch settlements in the East. It seems there are six in all; viz.:—two for each simple and double post card rejected, and one for each chosen. They differ, however, but slightly; nevertheless, a complete collection of all will require considerable space in albums, the essays of the chosen singles being printed in black, blue, lilac, drab, pale and yellow green, violet-brown, and yellow ochre on reddish buff; and the doubles in blue, lilac, yellow-green, drab, violet-brown, ochre and yellowish brown on buff!

SHANGHAI.

While on the subject of post-card varieties, it may be remarked that M. Moens notes several errors in those of Shanghai, the letter ε being frequently misprinted c. We possess a specimen wherein that error has been rectified by the pen in blue ink. We might notice these errors and others more minutely, but the promised contribution of a talented

collector will be so exhaustive on the subject, that our readers may well wait for every information in a continuous series of papers.

NEW ZEALAND.

In our last, we replied to the query of a correspondent respecting the watermark on the current stamps of this colony, that they are watermarked at present with the star only. By the kindness of an old friend and correspondent, we have a pair of scarlet twopennies on view, printed on the N.Z. paper, possibly by inadvertence.

ITALY.

The value of hearsay testimony will be found on reference to page 127 of last year's volume, wherein the anticipated post cards of this kingdom are reported to be watermarked. Both kinds lie before us equally destitute of that peculiarity. Though not of the same form, being not so wide as, but deeper than our own post cards, they present almost exactly the same superficial area. They are very neatly and clearly engraved, and of substantial consistency, more so than the generality of their congeners, the double card being even rather thicker than the other, probably on account of its double duty. The border is a simple but effective design; like the Swiss, Finnish, and first Russian cards, the impressed stamp,—Victor Emmanuel's head encompassed by oval beading, with rectangular frame of elegant device,—is on the left, a round compartment on the right being reserved for the official stamp. The simple and address half of the double card are of almost identical design. The former is inscribed in Italian "Post Card, ten centesimi. To..." and, "address on this side only," with ruled lines for writing on. The latter bears additional, "With paid reply, fifteen centesimi." This is an improvement, *i.e.*, the reply not costing the sender but half postage. The reply card, in lieu of the inscription and value above, bears simply "Reply." All three are impressed with a shield bearing the cross of Savoy, and surmounted by a regal crown. The single card is brown on buff; the doubles are of the same hue really on pink, though from the effect of the ground colour they appear two different shades of brown. These cards partake of the advantage hitherto possessed by the Belgian, Servian, and Spanish cards only, *viz.*, that of having the address half of the doubles outermost, so that the part reserved for communication is always inside and protected from soil during transit.



BARBADOS.

Our latest arrivals comprise some few changes: the shilling black on thin paper, the sixpenny vermilion, the fourpenny duller red than before, the new threepenny, and the halfpenny of a much deeper green than any yet issued, have the large, and the penny blue the small, star watermark. The threepenny, first quoted as mauve, then violet-brown, is really claret-brown.

HOLLAND.

We have before us the newly-emitted Dutch cards, issued according to convention, for use between Holland and Belgium. As far as regards frame and inscriptions, they are fac-similes of the issue for

home service, except that the words AAN and TE have disappeared. The arms of the Netherlands have given place to the king's head, in fact, a fac-simile of the adhesive of same value. Both single and double cards are impressed in blue on buff; the value of each stamp is 5 cents.

MEXICO.

From *The American Journal of Philately* we learn that the colours and values of the beautiful new set for this republic, are:—

5 centavos, brown	25 centavos, blue
10 ,, black	50 ,, green
1 dollar, carmine.	

FRANCE.

The 15 centimes in present circulation are much yellower than they have hitherto appeared. *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* for last month, noticing a *tête-bêche* variety of the 4 c., remarks that the current 10 c. in the same state, has not been yet chronicled. It will be found mentioned at page 34 of our last year's volume.

SIERRA LEONE.

Our latest arrivals from this colony show slight changes in almost every value. The green is less altered than the others, but is rather deeper in hue, the value especially being almost black. The blue and yellow are much paler, the red is more of a pink, and the sixpenny more of a lilac than before. The new twopenny is of an exceeding rich bright lilac-mauve.

ON THE PROVISIONAL ISSUES OF GUADALAJARA.

BY F. A. PHILBRICK, ESQ., RECORDER OF COLCHESTER.

As read before the Philatelic Society, London, January 3rd, 1874.



THE stamps of Guadalajara constitute a series by themselves in the annals of philately. That a town, one among many, in the interior of a large country like Mexico, should issue its own stamps, of a design peculiar to itself, to frank postage to all parts, as well domestic as foreign, and this at a time when legal governmental issues were in full course through the rest of the country, nay, even in the very town itself, is a fact well known to those whose attention has been directed to the history of postal matters; but which may truly be affirmed to be unique in their knowledge, and to the uninitiated must appear inexplicable, if not incredible. The records of our science, however, are full of instances which at first sight are strange: they yield to patient investigation, and furnish results valuable alike to the historian and to the chronicler of postal issues.

In bringing before this Society the following remarks on the subject of discussion, I must crave the indulgence always accorded to the efforts of a pioneer. So far as my information extends, no article treating of these stamps has appeared in any of the journals devoted to philatelic literature, except that in *Le Timbre-Poste* (vol. viii., p. 92) certain forgeries were described. Much, therefore, which may

hereafter be advanced must be regarded as tentative only, and the mere expression of my individual opinion.

The first notice to be found of the special issue for Guadalajara was in *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* for May, 1867 (vol. v., p. 74), where, under the head of "Newly-issued or Inedited Stamps," the following observations occur:—

MEXICO.—A correspondent most obligingly sends us some specimens of a new stamp, *provisional*, as he calls it, issued by the liberal party at Guadalajara. He vouches for their authenticity, saying the copies forwarded were taken from letters delivered by post at Zacatécas. The specimens are of the rudest; a plain circular black line, enclosing a space rather larger than a sixpence; within, the value in reales in small roman type, and the year 1867, while round the inner edge are the words, in thick black letters, FRANCO EN GUADALAJARA; the F of franco is somewhat like an E, having traces of the lowest limb of the latter letter. They are adhesive, unperforated, printed in black on plain paper, and as under:—

1 real, blue, light blue. | 2 reales, white, green. | 4 reales, white.

Two of the copies we saw were obliterated by a two-lined mark, shaped like an irregular ellipse, having a wreath inside.

Our strong impression is that these stamps are pure deceptions, notwithstanding our correspondent's voucher. The very selection of colours would indicate as much; for if, as supposed, a hurried provisional issue, why two colours for one value, especially as they were both printed from the same type? Their appearance, too, is generally highly suspicious, and, to those familiar with forged stamps, eminently suggestive. On testing them by the postmark, the ellipse shows the mark of a stamp of far too great a size to be thus employed, and on comparing the two postmarked copies, *the curve of the ellipse in the one totally differs from that of the other, and the wreath altogether varies also!* To our mind this is decisive against the new comers, but before expressing more than a strong present opinion against them, we wait further information. They have a strong case to make out to establish their claims to be ranked as genuine.

The editor, it will be seen, receives the new comers with distrust, not altogether unnatural when the stamps are attentively regarded, and judged by their appearance only.

It will be remembered by all, that at the period of the issue before us (1867), the Empire, under Maximilian, had for some years been established in Mexico: had possession of the seat and offices of government, and had issued the series bearing the eagle in 1864, and followed by the lithographed and engraved heads of the Emperor in 1866.

The Republic never entirely ceased to be a government existing *de facto*. In some part or other of the country, Juarez had maintained his hold on certain districts, notably at Monterey, where the stamps (head of Hidalgo), engraved by the American Bank Note Company, of New York, were issued by Juarez, and current for a short time. (I may remark, perhaps, *en passant*, that this issue is sometimes, and with presumable accuracy, stated to have taken place when the head-quarters of Juarez and his party were actually at Paso del Norte, a town on the Rio Bravo del Norte, near the confines of Texas, where Juarez had retired before the Imperialist forces, and to be near his American friends and sympathizers.) At this period, Guadalajara was held by the Imperialists, and the eagle series was in use at the post-office there.



The system at that time adopted in the distributing department of the Mexican post-office was, that each stamp should bear, by a surcharge, the year of issue to the branch office, whence the public was to procure it; and that the several batches to the various post-offices in

the country should each bear their consecutive consignment number in the year. Besides this, the name of the office of issue was also placed on each individual stamp before it was issued to the public. Of the Eagle series, produced and issued under the Empire in 1864, batches stamped 146, 167, 207, and 243,—1864, were sent to Guadalajara; in 1865, parcels numbered 24 and 92,—1865, were consigned there; in 1866, as may be seen plainly on specimens before the meeting, the numbers were 20, 51, and 92,—1866. Very likely, in 1864, and also in 1865, stamps issued at Guadalajara with other numbers may be found; the above, in 1864 and 1865, I have merely noted as instances; but in 1866 I have discovered none but those bearing the above numbers, nor have I been successful in finding any for the years 1867 or 1868. This latter omission has no significance, as the eagles were certainly not generally distributed *after* 1866; and there was always laxity in carrying out the above system. Sets can be found with and without names of the issuing towns, with and without numbering and date, and altogether without surcharge, in almost every possible combination.

The general idea is, this system answered the double purpose of a check on the *employés* at the head office as to the distribution, and on the local office as to the issue. Whatever may have been its object, the latest issue of Eagles to Guadalajara I can trace was that numbered 92, in 1866. It took place early in the year: one of the specimens before us is obliterated April 8, 1866;—how long before the stock thus sent was exhausted is matter of speculation, in the absence of official records. This we know, that towards the end of the year, the Juarez party, who had been advancing southwards all the autumn, arrived at Guadalajara, and obtained possession of the town. The series of 1866, head of the Emperor Maximilian to the left, had made its appearance in the spring of 1866, first lithographed, afterwards (later in the same year) engraved. An issue of the former type, marked 12—1866, was made to the post-office of Zacatécas, which might lead to the inference that there was an issue, in 1866, of these stamps to Guadalajara, but for the fact, that the Juarists were strong in the districts round it from June, 1866, and had acquired that town before they obtained Zacatécas. I believe no issue of the stamps, heads of Maximilian, was made to Guadalajara, for the reason presently mentioned.

The Eagle stamps in use, in 1866, at Guadalajara, were obliterated by a circular hand stamp, formed of a single-lined ring, inscribed within, round the circle, in block or Egyptian characters, FRANCO EN GUADALAJARA, with the date in the centre in three lines of moveable types. The F is not perfectly formed: it looks like an E, with the bottom limb partly removed, so as to leave clear traces of its former presence. Moens and Mahé describe it in the stamps as if it were an E, making the word read *Eranco*. This is as much beyond the truth one way, as to call it an F would be inaccurate the other: it is a mongrel sort of letter.

The state of this part of the country was greatly disturbed in the summer of 1866; and when the Juarist faction got possession of the town, towards the end of that year, it seems tolerably certain they would not themselves procure the stamps with the Emperor's head,

although the remainder of the Eagles might be used without objection. When they were exhausted, the need arose for new stamps, and the ingenuity of those who had to supply the requirement could devise no better expedient than that of utilising the obliterating mark in use, making a new arrangement of moveable types in the centre, to express the year of issue and value, and producing a new obliterating stamp, for use in lieu of that thus appropriated. The postmaster at Guadalajara, at this time, was Don Guadaloupe Montenegro. He appears to have had the provisional stamps struck off and issued, without having obtained any authority from the President of the Republic, Don Juarez, who is stated to have commenced legal proceedings against him for this act. The postmaster was able, of course, to ensure currency in his own office to his own issue, and this was all that was intended or desired. I have heard that the result of this appeal to the law by Juarez, was the conviction of the postmaster.

Hence the famous provisional issues of this town, current more or less, during 1867 and 1868. Again I may pause to remark that the history of parties and dynasties, sometimes even of nations and races, is legibly written on such ephemeral creations as postage stamps; the refinements and necessities of civilization and intercourse, as thus exemplified, form a delicate gauge of the material prosperity of a kingdom, and of the stability of its government.

The stamps may conveniently be considered under the heads of design, paper (including watermark), perforation, and obliteration.

First, then, of Design.

This has already been described, and is the old obliterating handstamp, the only variations being in the central filling up. The die is the same throughout, both 1867 and 1868: the circular legend consequently never alters. Of values there are five, viz.: $\frac{1}{2}$ real, 1 real, 2 reales, and 4 reales, and 1 peso; obviously, therefore, each of these required a fresh setting-up of the central part. These, issued in 1867, comprehended all five values, in all of which but the *medio* the designation of currency was expressed. That stamp bears simply MEDIO in small Roman capitals (not giving any denomination whether real or peso), and the date 1867. The one real has two types, distinguishable by the *one* being rendered respectively *un* and *Un*; the variety *un* is found in all the varieties on wove paper, and on them alone. Moens catalogues *Un* real *vert* (Mahé's *vert d'eau*), on wove, with a capital U. This type on green wove is singular: all varieties on watermarked papers are of the *Un* type—so far as my experience extends, it is restricted to them. The two reales was also twice set up: the first set have the bottom limb of the 2 on a line with reales, the s of which is a little higher than the other letters; in the later set, the 2 is elevated above the line, has a dot after it, and the second E of REALES is perceptibly above all the other letters. Of the 4 reales, there are two types, distinguishable by the presence or absence of a dot or stop after the figure 4. Of the one peso, there are two types; one variety has the word *un* small letters, the other has *Un* with a capital.



There are thus, except of the *medio*, two distinct types, at least, in

all the other values of 1867. In the series on *papier quadrillé* occurs the so-called 1867, error of date—L for 1. Moens catalogues this, and a specimen is in my collection on the table; but if we look at the UN peso of this set, the same thing appears: the right lower base of the figure 1 prints, the left does not—it is a mere flaw of the printing, not an error in the type setting. With the single exception of a capital or small *u* in the word *un*, all the letters and all the figures in the central part used in 1867 are the same; the sole variations being due to different setting-up of the type, and punctuation.

In the 1868 set there are but two values, viz.: 1 real and 2 reales. Of these the one has *un* real in small letters; and an error has the letters of the word reversed, reading *nu* very plainly. This is on thick green laid paper, and a clear copy will be seen on sheet 4 of my specimens on the table. There are also two types of the 2 reales: one with the figure 2 upside down, as given by Moens. This I never yet met with. The letters and figures used in the centre part of the 1868 values are, with the necessary variations of the final 7 to 8 in 1868, the same: variations are due entirely to type setting and punctuation, as in those of the former year.

Thus there appear to have been two clear settings up and varieties of each type (except the $\frac{1}{2}$ real) in each year.

The "error" 1863 is due to imperfect printing of the figure 8, and is not a typographical error. The "error" 1869 I never saw, but believe it to be of the same description; these are merely examples badly struck: *mal venus*, as the French say.

The stamps were printed by hand, separately, on plain white wove paper, at first imperforate, but adhesive; and were at first affixed, I am told, *in the post-office*, and not delivered in sale to the public till some little interval. After a short time, it was found desirable to rule off the sheets of paper on which the stamps were to be struck into squares, so as to guide the eye of the stamper where the die was to fall, or to guide in severing them. Accordingly, we find pencil squares, with sides measuring, as nearly as may be, $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch, clearly visible on many of the full-margined copies before us. This ruling was done *after* the paper was gummed.

This conveniently brings me to the second head, that of

Paper.—At first, common white wove was used for all values: no other paper has four separate values of an issue on it, as the subjoined table shows at a glance. It was soon obvious to the post-office authorities, that the values might be advantageously denoted, by employing coloured paper. Ordinary coloured fancy writing papers were procured, and on these the changes have been rung in a bewildering manner; perhaps because no sufficient supply of any one kind was to be had. I think, however, we may call green the normal colour of the 1 real, as, of the ten varieties of paper it is found on, half are green. In like manner, we may fairly say rose is the normal colour of the 2 reales; as, of the twenty various papers on which it is, eight are rose, and but five only green. Of the 4 reales, the ruling colour is slate-grey or lilac, which carries six out of nine of them. The 1 peso is found only on lilac of two shades; one bluish or true lilac, the other redder (*lie de vin*).

The 1 real 1867, on yellow wove, is the sole variety known on that coloured paper; and indeed my specimen is the only one I ever heard of: it came from an old American collection. My own belief is, that the paper has been artificially coloured since the stamp was printed: but this is merely supposition. There is a look about the grain of the paper which suggests a false colouring. M. Moens shares my view; but there is doubt enough to justify the retention of the specimen, and its classification as a variety.

The papers themselves vary much in thickness, make, and watermark. We get plain coloured papers, wove, *papier quadrillé*, i.e., cut into small squares by vertical and horizontal lines crossing at right angles; the same with each alternate vertical line omitted, forming oblong rectangles (this variety of paper is peculiar to the 1 real, 1867); *papier vergé batonné*, i.e., laid paper, with ruled lines for writing in the watermark; paper with these lines, but not laid, *papier batonné*; and paper laid, without these ruled lines, *papier vergé*. In addition, the laid papers used in 1868 were much thicker than those of 1867, the lines visible in the substance being fewer, broader, and wider apart, and sometimes almost approaching wavy lines, or *papier nuagé*. It would be uninteresting to do more than refer to the subjoined table, in which I have collated such materials as I had, and made a full list of the varieties found on the various kinds of paper. The conclusion I draw from these facts is, that though leading colours were chosen, the supply of paper at hand to meet the want was limited; that recourse was had to the ordinary fancy coloured writing papers, so much more in vogue abroad than with us; an inference justified by the varieties of style, make, and colour found, and by the somewhat curious fact, that many specimens show, at the sides, the gilt edge of the sheet on which they were struck. Several may be remarked here to-day.

Thirdly, *Perforation*.—The first stamps were imperforate; there is an indistinct assertion (*S.C.M.*, vol. v., p. 138, Sept., 1867), from San Francisco, that "they were first received *perforated square*." This is clearly erroneous, if intended of the issue; specimens may, perhaps, have been rouletted by private hands in straight lines so to make square stamps, but this is mere supposition. The official perforation was by a circular steel hand-punch, cutting a row of dents circular wise round the stamp, and effecting a *pergagé en pointe*; the only other circular stamp I know of mechanically cut round, is the administrative or official stamp of Bremen, the edge of which is festooned or scalloped; some essays of Italy are cut in like fashion. There were at least two punches employed in Guadalajara: one cut 39 dents to the circle: the other, 42: the *medio real* perforated in my collection is cut by the former; the pair of 2 reales next it in the line, by the latter, as also is the 1 peso. The specimens here showing adjoining stamps on the sheet, one punched out, and one intact, leave it needless for me to add further explanation, or to do more than call attention to the irregularities in cutting into the edges which so primitive a method entailed. It will be seen several sheets were punched at once.

There remains to notice the obliterating marks. When the former die was appropriated to make the stamp itself, a new obliterating mark was necessary; several appear to have got into the service; one, which

I take to be the first, is simple: two laurel wreaths inclining to each other, and forming a circle. This is seen on the 2 reales, 1867, on white paper, before us; this copy is one which arrived in England in May, 1867. Another mark is a long flattened oval; the outer rim formed by *one* thick, the inner by *two* thinner lines, leaving a band between, in which will be found *FRANGUEDDO* above, *GUADALAJARA* below; an ornament of laurel leaves fills each end. The third and last mark I shall describe shows a sort of lover's knot or interlaced double-lined figure of eight, very neat and effective for its purpose; it does not *disfigure*, but does *obliterate*. We are veritable goths in this respect here in England, and might take a lesson, if not from the remote west, yet from some of our European neighbours, with advantage; notably the Belgians, who use a beautifully clear stamp. It will be seen that generally these stamps have no date in the obliteration, but many of those marked with the flattened oval have such as may be observed here to-day.

As may be imagined, from the nature of the provisional stamps of Guadalajara, they are rare and becoming scarcer; indeed, to fill the *lacunæ* in one's collection is a matter of great difficulty, and requiring patience and time.

As to comparative degrees of rarity, the medio real, and the *un* peso 1867, are almost unattainable, the latter especially so. I entirely disagree with the editor of the *S. C. M.* (vol. ix., p. 124, 1871), where he rates the *Un* peso as *unattainable*. He probably means *un*, but that he talks of it being on *papier quadrillé*; of this variety, of which he speaks, I know some eight or nine copies were received here. That which he calls the rarity *par excellence*, 4 reales, 1867, on blue, (*gy.*, grey) *batonné* (*gy.*, *vergé batonné*), may be seen imperforate and perforate in my sets, and, though not common, is not so rare as the medio. My idea is, the *un* peso on *lie de vin* wove paper, and the medio real *perforate*, are the two least attainable: the former is virtually impossible.

Forgeries.—The prices commanded by these stamps were a strong incentive to fraudulent imitations, hence forgeries might well be expected, if not desired. In September, 1870, a set of four stamps, a so-called issue of 1867, *second type*, came to this country. Specimens were sent to me, and I so thoroughly distrusted them, that I requested the publishers of the *S. C. M.* to insert the notice of them, which appears in vol. viii., p. 154, October, 1870, in these words:—

MEXICO: Guadalajara.—We received early last month a set of four stamps of this town, under the description of "1867 issue, second type." They consisted of:—

Un real, grey-blue	|	2 reales, pale green
2 reales, white	|	2 „ pink

and were all fresh, clean specimens, good margins cut square, and with the adhesive matter on their backs. The paper in all of them was plain wove, without lines or water-marks of any kind.

As this was the first intimation we had of such a thing as a *second type* of 1867, we somewhat carefully scrutinized them. The chief difference between it and those now so well known, appears in the lettering of value in the centre, but the surrounding words, *FRANCO EN GUADALAJARA*, are different. It has long been noticed that the *F* of the first word has, in the olden set, a defective piece at the bottom, giving the idea of an *E* altered since the letter was cast in the foundry, and that the alteration was clumsily done; so much so, that we have seen catalogues give these stamps with *Eranco*, for *Franco*, but in these new comers the defect seems exaggerated and very different—more fashioned, and (to borrow a

French word, for which an equivalent is not at hand) *intentionne*, than in our older friend. The printing, too, seems to have been effected so as to leave marks of fine cloth or muslin intervening between the inking roller and the die, and in several other minute, yet indescribable particulars, there is strong dissimilarity.

No traces of the square pencil-markings, which are found on all old stamps with large margins like these, are to be met with. The gum is new looking, but yellowish, and altogether these stamps by no means fill us with confidence.

As at present advised, we are not disposed in their favour. Remembering, however, that we were equally guarded and cautious about the original Guadalajara, as to which there is no shadow of a doubt, we reserve to ourselves full right to place this second issue of 1867 in its proper position, when lapse of time and further information enable us to form our judgment with greater certainty.

Any of our friends who can tell us why a second type for 1867 should now appear, and be heard of for the first time, and whether any indubitably postmarked copies are known, will confer a service. The only postmarked copies we could accept as entirely satisfactory, would be those from private hands, which never could have been foisted on the market with a *griffe de complaisance*, given (*for a consideration*) by a post-office official to an enterprising dealer.

I offer no apology for reproducing my remarks, to which I can add nothing, and from which I can withdraw nothing. I believe their effect, here at least, stopped any profit being realised by the forgers. M. Moens, in *Le Timbre Poste*, in the article alluded to at the beginning of this paper, strongly expressed the same opinion, and gave a critical analysis, by which detection is made easy. It is superfluous to add that time shows these to be, as was supposed, indubitable impostors. Mr. Pemberton makes some characteristic and pungent remarks, well worth reading, on the same subject. They will be found in the *S. C. M.* (vol. ix., p. 28, 1871). In the summer of 1873, series of 2 reales, 1868, in fifteen varieties were offered for sale by a Paris dealer. These also are falsifications, of presumably French origin. It would be profitless to analyze the points of difference, but the thickness of the impression, and generally different appearance from genuine specimens of the 1867 issue, will be apparent at once to the experienced collectors now present.

The strongest collection formed in England in these stamps are those of our president, of Mr. Image, and of the late Mr. Pauwels,—a collection, I regret to say, which has left this country. My own comprises upwards of 60 specimens, some two or three of these are duplicates. Abroad, that of our *confrère*, "A Parisian Amateur," is by far the richest of any I know; Baron A. de Rothschild and Dr. Magnus each have a fine series, and M. Albis is, I understand, strong in them. It is from the American collections we must look for more help; especially those made in San Francisco or the neighbourhood, where exceptional facilities for correspondence with this part of Mexico was enjoyed. The European stamp dealers have nearly explored the country; and I fear not much is left for the future discoverer of varieties. This, however, does remain, to investigate the records at Guadalajara and at the Mexican head office; to obtain what official information may be to be found there; to find the proceedings in the law suit raised by Juarez against the postmaster, the allegations in which cannot fail to be highly interesting, as well as beyond all doubt authentic. If any lover of the science, whose taste and circumstances favour him in this respect, is able to make these inquiries on the spot, I may venture to express the hope that a reference to the proceedings of this day will afford light and guidance to assist his researches.

TABLE OF THE DIFFERENT PAPERS
ON WHICH
THE PROVISIONAL STAMPS OF GUADALAJARA HAVE
BEEN PRINTED.

	1867 ISSUE.					1868 ISSUE.	
	Medio Real.	Un Real.	2 Reales.	4 Reales.	Un Peso.	1 Real.	2 Reales.
<i>On plain wove white paper</i> (<i>Papier uni.</i>)	I	I	I	I	..	..	..
yellow paper	..	I	..	..	..	..	..
green (shades)	I	I	..	..	I	..
blue (shades)	I	..	..	..	..	..
lilac and <i>lie de vin</i>	I	..	I	..	I
rose (shades)	I	I	..	..	I
slate-grey	I	..	..	..
<i>On paper watermarked in squares.</i> (<i>Papier quadrillé.</i>)							
slate-grey paper	..	I	..	I	..	..	..
green	I	..	..	..	..
rose	I	..	..	..	..
blue-green	I	..	..	..	..
lilac	I	I	..	I
<i>On laid paper lined for writing.</i> (<i>Papier vergé batonné.</i>)							
green paper	..	I	I	..	..	I	..
rose	I	I	..	..	I
slate-grey	I	..	..	..
lilac	I	..	I
<i>On paper lined for writing, otherwise plain.</i> (<i>Papier batonné.</i>)							
slate-grey paper	..	I	..	..	..	..	..
rose	I	I	..	..	..
lilac	I	..	I
<i>On laid paper.</i> (<i>Papier vergé.</i>)							
green paper	I	..	..	I	..
rose	I	..	..	..	I
lilac	I	..	..	I

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE second meeting of the season, at the Vice-President's chambers, on Saturday, the 3rd ultimo, was even more numerously attended than the first. After the minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Hon. Secretary, and signed by the President, who took the chair, Dr. Viner made a few remarks on the published proceedings of the December *séance*, and alluded to "Fentonia" on the 3 pfennige Saxon in *The Philatelist* for January, producing a specimen of the pinkish vermilion on white, quoted by that writer as the normal colour, and another scarlet on tint, the colour given by Mr. Stourton. M. de Ysasi exhibited the new Spanish war-stamp described elsewhere; after which, the amateur known under the signature of H. O. W., read a paper on the Mexican stamps, listened to with great interest by the assembly, copiously illustrated as it was by reference to the fine collections of the President, Vice-President, the reader's own, and others present, especially that of M. de Joannis, particularly rich in the numerous varieties of surcharge.

On the arrival of the Vice-President, that gentleman proceeded to read his promised article on the Guadalajara issues, comment on which is needless, because it can be perused by our subscribers in the present number. They will appreciate the talent and research required for the production of such a paper, and benefit by reading the same, but must unavoidably miss the extra gratification derived from ocular comparison of the numerous specimens in the writer's almost unrivalled collection, and that of the President, rendering the descriptions of the numerous varieties more particularly clear. A vote of thanks having been unanimously given, after some more interesting conversation upon philatelic matters, the members retired after more than three hours' gratified attendance. The next meeting was fixed for Saturday, the 31st, when the subject appointed for discussion is the Indian stamps, with particular reference to Col. Mainwaring's paper thereon in the January number of our Bath contemporary.

THE SPUD PAPERS; OR, NOTES ON PHILATELIC WEEDS.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EAREE.

XXXIII.

Newfoundland.



IMUST confess that the milk of human kindness within me has been considerably soured by an examination of the forgeries hereinafter described. Messrs. Spiro must either have a most wonderful idea of their executive and artistic skill, or else they must suppose that any kind of coloured label will pass muster with philatelists as a genuine stamp, or surely they would never have attempted to forge copies of stamps that are a very marvel of *taille-douce* engraving. I know of few stamps which can compete with the Newfoundland ones, except perhaps those of Nova Scotia, which were in fact designed by the same artist. When we come to compare the originals with the forgeries, we cannot help feeling disgusted with the paltry imitations. But still, to give everyone his due, the forgers have been very careful, and in all the prominent lines of the designs, they have copied very accurately as far as a lithograph (and a very coarse lithograph) can be said to copy a fine engraving. I have said before, and I say again, that all amateurs ought to devote more time to the study of the various modes in which stamps are printed; and I think, too, that our catalogues ought to be more particular in this respect, and to name the mode employed for each stamp, or set of stamps catalogued. If this were done, those who depended chiefly on their catalogues for their philatelic knowledge, would insensibly be led to understand these things better, and would thereby be less liable to be imposed upon by every impudent forgery which makes its appearance. I know some collectors who seem to think that they can never arrive at being able to detect a forgery for themselves, and who are constantly sold, unless they have something in the style of these papers to give them a minute description of the forgeries, and the tests by which they may be distinguished from the originals. But if philatelists would only *study* their stamps a little more,

instead of merely trying to see how many they can collect, I am certain that they would soon learn for themselves far more than any book or *Spud Paper* can teach them. All who have a long purse can go into the market and buy most of the stamps that have ever been issued; but if, after doing this, they simply content themselves with putting their stamps into an album, and leave them there unnoticed, they cannot derive much pleasure from them, and we cannot call this philately. And now, after these moral observations, let us talk a little about the stamps specially destined to be dissected this month. To begin then with the—

I CENT, VIOLET, PERF. 12 (PRINCE OF WALES), 1869.

This stamp was re-engraved in 1871, with some slight differences of design, and in a much paler colour, commonly called brown, but which I should call a sort of red-mauve. It is not with the 1871 issue that we have to do; so I need not trouble the reader with a description of it; but will go on to point out the differences that exist between the 1869 type, and the forgery which purports to represent it.

Genuine.—Engraved. The oval frame containing the name ends in a point at the top, like a pear with the small end uppermost. The letters N. and F., at the top, *almost* touch the outer frame of the oval, and the stops are large and round. The name is in one word; and all the letters composing it, except the O, touch each other. Counting all the white lines in the plaid, both vertical and oblique, there are 14. The rays in the oval frame are composed of alternate sets of deep and faint lines, but without any cross-shading. The eyes are clear and intelligent, and apparently light.

Forged.—Lithographed. Coarsely perf. 12½. The oval frame is rounded over the words ONE CENT, instead of coming to a point. The N. and F. are small, and do not come near either the outer or inner lines of frame. The stops are small, and badly shaped. The name is in two perfectly distinct words; and there is a good space between all the letters. There are only 10 lines in the plaid. The rays in the frame are far too distinct, and the light ones are cross-shaded. The eyes in the portrait are very black and staring.

TWO CENTS, GREEN, PERF. 12 (COD FISH), 1866.

Genuine.—Beautifully engraved. The labels bearing the inscriptions NEWFOUNDLAND and TWO CENTS are solid; all the others have a groundwork of very fine lines. The figures and words in the side labels are shaded at the edges with dark colour, which makes them stand out from their backgrounds as though they were solid. The "white" of the eye of the fish is coloured, and the very spines of his fins may be counted.

Forged.—Lithographed. Coarsely perf. 12½. *All* the labels are solid, and the lettering and figures look perfectly flat. The "white" of the fish's eye is white, and very staring, and the spines of the fins are irregular, and not to be counted. The whole stamp is coarsely executed on very white paper.

FIVE CENTS, BROWN, PERF. 12 (SEAL), 1866.

Genuine.—Engraved. All the hairs of the seal's whiskers are perfectly distinct, and very light in colour compared with the general

hue of the body. The head resembles that of a pug dog, and the mouth and eye can be easily discerned. There is a glimpse of open sea to the right, where there are no icebergs, and only a faint cloud. All the letters and figures are well made.

Forged.—Coarsely perf. 13½. Lithographed. The seal's whiskers are very dark and coarse, and do not seem to belong naturally to his mouth. The head is like that of a water-rat, and there is no visible mouth or eye. The whole of the horizon seems to be filled with icebergs. The lettering and figures at the top are generally more or less imperfect.



The genuine 5 c. was reprinted in black in 1869, and has also been forged; but the above descriptions, changing the colour from brown to black, will serve for them, as both genuine and forged were printed from their respective original matrices.

10 CENTS, BLACK, PERF. 12 (PRINCE OF WALES).

Genuine. Engraved, on greyish white paper. On the left side of the Prince's collar at the bottom are two rows of jewels or braid, on which the small crown rests. The white lines on the right shoulder are very fine, and are properly curved to make the chest appear in relief.

Forged.—Lithographed; perf. 13. This stamp has been very carefully copied from the original, almost line for line, and it is almost impossible to give a verbal description of the small differences in some parts of the ornamental frame. It is printed on very yellowish paper, and the ink is very pale, instead of being dark black as in the original. On the left side of the collar at the bottom, there is a single row of pearls, very distinct. The white lines on the right shoulder are very coarse, and are simply drawn obliquely, without any curve. This is a stamp which might possibly deceive; but if the other distinctions fail, we can always discover it by the perforation, which is 13 instead of 12.

12 CENTS, FLESH; PERF. 12. (HEAD OF QUEEN), 1866.

Genuine.—Engraved on pinkish yellow paper. Five pearls visible on the coronet, the last pearl just peeping out from where the coronet buries itself in the hair above the left ear. The stop after NEWFOUNDLAND touches the final *n*. Tongue of buckle lightly and partially shaded. Shading behind the top of the head composed of finer lines than the rest of the background, but no cross-shading.

Forged.—Lithographed on a very white paper. Coarsely perf. 13. Only three pearls to be seen on the coronet; the two at the front being absent, and the last pearl not at all hidden by the hair. The stop after NEWFOUNDLAND is at some little distance from the final *n*. The ground behind the back, and top of the head, cross-shaded. Tongue of buckle dark, and shaded all over.

13 CENTS, ORANGE-YELLOW, PERF. 12 (SHIP), 1866.

Genuine.—Engraved; on yellowish paper. Background of name-label shaded all over with vertical lines. Nearly all the letters of name touch each other, and the *HIR* of THIRTEEN are so joined as to appear only one letter. Rocks visible in left-hand corner of landscape.

Clouds composed of horizontal lines, with oblique cross-shading. St. George's flag on the gaff of the mainsail tolerably distinct, and formed without any curved lines. Hull of vessel very dark, compared with the waves. Over UN of name is an egg-shaped dot, lightly-shaded, with a dark dot on each side of it.

Forged.—Lithographed, on very white paper; perf. 13. Background of name-label is solid. The w and f of name are the only ones which really touch each other. HIR of THIRTEEN set some distance from each other. Indistinct white blotch in lieu of rocks in left bottom corner. Clouds composed of horizontal lines only, and very heavy. St. George's flag curved (as if its back were broken), and very indistinct. Hull of vessel no darker than



waves. No dots over UN of name.

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

The Philatelic Catalogue. Part 1. By EDWARD L. PEMBERTON. Dawlish: James R. Grant & Co.

Although the 1st of January, 1874, does not mark the commencement of the second decade of philately, if we take the first as having been inaugurated by the initial number of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* in 1863, still it marks the appearance of a truly elaborate work, which will be the acknowledged text-book of philately for all time. The advance of philately during the past three years has greatly increased our general knowledge, and expanded the liberality of our ideas as to the extent of a postage stamp; in addition to which, we have to cope with a great mass of new stamps issued during that period, and with the post-card innovation. The want of a good catalogue had become so great as to be a positive misfortune to all interested in philately (whether amateurs or dealers), so everything being ripe for the success of a reliable work, we hail with pleasure the first part of Mr. Pemberton's long-expected book, and feel sure that it only requires to be known that it is really published, to command an extensive and ready sale.

The Philatelic Catalogue aims at supplying every ordinary requirement of the philatelist, and attempts more than would have been our wildest dream in "the good old days" of carved envelopes and mutilated adhesives, and does it thoroughly, too, so far as we may judge from part I before us. The great feature of the work will be that, in addition to a most thorough catalogue, *an illustration in fac-simile* will be given of every different type, so that the combination of illustration and catalogue will remove at once the difficulties felt by all, at times, in deciding as to the genuineness of doubtful specimens. We cannot sufficiently dilate upon the importance of these fac-simile illustrations, and the very great value of possessing every rare stamp, as it were, at hand for comparison.

We will now proceed to a brief description and review of part I. The size of the work is large, being crown octavo, and the first part contains 52 pages of letterpress in good bold type, and well printed on a capital paper. The plan of the catalogue is this:—a fac-simile illustration

of every distinctly-engraved type, or so many from a series where all are unlike, as may be deemed needful; this does away with the necessity for the elaborate word-descriptions at first in contemplation, and greatly simplifies the work. The letterpress is arranged with a strict regard for clearness and accuracy, and each country commences with a simple enumeration of the type or types with the normal colours and references to the fac-similes; these are followed by the VARIETIES, which are tersely defined in the few words which head them. These lists of varieties are marvels of completeness, and evidence the extreme care with which they have been compiled. Every variety of watermark, paper, perforation, and colour, is included. Of colour the only fault *appears*,—a too great elaboration of some issues; but a careful comparison of specimens will lead to the conclusion that nothing could have been omitted, if strict accuracy had to be carried out. The great feature of the work is its unswerving accuracy, and it is to a conscientious desire to act up to a "thorough" standard, that we owe so valuable a contribution to philately. Following the VARIETIES, we find, under the heading of REMARKS, a series of observations, and a mass of information, in which the stamps are so fully treated, that *The Philatelic Catalogue* is virtually a selection of monographs. If we may find a fault, it seems a pity that each country was not treated with equal fullness, but Mr. Pemberton has explained to us that he was obliged to curtail a great deal, and therefore decided to dilate upon such countries as were least understood, leaving the Europeans without much comment. We can see for ourselves that this was the only practicable course; most Europeans have been thoroughly described, and the limits of the work would not allow more. Amongst these monographs, we may single out Antioquia for special commendation; in it there is a critical analysis of the stamps, which tends to support the old belief in the existence of a 5 c. to match the plain ground type of 2½ and 10 c. of the first issue.

The first country treated of is Alsace and Lorraine, which bears the further remark, as heading, "Used also in those parts of French Territory in Prussian occupation." From the remarks, we glean the existence of many distinct varieties of each value of the adhesives; and three distinct varieties of the post card are enumerated, differing not only in size, but in lettering, &c.

The Argentine Confederation and Republic supply materials for a great deal of information; and the various types of 1862 are here arranged, and lucidly described, for the first time.

The next country is Austria. The bare catalogue of the stamps, envelopes, and cards, fills fifteen pages; and we can imagine that they cost a great deal of time and labour to bring to their present perfect state. We notice many novelties in this arrangement; amongst which we may particularize a second (unchronicled) type of 15 centes, 1850, Austrian Italy. The envelopes are most excellently arranged after the plan of the gentleman who has done so much for the science of philately under the *nom de plume* of "A Parisian Collector." All the sizes and varieties are chronicled; and they are rendered simple by the insertion of a carefully-drawn plate of the various shapes and watermarks. The enumeration of all the sizes, shapes, seals, and colours of entire envelopes, is a novelty in a stamp catalogue; but the present

work is made up of novelties. There can be no question that the *chef d'œuvre* of arrangement is that of the Austrian post cards; one of the most perplexing and worrying subjects that a collector ever had to tackle; but as they stand arranged by Mr. Pemberton, however, they look positively simple! An unchronicled type of the earliest post card is quoted, bearing a stamp which is stated to be a lithograph, and which differs in size from the type usually found.

In the remaining countries are several noteworthy arrangements; Bavaria being especially new, both in adhesives, where we find two uncatalogued series on variously-laid papers, and in post cards, of which we learn, for the first time, of four varieties of type.

It is impossible to note one half of the items which are new to us, and invidious to select any particular country, where all have been so carefully studied and arranged. We can only say, that we have been delighted with the whole of the first part; and those who have not already perused it, have a rich treat in store for them. It has been long expected, and longer wanted; and the realization exceeds our most sanguine expectations. It is a work calculated to raise the standing of philately in the opinion of the outer world; and we sincerely trust it will prove the success that it merits. It is quite certain that no trouble has been spared by its author, or expense by the publishers. As it is printed by Messrs. Gilbert and Rivington, the well-known classical and oriental printers, we suppose that the actual characters employed in different languages will be faithfully reproduced in the letterpress; and we need hardly point out how materially this will add to the completeness of the catalogue in describing such stamps as Deccan, Cashmere, Shanghai, and the Russian Locals.

Mr. Pemberton evidently considers that the essence of a postage stamp is "prepayment," for we find no mention of unpaid or returned-letter labels. We can hardly feel surprised when we regard the mass of hard work which his lists of prepaid stamps evidence, that he has sought to limit his catalogue to such; the others, with officials, may very properly be relegated to an appendix, where we shall probably find them. The work will be limited to stamps issued up to the end of 1873, so that it will be complete to that date. An appendix or separate volume, will be issued each year, with its emissions and discoveries illustrated and tabulated to match the catalogue.

We are assured that the illustrations to the succeeding parts will be of a much higher quality than those in the first, these, through an unfortunate mistake of the workman, were printed with a ground of too dark a tone, which detracts here and there from their appearance though not from their usefulness, since every line and stroke is clear. The work will be completed in seven more parts, which will be issued monthly as far as practicable, and may be obtained direct from the publishers at 1/10 each part, post-free; abroad, for most foreign countries, 2/6. The subscription to the series of eight parts is 13/., or abroad 18/.. The magnitude of the work and its importance, may be gleaned from the fact that it will contain over 400 closely printed pages, and 31 plates, embracing over 1,100 fac-similes. An *édition de luxe* of one hundred copies, will be prepared on finer and larger paper, at a subscription of one guinea, abroad twenty-five shillings.

Part 2 promises Cashmere, the Confederate Locals, British Guiana, Cabul, Ceylon, and Buenos Ayres, amongst other countries, and ought to command a large sale, not only among collectors, but among dealers. The latter class of the community ought to be thankful for such a handbook, bringing the rarest stamps virtually before their eyes all ready for reference at any moment.

POSTAL SCRAPS.

AN APPROPRIATE AMENDMENT.—Seeing how extremely difficult it is to get a complaint listened to at almost any post-office, we think the old simile “as deaf as a post” might very suitably be altered into “as deaf as a post-master.”—*Punch*.

INTERNATIONAL CARD POST.—The postal convention between Germany and the United States for the interchange of postal cards between the two countries, at the fixed rate of two cents each, came into operation on the 1st ult.—*The Printers' Register*.

A LUNATIC PER POST.—At a recent trial in South Wales, to test the validity of a will, it was proved that in 1867 the testator became impaired in intellect to such an extent, that he went to the post-office with a postage stamp stuck on his forehead, and requested to be sent by post to a place he mentioned.

LETTER-CARRYING COMPETITION IN GERMANY.—A Berlin agency has lately been undertaking to send inland letters at lower rates than that of the German Post-office. This they do, not by any convention with the Post-office, but, buying the stamps, they affix them to covers on which are printed all kinds of advertisements. They expect to gain more by the latter than they lose by the stamps.—*The Printers' Register*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE WERCHNIE DNIÉPROFFSK STAMPS.

To the Editor of “THE PHILATELIST.”

DEAR SIR,—In your “Summary of Recent and Undescribed Emissions in 1873,” you remark that the stamp for Werchnie Dnieproffsk may possibly be the Dnieproff chronicled long since. As a doubt expressed by you would flurry many a collector, you will, I am sure, excuse my reminding you that Dnieproff is in the government of Taurida, and its stamp is of the value of 5 kopecks, while Werchnie Dnieproffsk is in the government of Ekaterinoslav, and the value of both its stamps is only 4 kopecks.

I am, yours sincerely,
A PARISIAN COLLECTOR.

“THE PHILATELIST.”

To the Editor of “THE PHILATELIST.”

SIR,—I resided in Washington a number of years, and had access to the Library of Congress where there was a full set so far of *The Philatelist*. I perused the volumes from beginning to end, and was very much interested by the complete descriptions of the issues contained therein, as well as by the *Spud Papers*. In the library at Princeton, to which place I have now removed, they do not subscribe to *The Philatelist*, and so I am going to secure it myself. I have seen a number of magazines on stamps of which *The Philatelist* is the best. I hope you will be able to continue it beyond the present year.*

Yours respectfully,
C. C. VINTON.

Princeton,
United States.

* [Our publishers wish us to embrace this opportunity to thank our subscribers for their continued support, and to state that there is at present every prospect of *The Philatelist* being continued for many years to come.—Ed.]

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.
NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, a portion of *The Philatelist* is set apart each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements must be accompanied by the cheque given with each number.
2. Advertisements to be addressed to “The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Royal Colonnade, Brighton,” and received not later than the 18th of the month.
3. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.
4. *The Stamp Exchange* is intended for the use of amateur collectors only; notices from dealers cannot therefore be inserted.

F. G. LOTT, 9, Gerston Terrace, Paignton, South Devon, has 60 American Locals which he will exchange for postage stamps of United States or British Colonies.

C. F. TITFORD, 24, Eden Grove, Holloway, London, is in want of *The Philatelist* for January, 1873. He wishes to exchange stamps with correspondents in all parts of the world.

H. R. OLD, 5, Mill Street, Guernsey, has the two first volumes of *The Stamp-*

Collector's Magazine, in good condition, to exchange for rare stamps.

P. ANDERSON, 13, Craigie Street, Aberdeen, wishes to obtain the first four numbers of *The Continental Philatelic Magazine*; also several other old stamp publications. Many colonials for exchange.

GEORGE ADAMS, Almorah Road, Canonbury, London, N., will be glad to exchange stamps with philatelists in all countries. A good exchange will be given for any stamps forwarded him.

G. SALTER, 45, St. Aldate's St., Oxford, wants a good stamp collection. Will give in exchange a large model Punch and Judy, figures, &c., complete; also three model theatres and six plays. Full particulars on application.

B. G. BENTHAM, 5, Star Hill Terrace, Rochester, has a large number of stamps for exchange, and will be glad to receive selections of duplicates from collectors. Wanted 1st issues of Mexico and Monte Video, Japan (1st issue, green, red), Prince Edward Island, (4½d, 9d. and 3 c.), Ionian (blue). Exchange by *The Quarterly Price Catalogue*.

EDWARD R. MATTOCKS, 208, Pavilion Road, Chelsea, London, has over 800 foreign and colonial duplicates, which he would be glad to exchange with other amateur collectors. He has also an Oppen's Album and Catalogue, brought up to 1872, slightly soiled, to exchange. What offers in foreign stamps?

ALFRED H. TYLER, 26, Guildhall Street, Bury St. Edmunds, has, with a large number of others, the following stamps to exchange, viz., Hong Kong, 2, 6, 8, 12, 24, 30 (scarlet), 30 (mauve), and 48 cents; Austrian Italy (1867, head), 3, 5, 10, 15 soldi; Straits Settlements (1868), 24 cents; Mauritius (1868), 6d. green; Deccan, ½ anna; Tuscany (1850), 2 c. Wanted. Peru (1866, llamas); Mexico (1864, eagle); England, envelopes (except 1d.); Egypt (1865), except 5 p. green; and British Columbia. Advertiser wishes to correspond with collectors in England or other countries.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

. Correspondents sending specimens for inspection and return, are requested to enclose a stamped directed envelope.

R. T. I., Highgate Road.—Your stamps, except the 280 Brazilian, are genuine. The ½ real blue Mexican is one of the 1st, the 1 real on green, and 2 r. on lilac, are of the 2nd emission.

J. W. W.—The blue Nicaragua on white paper is a recent issue, and was chronicled in December last. The Don Carlos is a reality, as you will read in this present number. The large Brazilian and the two

Canadians are forgeries. The green 1 r. plata is a Philippine Island stamp, with republican surcharge.

J. A. F., Brighton.—Inverted water-marks are not unusual either in our own or other countries' issues. Being purely accidental, we do not think the notice of every instance needful. Your specimen of the 6d. octagonal first issue is but a proof that the manipulators of postage stamps were no more careful formerly than now.

G. A., Clifton.—Most happy to hear from you again, but your letter of the 5th not having been received by us till the 24th, we have not sufficient time to enter into the interesting subject of the enclosed communication, which requires some little time for looking back to references.—Thanks for a sight of the current twopenny New Zealanders watermarked N. Z.

M. W., Llandudno.—Your pink Spanish has the punched hole cancel, employed by the telegraphic department. Though a postal, it must have been used either by mistake, or in default of the proper telegraph stamp. For some reason, the 1864 type was employed for the 20 centimos in 1866, perhaps from default of the current emission, but it was printed in lilac; your green one must be an error. The ¼ c. green, is now in use. It was duly described in September, and figured in *The Philatelist* for October last. Do you not take in and read this magazine? Your Turkish locals, except the green, are genuine essays or proofs. The Baden stamp is discoloured, either by accident or design. The English with crown and V.R. is used for deeds. The stamp known as the V.R. is exactly like the black penny, letters excepted.

N. E. B., Kew.—Your suggestion respecting the publication of *The Spud Papers* in a separate form is a good one, and it is to be hoped that our publishers will at some future period carry it out. You will observe there is no idea of their being dropped, the usual article having appeared in January.—Your friend, the German professor, must have gone to Bergedorf after dinner, having imbibed rather too much Hamburg sherry, or he would never have returned with the impression of there being no stamps for sale at the post-office. Many reliable issues, the Servians, Libेरrians, &c., have been doubted, but we never remember the slightest aspersion cast upon the Bergedorfs. We visited the post-office of that town some few years back, before dinner, and found the officials peculiarly obliging, allowing us to cut whatever stamps we fancied best, from the complete sheets. We believe the stamps on actual sale are genuine remainders.



THE PHILATELIST.

THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW.

TO all our respected subscribers and readers greeting, thanks for their support, and heartiest wishes for their health and welfare. We cannot more appropriately open our brief annual survey of philatelic events than by making our acknowledgments to those whose goodwill is our mainstay.

Among the occurrences of the past year, there is one which calls for precedence of notice over all others,—the cessation of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*. Remembering all that collectors owe to the journal which is no longer our contemporary, we register its demise with unfeigned regret. Between *The S. C. M.* and *The Philatelist*, we are glad to say no ungenerous rivalry ever existed. When we appeared upon the scene eight years ago, *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* was the first to welcome us, and throughout the period which has since elapsed, its references to *The Philatelist* were always marked by the utmost courtesy. Its relation with all other respectable publications were not less fraught with a spirit of frank recognition of merit; and all, we are convinced, will join with us in regretting that a magazine which has done so much to spread the knowledge of philately should no longer exist. We have given our late contemporary just credit for its suavity, but our testimony to its value would be incomplete if we did not also acknowledge the fearless and outspoken manner in which it attacked and exposed impostors of all shades. Of its worth as a repository of philatelic lore we need hardly speak. In his farewell address, the editor with justifiable pride, alluded to the fact that almost every collector of note, has, at one time or another, contributed to its columns, and contrasts the crude and uncertain notions respecting stamps which

JAN., 1875.

prevailed when *The S. C. M.* first saw the light, with the scientific earnestness which now pervades all collectors worthy of the name. Our late contemporary may fairly take credit for having aided in a large measure in bringing about this gradual and important change; and its twelve handsome volumes will remain an abiding evidence of the manner in which stamp collecting from a mere aimless pursuit, has been metamorphosed into an instructive study. We have dwelt at length on the excellencies of our *confrère*, to which we were personally attached by ties of old acquaintance, but our readers we are sure will be of opinion that we have not said a word too much.

The year 1874 has not witnessed any diminution in the stream of novelties. From January to December new and interesting emissions made their appearance in constant succession. The Mexican stamps, from the tameness of their design, disappointed expectation, but the Peruvians more than redeemed the credit of the New York Companies. The Granadine States have been busy as usual, and Lagos and Dominica have been added to the number of "philatelic possessions." Spain, as a matter of course, has given us a series of stamps. The list of Russian Locals has been largely augmented, and adverse criticism has only resulted in strengthening their position. The rage for high-value stamps seems to be spreading in our colonies. India has given us a rupee label, and Natal a handsome five-shilling. The popularity of post cards is attested by continued accessions to the number; and when even distant Japan takes to employing them, it may be assumed that their usefulness needs no further demonstration.

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

GERMAN EMPIRE.

INTRODUCTORY to a chronicle of the new issue for the empire, the gist of an official announcement in the *National Zeitung*, of the 2nd ultimo, may interest our readers.

On the 1st of January, 1875, will be introduced by the Imperial Post, a set of stamps valued in reichsmarken and pfennige, viz., 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50 pf. adhesives. (The two latter are equivalent respectively to $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ mark.) Also envelopes of two sizes, 10 pf. each; post cards, simple and with paid reply, 5 pf. each; and stamped wrappers at 3 pf. These latter can be procured at certain of the principal post-offices only. The adhesives and post cards will be sold at facial value; the envelopes bear each an additional charge of 1 pf.; the wrappers are purchasable in hundreds only, at 3 marks 35 pf.

The sale of these new stamps took place first on the 10th ultimo, but with instructions that, in those districts of the empire wherein the silbergroschen currency was employed, the stamps of 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50 pf. adhesives, as well as the new post cards and envelopes, are not to be offered for sale until the corresponding values of the stock on hand, viz., the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, $2\frac{1}{2}$, and 5 s.gr., is exhausted. The stamps of

the last set, 1, 2, 3, 7, 9, and 18 kreuzer, the $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ silbergroschen, and the Hamburg local $\frac{1}{2}$ schilling, lose all value for prepayment on New Year's Day; but may be changed from that date until the 15th of February for any of the new issue equivalent in value to the total amount offered, but not for cash.

With regard to the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, $2\frac{1}{2}$, and 5 s.gr., the term when they cease currency, and may be exchanged for others, will be notified hereafter. From January 1st, all money-orders must be in marks and pfennigs, for which purpose new formulas to that effect will be delivered at the post-offices. After the 31st December, the existing forms in thalers and florins are superseded.

This notice was given by the Imperial General Post-Office, Berlin, November 27, 1874.



These three illustrations represent the same number of types employed for the new adhesives, though why the two minor values should be dignified by a separate frame, and the four higher be precisely alike, numerals of course excepted, can be only attributed to a freak of the designer. The types of the 3 pfennige newsband, and 5 pf. cards are respectively similar to the corresponding values of the adhesives. The whole set is neat and delicate looking, which is all that can be broached in its favour. The stamps are certainly no improvement on any of the numerous superseded emissions, either of the empire, Prussia itself, or her conquered annexations. Like the 1869 adhesives of the United States, they may be pronounced exceedingly pretty, but not important enough in appearance for a great empire. As will be seen by reference to the preceding notice, they are for general use throughout the German empire, superseding (ultimately) the existing silbergroschen and kreuzer values.

Adhesives.

3 pfennige,	green	25 pfennige,	reddish brown
5	„ mauve	50	„ grey
10	„ carmine-pink	1 mark	
20	„ azure	2	„

Envelope.

10 pf. carmine-pink on white paper.

Post Cards.

5 pf., mauve on buff cardboard (single).
5 + 5 pf., „ „ (including reply).

Newsband.

3 pf., green on white; lines of demarcation $\frac{3}{10}$ of an inch broad, also in green.

Le Timbre-Poste describes a newspaper band for the empire of the 1 kreuzer second type, crown and scrolls. Most probably, by some error, the varieties in question were stamped without colouring matter. They were sold at the post-offices, mixed with the regular impressions, and consequently claim a place in collections. A more singular freak of the postal authorities is instanced by the same, viz., a newsband with the impression turned inwards by mistake, but nevertheless, regularly postmarked on the reverse! Parallel instances to the former anomaly are cited; in the case of some 30 c. Swiss, and some 3 c. envelopes of the United States.

MALTA.

The solitary value for this island is now of a very intense rich saffron-yellow, crown and c.c. watermark.

SPAIN.

In reference to the Valencia stamp of Don Carlos figured in November, M. Moens signalizes half-a-dozen distinctive variations in the two known types. Whether separate emissions or conjointly on each sheet is not yet ascertained. The principal points of difference, sufficient for distinguishing such types, are: in one the two words above the head are separated; in the other they seem to form one word. The latter shows two, the former has three horizontal lines between the head and the frame.

GAMBIA.

Having lately received a packet of stamps from this colony, we find that the fourpenny is rather paler in hue than formerly, and that the sixpenny is now watermarked with c.c. and crown. The former shows no watermark.

SARAWAK.

Some weeks back a set of stamps purporting to be issued for the use of this government made its appearance. They were imperforate essays or proofs, and were stated to be forerunners of a perforated emission to come out at the New Year. The original 3 cents, the type of which they follow, seems to be entirely superseded, its colour being transferred to another value. The colours, &c., are as follow:—

2	cents,	mauve on lilac tinted paper
4	„	brown on yellow (like the old 3 c.)
6	„	green on green tint
8	„	indigo on blue
12	„	red on pale pink
24	„	(?)

SERVIA.

We have elsewhere quoted from the Hamburg magazine that a new issue is contemplated for this principality.

BARBADOS.

Following *Le Timbre-Poste*, a yellow shilling was announced to be used in this island. Our latest letters were franked by the long-employed black; and we see now that M. Moens thinks the correspondent who gave him the erroneous information mistook the Trinidad of that colour for a Barbadian.

HELIGOLAND.

A new type of the post card has been printed for this island. The letters are longer, there is an italic inscription in the compartment reserved for the stamp, and the arms of Great Britain are contained within an oval. Black impression on yellow glazed card-board.

LUXEMBOURG.

On the 18th of November was emitted,—*fide* the same authority,—the forerunner of a set to be henceforth manufactured in the capital of the Duchy, not at Frankfort as previously done. It is the 4 centimes, blue-green, imperforate, because the perforating machine was not then ready. M. Moens considers that the typographic execution of this novelty could not be exceeded.

RUSSIAN LOCALS.

Outsisskolsk.—This quaint-looking design represents the first emission of the district described in last year's December number.

Rjeff.—*Le Timbre-Poste* figures and describes a third emission for this district, but slightly varying from the preceding. The crown is larger; the lion does not look so idiotic; and the numeral of value is more distinct. Red, white, and black, as before; 2 kop.



Saratov.—A slight change of type has taken place in this rare emission. It now bears the date 1874. There is what M. Moens takes for a secret mark, represented by a white dot in the frame above the arms, and no stop after the word *МАРКА*. The copy described is numbered 50. Printed as before, deep blue on very thin white paper; 5 kop.

CUBA, &c.

The set prepared for this present year is alike in type to the recently issued 10 c. de peseta of Spain; the upper inscription, as usual, being replaced by the word *ULTRAMAR* and the proper date.

12½ c. de p., lilac | 25 c. de p., blue
50 c. de p., green.

A 1 peseta pink will also be most probably forthcoming.

FINLAND.

Among Mr. Breitfuss's large collection of Finland envelopes, we have remarked a 10 kop. red on yellow-tinted *vergé* paper. It remains affixed to the original envelope, which bears the postmark of December, 1859. We do not remember this variety having been previously noted.

DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The same collector possesses a 10 bani yellow of the 1871-2 bearded issue *percé en arc*, and M. de Joannis has a 5 b. red of the same similarly treated. These varieties are hitherto unchronicled.

WURTEMBERG.

We have received the new post card for this kingdom. It is alike in type to the last emitted 2 kreuzer, but is a trifle larger, printed carmine on a blue-grey tinted pasteboard, and greatly improved by the addition of a chain-patterned frame.

CALIFORNIAN LOCALS.

A Canadian correspondent kindly forwards some envelopes for examination and notice. One bears Wells, Fargo, & Co.'s usual badge at the top centre, beneath which reads, VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND. A brown 6 cents Canada Postage is affixed to the right. A second bears a 3 cents adhesive; and has a large scroll impressed on the left, inscribed, BARNARD'S BRITISH COLUMBIA PAID EXPRESS. A third is similar, with the addition of the word CASSIAR. beneath the scroll. All three impressions are black; the first on substantial plain white paper; the others, rather smaller, on laid paper of the same quality. The first is gummed, but has no seal impression; the others sport two different ones. He sends two labels also: a large one having coach and four above, FORWARDED BY BARNARD'S EXPRESS below; a much smaller specimen bears the inscription only. Both are oblong rectangles, printed black on white paper, surfaced with vermilion.

BRITISH INDIA.

A new sort of service stamp is now in use in our Eastern empire. We have been favoured by a sight of the current half anna blue, and 1 anna brown surcharged thus—

ON
H. S.
M.

(On Her Majesty's Service). The whole set is probably treated in the same way.

THE VARIETIES OF FRENCH POST CARDS.

ONE or two varieties having recently been added to the already much-varying post cards of France, it has been deemed advisable to tabulate the whole as briefly as possible, for the purpose of comparison and reference. Those not in our own collection are taken from the notices in other magazines.

I.—For circulation in the same town or same postal district, in France or Algeria, requiring a stamp or stamps to the value of 10 centimes.

1st Type of frame.

1st Type, 10 c.



(1) Black impression on white card; compartment left vacant for two stamps.

(2) Similar; compartment inscribed, PLACE POUR 2 TIMBRES A 5 C.

(3) Black on buff; same inscriptions, PRIX: 10 CENTIMES added. Compartment ruled for one stamp only.

2nd Type of frame.

2nd Type, 10 c.



(4) Black on white; inscriptions and compartment like those of No. 1.

(5) The same, backed by framework of advertisements and ruled lines for writing, in red ink.

(6) The same, backed by advertisements in black ink, occupying one third of the surface.

3rd Type of frame.

3rd Type, 10 c.



(7) Black on buff, like No. 3; plain lines of bounding left-hand inscription and compartment for two stamps, replaced by ornamental ones; numerals smaller.

(8) Similar; no inscription to left; ornamental boundary for a single stamp.

II.—For circulation in France and Algeria, from office to office in different towns.

4th Type of frame.

4th Type, 15 c.



(9) Black on white; price unmentioned. Compartment for a single stamp, inscribed PLACE DU TIMBRE A 15 c.

(10) The same on bluish tint.

(11) Similar; with the addition of PRIX: 15 CENTIMES. Compartment vacant.

(12) Black on very pale roseate tint; inscriptions, &c., like the preceding.

5th Type of frame.

5th Type, 15 c.



(13) Black on yellowish tint; printed like No. 9 (a slight difference of position in the words of the right-hand inscription excepted).

(14) The same, on pure white.

6th Type of frame.

6th Type, 15 c.



(15) Black on white; no price noted.

(16) Similar; PRIX: 15 CENTIMES added. Ornamental boundary lines for left and right hand inscriptions and stamp compartment.

(17) Similar; left hand notice suppressed; numerals larger.

We take Nos. 10 and 15 from *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, and No. 17 from *Le Timbre-Poste*, of December, where the omission of an accent in the word DECEMBRE therein and in No. 8 is remarked. Our No. 16 shows that peculiarity, and we were told in Paris a few weeks since that it was the latest emission.

FARTHING POSTAGE.—At the Social Science Conference, held recently, Mr. R. Hill M'Donald advocated a halfpenny rate of postage for town letters, and a farthing rate on circulars.

THE SPUD PAPERS; OR, NOTES ON PHILATELIC WEEDS.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EAREE.

XLIII.

Peru.

1866; 5, 10, AND 20 CENTAVOS.



HAVE a New-Year's gift for our readers, in the shape of three Peruvian forgeries. Considering the difficulties of counterfeiting any of the works which issue from the *atelier* of the American Bank Note Company, these imitations are fairly done, the 20 c. being the best of the trio. Each of the originals is from a different plate, and each of the forgeries from a different stone, so that each value requires a separate description. Taking them in the order of their value, we have, to begin with,—

5 c. *Genuine*.—Engraved in *taille-douce*, on thick yellowish-white wove paper; perf. 12. The animals, which are supposed to represent llamas, are much more like mules. The one in front has a cloth or saddle girthed to its back, and the pack is laid upon this cloth. Its hind-quarters are not nearly so darkly shaded as the pack. All four legs are plainly visible; the off hind-leg being very darkly shaded. If a ruler be laid along the line of the face and forehead, it will cut into the R of FRANCO, and the R of PERU. The eye of the llama in the background is quite plain, and its mouth is slightly open. The hoof just under its nose is of normal proportions. The U of PERU is not joined at the top, and the small accent over it is white. Outside the top scroll, above CORREOS and PERU, are two unobtrusive triangles, the hypotenuse of each following the curve of the scroll. The left-hand leaf of the agavé (American aloe) is very nearly as long as all the other leaves. The two white dots, outside the end of the bottom value-scroll, are oval.

5 c. *Forged*.—Lithographed, on very white paper, rather thin; pin-perf. 13. The pack upon the back of the front llama appears to be girthed directly on to his back, without the intervention of any cloth or saddle. The hind-quarters are as dark as the pack. The off hind-leg is scarcely visible. If a ruler or straight-edge be laid along the line of the face and forehead, it will just touch the O of FRANCO. The eye of the llama in the background is not visible, and there are no symptoms of a mouth. Its front hoof, beneath its nose, is very much too large. The U of PERU is joined at the top, and the accent over it looks like an accidental break in the top line of the scroll. Outside the scroll, above CORREOS and PERU, are to be seen portions of triangles, very faint, without the hypotenuse. The last leaf (to the left-hand) of the agavé is very much shorter than the other leaves.



The two white dots outside the bottom label are round. Printed in sheets of 25, 5 × 5, postmarked with an oval containing six parallel bars, and ungummed. Perhaps the readiest instant tests are the shape of the two dots on each side of the bottom label, and the facial angle of the front llama.

10 c. *Genuine*.—Engraving, paper, and perforation, as in the 5 c. Unmistakable llamas this time. The front llama has some dark shading on the back of its head, and a dark patch on its back, but the two patches are not joined by shading down the back of the neck. The prickly-pear or cactus in the foreground has 11 leaves, and the commencement of a 12th. The llama in the background has a head, neck, and ears, exactly like a greyhound, with very well-marked eyes. The two ends of the c in CENTAVOS almost touch, so as to make it look like an o. The mountain-peaks in the background are so very faint, that they would not be noticed on a cursory inspection. The figure 1 on each side, has a proper head. The mouth and nostrils of the front llama, somewhat resemble those of a camel.

10 c. *Forged*.—Lithographed; paper and perforation as in forged 5 c. The dark shading on the head of the front llama, runs down the back of its neck, and joins the shading on the back. The prickly-pear is very blotchy, and the leaves are not easily counted. The head, and neck, and ears of the llama in the background resemble those of a wolf, and there is only one eye. The c in CENTAVOS is like an English c. The mountain-peaks in the background are very plain, and much too dark. The 1 on each side has no head. Both the 0's of 10 have a little dot in the middle of the left-hand limb. This is not found in the genuine. The front llama has a



straight mouth and no nostrils. Postmark and number in sheet as before.

20 c. *Genuine*.—Engraving, perforation, and paper, as in the 5 c. genuine. The central picture is exactly the same as in the 10 c., except that there is not quite so much of it seen. The frame cuts off a portion of the prickly-pear. The accents over e of CORREOS and the u of PERU are white. The outer curl of the ornament above e of CORREOS and l of DEL is round. The background of the scroll, behind the words CORREOS DEL PERU, is cross-shaded. Colour, a very rich dark yellowish brown.

20 c. *Forged*.—Lithographed; paper and perforation as in forged 5 c. There are two dark oblique lines of shading on the mountain, which come between the heads of the two llamas, the right-hand line touching the nose of the llama in the background. For the rest of the central picture, the description under the head of 10 c., will suffice. The figure 2 in the left top corner, and the one in the right bottom corner, both appear to be in two pieces, as if the tail could be separated from the rest of the figure. The accents over e of CORREOS and u of PERU are blotchy. The outer curl of the scroll-ornament over l of DEL is oval, and that on the left, over e of CORREOS is nearly so. The background of the name-label is solid. The colour of the forgeries is much too pale. Number in sheet, and postmark, as before.



I have had some trouble in the description of these stamps, as the forgers have imitated the originals very closely. However, our readers

need not have the slightest hesitation in deciding upon the genuineness or otherwise of any of these stamps which may be in their possession, if they will but remember the difference between *taille-douce* engravings and lithographs. It may not be amiss to mention here, that the word "llama" is pronounced as though it were written "lyama," with the *y* very short. The *ll* in Spanish always has this sound of "ly" at the beginning of a word. I should like to know whether the animals on the 5 c. are really intended for llamas. To me, as I said above, they appear much more like mules, except that the ears are a little too short, and they have tails like llamas, and not like mules. The animals represented on the 10 c. and 15 c. are very different, and have the usual woolly coat.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

A GREEABLY to notice, the second meeting of the season was held on the 19th ult., at the residence of Senor V. G. de Ysasi, 39, Brondesbury Villas, Kilburn, N.W. The stamps of Ceylon formed the subject of study. Very fine collections were exhibited by the Vice-President, Senor de Ysasi, "H. O. W." and others, and the following reference list was made:—

A REFERENCE LIST OF THE STAMPS OF CEYLON.

ADHESIVES.

Issue 1857-61, imperf., wmk. star. (Engraved by Bacon & Co., London).

- Rect. 1d. Milky blue, blue, dark blue
 " 2d. Light yellow-green, dark yellow-green, sea-green
 " 5d. Warm brown
 " 6d. (On white paper). Light brown, dark brown, violet-brown, carmine-brown
 " 6d. (On paper blued by the gum). Light violet-brown, dark violet-brown
 " 10d. Vermilion
 " 1s. Violet
 Oct. 4d. Light rose, rose
 " 8d. Warm brown, deep warm brown
 " 9d. Light brown-violet, dark brown-violet, olive-brown
 " 1/9 Green, yellow-green
 " 2/0 Light blue, dark blue

Issue 1860, imperf., no wmk. (Engraved by De La Rue & Co., London.)

- Rect. ½d. (On glazed azure paper). Light lilac, dark lilac, rose-lilac,
 " ½d. (On glazed white paper). Light lilac, dark lilac, lilac-pink

Issue 1861, comp. perf. 15, 15½, wmk. star. (Engraved by Bacon & Co., London).

- Rect. 1d. Light blue, dark blue
 " 2d. Dark green, yellow-green
 " 5d. Red-brown, warm brown
 " 6d. Chocolate, yellow-brown
 " 10d. Vermilion
 " 1s. Light violet, dark violet

- Oct. 4d. Rose, light rose, lake-red
 " 8d. Yellow-brown, brown
 " 9d. Lilac-brown, dark brown, olive-brown (2 shades)
 " 2s. Blue, light blue

Issue 1861, perf. 14, wmk. star.

- Rect. 1d. Blue
 " 5d. Warm brown
 " 1s. Light violet, dark violet

Issue 1861, perf. 13, wmk. star.

- Rect. 10d. Vermilion

Issue 1863, perf. 13, no wmk. (The stamps of this issue are scarce; they are printed on thinner paper, and are 1-16th of an inch shorter (except the ½d.), than the stamps of the watermarked series).

- Rect. ½d. Lilac
 " 1d. Blue
 " 5d. Red-brown
 " 6d. Brown, dark brown
 " 1s. Slate-grey
 Oct. 9d. Brown

Issue 1864-7, perf. 13, wmk. cc and crown.

- Rect. ½d. Light violet, dark violet, mauve-violet (1864)
 " 1d. Light blue, blue, prussian blue (1864)
 " 2d. Sea-green (1864), light emerald-green, emerald-green (1866), yellow-green (1867), full grass-green (1867), (very rare)
 " 5d. Red-brown (1865)
 " 6d. Brown, yellow-brown, very dark brown (1865)
 " 10d. Vermilion (2 shades) (1865)

- Rect. 1s. Pale violet (1866)
 Oct. 4d. Light rose, rose, lake-rose (1865-6)
 „ 8d. Red-brown, bright red-brown (1865-6)
 „ 9d. Yellow-brown, brown, dark brown (1866-7)
 „ 2s. Blue, deep blue (1867), prussian blue (1870)

Issue 1867-9, perf. 13, wmk. CC and crown.

- Rect. 2d. Dark straw-yellow, olive-yellow (1867), light orange-yellow, dark ditto (1868)
 „ 5d. Yellow-green (1867), olive-green, full green (1869)
 „ 10d. Orange (2 shades) (1868)
 „ 1s. Bright violet (1868)

Issue 1867, on glazed paper, perf. 14, wmk. CC and crown. (Engraved by De La Rue & Co., London).

- Rect. 3d. Light rose, rose, dark rose

Issue 1868 (same as above).

- „ 1d. Light blue, dark blue

Issue 1872 (same as above). Various designs; value expressed in cents.

- „ 2c. Pale yellowish brown, yellowish brown (light and dark)
 „ 4c. Slate (light and dark)
 „ 8c. Orange (light and dark), shades to orange-vermilion
 „ 16c. Lilac (light and dark)
 „ 24c. Green (light and dark)
 „ 36c. Blue, pale and deep ultramarine
 „ 48c. Rose (light and dark)
 „ 96c. Brownish grey

SERVICE STAMPS.

Issue 1869, surcharged SERVICE in block capitals, wmk. CC and crown.

- A. In black.

- Rect. 1d. Blue (1868) } p. 14, on glazed paper
 „ 3d. Rose (1867) }
 „ 2d. Orange-yellow (1868) }
 „ 1s. Light lilac (1866) }
 Oct. 4d. Rose (1865-66) } p. 13
 „ 8d. Red-brown (1865-66) }

- Rect. 6d. Brown (1868) } p. 13
 Oct. 2s. Prussian blue (1870) }

ENVELOPES.

Issue 1861, embossed head in various frames.

- A. White paper laid diagonally. Round seal on flap, composed of a kind of chequered pattern, engine-turned.

- Oval 1d. Blue

- „ 2d. Green

- „ 4d. Rose

- „ 5d. Chocolate

- Round 6d. Brown-lilac

- Oct. 8d. Chocolate

- Rect. 9d. Brown-lilac

- Round 1s. Yellow

- Rect. 1s. 9d. Green

- Oct. 2s. Blue

- B. Same as above. Round seal on flap, emblematic flowers

- C. Same as B, on paper laid vertically

- Oval 5d. Chocolate

- Round 6d. Brown-lilac

- Rect. 9d. Brown-lilac

- Rect. 1s. 9d. Green

- D. On plain thin *bleuté* paper. Seal on flap for the 6d., round fancy device; for the 10d., garter (1868)

- Round 6d. Brown-lilac

- Oval. 10d. Red

- E. On white laid paper. No seal on flap (1872).

- Rect. 4c. Blue.

- The sets A and B have DE LA RUE & CO., LONDON, embossed inside the flap of the envelope.

In the Vice-President's fine collection are also the following, all unused: wmk. CC and crown, and *imperf*; ½d. lilac (1864), 1d. blue (1864), 2d. straw-yellow (1867), 5d. olive-green (1869), 6d. brown (1865), and 3d. rose (1867). "H. O. W." had a 4d. rose (1865-6) also *imperf*, and with the same wmk., but used.

The Vice-President showed a 1d. blue (1868) surcharged POSTAGE, in ordinary type, across the face, and having done duty in 1871.

Post Card 2 cents lilac (type of 1872) on two shades of buff card.

This interesting meeting was dissolved at 6 p.m., and the next fixed for January 23rd, 1875, at 2 p.m., at Dr. Viner's, 34, Denbigh Street, Pimlico. Collectors are requested to bring the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, Chili, and British Columbia.

THE ORIGINATOR OF THE POST CARD.—The origination of the post card idea is attributed to a certain learned professor, Dr. Emmanuel Hermann, of the Wiener Neustadt Military Academy.

A PRIMITIVE POST.—There is a Post-Office in Schoharie county, New York State, which consists of a cigar box nailed to a rail-fence at Clayhill Station. The box is marked U. S. on one side, and CLAYHILL on the other. The mail is left by stages, and distributed by the farmers who pass.—*The Times*.

THE PHILATELIC PRESS.



WHEN an unpleasing duty is to be performed, it is well to hasten its completion, and be quit of the worry. For this reason we give, alas! for the last time, pre-eminent notice to the December number of our Bath contemporary, *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*. In common with all readers of that monthly, we cannot but lament the discontinuance of a work which has tended so considerably to the permanent establishment of what, in the early stages of its existence, was considered at the best but a harmless mania, but which now numbers among its votaries the wealthy, the intelligent, and the refined. For the reasons of this philatelic loss, our readers are referred to the opening address, which is succeeded by the usual article on novelties, notices of contemporaries, and Mr. Overy Taylor on the Finland emissions. The concluding paper, *re* Scott, Allan Taylor, and Casey, gives an epitome of some correspondence touching upon the Berford stamps, carpings at *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, &c., which, to us, who have perused the original documents, seems to prove a case of six, half-a-dozen, and twice three.

The Brussels magazine opens with a description of the Valencia adhesive figured in our November number. Two varieties are chronicled, differing in no fewer than six points. If the cut is taken from a veritable stamp, there is yet another which the editor has omitted mentioning, *viz.*, VALENCA, misprinted for VALENCIA: but this is probably merely an error of the copyist. Among the notices of new issues, is that of the provisional penny for Griqualand West; in allusion to which, the editor doubts its use in that colony. We can only repeat that the stamp in question was forwarded direct to our publishers by an inhabitant of the place, whose authority cannot certainly be questioned. The other penny provisional, modified for employment at the Cape itself, was mistaken for a sixpenny, altered in like manner from a fourpenny. Being mentioned together with the previously noted penny, although the proper value was not stated, it was fully implied. Our words were, that it was "*like* the provisional fourpenny formerly manipulated from the sixpenny;" not, that it was a sixpenny.

The concluding number of the first volume of *Le Timbre-Fiscal*, issued with evident intention of continued volumes, proves the demand for such a publication. It is enriched with descriptions and illustrations of novelties and lengthy articles on the issues of New Zealand and the Cape, from the indefatigable pen of the talented editor. More than one minor state, which have never aspired to the emission of postals, we find, from the opening address, to have fiscals for their own exclusive use. The principality of Schaumburg-Lippe, and the Indian states of Mysore and Bhawalpore, whose several stamps are figured and fully described, are cases to the point. Nearly a hundred engravings illustrate this first volume.

A cursory glance at some back numbers of *The American Journal of Philately*, of which our lengthened sojourn on the Continent prevented earlier examination, exposes the "late" editor's absurd cavils at the Russian locals, which any reasoning being would have deemed long since habilitated. The long tirade against *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* in August is most amusing, when read, as it has happened to ourselves,

after the abject apology lately offered by the writer. The series of papers on the locals of the States, as we foresaw on the appearance of the first article, promises to prove one of the most valuable monographs published in the magazine.

The Leipzig journal of Louis Senf continues to stand at the head of all the German publications on philately. To that gentleman we alluded last month, as the fortunate first possessor of specimens of the forthcoming set of stamps for the German Empire. Illustrations of three of the values were given in the December number.

The *Algemeiner Briefmarken Anzeiger*, the organ of the Hamburg postal club, announces the proposed appearance of a new set of stamps for the principality of Servia, imitated in type, and other respects, from the current Belgians. This magazine would be greatly improved were it diminished in size by one half. At present, too much space is devoted to the blanks left between every article, some of which consist of a few lines only. The title, &c., of the work, occupies about four times its due portion of room. If lack of matter occasions this great waste of paper, the writers for the publication in question, instead of devoting their pens to matters totally unconnected with philately, might expend their energies in ferreting out and publicly denouncing the swindling forgers, whose head-quarters are generally believed to be Hamburg.

The September and October instalments of the small Chicago magazine are to hand. Some readable philatelic matter, notably articles from the pen of Harry Bruce, is to be found therein; but we are sorry that the proprietor finds it necessary to eke out his small space by romantic sketches totally unconnected with the professed purport of his publication.

Valuable remarks on the Spanish post cards, and long articles on the postal arrangements of Bavaria and Norway, are principal features in the June to September numbers, inclusive, of the Madrid *Revista de Correos*. Therein the elaborate catalogue of post-towns extends yet only as far as the letter E!

SHORT LIVES.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EAREE.



LONG and short lives are, of course, more or less matters of comparison. For instance, when a man dies at five-and-twenty, we call that a short life; but if a cat or a dog were to live to that age, we should call it a very long life indeed. And in the matter of postage stamps, considering that they have only been in existence for thirty-four years, the average life of a stamp must necessarily be brief, compared with our own allotted span. By the life of a stamp, I mean the period during which it is current; that is to say, from the time of its emission until it is superseded by another type; for of course I do not count fresh editions of the same stamp, as they merely show that the stamp has a more vigorous existence than the authorities gave it credit for, and that they have been obliged to make an addition to the stock originally prepared and issued.

Very few countries allow a year to pass, without withdrawing some of their stamps from circulation, and substituting new types for them;

or, in other words, some of the stamps of every country die a natural death every year; but in some countries, the whole issue is changed annually, and we look naturally for a fresh emission every year. Spain for instance, has rarely let a year go by, since 1850 (the date of her first issue), without delighting the philatelic world with a completely new series; and New Granada follows suit, though in a more erratic manner. Compared with these, our penny adhesive with its ten years of existence, (1864—74) in its present form; the Belgium 10 and 20 c. second issue (1850—65); the Danish West Indies (1860—74), &c., &c., may be said to be very patriarchs of stamps. But our business is with those stamps which have only enjoyed a very short lease of life.

Occasionally we find that the need for a certain stamp has passed away before the stamp itself is ready for issue, and then we have what we may call still-born stamps, which have never had a philatelic existence; that is to say, of which no copies have ever had the honour of franking a letter. Of these we may cite as instances the 10 and 15 c. "large figure" Argentines; the 2 cuartos Spain, 1854 (Madrid); the 12 cuartos, orange, of 1860; Brunswick, 4-4ths g.gr. 1866, &c., &c. Stamps of this class are, by many collectors, rejected altogether; and for my own part, I should do no more than give them the place of honour amongst reprints and essays.

There are two kinds of collectors who accept doubtful stamps. The tyros, who greedily seize upon everything in the shape of a stamp, accept doubtful labels because their first idea is to get together as large a collection as possible; and the advanced collectors, who having completed their collections of most countries, are not unwilling to receive additional varieties which come to them with merely a second-hand sort of character. Their argument would be something like this,—(I will take a country, for instance, say Spain),—"We have a complete collection of all the undoubtedly-authentic stamps of Spain, why may we not be allowed to place amongst them still-born stamps, and *real* essays (*i.e.*, essays not merely made to sell)? For if we have all the authentic stamps, surely we may add to them those which do not bear quite such a good character, seeing that we shall not be deceived as to their real value." But still, with the great bulk of amateurs (those who possess say from 1,000 to 2,000 varieties), their principal object will be to obtain stamps which have no shadow of doubt upon them; and they will receive with great caution all doubtful labels. Of these stamps, I have a good number, which have come in my way by exchange, and at present, I retain them in a somewhat similar position to Mahomet's coffin. They are too good to put in my album of forgeries, and not good enough to have the honour of a place in my collection! So much for the Pariahs of Philately.

Of the short-lived stamps I do not pretend to give a full catalogue. My object is to pick out one here and there, so as to make the reader look and learn for himself. What we have gained by personal experience, is always more valuable than what we gain merely by the experience of others; and so, if a collector will take the trouble to examine on his own account, he will be much more likely to remember, than by merely reading the result of another's labour.

(To be continued).

POSTAL SCRAPS.

THE AUSTRIAN POST-OFFICE has issued a regulation against the employment of envelopes on which advertisements are printed, either on the back or front side. The regulation prohibits their use on the ground that such envelopes are really circulars in their nature, and therefore taxable as extra matter, and beyond this, that they embarrass the operations of the Post-Office.

THE EMBLEM ON THE BASLE STAMP.—We do not recollect ever seeing the right interpretation of the emblem, something like a straight cornucopia placed over the dove in the Basle stamp. It undoubtedly forms a portion of the city arms, figuring as it does on many public buildings in that city. Baedeker terms it a fisherman's hook, but we noticed it on one of the sides of the monumental tomb adjacent to the Lion of Lucerne, carved in stone in high relief; and again painted on a beautiful fresco in the Campo Santo of the cathedral of that city. In both instances it is indubitably a funereal torch. In the fresco it is borne by an angel leading (presumably) the deceased, whose tomb it adorns, to heaven. The sole difference in the device is that the Basle emblem is extinct, the others are burning.

PIGEON POST.—One of the most curious incidents connected with modern journalism is the regular employment of carrier pigeons in collecting intelligence for the daily and weekly newspapers. In the competitive exertions to procure the "Latest Intelligence," it has been found that for short distances newspaper reports can be sent readier, cheaper, and quicker by press carrier pigeons, flying a mile per minute, than by the Postal Telegraph. These aerial postmen are entrusted to resident correspondents in various places, ready to be despatched at any moment, whilst others are sent out by reporters to places where important events are transpiring. It is now no uncommon thing to see reporters at police courts, inquests, public meetings, &c., despatch folio after folio of "copy" by press carrier pigeons tossed through the nearest window, or thrown out of a train or steamer going at full speed. The attachment of these birds to the place of their birth, and their ability to find their homes from marvellous distances, are, of course, their distinguishing characteristics. A "columbier" or home is established at the various newspaper offices, and whenever a bird arrives with a message, the act of the pigeon entering its cot sets a call-bell ringing in the editor's room, the bell machinery continuing in motion until attended to.—*The Printers' Register.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

A RUSSIAN ON THE RUSSIAN LOCALS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—Many philatelists of acknowledged judgment having formerly doubted the authenticity of the Russian locals, and some even now remaining unsatisfied with regard to their official nature and employment, I think it will further the interests of philately to put forward a few facts in support of their genuine character, which duty, being a native of Russia, I deem myself fully qualified to undertake.

It may, perhaps, not be known to many of your readers that the Russian postmen receive for every letter they deliver, except for local letters and newspapers, 3 kopecks (1 penny) for their trouble. It is so throughout the whole Empire, even in St. Petersburg and Moscow; and if people call themselves for their letters at the General Post-office they are equally obliged to pay this tax. In parts of the Russian Empire which are very thinly populated, the letter-carriers have sometimes to traverse more than 20 miles, and are entitled in such cases to ask 3 kop. or more *extra*.^{*} It is partly to have a control over this revenue, and partly to facilitate the circulation of letters between the towns of the same circuit, that the local stamps generally bearing the name of the principal town have been issued.

The Russian District stamps are used (1) as chiffre-taxe, to pay for the delivery of letters coming from all parts of the Empire and abroad, (2) for use between the district towns, and (3) for post-paying letters to the next district town, where an ordinary Russian 10 kop. stamp is added for further transmission.

The scarcity of obliterated stamps can be easily explained, as people generally use two envelopes; one bearing Russian stamps, enclosed in another envelope with local stamps, addressed to the manager of the office in the district town, whence they are delivered to the Imperial post.

The greatest part of these stamps are obliterated by two pen-strokes, as the stamps of Novgorod, Schlüsselburg, Cherson, Schatz, Orgejew, &c.; others, by written inscriptions,—generally bearing the name or the initials of the postmaster,—the stamps of Rjev, for instance; and only a

* [Note.—Some of our readers may remember, as we do ourselves, that before the institution of the universal penny postage here, an extra penny was charged by the post-offices for the delivery of letters in the suburbs of towns, &c. We always paid rod. for a letter from London to Bath; the regular postage to the city itself being 9d.—Ed.]

few have handstamped obliteration. I have as yet seen Nowaja Ladoga, Gdow, Soumy, Jeletz, and Pskov only.

The blue semicircular indistinct obliteration of the last-named local was discredited by some of my friends; but I have lately seen a whole envelope with such an obliterated stamp in the possession of Dr. Viner.

I give an exact translation of this obliteration.

"To the Widilebsk circuit of the Pskov district.

To the deputy postmaster, Nicolai Casimirovitch Bogonshevsky, care of the *Starosta* * [the oldest inhabitant] of the Sapolsk village corporation, in the village Sopolie."

The stamped obliteration is very indistinct. I can only make out, "1 August, 187..." and then a few letters of an inscription which I believe to be, "Pskov District Post."

If after so many proofs, there are some doubters among collectors, there is no use to lose time in trying to convert them, because "none so deaf as those who will not hear, and none so blind as those who will not see."

Yours truly,
F. BREITFUSS.

London.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, a portion of *The Philatelist* is set apart each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements must be accompanied by the cheque given with each number.
2. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Royal Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 18th of the month.
3. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.
4. IF AN ADVERTISEMENT EXCEEDS 20 WORDS A CHARGE OF 6D. FOR EVERY ADDITIONAL 10 WORDS WILL BE MADE.
5. *The Stamp Exchange* is intended for the use of amateur collectors only; notices from dealers cannot therefore be inserted.

H. G. CARR, 216, Upper Street, Islington, is in want of entire Austrian and other post cards, also envelopes.

* Every village has a representative in the *Starosta* (the old man) who is at the same time mayor and arbitrator; he has under him for every hundred men a *Sotnik* (sto means hundred), who commands and looks over 100 men, and these 100 men are again divided into tens, and have over them a *Desiatnik* (*desiat*, 10), who have each to superintend their ten men. This very ancient division exists to the present time, and peasants of irreproachable conduct only are chosen for these several posts of honour.

WANTED, British Colonials and American officials. Good exchange. A RAMSEY, 2, Duke Street, St. Clements, Ipswich, Suffolk.

C. J. WIUM, Copenhagen, Denmark, has many stamps to exchange with collectors. He is in want of Colonials (new issues), also fiscal stamps.

FREDERICK E. A. CAVELL, Saxmundham, has 9 volumes of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* to exchange and 200 varieties of stamps. Offers requested.

THOMAS CHRISTIAN, Richmond, Va., U.S.A., has the following for exchange:—red 2 cents New Orleans, red 10 cents Confederate, unused; also several other Confederate locals on original envelopes.

GEORGE CUSHING, P.O., Drawer 181, Montreal, Canada, has for exchange, among others, complete sets of U.S. Treasury department and 2nd issue Newfoundland, unused; also Confederate States 5 cents, large; Bancroft's Montreal Express stamps, &c. Wants all kinds of unused postage stamps.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

. Correspondents sending specimens for inspection and return, are requested to enclose a stamped directed envelope.

E. C. E. and C. M. L.—Being annual subscribers, the cheques you forwarded were sufficient.

E. W. W., Sevenoaks.—Thanks for your information regarding the Western Union Telegraph Stamps, of which we have availed ourselves in the proper place.

A. F. H.—Your polite communication on the same subject is equally acceptable, containing additional particulars. It is embodied with that of E. W. W.

IOTA.—The stamps of Austria in the soldi values, that come postmarked GERUSALEMME, being less common than many others of the same character are worth a trifle more.

I. O'R., Liverpool.—By favour of this correspondent, we are enabled to give Messrs. Sidney Simpson & Co., of Hull, a gratis advertisement. These individuals supply sheets, stuck over with bits of coloured paper, purporting to be "very rare varieties" at one penny each, or tenpence per dozen. Such a sheet lies before us. It contains ruled compartments for more than a hundred quasi stamps. Two dozen have been selected by some one, to these we give the benefit of a doubt, not having seen them. Of the rest, a couple of common specimens will pass muster: the remainder are worthless attempts at imitation. Whether the impudence of these forgery-vendors, or the credulity of their victims be the more marvellous, is a moot point.



RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

PERU.

THE annexed representation of one of the envelope impressions of this republic, described in December last, gives but a very inadequate idea of the peculiar and effective elegance of the original. The four higher values being of precisely identical type (numerals and words of value naturally excepted), one cut serves for the whole, including probably the 2 c. wrapper, which we have not yet seen. Further description is consequently unnecessary, other than to remark that the central emblazonment is in distinct relief, and the white scroll beneath it, slightly so. The single numeral 5 is placed perpendicularly; the higher values stand horizontally. The absence of the word "Peru" may be considered a defect. For convenience sake, the values and colours are here repeated, two of the latter in any case require correction or modification. We have the white wove paper varieties only on view.



2	centavos,	blue,	on buff laid wrapper.
5	"	light green,	on white wove paper.
10	"	vermilion,	on white wove and cream laid paper.
20	"	rich violet-mauve	" " "
50	"	carmine-pink,	on white wove paper.

WURTEMBERG.

The forerunner of the anticipated set for this kingdom, adopting the Imperial Germanic currency in marks and pfennigs, is here depicted. Like the series which will be eventually superseded, the stamp is a personification of elegant neatness; and the denominational numerals are conspicuous without being obtrusive. It is evidently from the same *atelier* as the new Imperial emission. It is printed in *taille-douce*, the white parts consequently are in slight relief. Azure; 20 pfennig, replacing the 7 kreuzer blue.



GREAT BRITAIN.

By some mistake our notice of the new emission of post cards was omitted last month. The halfpenny cards will not be sold in future for less than sevenpence per dozen, or threepence-halfpenny for six. Specimens of a new issue of these are before us. They are very slightly

more substantial than at first, of a rather deeper shade of colour, and the word *ro* is omitted. Simultaneously with the nominal appearance of this magazine may be had some much thicker at the rate of eight-pence per dozen, or, as in the case of the thinner ones, a proportionate charge for half the quantity. We have had an early inspection of this superior quality card, which, instead of being toned, is pure white, and printed in brown ink in lieu of mauve.

Le Timbre-Poste notifies some envelopes having the three-halfpenny embossed stamp side by side with the penny, the former being printed of a brown colour. *L'Ami des Timbres* pronounces them to be merely fancy impressions, and as such, of no philatelic importance. They bear the date 8. 12. 74.

UNITED STATES.

A new company having been entrusted with the printing of the postal envelopes of the States, the types of the 1, 2, and 3 cents have been slightly but sensibly modified. The latter is here figured, and



may be easily compared with the previous emission, which few, if any, collectors lack. The variations in the 1 c. are—numerals of value rather smaller, the triple chin has disappeared, the hair lies more neatly, and the bust is cut off square. There are two types of the 2 c.—in one the *P* of *POSTAGE* is narrower and the *o* broader, *u.s.* farther from that word, the circles containing the numerals are larger, the numerals themselves are narrower and longer. The other new type has larger figures of value enclosed in ovals, not circles. This latter peculiarity is quite sufficient to show the distinction.

The above designs represent, though very inadequately, two of the numerous tribe of new newspaper labels issued for the United States government. They consist of eleven types, comprising in all no fewer than 24 individuals:—

Black—2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, and 10 c. Type as above.

Carmine—12, 24, 36, 48, 60, 72, 84, and 96 c. Type as above.

Brown—\$1.92. Female with wreath and ear of corn.

Vermilion—\$3. Female with wreath and spear.

(The last two may signify Victory at complete peace, and immediately after War.)

Ultramarine—\$6. Female with book and pencil (? the Muse of History).

- Orange—\$9. Female with helmet and spear, numeral of value below (? Minerva).
 Green—\$12. Female bearing lamp.
 Purple—\$24. Female holding arrows; stars above; inscriptions at sides.
 Red—\$36. Female carrying model of ship.
 Brown—\$48. Female feeding eagle from a glass; v. s. below.
 Pale purple—\$60. Indian girl holding bunch of grapes; tent in the distance.

We presume all these figures are allegorical, and wait for an explanation of their purport from some qualified contributor.

A correspondent from the States has forwarded a specimen of one of the singular chance varieties of envelopes, noticed in a late number, which had escaped colouring on the impression. It is one of the 3 cents printed on straw-coloured paper, and has passed the post, having LOUISVILLE KY encircling the date, DEC. 21. This appears to be the first instance of one of these irregularities having done postal duty.

RUSSIAN LOCALS.

Douchowchetschina.—The ugly stamp described in December has a fellow of the same type. It is black on pink paper, value 6 kop. The pair were first issued on January 1st, 1873.

Tver.—The long-known round pink and white stamp of this territory surcharged with value in blue, is now issued with a black surcharge.

Nowaia Ladoga.—At page 169 of last year's volume is described a single stamp issued for this district. We learn from *Le Timbre-Poste* that the employment of locals was first introduced there in 1869, when two values were emitted, viz., the 5 kop. green alluded to above, for ordinary, and a 25 kop. vermilion-red, for registered letters. We are told that the latter value's die served for the former after having had the numeral 2 erased; also, that the stamps were printed in rows of five by six, and that the second, third, and fourth stamps of the first two horizontal rows of the 25 kop. bear the value 5 kop., the figure 2 having been everywhere effaced except on the second stamp of the second row, where the 25 has been retained in the lower right angle. A 5 kop. vermilion therefore existed. From this, which seems rather obscure, may be gathered the facts that the 5 kop. and 25 kop. were found together on the original sheets, and that the latter value was afterwards modified where it stood, and an entire sheet printed in green for the lower denomination. M. Moens adds that the 25 kop. being considered too high a charge, the tax was reduced to 15 kop. in 1873, and that a stamp of that value probably exists.

Malmyche.—The issue for this district, described in December only, has already ceased to exist; presumably being found inconvenient for use on account of its diminutive size. A specimen of the new comer, kindly lent by an amateur friend, lies before us for description. Oblong; outer frame broader than that of its predecessor, composed of wavy lines bounded by straight ones; inner frame and inscription narrower. Central oval and characters much larger. Red on white; 2 kop.

SPAIN.

We are informed that the expected set is ready for issue, but do not know whether any have been used, or if they will enter into the category of still-born stamps. We have seen one of the new war-stamps. Above, on a ribbon are the words *IMP^{TO} DE GUERRA*; *ESPAÑA* on either side; *CENT* below, and numerals at the lower angles. The arms of the republic are in the centre. Coloured impression on plain white paper. Bluish green, 5 centimos; mauve or red, 10c. *L'Ami des Timbres* gives the former, a philatelic friend the latter hue.



HONDURAS.

We understand a set of four adhesives, type closely approaching, but not identical with, the red and green so long in use, is being emitted, of which one individual only has yet made its appearance here. It is lilac, 2 reales.

JAPAN.



This cut represents the stamp impression and a portion of the framework of the lower value post-card of this empire, chronicled in a previous number. Orange, $\frac{1}{2}$ sen.

BAYARIA.

Two envelopes of an altered type have existed for some time in this kingdom, but ignored by the chroniclers. They are like the current adhesives, but have post-horns at the upper angles:—

1 kreuzer, green

3 kreuzer, pink.

SUEZ CANAL COMPANY.

We lately saw, in a collection, a set of these stamps strikingly different in type from those usually found. They were presented by an official of the company. Can any philatelist favour us with an interpretation of this strange fact?

ITALY.

In June last it was decided by the authorities to issue a set of stamps for official postage. They are all of the same colour. It will be seen by the annexed representation of the 5 c. value, that they are oblong, not upright rectangles, differing from the current set in general use in that respect, and also in having the king's head replaced by numerals. They are printed in Turin, colour on white. The ornamentation and inscription appear in white on dark ground; the central value, dark on a white ground. Lake, 2, 5, 20, 30 centesimi; and 1, 2, 5, and 10 lire.



CANADA.

A Montreal correspondent writes as follows. "I have been told by a person acquainted with the engravers to the post-office department, that there are now in hand designs for two stamps for registered letters

of the values of 2 cents and 4 cents respectively. They are oblong in shape, and have REGISTERED POST at top, and large figure of value in the centre."

HONG KONG.

We have been shown a 2 dollar dull green, and a 3 dollar dull lilac fiscal stamp (stamp duty), employed and duly postmarked for postal service. A 2 dollar pink is also chronicled by *Le Timbre-Poste* to be serving for the same purpose. Are such stamps entitled to a place in postage-stamp albums? We should ourselves give an affirmative reply.

SWITZERLAND.

The disused value, 15 centimes, has been revived in this republic since the commencement of the year, for the prepayment of patterns and printed matter transmitted to the United States, Malta, Egypt, Great Britain (via France), and home use for the same, under certain conditions. Current type, colour lemon-yellow.

ANTIOQUIA.



The 1 centavo of this state, figured and chronicled at page 162 of last year's volume, is repeated here to remind our readers that it is perforated. The 5 c., mentioned at page 150, but neither figured nor described, is also here represented. It is dark green on white paper. *Le Timbre-Poste* figures, but misprints it as an issue of Bolivar.



TURKEY.

The Belgian magazine states that this empire's postal authorities, in consequence of the exhaustion of the 10 paras, have printed off, in haste, what are supposed to be provisionals—that value of the same reddish violet as before, but without allowing time for their being perforated. They were issued on the 13th of December, and are also found with the usual blue surcharge for the local service of the capital.

HUNGARY.

The same authority announces the existence of 5 kreuzer envelopes (type Francis Joseph's head), watermarked like the new current set.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

In addition to the 62 c. de peseta, and the 1 peseta 25 c., same type, then current in Spain, chronicled last year, there exists a 12 c. de p., lilac, and possibly an intermediate value.

SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

We have lately received some original remainders from this distant region, consisting of some envelopes having the large-sized impression, date 1869, handstamped on blue wove paper. Accompanying these were sixpenny blue adhesives of the old owl-eagle type, printed in Natal, and hole-perforated, and penny ones of the same type in shade of dull brick-red having a similar perforation. Also sixpenny azure of the improved eagle type, printed in Germany, and rouletted. Both

values are on thin paper, the impression more or less distinct on the reverse of the stamp. In the course of the current year, it is contemplated by the government to issue a new set of postage stamps, and fiscals also. In all probability the president's head will figure thereon, the armorial bearings recently adopted being elaborate, and consequently likely to be too costly. The eagle crest is replaced by a species of deer called *köedu*. The shield contains a lion, an anchor, sword of justice supporting the scales, a boer waggon, three cornsheaves, a sickle, and a calthrop. The supports are flags and boers on horseback. Motto as before. The president visits Europe early in the year, and will order the stamps either in England or Holland.



CUBA.

The type chosen by the republican government for the latest 10 c. de peseta Spanish emission, has been adopted with the requisite modification, as stated last month, for the Cuban issue. It is here represented for the purpose of reminding our readers of this fact.

GRIQUALAND WEST.

The general report now runs that this district, on account of the great unpopularity of its present administration, is likely to be eventually joined to the Cape Colony. Such being the case, the contemplated emission of postage stamps would not take place.

HELIGOLAND.

This British possession, like the kingdom of Wurtemberg, playing the game of "follow my leader," if not having already done so, is about to issue stamps in pfennig values, viz., 1, 2, 5, 10, 25, and 50 pf.

OUR FOREIGN CONTEMPORARIES.



OUR readers will observe an alteration in title of the usual paper on the Philatelic Press. Any comments made upon home publications in all good feeling, and totally devoid of prejudice or interested motives, being liable to give offence, and lead to unpleasant discussion, we have decided on confining either laudation or stricture exclusively to continental or transatlantic postal literature.

To *Le Timbre-Poste* we are, as usual, obliged for notice of novelties. Little short of a page is occupied with Dr. Magnus on the Luxembourg post cards, wherein that writer continues all possible information on the subject. We gather from an article by the editor, that Mr. Casey has "eaten his words" in an ample apology for any strictures penned by him against the magazine. We learn also that the Italian government has caused all the remainders of Piedmont, Sicily, Parma, Modena, Romagna, and the Roman States to be burnt. Considering that it was universally understood that all such have long since passed into the hands of dealers, we do not see how this can be. Moreover, long after post-offices and their contents have been burnt, postage stamps have a happy knack of reviving like phoenixes, *teste* the Philippines, Mauritius, and Thurn and Taxis. An interesting account of the French Timbro-

logical Society follows, which is too lengthy for transcription; but we shall give its leading features elsewhere. Any amateur of fiscals desirous of going in for them, who should glance over the pages of *Le Timbre-Fiscal*, would be utterly disheartened according to our ideas, so marvellously numerous and difficult of attainment do they seem in our eyes to be.

After a long interregnum of many months, *La Gazette des Timbres* has once more appeared. The editor has decided for the future to restrict its contents to the chronicle of new emissions and a price catalogue of strictly postal, telegraphic, and fiscal issues, four pages being devoted to each of the two said contents. Articles, correspondence, &c.,—and, consequently, disputes and recriminations,—are to be henceforth excluded. The proposed intent is well carried out in the number at hand.

L'Ami des Timbres, according to custom is well up in new emissions; but mixed as they are with fiscals of every description, including adhesive labels for guaranteeing the genuine character of certain celebrated mineral waters in Turkey, the postals proper are rather difficult of selection.

To the Leipzig *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* we are indebted for much useful information. It commences with a good illustrated article on the Egyptian essays, of which no fewer than eight are figured.

The Spanish *Revista de Correos* is crammed, according to custom, with all kinds of information on postal arrangements and statistics; but nothing of interest to philatelic amateurs. The research necessary for compiling this publication must be onerous and incessant. In the number under notice are to be found articles on the postal regulations of Norway and the postal geography of Cuba.

The *American Journal of Philately* continues the reprint of Mr. Overy Taylor's articles, and the equally readable and interesting United States locals. To it we are indebted for full description of the new newspaper labels, which the editor, with considerable reason, styles "the most beautiful set of postage stamps in the world," adding with truth, that their high facial value is a drawback precluding the possibility (facility would be better) of their being collected unused, and the cancellation being done by punching a hole through the stamp, he naively continues to the effect that they must be collected with holes in different places, that parts of some may be used to plug others! In "Sketches of Little Known Stamp Countries," the writer proves the truth of his title, as far as himself is concerned, by calling Montenegro a republic! We presume he is not a philatelist, or would certainly not have ignored the portraiture of the prince on the Montenegrin stamps.

ROBBERY OF MAIL BAGS AT GLASGOW.—A man describing himself as John Canning, an iron shipbuilder of Govan, has been apprehended at Glasgow on a charge of stealing two mail bags, containing over nine hundred letters. On Friday evening he hailed a cab at the Caledonian railway station, and ordered the driver to take him to an hotel. The driver, however, seeing that he had some mail bags, drove him to the police station. It was then ascertained that the bags had been stolen from a tramway car in their transmission to Glasgow from Hillhead. The correspondence from that district is generally very valuable. The tramway guard did not know of the theft until informed of it by the police; he had supposed that the post-office runner had taken the bags off the car as usual on their arrival at St. Vincent's-place.

THE SPUD PAPERS; OR, NOTES ON PHILATELIC WEEDS.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EAREE.

XLIV.

Dominica.

1874; 1d., 6d., AND 1/.



AM pleased to be able to say that the forgeries of these stamps are not likely to prove dangerous, as the originals are most beautifully executed. If our English engravers would take the trouble to invent new designs, I think we might challenge even the American Bank Note Company to produce finer stamps than we can turn out; but, as it is, we are never favoured with anything but the same tiresome old portrait, which is about as much like Her Majesty as I am!

Genuine.—Typographed, on thin white wove paper, slightly surfaced. Watermark, crown and cc. All values from the same die. Perf. 12½. The name-circle does not touch the value-label. T of POSTAGE very much dwarfed. Lower part of tiara divided into three compartments; with an oblong jewel in the first, over the forehead, a diamond-shaped one in centre, and another oblong one in the third, over the ear. The lobe of the ear is very round and fat. The last pearl of the tiara, over the ear, leans towards the left. The portrait is shaded *all over* with very fine lines. The hair covers part of the eyebrow at the outer corner. Colours:—1d., bright mauve; 6d., emerald-green; 1/., rich rose, with very slight *nuance* of blue.

Forged.—Lithographed, on soft white wove paper, rather thick, and unsurfaced. No watermark. Perf. 13 (very badly). All values from the same stone. The name-circle runs into the value-label, below T of POSTAGE. T of POSTAGE is the same size as the other letters. No jewel over forehead, centre jewel is blotched, and the one over the ear is very indistinct. The lobe of the ear is quite thin, and does not hang down. The last pearl of the tiara, over the ear, is upright. The forehead is unshaded, with a white patch at base of neck. The hair does not touch the eyebrow. Colours:—1d., lilac; 6d., dark yellow-green; 1/., chalky rose. Printed in sheets of 25, 5 × 5, and postmarked with an obliteration somewhat like our own, but without numerals. I have not yet seen postmarked specimens of the genuine.



Montenegro.

1874; 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, 15, 25 NOVCH.

These "novch." are probably the equivalents of the Austrian kreuzer and soldi; and, from there being a 7 in the set, it is possible that we may see a 7 kr. and 7 soldi for Austria soon. This, of course, is only a conjecture. The letter which is translated v in "novch," is the Russ soft B, with which we take most singular liberties. In the Russian locals for instance, it is given as v, B, w, u, and even as FF! but I fancy that v is the best rendering, as that is nearest to the sound of it. I am sorry

our publishers have no Russ types, as there is a mistake in the forgeries which could be shown by these types in an instant, but which is rather difficult to explain in words.

Genuine.—Lithographed (?) on thick white wove paper, perf. 10½. All values from same stone. Inscription on right hand label reads, TSR. GORE. The letter ts is like two I's joined at top and bottom, with a little tail to the right hand of the bottom cross-stroke. In these stamps, it looks like a flaw in the label more than anything else. The stops after TSR. and NOVCH. are large and distinct. The ear is large, and very prominent. There is a strongly-marked vertical cleft or dimple in the chin.

Forged.—Lithographed, on thin white wove paper; perf. 12½. All values from same stone. Inscription on right-hand label reads PR. GORE. The p is like two I's joined top and bottom, but *without* the little tail. The stops are very small. The ear is almost hidden by the hair and whisker. The cleft or dimple in the chin is very slight, and oblique. The colours closely resemble those of the originals. I must give the forgers credit for having made some excellent imitations. I pored over these stamps for a long time, before I noticed any variations between the genuine and the false; and even now, I fear that these differences are not very prominent. The perforation is a good test; it is large and very clear in the genuine, but very poor in the forgeries. This, and the prominent ear and the little tail to the T's, are the only points which show the genuine stamps. The forgeries are printed in sheets of 25, 5 × 5, and postmarked with four concentric circles, like the old Baden postmark. Both these and the Dominica forgeries are destitute of gum.



THE TIMBROLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FRANCE.

THE first sitting took place on the 5th of December last, at which eight Parisian members assisted, two others being prevented from attending. M. Monnerot being chosen chairman, after some discussion upon preliminary arrangements, the meeting was adjourned till the 19th, when applications for admission to membership and other business having been attended to, the next *séance* was fixed for the 7th of January, at the residence of Baron Arthur de Rothschild, when the Spanish stamps were to form the subject of discussion, all amateurs being invited to bring that portion of their collections, and communicate any information they might possess on the subject. There were upwards of thirty articles agreed to during the meetings, of which the 1st announces the formation of a Society whose object should be "the study of stamps considered either with regard to themselves or their relations with chronology, history, geography, administration and finances, language and the fine arts. Succeeding articles allow the admission of ladies to membership; appoint Paris for the central place of meeting; divide the society into titular, corresponding, and free members, the first paying twenty, the second ten francs per annum subscription. All persons who may have rendered service to timbrophy are eligible to be elected free members. The first Thursday of

every month is fixed for the ordinary meetings. In case of *fête* days, the following Thursday is substituted. The other articles would not interest our readers.

A DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF THE RUSSIAN LOCALS.

(Continued from page 173, vol. viii.)

Rjev

(Government of Tver).

1st issue, 1871. Rectangular boundary of thin lines enclosing shield-shaped, black frame, inscribed in white letters, "Rjevskaya Village Post," abbreviated words of value below, separating numeral on shield-shaped scroll interrupting the frame. Within, on a red ground horizontally divided, are a crown supported on stool in the upper, lion rampant in the lower portion. White, black, and red on white; 2 kop.

2nd issue, 1872 (see frontispiece). Design nearly identical; frame portioned off below to contain words of value. Inscription in black characters on white. Black and red on white; 2 kop. The name of this stamp is spelt by the Muscovite dealer, Rschew.

Official Stamp, 1872. This seems the only place at present known among the Russian rural posts wherein a stamp is officially employed to seal letters, packets, &c., like the circular impressions used in Egypt, and our own horizontal-oblong labels, with white inscription, embossed on blue oval. The Russian word (UPRAVA in English letters) meaning administration lies in the centre of a large circle inscribed "Rural District of Rjeff," within a thick single-lined boundary.

3rd Issue, 1874—Slightly but sensibly varying from the preceding. The crown is larger, the representation of the lion is better designed, the red colour is deeper, and the numeral of value more distinct. Red and black impression on white paper; 2 kop.

Sapojok

(Government of Riasan).

Known in 1871. Large rectangle, defined by thin single lines. Frame inscribed "Sapojoski Rural Post" and value; numerals in small circles at ornamented angles. Central shield horizontally divided; cap, flag, and spear above on ground *or*; bird on ground *azure* below. Imperial crown over shield. Black on thin white paper; 5 kop. (See frontispiece).

Saratov

(Government of Saratov).

Described faithfully in 1871, but almost unknown till the beginning of the present year. Rectangular; defined by thin lines. A solid ground bounded by a thin line and an exterior wavy line with numerals at angles, is faced by an irregular octagonal network bearing an oval frame inscribed "Saratovskoi Rural Post Stamp." This encloses a sheaf of wheat above date of year on ground *azure*. Above is a small escutcheon *argent*, bearing three fishes, head to head, forming the letter *v*; ornamentation at sides. No. beneath the oval, followed by 838 written in red ink (in the stamp on view). Blue, on thin pelure yellowish white

paper; 5 kop. In the stamp first described the date was 1869, being probably changed every year. In Mr. Pemberton's catalogue it is misrepresented as perforated, having been described from a plate on which the wavy border looks like perforations. It is exquisitely and elaborately engraved. (See frontispiece).

Type in current use last year, dated 1874, varies very little from the original die. A white dot in the frame above the arms is supposed by M. Moens to be a secret mark of the engraver. There is no stop after the word *МАРКА*. Deep blue on thin white paper; 5 kop.

Schatz

(*Government of Tambou*).

1st issue (see frontispiece). Like the preceding, described in 1871, it remained in obscurity till 1873. Large narrow rectangle defined by three single lines. Central escutcheon, horizontally divided, bears beehive and trio of bees on ground azure in upper half, and wheat sheaf on ground argent below. "Stamp" above, "Price 3 k." beneath. Arched inscription, "Schatskoi District Rural Administration." Black on thickish white paper; 3 kop.

2nd issue, 1874. Same device, type modified. The numeral is changed from 3 to 3, the initial of value is followed by a period, and small wavy lines are beneath. Each sheet contains 45 stamps in 5 horizontal rows. Black on white; 3 kop. Same design; 5 kop. The sheets of the latter consist of 6 horizontal ranks of 8 each, and 5 placed lengthwise below.

Schlüsselbourg.

(*Government of St. Petersburg*).

One of the earliest known, and probably the earliest emitted, having been *suppressed* in 1866. Rectangular; a highly ornamental numeral, entwining a key and labelled with value five times, lies in central of oval inscription, "Schlüsselbourgskaya Rural Post." Numerals on ornamentally grounded spandrels. Black on bluish green paper; 5 kop. (See frontispiece).

Shadrin.

(*Government of Perm*).

So lately as March of the present year, all that was known of an issue for this place was, that there existed a 5 kop., blue. This has never yet turned up, but we have stamps with description as follows:—rectangular; an attempt at the representation of a fox within white central oval frame inscribed with name and designation, value beneath; numerals on solid ground at angles on a background of perpendicular lines. Black on white; carmine on white; 5 kop. This stamp is one of the most villainously printed known. The place being celebrated for its skin-fairs, gives a clue to the interpretation of the central nondescript. (See frontispiece).

Skopin.

(*Government of Riasan*).

Known and partially described in 1871. Rectangular; crown above small central escutcheon bearing arms. "Skopinskaya Rural Post" in

form of Norman arch; value below. Frame composed of two lines; the inner is curved inwards at the angles to hold numerals in small circles. Blue on white; 3 kop. Each sheet is disposed like those of Rostov-on-Don, with four stamps placed on their sides at the bottom. The place is near Sapojok, and the armorials seem very similar, but the cap looks more like a turban; the spear becomes a sword, the flag is something else, and the bird a monstrosity. Mr. Pemberton fancies it a locust, which it resembles in some measure. The upper portion of the arch is carefully ruled with a line to guide the position of the characters. In one of our specimens, some mischievous bystander must have nudged the manipulator, which has caused the line to start off at a tangent, and extend beyond the boundary of the stamp. It is the last on the right hand, and probably exists in that position in every sheet. (See frontispiece).

Soumy

(Government of Charkov).

The early issues of this place are very rare. They were described and partially known long since.

1st issue (see frontispiece). Small rectangles: courier's bag, labelled with figure and initial of value, within circular frame inscribed, "Sums-kaja Village Post," on solid ground faced with network ornamented at angles; cross of five dots at each corner; thin-lined exterior frame. Colour on white. Green, 1 kop.; blue, 2 kop.; red, 3 kop.

2nd issue. Blue on greyish toned paper; 1 kop. The same surcharged with 5 in red for unpaid letters. Same type; red on white and on grey paper; 5 kop. Ditto the 5 crossed with 6 in red ink.

3rd issue, 1874. Type modified: circle and bag larger; numeral very large in proportion, apparently covering another figure. Blue; 1 kopeck.

Syzran

(Government of Simbirsk).

Totally unknown to philately till 1873. Small narrow rectangle, inscribed in five lines "Rural Postage Stamp, 5 k., Syzran District." Blue on solferino colour; 5 kop. The first stamp on each row forms a singular variety, reading 55 kop., the numeral being doubled. This stamp has ceased to exist.

(To be continued).

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE third meeting of the season was held at Dr. Viner's, 34, Denbigh Street, Pimlico, S.W., on the 23rd ult., when the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope and Chili were exhibited and compared.

After the meeting, several novelties were exhibited by the members; amongst others, M. Breiffuss showed four used envelopes bearing the following Russian locals:—

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. <i>Bejephk</i> (not Biejetsk, as sometimes spelt), obliterated 16/11/74.</p> <p>2. <i>Podolsk</i> (adhesive), pen stroked and 20/8/74.</p> | <p>3. Ditto, ditto, 11 September and 8/9/74.</p> <p>4. <i>Bogorodsk</i> (stamped envelope), type II., 10 k., light blue, obliterated with date, 14/11/74.</p> |
|--|---|

The next meeting is to be held on the 20th of February, at 2 o'clock precisely, at the residence of M. de Joannis, 272, Cornwall Road, Notting Hill, W. All members are invited to bring the stamps of British Columbia, Corrientes, Costa Rica, and Cuba.

SHORT LIVES.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EAREE.

(Concluded from page 14).

THE first place which comes under our notice is Bergedorf. The $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. black on violet, and the 3 sch. black on rose, were issued November 1, 1862, and were superseded by the $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. black on blue, and the 3 sch. blue on rose, on Nov 10. I need not say that these very short-lived stamps are exceedingly rare. I only remember to have seen about two genuine copies of each. Most of even the large collections have only the reprints. These reprints have worn dies and very bright colours; and the originals, so far as I can remember, have clear-cut dies, but the colours somewhat dingy.

Buenos Ayres.—1858, ship, the 4 ps. and 5 ps. of this issue, were superseded in 1859, after an existence of six months.

Costa Rica.—The set unperforated was, I believe, in use for a very short time.

Hawaii, 1852.—The first 13 c. of this year, was superseded after a month or two.

Italy, 1863.—The 15 c. same type as the first issue for all Italy, had a currency of one month.

Mexico.—The Monterey series of 1864 was used for a few months at most.

Monte Video, 1859.—The first set for this year, with value in thin figures, was superseded after a life of less than six months.

Naples.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ tornese, arms, had one month's currency.

New Brunswick.—The 5 c. Connell is said to have been current for a few days.

Parma.—1859, provisional, lived about eight months.

Peru.— $\frac{1}{2}$ peso, 1858, withdrawn after three months.

Romagna.—This set was current four months.

Roumania.—1872. Bearded type, imperf., 10 and 50 bani. These stamps were superseded after one month.

Schleswig-Holstein.—From March to October, 1865.

Shanghai.—Cents issue, 1866, six or eight months.

Spain.—1866, 20 c. brown, eight months; 20 c. lilac, six months.

Transvaal.—Envelopes. I believe that only 30 of the first envelope were issued. The second envelope was very soon superseded.

Now, as I said before, I have not professed to give a full catalogue of all the short-lived stamps, which, from time to time, have appeared and disappeared. If there are any errors in this list, I shall be glad to be corrected by any who have better means than I have of ascertaining the various dates of issue and suppression.

We cannot wonder that some of these stamps should be so rare. Take the Bergedorfs for instance, how could it be expected that stamps from this little place, withdrawn in less than a fortnight, could ever

be common? And then, too, it must be remembered that twelve years ago collectors were neither so numerous nor so active as they are now. At the present day, as soon as the issue of any new stamp is announced, numbers of dealers, and of amateurs too, write to head-quarters at once for a supply: so that, though the stamp may have but a short life, yet a great many copies are distributed throughout the philatelic world before the stamp is suppressed, and thus it can only become comparatively rare. In the old days there was nothing of this sort, and a stamp was frequently withdrawn from circulation long before the vast majority of collectors had even heard of its existence.

There are many amateurs now-a-days who will not buy a stamp when it first comes out, because they think that, by waiting a short time, they will get it much cheaper as it gets more common. I think, however, that this is not very wise; and if the stamp is withdrawn, and goes up five or six hundred per cent. in price, the too wary amateurs will find themselves rather sold. I confess that some years ago I never cared to purchase a newly-issued stamp until it began to get cheap, so I often refused stamps offered at a few pence, which are now worth many shillings. I have now learned wisdom by experience; although, of course, there is not so much likelihood *now* of any new issue becoming rare, as there was a dozen years ago. At the same time, it must be remembered that there is always (to say the least of it) the *possibility* of a stamp, or set of stamps, being issued experimentally; that is to say, a very small edition may be struck off, we will say imperforate, without watermark, &c., and then, if the thing succeeds, a larger edition comes forth, perhaps watermarked, perforated, and in different colours, &c. In such a case as this, I need hardly say that it would be advisable to purchase at once; and, as we can never be sure, it is always better, if there be any error, to err on the safe side.

POSTAL SCRAPS.

THE SECRETARY OF THE POST-OFFICE has informed a correspondent of *The Times* that the initials of the sender of a newspaper may be written upon the direction without liability to an excess charge for postage.

THE RATES FIXED BY THE POSTAL CONVENTION have afforded an additional argument in favour of the adoption of the decimal system of coinage. The "cent," or hundredth part of a pound, is exactly equal to twenty-five centimes, the rate fixed for letter postage, and the book-post rate of seven centimes is almost exactly equal to three "mils."

WEST AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS.—We find it gazetted that our possessions on the western coast of Africa (presumably Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Lagos), are destined to be amalgamated under the title of West African Settlements. Will not this necessitate the adoption of a new set of postage stamps, ruthlessly extinguishing the issues of the forenamed districts?

SIXPENNY POSTAL TELEGRAMS.—Mr. Scudamore is understood to be in favour of reducing the present minimum rate for telegraphic messages to sixpence, but that he is only waiting until he feels that his staff will be equal to the very large increase of work which would instantly accrue. We would suggest as one means of getting over the difficulty that, for the first twelve months,—or until the staff could be sufficiently strengthened to meet the emergency,—twenty words should (as now) be sent for a shilling, fifteen words for ninepence, and ten words for sixpence. There cannot be a doubt that ultimately we shall be able to telegraph twenty for the smaller sum; but, until the present staff is considerably augmented, we can only express a wish that our suggestion may be adopted as an experiment. That it would be successful in a financial point of view we have every confidence.—*The Printers' Register.*

ISSUE OF POST CARDS OF A SUPERIOR QUALITY.—A Post-office notice states that a desire having been expressed for a post card of a superior quality to those now in

use, it is intended to issue experimentally a limited number of somewhat superior cards on the 1st of February next, at a price of eightpence the dozen. These cards may be obtained at any of the head post-offices, and at the branch offices in London, and will be sold at the rate of eightpence for twelve cards, or fourpence for six cards. The new post cards will be designated "stout" cards, to distinguish them from the present "thin" cards, and they will be subject to the same rules and conditions, in regard to their transmission by post, as the present cards. It having been found that the price at which the present "thin" post cards have hitherto been sold is not remunerative, the price of these cards has been raised, since the 1st of January, from 6½d. to 7d. for a packet of twelve cards, and six cards may be obtained for 3½d. No smaller number than six, either of the "stout" or of the "thin" cards, will be sold.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DISCOVERY OF A STAMP ISSUED FOR NEW ORLEANS THIRTY YEARS AGO.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—I have the honour to give you the following description of a stamp recently discovered in this city among the old papers in a vault of one of the oldest banking houses in the city. It was on a letter from New Orleans in 1845 or 1846. The envelope was unfortunately destroyed. The stamp is narrow oblong; inscribed JAMES M. BUCHANAN above; 5 CENTS, below. A penstroke is drawn through the name. It is impressed on thin laid white paper, and attached to the envelope by two wafers. The cancellation is blue.

At the same time and place were found six St. Louis, four of the 5 c. and two of the 10 c. Also sixty "New York Post Office," and about a hundred 5 and 10 c. United States 1847.

Yours respectfully,
Washington, U.S.A. T. C. BOURNE.

A NEWLY-DISCOVERED CONFEDERATE STATES PROVISIONAL.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—I am pleased to be able to send you a description of the latest resuscitated, and as yet the rarest, of the provisionals. It was discovered in August last by Mr. E. W. Kohn, of Richmond, Virginia, in the course of his researches after specimens of other provisionals. It was used for Pittsylvania a small village in the state of Virginia, and lies adjacent to Fredericks-

burg. This place had for its Postmaster during the war, J. P. Johnson, whose name appears upon the stamp, and who served throughout the rebellion. The stamp is type set, enclosed in a frame of fancy scroll, and in shape is oblong, with corners rounded, relieved in the centre at top and sides by a fleur-de-lis. The inscription is PAID; 5 CENTS; J. P. JOHNSON; P. M., in four lines respectively. The only specimen as yet known, happily for its acknowledgment as a genuine emission, is still upon the original envelope, and is postmarked in such distinct and definite characters as to render any controversy regarding the locality for which it was deputed to do duty, entirely useless and unnecessary. The postmark which fairly covers the stamp is PITTSYLVANIA C.H., VA., the C.H. doubtless being abbreviation for Court House. The colour is red. The number printed, or by whom, is as yet unknown, but I hope to be able to give you particulars shortly.

I remain,

Yours truly,

W. HARRY BRUCE.

St. John's, New Brunswick.

ON THE KAUPUNGIN STAMPS.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—There are still philatelists who confound the Kaupungin issues with the railway stamps used between Helsingfors and St. Petersburg, and who pretend that the first named are not post-office stamps at all.

Only a glance at the local stamps of Helsingfors by anybody who has any idea of continental languages, without being a thorough linguist, is enough to see what they really are.

There are, as is well-known, three issues in Helsingfors:—1866, 10 pen., green, oval, with a red bar across; 1867, 10 pen., brown, oval, with an indigo bar across; 1871, square, half red and half green.

The first two stamps are very often, *p. c.* in all the German albums and catalogues, called Helsingfors-Sweaborg stamps. This is quite incorrect, as they were only used in Helsingfors. The post duty between Helsingfors and Sweaborg is, moreover, 12 penni, and not 10 p.; but as the Finnish post-office issues no special stamp of that value, the public are always obliged to put an 8 p. and a 5 p. adhesives (= 13 penni) on their letters. One Finnish penni, or one fifth English penny, is therefore wasted every time.

I have two used envelopes, with 13 p., from Helsingfors to Sweaborg and from

Sweaborg to Helsingfors, in my possession, and proofs at hand that all the Kaupungin stamps are postal; for, besides many obliterated copies, I have an entire envelope with one used stamp on it, addressed from one part of Helsingfors to another.

Let us examine the inscriptions: KAUPUNGIN POSTI means in Finnish, Town-Post (local post), and the same in Swedish STADSPOST; the value 10 PENNI and to PENNIA (Swedish and Finnish) and the name of the town HELSINGFORS. Neither "St. Petersburg" nor "railway company" appearing on the stamp, what could lead anybody to the supposition that they are used by the railway company?

The railway stamps for forwarding little parcels only, are very well known to me. I have the following stamps in my possession:—10 penni, brown, old issue, large numeral traversed by PENNI in an oval; 25 penni, carmine, new issue, same design in a circle, both types; 50 penni, blue, new issue, with Swedish inscription STATS-JERNVAGARNE; 70 penni, orange, new issue, in Finnish (or in English "Government Railway in Finland"). These are used from Helsingfors to St. Petersburg.

From St. Petersburg to Helsingfors are used similar stamps, with the same inscription in Russian, and value corresponding in kopecks. I have only two stamps, 8 kop., carmine, and 20 kop., orange; type No. 2 in a circle.

I am informed that the lines H—Tavastehus (in the North) and Hango-Hyringe have their own railway stamps, but for parcels only, not for letters. I would state in conclusion that I lately received an obliterated stamp of the new Joint Stock Company for communication by steamer between the small coast towns lying in the route from Helsingfors to Bobäco. This emission was lately described in your magazine. The obliteration is very primitive, the stamp being crossed with two lines by a dark lead pencil.

Yours truly,

London.

F. BREITFUSS.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE. NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, a portion of *The Philatelist* is set apart each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Royal Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 18th of the month.
2. IF AN ADVERTISEMENT EXCEEDS 20 WORDS A CHARGE OF 6D. FOR EVERY ADDITIONAL 10 WORDS WILL BE MADE.

3. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.

4. *The Stamp Exchange* is intended for the use of amateur collectors only; notices from dealers cannot therefore be inserted.

AUGUSTUS C. THOMPSON, Milton Road, Woolston, Southampton, requests offers of exchange from all parts. Has a large quantity of stamps to exchange.

W. S. PITTS, Oundle, Northamptonshire.—What offers in foreign stamps for *The Philatelist* of 1874 unbound?

F. D. G. NICOLLE, 36, Bath Street, Jersey, wants varieties of Cuba (unused only). Will advanced collectors send duplicates?

M. RALPH, (care of Stafford Smith & Co., Royal Colonnade, Brighton), wishes to exchange postage stamps for fiscals.

R. McDONALD, Oriental Bank, Port Elizabeth, Cape Colony, has 250 South African, Mauritius, and other stamps to exchange.

A. M. REIS, Lord Street, Liverpool, has many valuable duplicates to exchange. He wants other very scarce stamps new to his collection.

B. G. BENTHAM, 5, Star Hill Terrace, Rochester, has a large number of duplicates (many rare). Selections solicited from collectors for exchange.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

. Correspondents sending specimens for inspection and return, are requested to enclose a stamped directed envelope.

B. M. E. W., New York.—Best thanks for clippings.

A. D. C., Jeffersonville, U. S. A.—Thanks for a sight of the abnormal envelope sent for notice, which will be found chronicle in the proper place.

A. C. T., Southampton.—The genuine Pony Express stamps, 1 and 2 dollar values, have always a break in the semicircle which encloses the numeral, where the engraver's tool slipped.—The evidently imitated postmark is quite sufficient to condemn the Swiss without any other proof.—The Trinidad is faultless.

RONALD L. McDONALD, Port Elizabeth.—The stamp you describe is not a postal. It is used at the Mansion House and the Guildhall only, being affixed to certain documents. There are others of similar type, but black, with values specified, from 1s. to £1 and upwards.—The *Papers for Philatelists* are in one book, price 1/0, post-free abroad 1/6.—Our publishers have placed to your credit the 4/6 contained in your letter of December 22. Your subscription to *The Philatelist* will expire with the number for September, 1875.



RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

JAPAN.

WE have on view the first we have seen of what we presume to be the forerunner of a new set for this improving empire. At the moment of writing, we are uncertain whether our engraver will have sufficient time to get ready an illustration to accompany this notice. We, therefore, deem it as well to mention that the stamp is a broad rectangle; device within circular frame inscribed 12 SEN, above and below; Japanese characters at sides; also on a band above the circle. Spandrels ornamented. The central design is a large bird standing on a mound in front of a tree. Rose-pink on white paper; perforated.



LAGOS.

We have just received from this colony an unexpected value, type like that of its four companions; threepence, brown.

RUSSIAN LOCALS.

A third emission for Tichvin, and one hitherto unchronicled for Tschembar, in the Government of Penza, will be found noted among their fellows in the present number.

VENEZUELA.

The 1 centavo is announced to be now printed lilac in place of green.

INDIA.

So long since as December, 1873, was chronicled in our pages the emission of an 8 annas, surcharged with SERVICE, and the words BENGAL SECRETARIAT above. We have now before us a green 4 annas, similarly manipulated. The whole surcharge (a representation of which is annexed) is contained within a single-lined nearly square frame, rather smaller than the stamp.



ROUMANIA.

M. Moens informs us that the post cards of this principality have been slightly modified since the commencement of the year. CARTA DE POSTA is now in doubly-lined letters, and the inscription which was formerly underneath it is suppressed. The small-sized armorial bearings still remain.

PERSIA.

The same authority announces a 16 schahi blue, and a 32 sch. pink, of the type which was announced last spring, and afterwards contradicted. Time will show the truth.

PERU.

Subjoined are representations, though inadequate, of the two high values for this republic, chronicled in the December number. The continental writers are facetious in remarks on the design of these really beautiful stamps, likening that in the 50 c. to the sun wiping his nose, and the same looking out of window in the sol value. The complete set now consists of six: the two on



view, the 5, 10, and 20 c. original llama type, now revived or reprinted, and the new 2 c., fully described last October.

CANADA.

Mons. Roussin announces the appearance of a 30 cents value, type similar to that of the current set. The colour is lilac-grey.

HOLLAND.

Le Timbre-Poste mentions two new cards emitted by "The Netherlands Society General Service," to replace its 10 cents red. In one, the 10 cents, lilac on plain white, after *SPIU* is the word *DELLSCHEPOORTPLEIN*. The other, 10 c. mauve, after the newly added word, has *GOUDSCHESINGEL*, and the final words *EEN WAARBORG-COUPON* are suppressed.

GERMAN EMPIRE.

Subjoined is a representation of the 2 marken value chronicled at page 3 of the present volume. There was also a 1 mark impression noted at the same time. This, according to M. Senf, was incorrectly announced, no such value being issued. The one under notice is printed lilac on white paper, and perforated.



SPAIN.

The Catalonian and Valencian stamps are reported to be suppressed in favour of the violet 1 real.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

A WELL-attended meeting was held, as announced, on the 20th ult., at the residence of M. de Joannis, 272, Cornwall Road, Notting-Hill, W. The President took the chair shortly after 2 o'clock.

The envelopes of Chili were first compared, and a complete list made. Then the stamps of Cuba were studied as far as the year 1866. Conspicuous among all were the rich collections of the President, Vice-

President, and Senor de Ysasi; the last-named gentleman being out of town, had very kindly sent his stamps for inspection.

The next meeting was fixed for Saturday, the 13th inst., at 2.30 p.m., at Dr. Viner's, 34, Denbigh Street, Pimlico. Members are invited to bring the stamps of Cuba, from the year 1866, and Spain.

A REFERENCE LIST OF THE STAMPS OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE AND CHILI.

COMPILED BY THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Cape of Good Hope.

Issue 1853.—Wmk. anchor; triangular. (Perkins, Bacon, & Co.)

a. Colour on bleuté (by the gum).

1d. Brick-red, shades from light to dark

4d. Blue

b. Colour on white.

1d. Brick-red, crimson-lake (shades), lake-red (light and dark), rose-red, brown-red (shades)

4d. Blue (shades), indigo-blue (shades); turning black by age

6d. Dull lilac, violet, slate-violet (shades)

1s. Dark green, yellow-green, emerald-green (shades of each)

Date? The same; rouletted by private enterprise.

4d., blue; 6d., lilac; 1s., green

Issue 1861.—Wood blocks; provisional; triangular; laid paper; no wmk.; engraved and printed in the colony.

1d. Light red, dark red, bright red

4d. Milky blue, blue, rich blue

Each sheet of 1d. and 4d. stamps contained respectively one 4d. and one 1d. stamp, the 4d. printed in red, the 1d. in blue.

These errors are very scarce. The following shades adorn the collection of the Vice-President:—

1d. Milky blue

4d. Bright red, light red, lake-red

Issue 1863.—Rectangular; wmk. c.c. and crown; perf. 14. (De La Rue & Co.)

1d. Lake-red, rose-red, crimson-red (shades of each)

4d. Pale blue, blue, dark blue

6d. Lilac (light and dark)

1s. Light green, green, dark green

Issue 1868.

4d. (6d., lilac, light and dark). Surcharged FOUR PENCE, in red and brown-red; value effaced by stripe of colour.

Issue 1871.—Double-line frame.

1d. Rose-red, lake-red, crimson-red (shades)

Issue 1872.—Double-line frame.

5s. Orange (shades), orange-yellow, orange-brown

Issue 1874.—Provisional.

1d. (4d., blue). Surcharged 1D., by pen, in pale red and red ink.

b. Paper.

W. L., white laid; Bl. L., blue laid; Bu. W., buff wove.

c. Sizes.

Size 1.	5 centavos,	$5\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{8}$ in.	W. L., Bl. L., Bu. W.,	3
" 2.	"	$4\frac{3}{8} \times 2\frac{7}{8}$ "	Bu. W.	1
" 3.	"	$5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$ "	W. L., Bl. L., Bu. W.,	3
" 4.	"	$6\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$ "	Bu. W.	1
" 5.	"	$7\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ "	Bu. W.	1
—				
			5 centavos,	9 envelopes.
" 4.	10 centavos,	$6\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$ "	W. L., Bl. L., Bu. W.	3
—				
			10 centavos,	3 "
" 4.	15 centavos,	$6\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$ "	W. L., Bl. L.	2
—				
			15 centavos,	2 "
" 5.	20 centavos,	$7\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ "	W. L., Bl. L., Bu. W.	3
—				
			20 centavos,	3 "

The complete set of Chili envelopes, now in use, consists of 17 envelopes: four values; five sizes; two kinds of paper; three colours.

There is a complete set of *Specimens* in all the above sizes, and besides the dos centavos brown, sizes 1, 2, and 3, on white laid, blue laid, and buff.

These are distinguished by the word SPECIMEN being perforated in large capitals on the face of the envelope.

POST CARDS.

The issues of 1870, and November, 1871, will form the subject of a separate paper.

Issue, November, 22, 1872.—Arms at top; below, CARTA TARJETA in Roman capitals; lower, to left, s. d. in italic capitals, stamp in the upper right corner, all within Etruscan border. Printed in colour on buff card. (*De La Rue & Co.*)

Dos centavos, red-brown	} Slight shades of both stamp and card.
Cinco centavos, lilac	

THE FRENCH TIMBROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

UNDER the Presidency, and at the residence of, Baron Arthur de Rothschild, a meeting was held on the evening of January 14th. Among other proceedings, a letter from M. Aymar de Saint-Saud was read, furnishing full particulars of the postage stamps emitted by the Carlists in Navarre. Specimens adhering to the original envelopes were exhibited; among others, the 1 real essay referred to in *Le Timbre-Poste* of September, 1873. We are happy to note, from observations of M. de Ferrari, that the Head of the French police entertains an idea of proceeding against the forgers and vendors of false stamps. Such a procedure would greatly further the interests of philately, both there, here, and elsewhere. The superb collections of Spanish issues pos-

sessed by the President and others were examined; the most noteworthy specimen being the green 2 cuartos of 1854, undated, arms, on blued paper, with the peculiar curled watermark of 1855. Various essays, both of rejected and accepted types, were exhibited; and the entire sheet of Don Carlos Catalonians, showing, like that of New Caledonia, no two individuals alike.

The next meeting took place on the 4th of February; when the discussion on the Spanish emissions was resumed. An offer by Mons. Mahé to publish a bulletin of four pages every month, at his own expense, which should contain the whole proceedings of the Society, although strongly supported by a letter from M. de Ferrari, was declined *pro tem*. With regard to the Catalogue contemplated by the Society, the learned Secretary, who recommends a full and exhaustive description of stamps and their varieties, and M. Monnerot who favours a more skeleton-like arrangement, were requested to prepare each a specimen of his ideal catalogue for the opinion of the members at a future meeting. The next *séance* will be held at the rooms of a photographer in the Rue de Londres, on Thursday, the 4th instant.

UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS: HOW THEY ARE MADE.

EVERY United States Postage stamp in use is made in New York. The contract was held by the American Bank Note Company from July 1, 1861, until the same day in 1873. That was for three terms of four years each. The Continental Bank Note Company at that time offering to do it for one-half the amount required by the other company, the contract was awarded to them. The office of the Continental is at the corner of Greenwich and Liberty Streets, but as it was desirable to have the postage stamps made in a perfectly fire-proof building, the fifth story of the Equitable Life Insurance building, at the corner of Broadway and Cedar street, was rented by the company for that purpose.

The office here is for the use of Mr. Daniel M. Boyd, the government agent, and Mr. Chas. F. Steele, the agent and superintendent appointed by the company. The facts given in regard to the making of the stamps were obtained from Mr. Henry Bowen, Mr. Boyd's assistant. Two passenger elevators run to the top of the building, and upon leaving them, the only entrance to the postage-stamp rooms is by means of a door which is constantly kept locked and guarded by a janitor, who always sits inside to answer the bell which is just outside. On the right-hand side are the office and printing room, and away to the left, at the front of the building, are the other rooms used in making the stamps.

In printing, steel plates are used, on which 200 stamps are engraved. Two men are kept hard at work covering them with the coloured inks and passing them to a man and girl, who are equally busy at printing them with large rolling hand-presses. Three of these little squads are employed all the time, although ten presses can be put into use in case of necessity. After the small sheets of paper, upon which the 200 stamps are engraved, have dried sufficiently, they are sent into another

room and gummed. The gum used for this purpose is a peculiar composition, made of the powder of dried potatoes and other vegetables mixed with water, which is better than any other kind, for instance, gum arabic, which cracks the paper badly. The paper is also of a peculiar texture, somewhat similar to that for bank notes. After having been again dried, this time on little racks, which are fanned by steam power for about an hour, they are put between sheets of pasteboard, and pressed in hydraulic presses capable of applying a weight of 200 tons. The next thing is to cut the sheets in half; each sheet, of course, when cut, contains a hundred stamps. This is done by a girl with a large pair of shears, cutting by hand being preferred to that of machinery, which method would destroy too many stamps. They are then passed to two other squads, who, in as many operations, perforate the sheets between the stamps. Next they are pressed once more, and then packed and labelled, and stowed away in another room, preparatory to being put in mail bags for dispatching to fulfil orders. If a single stamp is torn, or in any way mutilated, the whole sheet of 100 is burned. About 500,000 are burned every week from this cause. For the past twenty years not a single sheet has been lost, such care is taken in counting them. During the process of manufacturing, the sheets are counted eleven times.

There are 36,000 post offices throughout the country, and they use in the course of one year 700,000,000 postage stamps. A week or two since 64,000 finished and 87,000,000 unfinished stamps were put into the safes. The New York post-office alone uses 120,000,000 a year, somewhat over one-sixth of the whole number used, or equal to the amount required by 6,000 other offices. Four times a year the different post-offices send an order for the number of stamps they expect to have occasion to use during the coming three months. Of course, if they run out during that time, they are privileged to send for more. The office in New York is supplied differently. Twice a month an order is sent for about 500,000 of various denominations.

THE SPUD PAPERS; OR, NOTES ON PHILATELIC WEEDS.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EAREE.

XLV.

Brazil.



LT does not require any transcendent ability in the "Spudder" to detect the forgeries which I am going to expose, as they bear a bad character on their very face. They have the flat, washy look which distinguishes the common run of lithographed forgeries, and are bad in design, in colour, and in execution.

280 REIS.

Genuine.—Engraved in *taille-douce*, on thin wove grayish paper. In almost all copies, the ink stands out much above the surface of the paper, and is, in some parts, very thick. The wavy outline of the engine-turned central oval touches the outer line in four places; at the left of the 2, above and below the 8, and at the right of the o. The

centres of the 8 and the 0 are heavily shaded. In the right and left hand bottom corners, there are fourteen horizontal lines, besides the boundary line. The colour is a deep vermilion, rather dull.

Forged.—Lithographed. The paper is a trifle thinner than the genuine, and is rather whiter. The stamp itself is very poorly done, and instead of the fine engine-turning, there is a sort of oval chain-pattern round the central figures; the rest of the oval being filled in with wavy lines. There is no thickness of ink. The chain-pattern outline does not touch the top of the frame; but, to make up for this, two of the scallops touch the frame at the bottom, under the 8. The centres of the 8 and of the 0 are very lightly shaded. In the right-hand bottom corner there are only twelve horizontal lines, and eleven or twelve on the left. I say "eleven or twelve," because the twelfth line is not always visible. The stamp is printed in that pale, washy, brick-dust colour, which is vermilion in the eyes of Messrs. Spiro; compared with it, the colour of the genuine stamp looks almost carmine.



430 REIS.

Genuine.—Engraved in *taille-douce*, like the 280 r. The wavy outline of the engine-turning only touches the border in three places; viz., the top, bottom, and left-hand. There are sixteen horizontal lines in the right bottom corner, and fifteen on the left. The engine-turning is (as in the 280 reis) equally dark almost all over. The colour is lemon, merging towards orange where the ink is very thick.

Forged.—Lithographed, as before. The oval only touches the border at the bottom and the left-hand. No thickness of ink. Sort of chain-pattern as before. There are only nine lines in the right bottom corner, and twelve on the left. In all cases, I exclude the outer line forming the frame of the stamp. The colour is a dirty yellow-ochre, very pale and chalky. Concerning postmarks, the genuine stamps are obliterated with a variety of cancel-stamps. As a rule, they strongly resemble those of the United States, probably being made there.



These forgeries are cancelled in two different ways; the first is a set of four concentric circles, as in the old Baden stamps; and the other is somewhat like the British Guiana cancel-stamps, without the numerals. The forgeries, as I have received them, are in double sheets; each sheet containing two blocks of 25 stamps, 5 x 5. They are ungummed.

TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

AUSTRIA.

A 50 KREUZER value, printed black on white in *taille-douce*, has been emitted for this empire. In addition to this value, M. Moens chronicles a 20 kr. deep blue, 40 kr. deep green, and 1 florin orange, also a 25 kr. value printed in *taille-douce* on white paper, with the usual perforation, which he is informed was not issued till six months after its congeners. He thinks it, therefore, likely that there was a lithograph of the same type. The colour is black.

GERMAN EMPIRE.

A new set is being emitted for the empire, type like that of the now extinct series. They consist of 3, 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, and 80 pfennige, black impression; and 1, 2, and 3 marks printed in red.

HUNGARY.

A 50 kreuzer value, printed indigo on white in *taille-douce*, has been issued for this kingdom.

ROUMANIA.

The telegraphic emissions of this country have ceased to be employed since the commencement of last year.

SPANISH WEST INDIES.

Le Timbre-Poste describes a couple of 1874 telegraph stamps, type of 1872 and 1873, date and crown changed, and Savoy arms suppressed. The mural crown is larger, touching the upper portion of the oval. Red-brown, 1 peseta; light yellow-brown, 2 pesetas, on white paper, perforated.

A stamp of similar design to the new issue and the 10 c. of the mother country is issued, inscribed above, CUBA-TELEGR; 4 pesetas, carmine.

UNITED STATES.

Western Union Telegraph Company.

On pages 69 and 115 of last year's volume are meagre notices of the adhesives of this Company, which, by favour of two correspondents we are now enabled to amend, and afford exhaustive information thereupon.

The Company first issued them in 1871, continuing the emission ever since, with a change of colour in each year. They are *not* intended for the exclusive use of Members of Congress, but are liberally distributed to all, or nearly all, the heads of the government federal departments, governors, and other state officials; also to the presidents, general superintendents, and principal railway officials. The editors of many leading newspapers in different cities are moreover courteously favoured with these telegraphic franks. The stamps are contained in small books holding four on each sheet, of which there are eight. On the inside of the cover are printed "conditions."

This frank is intended to cover only the personal and private messages of the holder, and the answers thereto. It is not designed for business or official communications. A stamp must be affixed to every message containing twenty words or less, not including address, date, or signature; and an extra stamp for every additional twenty words or less. If the sender desires to have an answer returned free, he may frank it by affixing to his message the stamp required for such answer, under the above rule. The holder of this frank, by accepting and using it, assumes all risks, and agrees that the Telegraph Company shall not be liable for damages, whether from negligence of agents, or from whatever cause arising.

The description at page 69 of last year's volume, taken from *Le Timbre-Poste*, requires correction. The words on the central slab are WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY, not GREAT WESTERN UNION TRADE COMPANY.

They run alternately in roman and italic capitals. There are no perpendicular lines of groundwork. The signature WILLM. ORTON, and word PRESIDENT, are not almost obscured, but particularly plain. Above the slab is the Company's designation in light letters on two dark curved bands. FRANK in large capitals, NO. and Arabic numerals (the latter handstamped in a different colour from that of the stamp) partially obscure the central minute characters on the slab. Our correspondents agree in stating that the colour of these stamps has been changed every year since issue; but disagree in that of the early emissions. Neither of them, however, chronicle the blue first and red next, which was the order according to M. Moens. E. W. W. mentions green for 1871, numerals in red; red for 1872, numerals light blue; blue for 1873, red numerals; and brown for 1874, dark blue numerals. A. F. H. gives vermilion for 1870-1, and green for 1872, adding that stamps of preceding years are useless for currency, and that the value of these stamps may be judged from the fact that over five thousand offices are owned and controlled by the Company. E. W. W. informs us that they are engraved by the National Bank Note Company, at New York, on India paper, lightly tinted with the colour of the impressions. One circumstance seems to have escaped all the describers of these stamps. The slab bearing the president's signature is replete with fancifully-disposed curved bands, inscribed as above, with microscopic capitals, and enframing several monograms of the letters w.o. This peculiarity is scarcely visible to the naked eye.

WURTEMBERG.

This kingdom has issued, six months before the time appointed, a new batch of telegraph stamps, in the newly adopted currency of the German Empire. They are 20, 25, 40, 50, and 80 pfennige; and 1, 2, 4, and 10 marks in value.

A DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF THE RUSSIAN LOCALS.

(Concluded from page 28).

Soumy

(Government of Cherson).

SMALL rectangles, rather broad. Framed circular inscription in white letters, on coloured ground, "Rural Post of Soumy," enclosing courier's bag labelled with value, on background varying in the different issues. Solid frame. Angles ornamented. Thin exterior lines of demarcation. Coloured impressions on white more or less pure. Some obscurity exists with regard to the several issues of these stamps, and the individuals composing each. The name was first spelt Soummy; a Moscow dealer catalogues it Sumy. On the stamp it reads Chsumy. The word signifies a bag, which device is therefore doubly applicable.

1st issue.—Background irregular, numeral of value encroaching on flap of bag. Blue, 1 kopeck; green, 2 kop.; brick-red, 3 kop. A green 1 kop. and blue 2 kop. were first chronicled, but it is believed erroneously. The red 3 kop. is found pen-surcharged with the numeral in blue ink. (*Le Timbre-Poste* says red; but this is probably a misprint). All on white paper.

2nd issue.—Similar device, but background very regular; corner ornamentation different; circular frame smaller, and defined externally by single white line; numeral smaller, not touching flap of bag. Marone-red on bluish tint; 5 kop. Same stamp, surcharged by hand with the numeral 6. The earlier alterations in red; afterwards in black.

The above is an amended description of the stamps of Soumy; that appearing in our last number being incorrect.

Tambov

(*Government of Tambov*).

1st issue.—Very small rectangle; oval frame, inscribed "Tambov District Rural Administration," enclosing bees and beehive on slab; the word "price" and value beneath; background of horizontal lines with numeral within small circles at each angle; treble-lined frame; black on white; 3 kop. This is the smallest of the rectangular Russian locals.

2nd issue, 1872.—Small square; circular frame inscribed as above; bees, beehive, and slab more distinct, on ground of perpendicular lines; double-lined outer frame. In this stamp, the circle almost reaches it; in the former, a space is left. Spandrils filled with concentric lines; numerals at angles. Three or four fine lines surround the central frame. Lilac on white; 5 kop.

Tchern

(*Government of Toula*).

1st issue.—Large broad rectangle; imperial crown surmounting pair of wheat-sheaves separated horizontally by wavy lines; encompassing inscription, "Rural Post of Tchern," and value. Greenish blue, hand-stamped on thick yellowish white quadrilled paper; 3 kop.

2nd issue.—Same device and inscription. Black, handstamped on thin white quadrilled paper; sheets of thirty in rows of five; gummed, and otherwise. Value as before.

Tichvin

(*Government of Novgorod*).

1st issue.—Large oblong rectangle; double-lined frame, enclosing inscription, "Village Post Stamp of Tichvin." Red, hand-stamped on white wove paper, and gummed; 5 kop. Sometimes found on the sheet in a perpendicular position, and sometimes reversed.

2nd issue, 1874.—Small rectangles; numeral and abbreviated word of value within central frame inscribed in white letters on dark ground, "District Post Stamp;" background of horizontal lines, with an attempt at ornamentation at the angles; outer frame composed of thick and thin lines. Blue of various shades on toned white paper, gummed; 5 kop. In point of ugliness, these impressions would bear the palm over every known stamp. They are, nevertheless, highly interesting in consequence of the numerous errors of the designer, no two stamps in the sheet of fifteen being alike; which consequently shows that number of varieties. In every instance the third letter of the upper word is reversed; the fourth is omitted in four instances, becomes a p in ten, and is replaced by a c in one. The final letter of the same word figures as н and н; and the second, which is к in four-

teen stamps, becomes α in the twelfth. The word *МАРКА* approaches correctness in one impression, where it reads *МАЧКА*; in all the others we find *АЧКАМ!* The word for "post" is invariably printed backwards; and in one instance is docked of its last letters. The absence of name on this emission, and value on the former, is singular.

3rd issue, 1875.—Small broad rectangle; numeral and word of value in colour on white in central oval framed with black, inscribed in white letters "Village Post Stamp;" spandrels neatly ornamented. Deep blue on plain white; 5 kop.

Tiraspol

(Government of Cherson).

Large square, defined by thin lines; circular impression, consisting of circular frame inscribed in white characters on dark ground, "Tiraspol District Rural Administration," enclosing six lines of inscription signifying "Stamp for packets and private letters" and value. Blue, on thin white paper, gummed; 5 kop.

Toropetz

(Government of Pskov).

ENVELOPES.—Square impression, with corners cut, forming irregular octagon; hand-stamped on flap or beneath, on various papers. Central shield encompassed by inscription. Value distinguishable solely by size of envelope. Smaller size, machine made and gummed; white laid paper; stamped on flap, sometimes reversed, or on lower fold; black; price 6 kop., *i.e.*, 5 for postage and 1 for the envelope.

Very large, hand-made, ungummed; on tinted wove paper; impression on upper flap, sometimes reversed, also on lower; black, or rarely blue; 11 kop., *i.e.*, 10 for postage and 1 for envelope.

Toula

(Government of Toula).

ENVELOPE.—Round impression in relief on flap. Imperial crown surmounting shield bearing workmen's tools, crossed hammers above and below. Surrounding inscription, "Seal of the Administration of the Rural District of Toula." Hand-stamped on the lower fold is another impression. Very narrow oblong; inscribed in two lines, "Rural Post, payment 5 kopecks." Blue (rarely Russian green) on greenish tint, white glazed, white or pinkish laid, in sizes varying from oblong note, usual letter, large square, to a very large letter size. Value, 5 kop.

Tschembar

(Government of Penza).

Small rectangle; broad central oval surmounted by imperial crown on groundwork composed of diagonally-crossed lines, interrupted at the angles, to hold small white circles containing numerals of value. The oval has a device appearing like three shrubs standing in pots, within frame inscribed, "Stamp of Tschembar." Beneath it is the value in words. Black on plain white paper, with groundwork in green; 5 kop.

Tver

(Government of Tver).

1st issue.—One of the earliest known locals. Stamp defined by thin lined square. Circular impression, composed of narrow outer and broad inner frame, the latter inscribed in white characters, "Rural Post of Tver." Centre hand-stamped with thin lined circle containing numeral and initial of value. This is often impressed sideways or upside down. Pink circles, blue centre; 2 kop.

2nd issue, 1874.—Same type; central hand-stamp impressed in black.

Valdai

(Government of Novgorod).

Broad rectangle, defined by two thin lines; black frame, narrow on three sides, broad below; inscribed "Rural Administration of the District of Valdai," and value. Centre divided perpendicularly; on the right hand a mountain peak; on the left, an imperial crown on ermine ground. Black on lilac (not pink, as first described); 2 kop.

Vasil or Vassyl

(Government of Nijni Novgorod).

Round impression in relief. Inscription, "Rural Post of Vasil," with numeral and initial of value, encircling representation of winnowing machine," the *mystica vannus Lacchi*. Stamped on yellowish and toned paper, on gummed bands of seventeen; 5 kop. Originally described as an envelope. This and the following stamps are most frequently initialed with a w; except in a Moscow dealer's list, the preceding always appears with a v, although the same Russian character heads the word.

Verchnye Dnyeprovsk

(Government of Ekaterinoslav).

1st issue, 1866.—Though emitted so long ago, this stamp remained unchronicled for seven years. The general description is as follows: square; frame composed of single thick outer, and thin double inner lines, containing inscription "Rural Post of Verchnye Dnyeprovsk District." Numeral and abbreviated word of value in central square ornamented at angles with curled devices. Between each stamp is a longitudinal line to guide the separating scissors. Black on thin white laid or thick wove paper; 4 kop. Three varieties are found side by side on the sheets. They are distinguishable, secondarily, by slight variations in the ornamentation and position of the right-hand word; also in the outer thick lines being occasionally in separate portions; and primarily (because of easy detection) the 1st type has a largish round, the second a smaller, and the third a square point after the word of value.

2nd issue, May 30, 1873.—Oblong rectangles, defined by thin lines, bounding oblong oval lithographed stamp, composed of frame inscribed as above, and value as before in centre; circumference of inner oval slightly, but neatly ornamented. Dark blue on white wove paper,

gummed. Lighter blue, with the word "administration" (in Russ), surcharged in relief; 4 kop.

Vesyegonsk

(Government of Tver).

1st issue.—Small rectangles; shield (horizontally-lined for azure) enclosed in broad solid frame, bearing white riband pendent halfway on each side, labelled in colour, "Stamp of the Vesyegonsk Rural Post," below; similarly printed, "Price 2 kop. C." Shield unequally divided horizontally by white band, labelled with initials meaning "Rural Administration of the Vesyegonsk District." Upper portion containing chair of state; locust in the lower. Yellow-brown, $\frac{1}{2}$ kop.; light green, 1 kop.; azure, 2 kop.; rose-pink, 5 kop. The green stamp, in lieu of the letter c. (initial for "silver") after "kop," has an indistinct к, not r, as stated in *Le Timbre-Poste*.

2nd issue, 1870.—Broad ovals, defined by a black line; coloured impressions, bearing central shield equally divided; chair of state on *gules* above; locust on *or* below. Encompassing this, in black characters of irregular size, are the word "Price" on the left, the value on the right, "stamp" above, date beneath. White semicircular ribands above and below, separated by ornaments, contain "Rural Post of Vesyegonsk" and "Government of Tver" in black letters. Shades of orange, lemon, and ochre-yellow, $\frac{1}{2}$ kop.; green, 1 kop.; crimson-red, 5 kop.

Voltchansk

(Government of Charkov).

1872.—Oblong lozenge-shaped; representation of animal and "Price, 5 k." printed in black on a yellow ground, within frame inscribed in white characters on red, "Rural Post of the District of Voltchansk;" numerals of value at every angle in black on small yellow circles rimmed with black; narrow white bands edged with black lines on both sides of the red frame. Black, yellow, and red combined, on white; 5 kop. This stamp was first chronicled as emanating from Wolyinka, in the government of Tchernigov. The animal depicted is supposed to be intended for a wolf, the commencement of the name bearing that signification; but it looks much more like a fox, whose brush is very conspicuous.

Wenden.

The history of this long-known series of stamps, usually termed Livonians, is singularly interesting. The earliest was first noted in *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* for 1864; but with no knowledge of its habitat. One correspondent pronounced them to come from Lusatia, a province on the confines of Prussia and Saxony. Fentonia wrote a long article to prove them a Mecklenburg issue. In the following April they were permanently assigned "a local habitation and a name." Two or three issues having by this time appeared, they were nevertheless doubted for the same reason which afterwards cast a slur on the other Russian locals, viz., the non-appearance of postmarked specimens. One of these, however, was found existing in the collection of

Dr. Magnus; and a lady correspondent announced her possession of several received direct from their place of issue.

1st issue, 1862.—Oblong; inscription, BRIEFMARKE DES WENDENSCHEN KREISES (letter of the Circle of Wenden), in black, upon a pink engine-turned background, on thick white paper; value (not expressed), 2 kop.

Similar type. PACKENMARKE, &c. (packet stamp); printed as above, on green; (? kopecks).

Similar. More finely engraved; yellow-green, blue-green.

2nd issue, 1863.—Rectangular; solid oval centre, encompassed by frame bordered with white flattened circles on a networked ground, ornamentally interrupted at angles to hold small white stars on solid ground; BRIEFMARKE above, WENDENSCHEN KREISES below. Crimson-red on white, green central oval; (2 kop.)

3rd issue, 1864.—Same type. Griffin grasping sword. White, on the green oval.

4th issue, 1865.—Type of 1863 revived. Vermilion-red, carmine-red.

5th issue, 1871.—Type approximating that of 1863. Central oval, dark green, rimmed with white, defined by thin coloured lines; small circles replaced by interlacing semi-ovals on white; background diapered; stars and inscriptions as before. Brighter red (two shades); 2 kop.

6th issue, 1872.—Rectangular; arm in armour grasping sword, on central oval, within inscribed frame; BRIEFMARKE, &c., on irregularly-dotted background; white stars at angles; vermilion-red on white; central oval, scarlet; oval frame and arm, green. Perforated (2 kop.)

Since the commencement of the description of the Russian Locals, so many new or unchronicled issues have been brought forward, that it is thought necessary to prepare an alphabetical list with reference to the pages of this and the last volume, where each stamp will be found chronicled, accompanied by any remarks or revisions which recent information may render advisable.

POSTAL SCRAPS.

THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION.—A circular has been issued by the Swiss Government, calling upon the States, which are parties to the treaty for a universal postal union, to hasten the ratification of that convention.

WASHED POSTAGE STAMPS.—The Third Assistant Postmaster-General of the United States strongly recommends that provision be made by law for furnishing to each and every Postmaster throughout the country indelible ink and other requisites for effectually cancelling postage stamps, and for post-marking. None of the Post-Offices are now furnished by the Department with any such articles for the protection of the Government. Mr. Barber estimates that the proportion of washed stamps used again in payment of postage is five per cent. of the value of all the stamps sold each year,

causing an annual loss of 1,000,000 dollars to the revenue of the Department.

THE SUNDAY DELIVERY OF LETTERS.—At a meeting of the Birmingham Town Council lately, a long discussion took place on a motion to the effect that, it having been decided by the Postmaster-General that the question of Sunday being a day of rest for the postmen must be decided by the Council, the Council was of opinion that the postmen should rest on Sunday. An amendment was moved expressing as the opinion of the Council that much inconvenience would result from the non-delivery of letters on Sunday, and that any reduction on the hours of postmen's labour would be better effected by having a larger staff than by depriving the public of their letters for a day. The amendment was carried, and a copy of it is to be sent to the Postmaster-General.—*The Daily News.*

THE STAMP EXCHANGE. NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, a portion of *The Philatelist* is set apart each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Royal Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 18th of the month.
2. IF AN ADVERTISEMENT EXCEEDS 20 WORDS A CHARGE OF 6D. FOR EVERY ADDITIONAL 10 WORDS WILL BE MADE.
3. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.
4. *The Stamp Exchange* is intended for the use of amateur collectors only; notices from dealers cannot therefore be inserted.

ARTHUR REIS, 21, Lord Street, Liverpool, has many valuable duplicates to exchange for other very scarce stamps new to his collection.

M. RALPH (care of Stafford Smith & Co., Royal Colonnade, Brighton), wishes to exchange postage stamps for fiscals.

J. E. A. WYATT, 56, Midland Road, Wellingborough, has volumes XI. and XII. of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, unbound, to exchange for used foreign stamps. Offers requested.

L. BUFFETANT, 7, Rue Poulet, Paris, has many stamps to exchange with collectors. Wanted,—Colonials, fiscal stamps, and early issues.

S. L. JONAS, 16, Carlton Road, Kilburn, London, has many stamps to exchange with collectors. Offers requested.

F. D. G. NICOLLE, 36, Bath Street, Jersey, wants postmarked varieties of Cuba. Will advanced collectors send duplicates?

C. J. NICHOLSON, Oaklea, Wimbledon Park, wants No. 74 of *The Philatelist*. Will give a good exchange in stamps.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

*. Correspondents sending specimens for inspection and return, are requested to enclose a stamped directed envelope.

R. T. J., Highgate.—Your stamps are all genuine.

T. K. T., Brighton.—Many thanks for a sight of your cancelled Suez Canal stamps, two types. They will be laid before the meeting of the Philatelic Society, on the 6th instant, for examination.

DIOGENES.—You are quite correct with regard to Soumy being in the government of Cherson. The description of the Soumy issues being incorrect, you will find it amended in the present number, wherein your 2 k. green has its proper place.

J. F. B., Norwich.—Your Buenos Ayres stamp is quite trustworthy: it is one of the

pair printed in Paris, in 1861. Its companion is the 1 peso, carmine.—The St. Lucia steam-packet stamps were at first doubted, but afterwards rehabilitated.

D. C., Barkly, Diamond Fields.—We do not profess to reply to other than philatelic queries. Your small tin *quasi* shilling is evidently of the nature of what were formerly issued in England under the name of tokens, *i.e.*, paid away to work-people, &c., and receivable again at their nominal value.—*The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* is discontinued, but we believe most of the volumes can be had.

G. H., London.—We have ourselves received a letter from Japan per last mail, via San Francisco, franked by Japanese stamps. Ours held a 30 sen of the last issue on its face, and a yellow 2 sen of the same, and the new pink 12 sen on the reverse. The latter is described and figured in this number.

PHILOTYPE, London.—We do not understand Swedish, and cannot therefore account for the two ways of spelling its equivalent for "thirty." Neither can we tell why the Hanoverian stamps are headed "Hannover." Perhaps some philatelic linguist can explain.—There were too many remainders of the Amadeo set to render any of them scarce.—We approve of your pseudonym, and wish it had been adopted, being certainly more applicable than the far-fetched word "philatelist."—We do not remember the difference in groundwork between the new 2 kreuzer adhesive Hungarians and the higher values having been noted.

A. M. R., Liverpool.—Your yellow Bolivian is a forgery; the reality is on rougher paper, and buff rather than yellow.—The 20 centavos of New Granada is condemned by the absence of the ninth star.—The Buenos Ayres guacho is an imitation.—The Liberians also are false; they are all three of the same type, the principal points of difference from the realities being the separation of the eyebrows from the eyes, the knot on the spear, and the partial absence of clouds. This variation distinguishes all three. The blue 12 cents, which, in the genuine set, slightly varies in type, has the stone on which the figure is seated rounded off like all three of yours; the forgery has it straight to the ground, like the real reds and greens. Moreover, in the 12 cents, the groundwork at the angles is composed of fine radiating single lines. The green and red show more of an engine-turned design. Your other seven stamps are all right.—The 1 peso Colombian is genuine; the blue paper Natal is a reprint.



RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

HELIGOLAND.

THE stamp-impression on the new post card for this small island is a rather broad rectangle. The Queen's head to left on a plain dark ground, lies within an oval frame inscribed in colour on white, HELIGOLAND above, 3 FARTHING on the left, 5 PFENNIG on the right. This oval frame is securely buckled to the rectangular outer one, which is formed of a single coloured thick line. Additional thin ones form triangles on each spandrel. The inscriptions are POSTKARTE above; beneath which reads ROYAL POST-OFFICE; then four address lines and the words TO—AN. The post card is printed green on buff. There is also an envelope, whose value is 10 pfennig, or three-halfpence. The impression is red on white paper.



Since writing the above we have received a set of the six new postage adhesives for the island. The type is almost identical with that described above. The ingenious idea of varying the lettering and background by different hues, adopted for the original set, is again well carried out in that on view. We annex an engraving of one of the values, viz., the 2 farthings—2 pfennig. The denominations and colours are as follow:—

1 farthing—1 pfennig: green background; lettering and framework carmine-pink on white, numerals white on carmine.

2 farthings—2 pfennig: carmine background; lettering and framework light green on white, numerals white on green.

3 farthings—5 pfennig: green background; lettering, framework, and numerals, carmine on white.

1½ pence—10 pfennig: carmine-red background; lettering, framework, and numerals, green on white.

3 pence—25 pfennig: green background, lettering, numerals, and framework, white on carmine-pink.

6 pence—50 pfennig: carmine-red background; lettering, numerals, and framework, white on light green.

The stamps are alike in size and perforation to the now suppressed set; but the paper is thinner and smoother. Her Majesty's head is still in white relief.

LAGOS.

In addition to the unexpected threepenny chronicled last month, we find there is another value, viz., 1 shilling, orange, type similar to that of its companions.

WURTEMBERG.

The Leipzig magazine announces a change in the 2 kreuzer post card. The inscription is now black, and there is no frame. The stamp-impression is lilac on grey.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

We have been some time expecting tidings of a new set for these islands, bearing the head of the reigning king. But we hear that one stamp only is, or is to be, issued of such a type, viz., a 2 c., brown. There will be also a value hitherto unrepresented in the islands, a black 12 c., with some other worthy's head depicted thereon.

CUBA.

The current 1 peseta, type similar to that of its congeners, is not pink as was first supposed, but pale brown.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A bright brown ink, of a shade almost, if not quite, identical with that of the threepenny Lagos, chronicled in our last number, has been employed for some three months past, to replace the pale pink hitherto used for the three-halfpenny envelope. We presume the similarity of colour to the penny issue was found inconvenient, though the shape would seem quite sufficiently distinctive. We have not heard if the adhesive will don the same brown coat as its companion. This variation was noticed in the February number, and strangely enough, the report, according to the old proverb about going abroad to hear news of home, originated from the foreign magazines. They are printed on white or blue laid or wove paper, according to the fancy of parties ordering them from Somerset House. The threepenny adhesive is now numbered 16.



JAPAN.

In a recent number was chronicled a new value for this empire, being 6 sen. It is similar in type to the then current emission. The value in English and Japanese numerals and letters is printed on an overlapping buckled strap, which forms an oval frame. The centre and the spandrels are filled in with the customary Japanese chrysanthemums, characters, and scroll-work, &c. The impression is brown on white; perforated. By the kind attention of a philatelic friend, we have on view another individual of the new set for Japan. The general design is the same, but by no means identical with that figured last month. The specimen on view has the round frame and band inscribed much as before. The central device shows the bird, trees, &c., but the bird's position is very unlike that of the cut alluded to. The ornamentation at the angles is much more elaborate. The colour is violet on white paper; perforated; value, 15 sen. M. Moens says this stamp is used

to prepay letters to the United States. He adds that the 1 sen blue, 2 s. bright yellow, 4 s. bright pink, and 6 s. brown, are now printed on thick white paper, perforated.

The same authority signalizes also an envelope for this empire. It bears a stamp to the right, printed similarly to the impressions on what, though a striking misnomer, must be called, for the sake of convenience, post cards. The flap is gummed; the colour of the stamp is yellow; value, 2 sen.

FRANCE.

This type of frame is additional to those figured on page 7 of this volume. It slightly, but sensibly differs from the 3rd type. The pair of scrolls at each of the four angles do not stand out so prominently, and the entwining ropes of the frame are smaller. This forms, therefore,

7th Type of frame.

7th Type, 10 c.



(18) Black on ochre-buff.

PRIX: 10 CENTIMES; no notice to left; ornamental boundary to right for single stamp compartment.

RUSSIA.

From *Le Timbre-Poste* we learn that great changes in the postal arrangements of this empire will necessitate many novelties. From the middle of the present year the postage of letters in the same town will be reduced from 10 kopecks to 8 kop., and the value of post cards from 5 kop. to 4 kop. The new denomination 8 kop. adhesive, will therefore be issued, and a low value 2 kop. Also a 4 kop. post card of the existing type, numeral alone being changed. The current 30 kop. adhesive (and we suppose) the envelope also of corresponding value, will be suppressed. The 2 kop. adhesive will be like the existing values, 1 kop., 3 kop., and 5 kop., in type, of a red colour. The 8 kop. will be grey, with pink centre, type like the current 10 kop. The envelopes will then consist of a 5 kop., lilac; 8 kop., grey; 10 kop., brown; and 20 kop., blue.

RUSSIAN LOCALS.



The oblong cut portrays the second emission for Malmyche, in the government of Viatka, described at page 19. That with the numeral of value in the centre is a representation of the third issue for Tichvin, in the government of Novgorod. The other illustrates the stamp for

Tschembar, in the government of Penza. These two will be found described at page 44, among those which form the conclusion of our descriptive catalogue.

LIVONIA.

The Leipzig magazine figures and describes a change of type in the local for this province. It bears the central armed hand within inscribed oval as before; but is improved by the addition of numerals of value (2) placed on small ornamented irregular ovals at each angle.

AUSTRIA.

A new card for Illyria is announced by the same. CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE in a semicircle above; below it KARTADOPISNICA; then ADRESSE-ADRESA; and at bottom at the right-hand corner, the word ILLYR in a parenthesis. Printed yellow on buff, with black frame; 2 kreuzer.

THE HISTORY OF THE HAWAIIAN POST-OFFICE.*

BY EM. FENARD, FIRST CLERK IN THE POST OFFICE, HONOLULU.

THE Hawaiian Kingdom was governed, until the year 1838, without other system than usage, and, with a few exceptions, without legal enactments. The Bill of Rights, proposed and signed by His Majesty Kamehameha III., on the 7th of June, 1839, was the first essential departure from the ancient despotism. The constitution which he voluntarily conferred on the people on the 8th of October, 1840, was so engrafted on the ancient form of Government, that the aid of distinct organic acts was required, in order to secure the civil liberties intended to be conferred upon the people. In 1845, the Attorney-General, J. Ricord, Esq., was requested to draw out a digest of the Constitution and Laws, and also a project of organic acts, to be accommodated to the wants and circumstances of the times. In the 4th article of the Second Act (April 27th, 1846), entitled "an act to organize the Executive Departments of the Hawaiian Islands," is the first mention ever made of the Post-office, and the regulations adopted in relation to the inter-island mails read as follows:—

* This article has been kindly forwarded to us by an old philatelic correspondent, who received it nearly two years ago, from the Hon. C. R. Bishop, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Honolulu, accompanied by the following letter:—

Department of Foreign Affairs, Honolulu, May 23, 1873.

Your letter of March 6th was duly received, and in accordance with your request, which I passed over to Em. Fenard, Esq., first clerk in the post-office, he has been kind enough to prepare an historical sketch of, and to copy out the laws relating to, the Hawaiian postal system, to which he has attached all of the postage stamps now in use here, and all of the old ones that are procurable. In 1846-7, when a merchant ship from Boston or New York arrived *via* Cape Horn, the mail matter was usually poured from the bags, &c., on to the floor of the counting-room of the consignees of the vessel, or of the harbour-master's office, and those expecting letters gathered around the pile to assist in overhauling or "sorting," picking out their own, and passing over their shoulders the letters, &c., of those standing in the outer circle. Letters from captains and crew of ships on cruise, addressed to care of ship chandlers, went to their offices; the seamen's chaplain took those sent to his care, and the remainder for sailors went into the old tea-chest in the Consulate. When the whalers came into port to recruit, their crews made the round of the ship chandlers, the Chaplaincy, and the Consulate, in search of news from home, and the old tea-chest was upset and overhauled many times daily while the fleet was in port. Soon after steam communication was established between New York and San Francisco, *via* Panama, postal regulations were put in force here, which have from time to time been improved, until we now have a well-conducted and convenient post-office.

Hoping that the matter herewith furnished may be of some use and interest to you,

I am very respectfully, yours, &c.,

C. R. BISHOP,

H. H. Majesty's Minister of Foreign Affairs.

§ I.—The Collector-General of Customs, and the collectors of the respective ports of entry and departure, shall be, *ex officio*, postmasters, and entitled to receive and open, at their respective ports, the mail bags hereinafter specified.

§ II.—The Minister of the Interior shall appoint some trustworthy and discreet person, residing conveniently on each of the islands, where no port of entry and departure is established, to be the postmaster thereof.

§ III.—Said minister shall furnish each of the postmasters with a number of leathern bags, corresponding to the number of post-offices established in pursuance of this article, each of which bags shall have printed or written thereon the name of a designated post-office and island, and shall be capable of being securely locked.

§ IV.—The postmaster shall close the mail at least one hour before the departure from his port of any coasting vessel, destined to another island. He shall deliver said mail bag, properly secured, to the master of the coasting vessel, from whom he shall take a receipt, to be used in evidence against such master in case of neglect or loss by carelessness on his part.

§ V.—The respective postmasters shall preserve, in writing, a list of the letters and packages by them transmitted; and in closing the mails, shall address to the corresponding postmasters, for whom the mail bag is intended, a list of the letters and packages therein contained, in order to guard against fraud or miscarriage.

§ VI.—It shall also be incumbent on the respective postmasters, upon receipt of any mail bag, to post up in some conspicuous place, convenient to the public, a copy of the list of letters so received by them; and it shall be their duty to facilitate, by all means in their power, the speedy and safe transmission of the letters, packages and papers by them received for persons residing at a distance from their respective post-offices.

§ VII.—It shall be incumbent on the commanding officer of any foreign vessel arriving at any of the ports of entry and departure, to deliver to the collector of such port, as postmaster, all letters and papers on board his vessel destined for private individuals or for the Government; for each of which letters the said commanding officer shall be entitled to receive, at the post-office, two cents, and for each of which papers he shall be entitled to receive one cent.

§ VIII.—The postmaster upon receiving ship letters and papers, shall apportion them out to the bags of the respective islands for which they are destined, and shall make out and post for public information, as in the 6th Section of this article required, a list of the names of those in his island to whom any of them shall have come addressed.

§ IX.—The respective postmasters shall, half-yearly, furnish a list of all letters remaining on that day in their post-offices to the Director of the Government Press for publication. They shall also report quarterly, to the Minister of the Interior, all the letters by them received and transmitted, and shall demand and receive the rates of postage established in and by the third part of this act. [13 c. for foreign letters (U.S.), 2 c. for inter-island transmission.]

The above regulations were all that was necessary in the incipient stage of civilization and industry then existing; but the progress of commerce and trade, the larger number of resident foreigners, and the consequence of an increased correspondence with the United States, required a change in the post-office system, while the proclivity of the Hawaiians (since they had enjoyed and appreciated the benefits of education) for letter-writing, made it quite an object for the Government to establish that important branch of service on a more solid basis.

The Civil Code of the Hawaiian Islands passed in the year 1859, contains the complementary and latest enactments concerning the post-office bureau. The following is a copy of the same:—

CIVIL CODE OF THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Art. VI. of the Post-Office.

§ CCCXCVII.—There shall be established a post-office system for the Hawaiian Kingdom, and some suitable and trustworthy person shall be appointed by the King to superintend the same, who shall be styled Postmaster-General, and hold his office during His Majesty's pleasure. The said Postmaster-General shall, until otherwise provided by law, be *ex officio* postmaster of Honolulu.

§ CCCXCVIII.—The several collectors of the ports of entry, except Honolulu, shall be *ex officio*, postmasters for said ports; and the Postmaster-General shall appoint postmasters, in such other parts and districts as the public wants may, in his judgment, require. He may also, with the consent of the Minister of the Interior, fix and arrange the compensation of said postmasters, in cases where, from the nature of the services rendered by them, it shall be considered reasonable or needful to allow them such compensation.

§ CCCC.—The Postmaster-General may employ mail carriers on the several islands, to carry mails between the several districts of the same, as he may judge to be most for the public good, applying for that purpose such moneys as may be appropriated by the legislature for that object, and no other.

§ CCCCI.—No ship or vessel arriving at any port of these islands where a post-office is established, shall be permitted to report, make entry, or break bulk, until the master or commander shall have delivered to the postmaster at such port, all letters directed to any person or persons within this Kingdom, which, under his care, or within his power, shall be brought in such ship or vessel, except such as are directed to the owner or consignee of the ship or vessel; and the postmaster to whom such letters shall be delivered, shall pay to said master or commander as remuneration therefor, a sum not exceeding two cents for every letter so delivered. And it shall be the duty of the collector, or other officer of the port, empowered to receive entries of ships or vessels, to require from every master or commander of such ship or vessel, an oath, or affirmation, purporting that he has delivered all such letters, except as aforesaid. And if any commander or master of any ship or vessel shall break bulk before he shall have complied with the requirements of this article, he shall, on conviction thereof before any court, forfeit for every such offence, a sum not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars; and in default of payment, his vessel shall be liable to seizure, condemnation and sale, in order to satisfy such penalty.

§ CCCCI.—The commanding officers of coasting vessels, shall receive and deliver the inter-island mails at the post-offices of the several ports at which they may touch, in such manner as the Postmaster-General may direct, free of charge; under penalty of forfeiting the coasting licenses of their vessels.

§ CCCCI.—The following shall be the rates of Hawaiian postage on all mailable matter forwarded to or received from any foreign port:

5 cents for every single letter weighing less than $\frac{1}{2}$ an ounce; 10 cents for every letter weighing not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, or more than 1 ounce; and 5 cents for every additional $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce; and in addition to the above rates, the sea postage shall be collected on the said letters.

The above part of Section 403, is sensibly altered by the postal convention now in force between the United States of America and the Hawaiian Kingdom, of the 4th of May, 1870.

§ CCCCI. *continued.*—Two cents on each newspaper, price current, printed circular, or other printed paper not being a pamphlet.

4 cents for every pamphlet containing less than 50 pages; 8 cents for every pamphlet containing as many as fifty pages and less than 200 pages; and 12 cents for every pamphlet containing 200 pages and upwards.

2 cents an ounce for bound volumes, or other volumes not coming under the head of pamphlets. All sealed packages at the same rate as letters.

§ CCCCI.—On and after July 1st, 1859, the rate of inter-island postage shall be as follows:—2 cents for every single letter weighing less than $\frac{1}{2}$ an ounce; 4 cents for every letter weighing not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ an ounce, or more than 1 ounce; and 2 cents for every additional $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.

1 cent an ounce for all bound volumes. Newspapers mailed from the offices of publication to subscribers, free; on those otherwise mailed, the rate of postage shall be 1 cent.

Pamphlets containing less than 200 pages, 2 cents each; and those containing over 200 pages, 4 cents each. Sealed packages at the same rate as letters. Drop letters, or those mailed at the office of delivery, free.

All parcels containing anything besides letters, or printed matter, to be excluded from the inter-island mails, unless postage be paid on the same at the rate of 1 cent an ounce, or fraction of an ounce in weight. No package to be conveyed by mail containing liquid in glass, or other articles destructive to the contents of mail bags.

Provided, however, that the above rates of inter-island postage shall not apply to mail matter received from foreign countries, but only to such as is mailed within the Kingdom.

§ CCCCVII (*as amended on January 10th, 1865.*)—No inter-island letters shall be transmitted by mail, unless previously stamped, and it shall be unlawful for any individual to convey any letter or letters from port to port; provided, however, that in a case of a deficiency of stamps, the postmaster at the place of mailing, may receive an equivalent in money, and mark such letters "paid," and subscribe his name thereto, and such letters shall be transmitted in due course of mail.

§ CCCCVII (*a*).—Each coasting vessel shall have placed in some conspicuous and convenient place, a locked post-office box or bag, legibly lettered, and the master of every such vessel shall act as a Route Agent for the post-office; and all letters properly stamped and placed in the box or bag shall be delivered by the Route Agent to the nearest postmaster, according to its direction, but the Route Agent, before delivering, shall deface or obliterate the stamp or stamps on any letters so mailed, on pain of a fine not less than 10 or more than 50 dollars, to be recovered before any Police or District Justice, and on the repetition of such offence, the license of the vessel commanded by such postal agent shall be liable to be revoked by the Collector-General of Customs, after conviction before any Police Justice, at the complaints of any postal agents.

§ CCCCVIII.—The Postmaster-General is hereby authorised to issue and sell, on account of his department, postage stamps, of such denomination as the public convenience may require. If any person or persons shall forge or counterfeit any stamp of the post-office department, issued by authority of law, or if they shall obliterate the mark of any stamp for the purpose of using the same for a second time, they shall be adjudged guilty of felony, and on conviction thereof, be fined a sum not exceeding 500 dollars, or imprisoned at hard labour for a term not more than one year, in the discretion of the Court.

§ CCCCIX.—The Postmaster-General is hereby authorised to provide a suitable official stamp for the use of the general post-office, and such stationery as may be required for the use of the same; he may also provide for and furnish the necessary stamps and stationery for the post-offices at other places in the Kingdom.

§ CCCCXI.—The Postmaster-General shall, semi-annually, or more often if required, render a full and accurate report of the transactions of the general post-office to the Minister of the Interior, including a statement of receipts and expenditure, letters sent and received, both foreign and inland, and such other matters as will include a full account of the various branches of the service under his charge.

It shall be the duty of the several local postmasters to make quarterly, or such other returns as may be required, to the Postmaster-General, in such form and manner, and to such extent, as he may direct, of all their official transactions.

§ CCCCXII.—The Post-office Department shall pay its own expenses of every kind, so far as practicable. Any excess of receipts over necessary expenditures, shall be paid into His Majesty's Treasury. If a deficiency should unavoidably arise, the Postmaster-General may, with the sanction of the Minister of the Interior, draw upon the Treasury for the amount of such deficiency, which shall be paid out of any funds not otherwise appropriated; and all the facts in relation thereto, and the reasons for such action, shall be specially reported to the Legislature at its next Session.

The above sections are actually in force and are still regulating the matters regarding the postal service.

(To be continued.)

TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

WURTEMBERG.

THE hue of the 20 pfennige telegraphic stamp described last month was first brown; it is now pale dull bistre.

VICTORIA.

M. Moens announces telegraphic forms for this colony. They bear a stamp in relief, representing Queen Victoria in an oval. Blue; 1 shilling.

THE SPUD PAPERS; OR, NOTES ON PHILATELIC WEEDS.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EARÉE.

XLVI.

Nicaragua.

1871; 1 CENTAVO.



HIS stamp is a fine example of the foolishness of man in attempting the impossible. In the present case the foolishness consists in the effort to make a lithograph look like a *taille-douce* engraving; and though the forgers have done all they could, in the way of copying line for line, yet the effect produced is very poor; and anyone who has once had the pleasure of seeing one of the beautifully-engraved originals, will be able to judge and condemn this forgery at a glance.

Genuine.—Engraved in *taille-douce*, on thick yellowish paper; perf. 12. The rays of the sun are very faint, and delicately done; but eight of them can be counted. In the left bottom corner, above the *U* of *UN*, there are two small trees. The oak tree on the mountain does not touch the top of the sky. The ornamental curls on the figures of value do not touch the outline of the circles, but they would do so, if they were made the least degree larger. The lettering is very clear. The *P* of *PORTE* just touches the *o*. The volcanic peak in the front catches the full light of the sun; whilst the other peaks are not so strongly illuminated. The framework is slightly embossed on the back of the stamp, owing to the pressure of the plate. The colour is a rich, very yellowish brown.

Forged.—Lithographed, in a sort of reddish brown, on white wove paper, moderately thick; perf. 12½. The sun's rays are very coarse and white, and nine of them can be counted. There are no trees in the left bottom corner, above the *U*. The oak-tree on the mountain is very faint, and just touches the sky-border. The ornamental curls to the corner figures are very small, and might be made much larger without touching the containing circles. All the lettering is poor and ragged. The *P* and *o* of *PORTE* do not touch each other. Two of the peaks in the background are as brightly illuminated as the one in front. There is, of course, no embossing to be seen on the back of the stamp. The genuine stamps are backed with yellow gum, whilst these forgeries are ungummed. The postmark is an imitation of our own usual cancel-stamp, without the figures. Printed in sheets of 25, 5 × 5.



Saint Christopher.

1870; 1d. AND 6d.

Genuine.—Typographed (*i.e.*, engraved in *épargne*), on thin white paper, slightly *glacé*. Watermark, crown and *cc*; perforated 12½. Both stamps are from the same die. The monetary value is not always put exactly in the centre of the value-label. In the copies now before me, the *ONE PENNY* is printed low down, almost touching the bottom of the label; whilst the *SIX PENCE* is printed high up, almost

touching the top of the label. There are three jewels, in three separate compartments, on the band of the coronet; the one over the ear being rather indistinct. The forehead is lightly shaded. One wave of the hair comes down so low as to cover the corner of the eyebrow. The front pearl of the coronet touches the white circle a little before the beginning of the first H in CHRISTOPHER. A perpendicular, let fall from the right arm of the T in the same word, would cut into the bunch of curls at the back of the head. The ear is shaded all over, but very lightly at the bottom; indeed, the *whole* of the portrait is shaded, with the exception of a small portion of the front of the forehead.

Forged.—Lithographed, on rather thick, unsurfaced paper. No watermark; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$.* Both stamps from the same stone. The values are properly placed, in the middle of the labels. There are dim blotches, instead of jewels, in the three compartments of the lower band of the coronet. The forehead has no shading, and is, therefore, much too white. The base of the neck is also unshaded. The hair sweeps clear of the eyebrow. The front pearl of the coronet comes almost under the middle of the H in CHRISTOPHER. A perpendicular, let fall from the right arm of the T in the same word, would cut off the back of the head without touching the chignon. The rim of the ear is unshaded, until it is covered by the hair. The fleur-de-lis, in the right bottom spandrel, is imperfect. The perforation is rather better than usual. Printed in sheets of 25, 5×5 , and ungummed. The postmark is like one of the earliest Spanish cancel-stamps; an oval frame, containing six parallel bars.



These Saint Christopher forgeries are evidently twin brothers to the Dominica counterfeits, described in No. XLV., but are rather better done. Of course the absence of watermark would be an all-sufficient test, without any further examination; and I sometimes wonder that the forgers do not try to imitate this safeguard in some manner. I have an idea how it might be managed; but I need not say that Messrs. Spiro will receive no enlightenment on the subject from *me*!

AN AMERICAN COLLECTOR.

THEN the month of July, 1873, Mr. H. Stafford Smith, in the course of a tour through the United States, arrived at St. Louis. He there called upon a gentleman with whom he had previously been in correspondence, and received from him a hearty welcome. He found his St. Louis correspondent to be a lawyer in good practice and a member of the University Club, and he still remains indebted to him for a very pleasant day passed in his society. We need hardly say that he was a philatelist; we may, however, add that he was a really earnest student of stamps, and an occasional and valued contributor to both American and European magazines. These facts were, of course, well known to Mr. Smith, but they left him unable to appreciate the full extent of his

* I ought to mention that M. Moens gives the perforation of the genuine at 13; but, according to my reckoning, it is $12\frac{1}{2}$, as in the forgeries.

entertainer's combined earnestness and method. These were disclosed when, on arriving at the latter's residence, Mr. Smith made himself acquainted with the contents of a handsomely-carved walnut cabinet, about four feet wide by five feet high. In this goodly piece of furniture, specially made for the purpose, were arranged some 300 to 400 stamp publications (uniformly bound in half-morocco), a stamp collection in *twelve* large quarto volumes, an elaborate catalogue of the stamps therein mounted, and also a catalogue of the publications themselves. Mr. Smith's host had made a point of procuring a copy of every stamp periodical, album, catalogue, and price list, which could be obtained, deeming it worth while to preserve and classify them, even when not of great intrinsic worth, as illustrations of the progress and history of philately. As for his collection, with ample means at his disposal, it is not astonishing that it should have been found to contain a large number of very choice stamps; nor will our readers be surprised to learn that every stamp was mounted in an ingenious and original manner, which gave every facility for examining the texture of the paper, watermark, and all other particularities.

What, however, we are chiefly concerned with at present, is that remarkable,—we may say, unique,—collection of stamp publications which attracted Mr. Smith's attention. The exertions necessary to obtain many of the more obscure among them must have been considerable, and must have involved no small outlay. The object which their collector had in view was, however, fully attained. The walnut cabinet contained, practically, all the printed records of philately; and the gentleman who had constituted himself their keeper, has recently rendered a fresh service to the philatelic cause, by publishing the catalogue he had originally compiled for his own use.

The name of this public-spirited collector is JOHN K. TIFFANY. The catalogue he has issued is just such an one as might have been expected from him,—accurate, lucid, and as complete as such a work could possibly be. Furthermore, no philatelic work will surpass it in typographical excellence. It is admirably printed in large quarto, on thick paper, and with broad margins; in fact, it is a veritable *édition de luxe*, and none the less so because it happens to be bound in austere sober drab paper covers. The author, with characteristic modesty, styles it, *The Philatelic Library: a Catalogue of Stamp Publications, attempted by John K. Tiffany*. All who possess a thorough acquaintance with stamp literature, will, we are sure, declare that the work has not only been attempted, but achieved.

The cover is ornamented with an interesting souvenir of the St. Louis stamps,—the history of which Mr. Tiffany so painstakingly elucidated,—in the shape of a wood-cut fac-simile (on a large scale) of the design of the 10 c., specially engraved for the work by Mr. Kershaw, by whom the stamps themselves were engraved thirty years ago. The catalogue is "privately printed;" only 150 copies have been struck off in all, and each copy is hand-numbered. Specimens of it will therefore be almost as rare as the stamps of the city whence it is dated.

The scope of the work is thus set forth in the introduction. "The endeavour has been to catalogue alphabetically, by the names of the authors or publishers, and by the countries and languages in which

they were published, all works designed in whole or part for stamp collectors. This division includes American, Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish publications. The full title; the names of the author, printer, and publisher, when known; the months and numbers of each magazine; the number and size of the pages; and the place and date of publication of each work, are given. The titles are copied with their original abbreviations and punctuation. Explanatory notes have been added; the size of the pages is given in inches."

To attempt to discuss the contents would be a useless task. The result of its perusal must, however, be a feeling of surprise, even in the minds of those who are best acquainted with the past and present of philately, at the wonderful spread of stamp collecting and the multiplicity of publications to which the despised "hobby" has given rise. We very much doubt whether the votaries of any other recently-invented or discovered pursuit could show an equally long, varied, and polyglot list of periodicals and miscellaneous works issued in connection with it.

The first English stamp-paper made its appearance so recently as December, 1862; the first American one in 1864; yet no fewer than 189 English, and 211 American publications have since been emitted. Many no doubt were ephemeral, but a large proportion were the result of bonâ fide enterprise, were largely read, and contained information of much value. In all, 569 volumes and periodicals, &c., are noted in the first part of Mr. Tiffany's work, and 620 price lists and advertisements in the second. Part III. consists of references to 35 articles on stamp-collecting in various works; to 200 articles, similarly scattered, treating of the history of stamps, of the post-office, of postal reform and administration &c.; and of a list of 15 "postal periodicals, guides, &c.," 7 "postage-stamp games," 7 pieces of "postage-stamp music," and 8 "postage-stamp photographs."

This mere enumeration of the contents, will give some idea of the work entailed in the compilation; and a glance at the book itself is sufficient to convince one that it represents the results of a labour of love.

OUR FOREIGN CONTEMPORARIES.

THE Belgian magazine for February contains a long, and so far as the present means of information allows, an exhaustive article on the early oblong Tolimas. It is too lengthy for repetition here, which would, moreover, be supererogatory, because all our readers who are likely to possess some of the numerous varieties in question, are sure to be subscribers to *Le Timbre-Poste*. Suffice it to say that there are no fewer than four emissions of the 5 centavos, comprising some two dozen or more varieties, besides four varieties of the 10 centavos. The account of the *séance* of the French Society was copied by us last month, also a new issue, and an entire novelty in Russian locals. The new Peruvians, &c., are figured, and fully described. The March number is very rich in illustrations and descriptions of novelties. A history of the Guatemalan issues from 1867 to the present time is highly interesting. A lengthy letter about the Russian locals from a native Russian, though in one or two points at fault in the opinion of the editor, is well worth

attention. He appears authoritatively positive as to their governmental acceptance, and promises an official list of all the rural posts, furnished by a member of the ministry.

The illustrations of *Le Timbre-Fiscal* prove how much greater a variety of designs exists in that branch of what we call Timbrology, than in postals proper. Conspicuous is a cut of the beautiful dog-license stamp, which we chronicled many years back from exquisite proofs in the French Exhibition of 1867.

The February and March numbers of M. Mahé's *Gazette des Timbres* continue to chronicle and figure new issues. Philatelic articles and discussions being now for the most part eliminated from his pages, the publication is not so interesting as formerly. In the March number, however, a whole page is devoted to some pertinent remarks on the original abortive and the existing flourishing French societies. The first was initiated by some young amateurs so long since as January, 1864, at Nevers; but its provincial locality we presume to be the reason of its brief existence. About the same time, under the auspices of M. Herpin, the Philatelic Society was formed in Paris, the then novel designation, which has since being grafted into other languages, and which, we understand, even figures in some modern dictionaries, having been invented by that gentleman, then one of the most ardent collectors of postage stamps. He became, however, so disheartened after a view of the, even at that comparatively early period, superb collection of our Vice-President, that he shortly after seceded from the philatelic ranks, and gave a death blow to the society. Strange to say, though of French origin, the compound word in question, has never been popular in France, and Timbrology or Timbrophily is more usually adopted there than Philately, which word, though "circumstances over which," &c., compel us to patronize in public, we have never welcomed in private opinion.

L'Ami des Timbres of M. Roussin, continuing, like the preceding, to confine itself to a simple catalogue, calls for no further remark, other than the avowment of our indebtedness thereto for the second portion of the account of the meeting of the French Timbrological Society.

The February and March numbers of the Leipzig *Illustrirtes Briefmarken Journal*, in addition to the usual chronicle of novelties, &c., contain articles on the falsifications of the 50 bajocchi and 1 scudo of the Roman States, the first-emitted pesos of Antioquia, the Saxon essays, and the postal system of the old Roman empire; that for March, includes cuts of the new post card for Heligoland, the 6 sen Japanese adhesive, and one of the latest issue.

The American Journal of Philately opens the new year by discarding the gaudy habiliments which signalized the last. The present unpretentious cover encloses more valuable matter than was contained in many numbers of last year. The history of United States locals is continued with the usual profuseness of detail and illustrations. When completed and published, as no doubt it will be, as a whole, philatelists will be enabled to class their United States locals with such amount of convenience as cannot be managed at present. The friendly and unselfish amount of interest evinced with regard to *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* is noteworthy. The commencement of Mr. Peyton's notes on

the issues of the Colombian States promises both interest and information. Mr. Overy (misnamed Ovary) Taylor's article on the Belgians is complimentary to that gentleman, who is assigned his rightful name in the last page. Novelties and their illustrations figure as before.

The Postage-Stamp Reporter, of Lowell, Massachusetts, is mostly made up of humorous extracts and advertisements. The editor writes of certain forgeries of the Ionian Islands stamps, which he states to have been sold to and "selling" English collectors for the last two years. We have never heard of or seen specimens. He threatens to continue to be the expose (*sic*) of those who deal in fictitious and counterfeit stamps. Considering this publication is gratis, we believe the only magazine issued at so low a price, the enterprise of Mr. Wheeler cannot but be admired.

THE RECORDS OF THE ENGLISH POST-OFFICE IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

[PILLAR BOXES PROPOSED—THE FIRST CROSS POST—ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOCAL POST AT DUBLIN—FRANKING PRIVILEGES OF POSTAL OFFICIALS.]

WHILE by an Act of the twelfth year of Charles II. the post-office was made a monopoly, yet carriers were allowed to carry and deliver such letters as concerned their goods. As no authority was given to the Postmaster-General to search their goods, and seize any letters which did not relate to them, it is easy to conceive that a great deal of illegal correspondence was carried on by their agency, to the injury of the revenue. Two ingenious gentlemen formed a plan for lessening in some degree this evil. In their petition to the Treasury, they begin by stating,—

That divers carriers, drivers of stage coaches, carts, waggons, and pack-horses, and several haglers and others, under colour of their respective employments, make collections of letters, and carry, re-carry, and deliver the same for hire, and by that means the revenue of the post-office is much prejudiced, and many dangerous correspondings preserved, and many seditious pamphlets or libels dispersed, to the great endangering of their Majesties' peace. The mail carriers presume to outgo their carts, waggons, and pack-horses, and do deliver such letters before their carts, waggons, and packs do arrive, contrary to the known laws of this kingdom. Your petitioners humbly propose, therefore, that a deputation be granted to them to collect, demand, and receive on their Majesties' behalf of all such stage coaches, &c., all such letters as shall be by them conveyed to the cities of London and Westminster and suburbs thereof. That for the ends aforesaid, your petitioners desire leave to erect and set up stands for receipt of such letters in the outparts of the said cities, and that your said petitioners may put the laws in execution against such offenders.

In payment of their services they ask for two-thirds of the postage that may be levied. The Postmasters-General by no means approve this proposal, and nothing more is heard of it. They state a little later on that they had proposed "that a proclamation might be issued out prohibiting the illegal collection of letters, and to order a strict prosecution of the offenders thereupon;" but this had not been done, "lest it should be an occasion of complaint or dissatisfaction in their Majesties' subjects." The Government of William was not so firmly settled that it could venture on all occasions even to enforce the law. The Postmasters-General sensibly remark "that such a prosecution and settling

of regular posts, so as to make it easier and safer to the subject to send by the post than carriers, coachmen, &c., which we take care to do as opportunity offers, would in a great measure, prevent this illegal practice." At the same time, they recommend that "the doubts and defects observed in the Act be laid before the Parliament at their next meeting, in order to have the same explained or amended."

Not long after this, in the same year, 1696, the Postmasters-General strike a great blow at the carriers, by establishing a post between Exeter and Bristol. Up to this date, all letters between these two towns had passed by way of London. When the postal system was first established, all England had been divided into six roads, as it was called, which met in London. There were no cross posts, so that every letter which passed from a town on one of these roads to a town on another, had to pass through the central office. The establishment of any cross post would at first cause a loss to the revenue, for, as the Postmasters-General, in their letter to the Treasury, remark, "We must observe to your lordships that all such letters as are now sent by the post betwixt Bristol and Exeter pay double postage, viz., first to London, and then to the place to which they are directed; but by the setting up this new post there will be only paid single post, which will be a diminution to the revenue, but considering the tediousness and charge of the conveyance now used, there are few letters sent this way." The change was made, and a post was established between Bristol and Exeter twice a-week, to do the distance in twenty-four hours, at the charge of £259 10s. a year. In three years and a half from that time, this post produced "about £250 per annum neat (*sic*) profit." Emboldened by their success, they resolved to extend this cross post to Shrewsbury,—“where there are two persons that make it their business to collect and disperse letters, and make a considerable advantage by it,”—and from Shrewsbury to Chester. After this cross post had been established a year and a half, there was some thought of abandoning it, for while in that time it had cost £658, it had brought in only £502. It is certainly a very curious fact, that 170 years ago, the postage both ways between such towns as Bristol, Gloucester, Tewkesbury, Worcester, Kidderminster, Shrewsbury, and Chester, not to mention the less important places, should not in eighteen months have amounted to more than £502.

In 1703, there is a curious petition to the Queen from Eliza, Countess Dowager of Thanet. This petition "humbly showeth, that your petitioner's joynter (*sic*) lying in the county of Kent, where the taxes are always very heavy laid, was during the last war, considerably reduced below what your petitioner had ever known it, and consequently was herself brought to greater straits than she was immediately aware of, which taxes, being now again necessarily renewed for the support of this present war, and your petitioner calling to mind with great duty and thankfulness your Majesty's gracious expressions towards her upon this and other occasions, does most humbly beseech your Majesty to grant unto her the erecting a penny-packet office in Dublin and ten or twelve miles round it, which she is informed will be of use and advantage to your Majesty's subjects in those parts, and to give your petitioner a lease of the said office for such term of years,

and at such a moderate yearly crown rent, as your Majesty shall judge fit and reasonable." The petition seems to have been granted.

We have already stated, that in the middle of last century, part of the pay of the clerks of the road was derived from the privilege they had of franking newspapers. We find from a document of the year 1696, that, "upon the first establishing of the post-office, these clerks had had the privilege of sending gazettes and some other prints free." The Postmasters-General go on to remark that "the office hath considerably increased since we came into the present juncture of affairs, by the frequent and long sessions of Parliament, and the war, wherein the greatest part of this side of the world is engaged, hath occasioned peoples (*sic*) being more desirous of news than formerly." Though the perquisites of these clerks had increased by the greater demand for newspapers, yet their labour had increased no less, so that no proposal is made for depriving them of their privilege of franking. It is not, at first sight, quite clear what the frequent and long sessions of Parliament have to do with the increase of correspondence. As, however, the privilege of franking letters was only enjoyed by the members "during the respective sessions, and for forty days before, and for forty days after such session," no doubt, the number of letters sent through the post greatly depended on the frequency and the length of the sessions. In the year of the Restoration, as we read in the Parliamentary History, in the debate on the post-office bill, "Sir Walter Erle delivered a proviso for the letters of all members of Parliament to go free during their sitting. Sir Heneage Finch said it was a poor mendicant proviso, and below the honour of the house. The question being called for, the Speaker was unwilling to put it, saying he was ashamed of it; nevertheless, the proviso was carried, and made part of the bill."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

POSTAL SCRAPS.

SNAKES PER POST.—A package was received lately at the Dead-Letter Office at Philadelphia, containing half-a-dozen snakes, two of them dead. Among the live reptiles was a copperhead, five feet long. The snakes were enclosed in a tin box perforated with holes, and were addressed to Germany. They were stopped at New York for insufficient postage.

A COMBINATION NEWSPAPER WRAPPER.—The Post-Office authorities of the United States have authorised the use of a new combination newspaper wrapper. It consists of a combination of the newspaper wrapper and the postal card now in use, so that a publisher wishing to write something in relation to the paper he sends, may do so on the wrapper. It is proposed to sell this wrapper for two cents.—*The Printers' Register*.

THE UNITED STATES DEAD LETTER OFFICE received during the past year 4,601,773 letters, representing an actual or nominal value of 4,637,429 dollars, exclusive

of jewelry and other property, which class of inclosures is treated as possessing no money value that can with correctness be determined. One million three hundred and ninety two thousand two hundred and twenty-four letters, representing 3,909,868 dollars, were delivered to the owners or writers, including 225,893 foreign letters, which were returned unopened to the countries from whence they came. Of the remainder some 2,600,000 were either worthless, containing circulars, &c., or could not be delivered and were destroyed. The rest are filed for reclamation or are in the hands of postmasters for delivery.

A DAILY MINIATURE OCEAN MAIL.—An ocean homing bird, of great docility, intelligence, and spirit, has been found in Iceland, which flies at a meteor-like speed of 150 miles an hour, and is able to find its home over sea and land, from any part of the habitable world. A pair of these birds a few days ago brought dispatches from Paris to a lonely spot, congenial to their nature, in a wild and rocky part of Kent, within ten miles of London, in 1¼ hour.

Press carrier pigeons took the dispatches on to the City, the whole distance from Paris to London, by actual parcel mode of conveyance being done within $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour. If the experiments at present being made in training and educating them continue successful, it is hoped by next summer to establish a daily miniature ocean mail between America and Europe, the whole distance to be traversed between sunrise in one hemisphere and sunset in the other.—*The Printers' Register.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE NEW ONE-PESO ANTIOQUIA STAMP.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

SIR,—Some time ago I noticed the stamp magazines (yours included) were puzzling to account for the S shaped figure on the 1 peso of Antioquia, new issue. The S has a perpendicular stroke through it, and simply stands for the conventional sign for dollar. As you are doubtless aware, this sign is used in South as well as North America.



Yours respectfully,
E. B. R.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

* Correspondents sending specimens for inspection and return, are requested to enclose a stamped directed envelope.

W. S., Kirkcaldy.—The editor does not purchase collections of stamps.

L. M. P., Ipswich.—There is no 1 mark stamp in the new German Empire series.

DIOGENES, at whose instance, we mis-corrected the situation of Soumy, writes to say it is in the government of Charkov.

F. T. C., Clapton.—The Lagos set consists of six values; two having come unexpectedly after the first notice of the emission.

AB INITIO, Chelmsford.—The earliest stamps issued on the American continent were certainly the large Brazilians, which made their appearance in July 1843. They were also the first foreign stamps emitted.

R. J. M., Southampton.—In reply to this correspondent, evidently from his writing a very juvenile recruit to the philatelic army, we beg to say that the monogram on the United States post card, formed of the letters U. S. P. O. D., signifies United States Post-office Department.

NOTA BENE, Manchester.—It is quite true that the money-order system between England and France is to be extended. Hitherto, it has only been possible to send money to Paris, but on and after the 1st of April, orders will be obtainable on all large country towns.

INDECISSION, St. John's, N.B.—If you have only 1100 or 1200 stamps, we should think your best plan would be to mount them in a prepared album; blank albums are hardly required until and unless the number of stamps is very large, and comprises many secondary varieties, as the printed albums contain spaces for some thousands of stamps.

G. H. H., Sheffield.—We have received cancelled stamps of the Transvaal, in conjunction with those of the Cape, and sometimes also, the Orange River, on the same letter. The former prepay to the port of departure only. This is the case with most, if not all the South American States, and we presume, the other places about which you enquire.

A. T., Southampton.—Thanks for your sets of Suez Canal postmarked and uncancelled stamps for examination.

T. K. T., Brighton.—We are indebted to you for a similar favour. If your post-marked specimens are genuine, the preceding correspondent's are not, and *vice-versa*: although you each received your individuals from official sources! Moreover your lot contains two different types and hues of the blue 20 c., the postmark of one being unquestionable, and both differing from the officially guaranteed 20 c. of the preceding correspondent.

J. M., Brussels.—If you refer to our description of the new Peruvian envelopes at page 17, you will see that we had on view the specimens on white paper only; and, consequently, not seeing the straw-coloured ones, could not possibly give their measure.—The white impressed 3 cents of the United States, noted in the February number, was of the 1874 emission.—The Tolima stamps, alluded to at page 89 of last year's magazine, were the property of Mr. W. Lincoln.

BEGINNER, Frome.—There are two very distinct shades of the 5 c Swiss envelope, light brown and chocolate.—The stamp which started in life as the fourpence of South Australia has since been metamorphosed into a threepenny stamp by a surcharge, in which figure and word are rather oddly combined, thus, 3-PENCE. For full list of the changes it has experienced, we must refer you to Gray's catalogue.—Your Nova Scotia 3d, is a little discoloured, that is all.



THE SPUD PAPERS; OR, NOTES ON PHILATELIC WEEDS.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EAREE.

XLVII.

Newfoundland.

1857; 3d., TRIANGULAR.



AT the first glance, the forgery of this stamp looks very well; but, like most of its brethren, it will not bear inspection. I have a certain savage satisfaction in dissecting it, because this same forgery, or one very similar, was a much-prized member of my collection about ten years ago, when the

“Spud Papers” were only *in futuro*.

Genuine.—Engraved in *taille-douce*; imperf. The groundwork of the central triangle, behind the large trefoil, is engine-turned all over. There are, however, three horizontal lines, where the engine-turning allows more of the dark background to be seen. The name, NEWFOUNDLAND, is in one word. The apostrophe in JOHN'S is correctly shaped; as is also the comma after POSTAGE. The central trefoil is formed of two lines, making a double border. There are three leaves on the left hand of the thistle. The rose and the shamrock do not touch the border in any part, but the stem of the thistle just touches the border at the bottom. The colour is a rich, dark yellow-green.

Forged.—Lithographed; imperf. The imitation engine-turning is in four *separate* strips, so that the dark background shows, without any lines upon it, between the strips.

This is especially noticeable in the lower three strips. In the genuine stamps, though these lines do show faintly, yet the engine-turning is all in one piece. The name is in two words, NEWFOUND LAND. The apostrophe in JOHN'S is badly shaped; and the comma after POSTAGE is a badly-shaped full stop.



The outer line of the two lines forming the central trefoil is not a *drawn* line, but is formed by the absence of the engine-turning permitting the dark background to be seen. In the genuine,

the outer line is cut through the engine-turning. The leaf on the left of the rose touches the inner border of the trefoil, and the top leaf of the shamrock *almost* touches the border also. The stem of the thistle does *not* touch the border; in fact, the stem does not project below the leaves at all. There are only two leaves on the left of the thistle. There is a flaw in the top of the H in JOHN'S, on the left-hand stroke; and the imitation engine-turning projects a very little too far, just under the first D of NEWFOUND LAND, forming a little white spot or lump. The lettering is ragged, and too thin; and the colour is a chalky bluish-green. Printed in sheets of 30, and postmarked with an imitation of the British Guiana cancel-stamp, without figures.

HOW TO MOUNT POST CARDS: A PRIZE ESSAY.

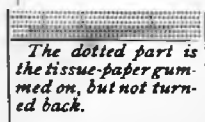
BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EAREE.

“HOW to mount post cards!”—This has been a sad thorn in the side for most of us ever since post cards came into general use; and I must say that very few really practical and practicable plans have, hitherto, been suggested. For my own part, I confess that my post cards are all wrapped up and put away in a cardboard box for the present,—not because I have no good plan for mounting them, but simply because I have not yet got a suitable album for them. The first post card I ever saw mounted was in an album containing many really valuable stamps, which had been sadly spoilt by careless and ignorant manipulation. The said card was comfortably gummed down (by an application of half an ounce or so of gum-arabic over the whole of the back) in the centre of the page, whilst the adhesives of the same country were tastefully disposed all round it, gummed down in the same manner! Now I think the reader will agree, with me, that this is *not* the way to mount post cards. Another way, too, which I have seen is, to cut out the stamp, and gum it down, and to throw away the rest of the card! This method also is scarcely to be commended, so I will say no more about it.

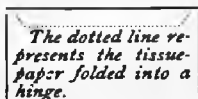
But, joking apart, let us see what are the things to be considered in mounting post cards. First, then, we will take it for granted that the cards are to be preserved entire,—just as we would preserve envelopes and wrappers entire. I suppose nobody will gainsay this. Next comes the question, Should the cards be mounted so as to show the back as well as the front? I think they ought to be so mounted; although I confess that this is not such an absolute necessity as it is with envelopes, because quite nine out of every ten cards have no inscription or mark of any kind on the back. Nevertheless, as uniformity is desirable, and as some cards have more or less of an inscription on the back, and require to be mounted in such a manner as to enable that inscription to be inspected, I think that they should all be mounted alike, so that the backs may be seen if required. But before we speak of the method of accomplishing this, it will be necessary to take into consideration the sort of album required. I have fully come to the conclusion that we *must* have a separate album for post cards. This, for many reasons. The cards are very thick, compared with ordinary adhesives, and if put with adhesives would entirely

destroy the shape of the book. And besides this, they require to be mounted on very strong paper, or else they would most assuredly tear the leaves after a while. For the same reason, I think that perhaps it would be advisable not to have the leaves of the album larger than just to hold comfortably say two cards on a page. If the book be made in this manner, then the leaves need not be so stout, for there will be less weight on them. The only objection to this plan would be, that the book would become rather bulky after a time, when every country possesses a dozen or so of varieties. However, whether a small page or larger-page album be chosen, it will be necessary to have *plenty* of guards, quite three times as many as there are in an album for adhesives. If this be not done, the album will never shut properly, and each additional specimen will only make matters worse. The cards, also, should be mounted on one side of the page only, leaving the other a blank. It will be found in practice that this is absolutely necessary, whatever plan of fixing the cards be adopted. For myself, I mount my adhesives in the same way, using only one side of the page. A neutral-tint paper will be found the best, though I would advise amateurs to see whether a touch of gum stains the paper very much. I have two albums made with a thick unsurfaced neutral-tint paper; but, unfortunately, the least touch of gum, or of moisture, leaves an ugly stain which cannot be removed. So much for the album. And now let us proceed to the question of how the cards are to be mounted.

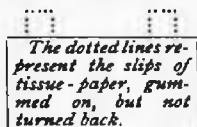
We have agreed that the backs of the cards must be seen, if required; so one of two methods must be adopted,—either to hinge the cards, so that they may be turned up when necessary, or to mount them in such a manner as to allow them to be removed for examination. The former is preferable in my idea; and to do this (1) a narrow strip of tissue-paper may be gummed along the top of the card at the back, and then turned down to form the hinge, or else (2) a small hinge may be made at each end of the card at the top. The single large hinge is better, I think, than the two small ones. When mounted



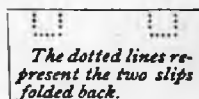
The dotted part is the tissue-paper gummed on, but not turned back.



The dotted line represents the tissue-paper folded into a hinge.



The dotted lines represent the slips of tissue-paper, gummed on, but not turned back.



The dotted lines represent the two slips folded back.

in this way, the cards are perfectly secure; and whenever we wish to examine the back of any of them, it is only necessary to lift up the bottom part of the card. This is by far the simplest plan, and causes the least trouble, besides looking neat. I give my own verdict in favour of this plan.

It will be observed that, by mounting the cards in this manner, it will be necessary to tear the tissue-paper whenever they are to be removed. But some, doubtless, would prefer, to be able to move the cards at a moment's notice, and therefore, for such as these, another plan will be necessary. The simplest way of doing this, but one which I could not, myself, recommend, is to cut four diagonal slits in the paper, corresponding to the four corners of the card, and to insert those corners into the slits. In this way, the card can be removed at any moment, and put

back as readily. This plan is frequently adopted in mounting photographs; but, after all, it is but a clumsy expedient, and not at all artistic in its effect. Another way, very troublesome, and not much prettier than the last-mentioned one, is to cut four triangular pieces of paper, and to gum them on to the page in the places where the corners of the card will come. They must be gummed along two sides, leaving the broad inner side ungummed, when the corners of the card can be slipped in, under the ungummed side, and so be held secure. This takes a long time to do, and does not look at all neat. Another, and the last way which I have to suggest, is to fasten bands of tissue-paper to the page of the album, and to slip the cards underneath them. To do this two slips of tissue-paper will be required for each card. They must be cut about an inch longer than the depth of the card, and be about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide. Lay them across the card, so as to get the exact measure, and fold the spare $\frac{1}{2}$ inch over at each end. The slips must then be gummed on to the page by the folded ends, leaving the whole of the other part untouched by the gum. Of course, the folded ends must be so gummed that they come *underneath* the card, and are not visible from the front. They must be at a convenient distance apart, so that they do not hide the stamp, &c., and then the card must be slipped under them, when it will be firmly held, and look rather neat. Next to the hinge plan, this is the best.

To recapitulate, it will be seen that I have suggested five different methods of mounting:—

- 1.—With large hinge of tissue-paper.
- 2.—With two or more small hinges.
- 3.—With slits in the page, to introduce the corners of the card.
- 4.—With triangular corner-pieces gummed on to the page.
- 5.—With two tissue-paper bands, underneath which the card is slipped.

I have already said that I prefer No. 1 (and No. 2, which is only a modification of it), but to those who prefer to be able to *move* their cards, I would recommend No. 5. This latter is my own idea, as far as I am concerned, as I have never seen it employed by any one; but I dare say others have thought of it before me. With regard to removing the hinged cards, it is only necessary to turn them up, and to moisten the part of the tissue-paper which is fastened to the page,—when it will come off almost instantly, leaving the hinge still fixed to the card, and ready to be fastened again to its new place. With ordinary care, the hinge may be fixed and removed a dozen times without injuring it; and if it gets torn, another can be made, and affixed to the card in a few moments.

I think I have now said all I had to say on this subject; and, in conclusion, I shall be very glad if the suggestions contained in this paper be of use to any brother-collector, in the vexed question of HOW TO MOUNT POST CARDS.

THE NEW CALEDONIAN STAMP was the work of a member of the New Caledonian garrison, Serjeant Triquera, who etched them with a point of a pin. The sheet consisted of fifty stamps, each one separately drawn, and consequently differing from the rest. Their employment was stopped by the Parisian post-office, as soon as it heard of their being in use.—*Dr. Gray's Illustrated Catalogue.*

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

LUXEMBOURG.

IT has not till now been mentioned in our pages that the pair of current double post cards, value respectively 5 + 5 centimes, and 6 + 6 c., are distinguished by the great convenience of being perforated in the proper place for being readily and neatly separated. The type is similar to that chronicled at page 150 of the last volume.

JAPAN.

The whole of the now current set of these interesting stamps are on view before us. In addition to the 12 sen of the bird type figured in



March, and the 15 s. chronicled last month, and herewith represented, there is a higher value, 45 s. The general design is similar to those of the other two, details only slightly differing. The bird within inscribed circular frame, upper scroll containing chrysanthemum and characters, are as before; but this time the bird can be identified for an eagle in its eyrie. The filling in at the angles is more tasteful in this

instance. We believe it has escaped remark that the trio of new values do not show the representation of a bird on the Japanese stamps for the first time: a pair of cockatoos or macaws appearing on the 10 s. adhesive. Annexed is a figure of the 6 s. alluded to in our last. This,

and also the 1, 2, 4, 10, 20, and 30 s. values, are on whiter and more substantial paper than was at first used for them. Dr. Magnus has detected additions to the types of the 1 and 2 s., being small blocks containing numeric characters at the junction of the branches of the Paulownia imperialis. These, with his accustomed acumen, he concludes to be similar in nature to the minute numerals inscribed upon our own issues. Characters, evidently of like purport, are conspicuous



on the three new bird-type impressions between the numerals and word of values. They may also be detected in all the others except the 4 s., whereon we cannot trace anything of the kind. On the current 10 s. may be observed a minute quadrangle below the wreath; the 20 sen. shows a couple of horizontal lines beneath the left-hand leaf of the three opposite the chrysanthemun on the central circular band; and the 30 s. has a character enclosed within a broad oval in the same situation.

FRANCE.

The current 10 centimes, brown on pink, has been altered in conformity with other existing values, by having the numerals of value larger, and consequently more distinct, than before. It is not generally known that proofs are in existence bearing the portrait of the Prince Imperial. They were prepared in anticipation of being required some years back, during the flourishing condition of the second empire, when the late emperor was supposed to be dangerously ill. That no time might be lost in giving the young emperor all possible prestige, the dies were prepared for immediate use, and some few proofs in black struck off

fully finished with the exception of the value. The dies may probably be still in existence, and we hope will eventually fulfil their destination.

BERMUDAS.

The same correspondent kindly forwards one of the green shilling values of these islands, surcharged in the centre with ONE PENNY in the ordinary Roman print.

HELIGOLAND.

This cut represents one of the new issue fully described last month. We have just received specimens of the post cards and envelopes. The description of the former then given was what we *heard*, and is incorrect in some particulars. The inscription as *seen* is HELIGOLAND POST-OFFICE above; beneath it, POST CARD—POST KARTE. Then follows TO (An), and four dotted lines for the address; at the commencement of the third of which, in the centre of the card, is the word IN. The type of the impressed stamp is that of the adhesive of same value, but in clearer relief, the whole of the light part being raised above a green ground. The card is large sized, measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. It is printed black on buff; value 3 farthings, or 5 pfennig. The envelopes are $5\frac{3}{4}$ by $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches, impressed to the right with a stamp of the same type as that of the card, but in equally high relief on a rich carmine-red. The paper is plain white, and unwatermarked. Value $1\frac{1}{2}$ pence, or 10 pfennig.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

A Delaruiian type, after nearly a score of years' existence had been accorded the original, has superseded the same; and other values will probably follow in the wake. A representation of the new comer is annexed. The scroll pattern seems effective and elegant, and the value conspicuous. This novelty is bright green on white paper; watermarked with a large crown and the letters s. a.



SHANGHAI.

More provisionals are now used in this place: the 12 candareens of 1866 surcharged with 1 in blue, and the pink 3 cents surcharged with 3 in blue also.

UNITED STATES.

On page 166 of the last volume, are reported to be in contemplation changes in the then existing post cards. An extract from a newspaper, kindly transmitted by Mr. Chute, describes the perhaps now circulated novelties:—

The new postal cards will be unlike those now in use. The colour will be violet-blue. The border, and all directions as to where and how to write name and address, will be dispensed with. A monogram, formed of the letters "U. S.," will be printed on the card in black ink. This will be on the upper left-hand corner, across which will be the words "Postal Card." The vignette—Liberty, with her luxuriant tresses hanging down her back, and confined by a cap—adorns the lower left-hand corner. The new cards will be identical in size with the old ones. They will be ready for delivery about the middle of April.

From the same correspondent we acknowledge specimens on white and buff of the modified 3 cents envelopes, figured on page 18, wherein the inscription and numerals are larger than before.

TURKEY.

The postals are now printed under the superintendence of the designers of the fiscals, and are consequently better manipulated. The surcharge differs from what it was,—sometimes in a linear circle for the use of the capital, and sometimes, as in the violet 10 p. and the green 20 p., in a dotted circle.

A valued friend, and earnest collector, hands us a stamp for the prepayment of newspapers which has done duty from Constantinople to this country. The impression is blue, showing star, crescent, Turkish characters, and a profusion of ornamentation in the white ground.

LIVONIA.

At page 52 is chronicled a change of type for this province, of which the adjoining cut is a good representation, so far as the lack of gay colours allows. A good authority on Russian stamps pronounces that the Livonian stamps are issued by the government, and not by local authorities.



SPAIN.

The *Timbre-Poste* figures a sufficient portion of a new post card for this country to identify its appearance. A broad frame of an interlacing key pattern; between the portrait of the present young king in an oval, and another oval containing the strange combination of a pair of shields,—on one of which are the arms of Spain, and the numeral and word of value on the other! crown above, and pair of globes below—is inscribed in black, ESPANA—TARJETA POSTAL, and underneath s. r. d. POBLACION. The frame and two medallions are orange; the card is white. Value, 5 centimos.

At the Society's meeting on the 17th, M. de Ysasi exhibited another post card, probably provisional. It is large-sized. The frame, some distance from the edges of the card, is composed of a very fine and a thicker line, much ornamented at the angles. In the top centre is an impressed stamp, type of the current 10 c. de p., flanked by TARJETA POSTAL. Then follow lines for the address, and a note of directions. The impressions are on a very faint green groundwork composed of dotted circles, encompassing the words TARJETA POSTAL. The printing is mauve on buff; value, 5 c. de p. We have on view, also, a newly-issued pair for the use of the Carlists. The types are almost identical. The head of the claimant, laurel-crowned, to the right in a circle; DIOS PATRIA REY above, ESPANA and value below. Key pattern at sides. Broad rectangles, almost square; lithographed in colour on thick white unwatermarked, imperforate paper. Brown, more or less intense; 1 real. Bright and pale yellow-green; 50 centesimi. The latter has been seen also on thin paper slightly *bleuté*.

A correspondent has forwarded for inspection a 40 centesimi *blue*, of the Amadeo type. We have never seen one before; neither is it catalogued. It may be an error, or perhaps one of some originally

printed when there was no other blue stamp, the 10 c. being at first violet, and the 25 c. of nearly the same colour as the known 40 c.

RUSSIAN LOCALS.

Jeletz (in the Government of Orel) gives us a new type and value. Being impressed by a hand-stamp on plain white paper, M. Moens concludes it to be merely provisionally employed during the preparation of another. Like most stamps of the kind, it is circular; on a central escutcheon is a reindeer fronting a fir-tree, inscribed above, "Postage Stamp of the Jeletz District;" initials of value in a queer-shaped enclosure, flanked by small square blocks below. Lilac on white; 5 kopecks.

Orgaev.—The same authority announces a 6 kop., whose colour is not the usual green, but blue with yellowish *burelage*.

Tchern.—We have varieties of the impressions described on page 43. One is blue, the other is black; both on rosy-tinted quadrilled paper of a smaller pattern than formerly. M. Moens says there are 40 black, and the same number of blue on the same sheet of paper, in horizontal rows containing 8 each. They are blotchily hand-stamped as before.

A correspondent forwards an extract from a Russian newspaper to the effect that a pigeon post will shortly be instituted in the empire: The regulations have been ratified, and the stations fixed. A number of clerks are being taught photography, preparatory to the opening of this revival of an ancient custom. All letters will be minutely photographed at their receptacles, and magnified on arrival at their destination, to enable the recipients to read them with the naked eye. The postal pigeons of the Belgian race, being recognised as the best and most adapted for the Russian climate, are designed to be employed.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

By favour of a correspondent, we have on view a specimen of the 2 cents chronicled last month. A portrait of the present king, in the private costume of an English gentleman, appears within a broad oval, having H. I. POSTAGE above, ELUA KENETA below. Numerals of value, with ornamental scroll-work at each angle. Brown on white; 2 c. In addition to this stamp and the 12 c., also noticed previously, which bears the representation of Prince Leluhoko (the king's brother) in military costume, a 24 c. value is reported.

HOLLAND AND DUTCH INDIES.

The 25 cents violet of the current type is now in circulation; and a new 15 c., yellow on buff, is reported to be forthcoming in the Dutch East India settlements.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Meetings were held on March 13th and April 3rd, at Dr. Viner's, and on April 17th, at the rooms of the Vice-President, at which the stamps of Spain were studied and compared. Full particulars will be given in future numbers. The next was appointed to be at 34, Denbigh Street, on this 1st of May. Subject the same.

THE HISTORY OF THE HAWAIIAN POST-OFFICE.

BY EM. FENARD, FIRST CLERK IN THE POST-OFFICE, HONOLULU.

(Concluded from page 55).

THE safe transmission of the mails between the Hawaiian Government and the United States of America (previously to the postal convention between these two countries, now in force, and approved by the President of the United States on the 5th of May, 1870), was provided for by Art. XV. of the American Treaty, ratified on the 19th of August, 1850, which article reads as follows:—

ART. XV.—So soon as steam or other mail packets, under the flag of either of the contracting parties, shall have commenced running between their respective ports of entry, the contracting parties agree to receive, at the post-offices of those ports, all mailable matter, and to forward it as directed, the destination being to some regular post-office of either country; charging thereupon the regular postal rates as established by law in the territories of either party receiving said mailable matter, in addition to the original postage of the office whence the mail was sent. Mails for the United States shall be made up at regular intervals at the Hawaiian post-office, and dispatched to ports of the United States; the postmasters at which ports shall open the same, and forward the enclosed matter as directed, crediting the Hawaiian Government with their postages as established by law, and stamped upon each manuscript or printed sheet. The respective post-office department of the contracting parties shall, in their accounts, which are to be adjusted annually, be credited with all dead letters returned.

The first postmaster appointed in Honolulu was H. M. Whitney, Esq., who retained the situation from 1850 to 1856. During the time of his incumbency, stamps were issued of the denomination of 13 cents for



foreign letters, and of 2 cents for the inter-island service, both of which were mere digits, and cannot be found now.

Under the administration of postmaster J. Jakson, the following were issued:—

(From 1856 to 1859).



- A red stamp of 13 cents, representing His Majesty Kamehameha III.
- A blue stamp of 5 cents, representing His Majesty Kamehameha III.
- A red stamp of 2 cents, representing His Majesty Kamehameha IV.



A. K. Clarke, Esq., held the situation of Post-master-General from 1859 to 1863, and the Hon. David Kalakana, a chief of the kingdom, succeeded him (1863-65). The red perforated 2 cents stamp of Kamehameha IV was got up during his administration.

The present incumbent, A. T. Brickwood, Esq., has occupied, with credit, the situation from March 18, 1865, to the present date.

The following perforated stamps have been issued by him :—

5 cents, blue, representing His Majesty Kamehameha V.

6 cents, green, representing His Majesty Kamehameha V., to meet the requirements of the new postal convention, May, 1870.

18 cents, magenta, representing His Highness M. Kekuanaoa, father of Kamehameha IV., Kamehameha V., and of Princess Victoria Kamamalu Kaahumanu, represented on a 1 cent, purple stamp.



Inter-island Correspondence passing through the General Post-Office, Honolulu, from 1864 to 1873.

YEAR.	FOREIGNERS.		HAWAIIANS.	
	Letters Received.	Letters Forwarded.	Letters Received.	Letters Forwarded.
From April 1, 1864, to April 1, 1865	15,594	13,652	7,650	9,570
" 1865 " 1866	21,642	14,886	14,379	16,078
" 1866 " 1867	23,282	16,607	20,082	22,821
" 1867 " 1868	25,873	19,013	23,733	25,535
" 1868 " 1869	27,543	19,547	25,920	25,986
" 1869 " 1870	27,433	19,806	25,233	24,499
" 1870 " 1871	29,147	19,118	28,596	28,091
" 1871 " 1872	24,655	23,333	26,364	35,715
" 1872 " 1873	27,717	24,199	41,662	41,340

The number of letters received from, and sent to the United States, from April 1st, 1870, to April 1st, 1873, has been as follows :—

Year.	Letters Received.	Letters Forwarded.
1870-1871	25,811	24,994
1871-1872	26,772	23,713
1872-1873	25,020	25,895

THE NORWEGIAN LOCAL POSTAGE STAMPS are said to owe their existence to the fact that the Norwegian post-office does not undertake the house-to-house delivery of letters, that work being performed by private agents, by whom the stamps are issued.—*Dr. Gray's Illustrated Catalogue.*

A RUSSIAN POSTMAN TWENTY YEARS AGO.

BY GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA.

THE postman was one of the fiercest little men, with one of the fiercest and largest cocked-hats, I ever saw. His face was yellow in the bony and livid in the fleshy parts; and the huge moustache lying on his upper lip looked like a leech bound to suck away at him for evermore for some misdeeds of the Promethean kind.

This Russian postman: don't let me forget his sword, with its rusty leather scabbard and its brazen hilt, which seemed designed, like Hudibras's, to hold bread and cheese; and not omitting, again, the half-dozen little tin-pot crosses and medals attached by dirty scraps of particoloured ribbon to his breast; for this brave had "served," and had only failed to obtain a commission because he was not "born." This *attaché* of St. Sergius-le-Grand, if that highly respectable saint can be accepted as a Muscovite equivalent for our St. Martin of Aldersgate, used to come clattering down the Cadetten-Linie on a shaggy little pony, scattering the pigeons, and confounding the vagrant curs. You know the tremendous stir at a review, when a chief, for no earthly purpose that I know of, save to display his horsemanship and to put himself and his charger out of breath, sets off, at a tearing gallop, from one extremity of the line to the other: the cock-feathers in the hats of his staff flying out behind them like foam from the driving waters. Well: the furious charge of a general on Plumstead Marshes was something like the pace of the Russian postman. If he had had many letters to deliver on his way, he would have been compelled to modify the ardour of his wild career; but it always seemed to me that nineteen-twentieths of the Cadetten-Linie were taken up by dead walls, painted a glaring yellow, and that the remaining twentieth was occupied by the house where I resided. It was a very impressive spectacle to see him bring up the little pony short before the gate of the hotel, dismount, look proudly around, caress the ever-sucking leech on his lip—as for twisting the ends of it, the vampire would never have permitted such a liberty—and beckon to some passing Ivan Ivanovitch, with a ragged beard and caftan, to hold his steed, or in default of any prowling Ivan being in the way, attach his pony's bridle to the palisades. It was a grand sound to hear him thundering—he was a little man, but he *did* thunder—up the stone stairs, the brass tip of his sword-scabbard bumping against his spurs, and his spurs clanking against the stones, and the gloves hanging from a steel ring in his belt, playing rub-a-dub-dub on the leather pouch which held his letters for delivery—*my* letters, my newspapers, when they hadn't been confiscated—with all the interesting paragraphs neatly daubed out with black paint by the censor. And when this martial postman handed you a letter, you treated him to liquor, and gave him copecks. I have seen the lowest order of police functionary—and the martial postman was first cousin to a *polizei*—seize Ivan Ivanovitch, if he offended him, by his ragged head, and beat him with his sword-belt about the mouth until he made it bleed. Whereas, in these degenerate days, I am told, a Russian gentleman who wears epaulettes, or a sword, is not allowed so much as to pull a droschky-driver's ears, or kick him in the small of the back, if he turns to the left instead of the right.—*Under the Sun.*

POSTAL SCRAPS.

A NOVEL LETTER-BOX.—In the Indian section of the Viennese Exhibition, was to be seen a stuffed tiger, ingeniously got up as a letter-box, and under the animal's half-open mouth was a placard, inscribed, "Shut at four o'clock, p.m."—the feeding time in the Zoological gardens.

THE PAPAL POSTAL SERVICE.—The Papal government has never been conspicuous for its fondness for progress, and its conservative habits appear even in its postal rates. Such as they were in 1816, such they remained, at any rate, until the issue of the series of postage stamps with decimal values. Until the end of the last century all the powers who were represented at Rome had their own couriers, and the local correspondence of the country was carried on by the nobles for their own profit. When the French invaded the States, they put an end to these manifold privileges, and established a uniform postal service, which was carried on by the government as in other countries. This service was continued by Pius VII. when he returned to Rome in 1814, and in 1816 he published a postal tariff which, as above stated, remained in use without any alteration until 1867, and perhaps until 1870, for we are not sure that the change in the denominations was accompanied by any modification in the rates.—*The Stamp-Collector's Magazine.*

THE ST. PETERSBURG POSTE RESTANTE IN 1856 was one of the oddest institutions imaginable. It was a prudent course to take your landlord, or some Russian friend, with you, to vouch for your respectability. In any case, you were bound to produce your passport, or rather your "permission to sojourn," which had been granted to you—on your paying for it—when the police at Count Orloff's had sequestered your Foreign-office passport. When divers functionaries were quite satisfied that you were not a forger of rouble notes, or an incendiary, or an agent for the sale of M. Herzen's *Kolokol*, their suspicions gave way to the most unbounded confidence. You were ushered into a large room; a sack of letters from every quarter of the globe was bundled out upon the table; and you were politely invited to try if you could make out anything that looked as though it belonged to you. I am afraid that, as a rule, I did *not* obtain the property to which I was entitled, and somebody else had helped himself to that which belonged to me. I wonder who got my letters, and read them, or are they still mouldering in the St. Petersburg Poste Restante?—*George Augustus Sala.*

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, a portion of *The Philatelist* is set apart each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Royal Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 18th of the month.
2. IF AN ADVERTISEMENT EXCEEDS 20 WORDS A CHARGE OF 6D. FOR EVERY ADDITIONAL 10 WORDS WILL BE MADE.
3. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.
4. *The Stamp Exchange* is intended for the use of amateur collectors only; notices from dealers cannot therefore be inserted.

E. T. HALL, High Street, Lewes, wants back numbers of *The Philatelist*. Good exchange given.

C. J. NICHOLSON, Oaklea, Wimbledon Park, has many stamps to exchange with collectors. Offers requested.

A. M. REIS, 21, Lord Street, Liverpool, has many scarce duplicates to exchange. He solicits selections from all parts.

S. L. JONAS, 16, Carlton Road, Kilburn, London, has many stamps to exchange with collectors. Offers requested.

L. BUFFETANT, 7, Rue Poulet, Paris, has many stamps to exchange with collectors. Wanted,—Colonials, fiscal stamps, and early issues.

B. G. BENTHAM, 5, Star Hill Terrace, Rochester, has a large number of duplicates (many rare), and wishes to correspond with other collectors at home and abroad.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

* * Correspondents sending specimens for inspection and return, are requested to enclose a stamped directed envelope.

H. S., Bristol.—The present Prince of Serbia came to the throne in consequence of the assassination of his predecessor, Michael Obrenovitch, in 1866. Only one series of stamps bearing his portrait has been issued as yet, but orders for a new series are said to have been given.—We should certainly collect both shades of the current 6 öre Swedish.

R. P., Faversham.—The embossed rectangular design you send us, printed in green and inscribed S. EXPRESS in upper margin and $\frac{1}{4}$ GROSCHEN in lower, is the envelope of the Saxon or Dresden Express. The Express never really did any postal work; the envelope was fabricated merely for sale, and has just the amount of interest which attaches to the memento of a rather unsuccessful swindle.



RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE public in general, if not the philatelic world, are taken by surprise at the appearance of the adhesive and card of which representations are annexed. An interesting article, copied from a

daily paper, gives in another place some details respecting their nature. The cuts are partial descriptions, and little remains but to name the colours, which are, brown of the same tint as that employed for the thick halfpenny post card (but in this instance on buff), for the penny-farthing card;



mauve or red-lilac of the hue employed for the 30 cents of the Straits Settlements for the twopenny-halfpenny adhesive. All our readers probably possessing one of the cards ere this sees the light, a description of the very elaborate frame, and the peculiar way in which the inscription is enclosed, is supererogatory. This pair, we presume, will be henceforth known as internationals.

GUATEMALA.

In addition to the adhesives, envelopes, and newsband chronicled last month, we have on view, by favour of M. de Joannis, a post card for the same republic. It is most elaborately designed, and carefully engraved. At least half the surface is occupied by a highly ornamental framework, of which no description could give an adequate idea, enclosing a similar head to that depicted on the stamps, &c., in an oval frame inscribed with value in words above and below, and numerals at sides. This is again enframed by a profusion of scroll ornamentation. *CARTAS POSTALES DE LA REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA*, garnished with flourishing lines, lie above and below this central bust, beneath which, on a small scroll, is *CORREOS DE GUATEMALA*. A label in the lower part of the frame informs the world that the Columbian Bank Note Company of Washington pride themselves on this production. Black on buff; cuartillo $\frac{1}{4}$ real.

CUBA.

A stamp, of which the following is a description, has been purported to be issued for the use of the insurgents in this island. They were prepared by the National Bank Note Company of New York, and con-

sequently, if beauty alone were considered, would claim admission into collectors' albums. Unfortunately, it is by no means certain that they have been or ever will be in postal employment. The centre of the stamp bears a shield, above which is the word *CORREOS*, and below *CENTAVOS*; numerals at each angle. A small band, labelled *REP. DE CUBA* divides the shield horizontally. A key separates two islands in the upper half; four diagonal stripes on one side and a palm tree on the other occupy the lower part. Green on white; perforated.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

A temporary lack of the lowest value has necessitated the surcharge of *ONE PENNY* in greenish yellow on the current twopenny.

SPAIN.

The long-expected Alfonso emission has not entered appearance at the date of our writing this. We have, however, to describe a 10 c. de peseta, type of the current of same value, arms of Spain. The stamps are of a full blue, almost ultramarine, and are imperforate. They may be proofs or essays.

VENEZUELA.

M. Moens announces a set of adhesives and envelopes for this republic now in course of preparation in New York.



SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Portraits of the two newly-issued adhesives for the Hawaiian Islands, described respectively at pages 50 and 72 of this volume, are here given for identification. Having just received supplies of these values from Honolulu, we find that the report of a 24 cent issue was a supposition



only. The 1 cent, head of Princess Victoria, is of a brighter hue than formerly.

SWITZERLAND.

The current large-sized post card is now printed not only with the omission of the words in *à a*, which formerly stood connected by a brace before the lower lines of direction, but totally bare of the framework which in most cases forms so tasteful an ornament to post cards. Its absence in our own embossed ones sadly detracts from their beauty.

BELGIUM.

The Belgian 25 centimes which is to appear with our magazine comes from the *atelier* of M. Doms. M. Wiener's essay was not accepted. The current post card has been seen of a rose-lilac tint. The next hue is expected to be bluish.

LUXEMBOURG.

M. Moens writes that an essay made by M. Bruck of that city for a newsband, having the type and colour of the 4 centimes impressed in a novel manner both on the right and left is likely to be adopted. The same gentleman's impressions of 2 c. black, 4 c. green, and 10 c. rose-

lilac, all perforated, have lately appeared. There is one good gained by the absence of framework, viz., the needless multiplication of varieties. The post cards of Luxembourg exemplify this; for the new cards of that Duchy show another change of pattern—interlacing triangles. They are now: 5 centimes, violet on bluish; 6 c., red on pinkish tint. The doubles are the same; hole-perforated at the line of juncture.

AUSTRIA.

Severe simplicity seems the order of the day in postal impressions; the 2 kreuzer Austrian newsband has been denuded of its coloured border.

UNITED STATES.

Mr. Chute informs us that the new stamped envelope for foreign international postage, five cents in value, is to bear the head of General Zachary Taylor. The equally necessary adhesive and the post card will probably show the same portrait.

This is an inadequate representative of one of the higher values of the newspaper stamps of the States described on page 17. We say, inadequate, because nothing but an impression from the original plate employed for this beautiful stamp could produce a fac-simile. "None but itself could be its parallel." The colour is a rich brown.



We have been shown specimens of the current 3 cents printed equally distinct on both sides, although gummed in the usual way. It appears there was a whole sheet of them, and it was possibly laid upon another not yet dry, pressed down thereupon, and thus unintentionally double-printed.

SUEZ CANAL COMPANY.

At page 20, we noted certain specimens purporting to be genuine issues of the Company, different in type from those usually seen in collections. We have had many of each type, both cancelled and otherwise, to compare; and by the kind assistance of a discriminating amateur, are enabled to point out the difference between the said exemplars, so far as can be managed without correct portraits for ocular inspection. What we term the received type, is that of which a few postmarked individuals may be seen in high-class collections, but of which there exist whole sheets of remainders that passed into the hands of a Parisian dealer. These have the blunted terminations of the triangles forming the spandrels much smaller than those of the other set. This is the most easily detected variation. The starry ornaments, right and left in the frame, show a broader white circle around the central dot in the newly-mentioned set than in the others. On the left of the left-hand, and on the right of the right-hand lower circles holding the value, may be remarked a curve ending in a sort of three-clawed hook. This claw is absent in the last-noted set; and there are other minor points of difference. We repeat that these latter come before us with first-rate references. One set is the property of a French gentleman, who declares he took them himself from the envelopes of letters; and

another was presented to one of our correspondents by an Egyptian official.

FINLAND.

An adhesive employed by the Steam Packet Company between Tavastehus and Tammerfors is figured and described in the Belgian magazine. It has been doing duty for these three years, though hitherto unchronicled. Oblong oval; representation of steamer, encompassed by frame containing inscription above, value below. The impression is red on white; the steamer and lettering, &c., appearing to be white on a red ground. Values, 10, 20, and 25 penni.

QUEENSLAND.

We have just been shown a new edition of the fourpenny adhesive of this colony. It is bright yellow, watermarked with a crown surmounting the letter Q.

THE GENERAL POSTAL UNION.



ON the first of July a reform will be inaugurated which, albeit quietly arranged and introduced, is none the less a great step towards closer intercourse between the nations of Christendom, and a notable improvement in Continental communications. The new rates agreed upon among the various countries which were represented at the Postal Conference held at Berne in last October will come into force, and a very considerable reduction will be made in the cost of transmitting letters, newspapers, patterns, documents, and cards. The International Conference in question attracted very little general notice while it was sitting, but the proceedings were from beginning to end business-like, and nearly every nation in Europe being present by deputy, a common postal basis was arrived at, which now includes the whole continent, with the temporary exception of France, whose financial circumstances obliged her to postpone until the beginning of next year her entry into the scheme. The United States and Egypt have further added themselves to this Postal Union, so that it is over a vast portion of the civilized globe that the reduction of rates will have effect, on and after the 1st of July. From that date a letter not exceeding half-an-ounce in weight can be sent to or from any of the European countries, Egypt, Iceland, the Faroe Islands, Madeira and the Azores, the United States, Malta, Turkey, and the Canary Islands, for twopence-halfpenny.* A post card will go or come over the same wide area for five farthings, and a newspaper not weighing more than four ounces for a penny; and for a penny the Continental public may also send anywhere printed papers, books, patterns, legal and commercial documents, share-lists, manuscripts, music-scores, photographs, and cards of business, up to the weight of two ounces. For fourpence sterling above and beyond the postal

* The writer is slightly misty here. Does he mean that Turkey is not a European country? Or does he include Asiatic Turkey among the beneficiaries? It must be further remembered that although Spain is quite willing to join the Confederation, letters passing thither through France, it will not be until New Year's Day next that the whole of Europe forms this grand Postal Union.—ED.

charge a letter may be registered to any of the European towns, cities, or villages, and double rates will be charged on delivery for such as have not been prepaid. Stamps of the value of twopence-halfpenny and foreign post cards with an impressed stamp of one penny farthing have already been prepared in this country for the international postal tariff, and we shall see what a large reduction has been effected if we recall a few of the charges now made upon a half-ounce letter destined for the various divisions of the European map. To Germany and the United States the existing rate is threepence; to Russia, Sweden, and Norway, fivepence; to Portugal and Italy, sixpence; to Egypt, tenpence; to Malta eightpence and one-and-fourpence; to the Canary Islands a shilling. The great mass of correspondence is transacted by ordinary letter and post card, and upon these, coming and going through Europe and to America, the Conference at Berne has succeeded in giving us the boon of a diminution, in all cases sensible, and in some very considerable indeed.

The chief merit, however, of this wide-spread benefit is its uniformity. In matters affecting public use this point is of an importance quite beyond exaggeration—for anything like uncertainty or variation will embarrass the letter-writing and message-sending millions far more than a little enhancement of charges. There are some methodical people who, when any change is announced in postal, telegraphic, and travelling matters, duly provide themselves with the official notification, and are always well informed. Out of the ranks of business these precise people are exceptional; the mass of mankind likes to have rules and regulations very plain, and will not be troubled to find out whether it costs a halfpenny more or less to send by way of this country or that. The soul of Rowland Hill's memorable reform was the uniform penny, and the Post-office soon found the enormous advantage of simplification; for it is a matter of history that in the first year of that reform the number of letters sprang from eighty-two millions to one hundred and seventy millions. By 1871 it was a thousand millions, and the last returns are yet more wonderfully demonstrative of the advantages of simplified charges. Now, twopence-halfpenny is simple; and, though we have no coin to represent it, there will be the international stamp, selling at half-a-crown the dozen; and anybody wanting to transmit a letter to any part of Christendom, as well as to Turkey and Egypt, will have no trouble in discovering the rates of postage, which have stopped so many letters hitherto; he will stick on the "international stamp," or write upon the penny-farthing post card, and so long as his missive avoids France it will go "like a bird." We cannot conceal from ourselves that hitherto "twopenny-halfpenny" has been an adjective of contumely and depreciation. Why it should have become a popular expression for disdain it is hard to understand, seeing that twopence is everywhere respectable enough, and a halfpenny useful in its way. But twopence-halfpenny must be revindicated! Under its international guise of twenty-five centimes, or the fourth of a franc, or a lira, it has become the first symbol of common interest and union between the countries of Europe, and "twopence-halfpenny"—all honour to it!—will have conciliated Christendom in a postal fraternization long before we see one religion, one meridian of longitude,

one international tribunal, or one coinage. It is a pity that France could not come into this excellent alliance of the Post-offices directly, but until she can the slight defection had best be left out of the general mind. It would only spoil the simplicity of the reform to dwell upon the fact that letters to France must pay as at present, and that letters by way of France will in certain cases be overcharged beyond the international rate. The natural and even desirable result of the temporary abstention of France is that nothing will go that way unless compelled; all the Alsace and Lorraine correspondence, for example, from England and the Continent will take its way by Strasbourg instead of Paris. The broad outcome of the change now announced is that the public may send a letter all over Europe and to the United States for a ten-farthings stamp, and a post card for five farthings, besides the liberal arrangements made for papers, books, patterns, and documents of all sorts.

No doubt the result of this diminution, and, above all, of this happy simplification of rate, will be an increase of correspondence and a commensurate enhancement of profit to the various Post-offices. The marvellous records of the postal services—one of the very greatest additions to human progress which modern times have made—all go to render it clear that every boon of this kind is instantly repaid by general public utilization. Wonderful, indeed, is the difference between the old times and the new in respect of that little-regarded but invaluable official the postman. Nothing in our days would have astounded an ancient statesman more than the organizations which give every man his messengers, and place the whole world within his reach. Prospero and Oberon could not boast a power greater than twopence-halfpenny will now bestow upon anybody and everybody, and "to think," as old Pepys would have murmured, that one hundred and thirty years ago there was a night when London only sent out one letter by the northern mail, and that to an Edinburgh banker named Ramsay! But the present tariff, though it will usefully stimulate international intercourse, and develop a countless number of links which a doubtful or heavy rate discourages, must not be regarded as final. We must come eventually to a uniform stamp and charge for all postal service throughout Civilization, and that at a lower tariff than here announced. Meanwhile, this present step is a welcome instalment of international reform, and will tend in no small degree to increase that interchange of trade and acquaintance which is silently weaving a chain of peace around the nations—often broken, but always repaired and always growing stronger.—*The Daily Telegraph.*

THE TIMBROLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FRANCE.

AT the sitting of May 13th, after some preliminary business, the President announced that he had met with the royal decree authorizing the establishment of M. de Vellayer's post, and that it would be found in a work he was on the point of publishing. The examination of French stamps was proceeded with, those of the 1870 republic being discussed.

Appropos of the four types of the Bordeaux 20 centimes, the President

mentioned that the first bore the initials A D of the master of the Bordeaux mint, and the characteristic letter B. The postal authorities having refused stamps thus marked, those initials were scratched out, and the plate thus modified was then employed. The examination of essays in his own collection confirmed this. The plate in question was accidentally broken, and another designed. These first impressions were therefore of tolerable rarity.

Some discussion ensued respecting the unlaureated 5 centimes on azured paper, whether it ought to come in at the date of employment or that of the stamp's emission, of which it is a mere variety. The latter opinion gained the majority.

On the subject of post cards, the Society's dictum is that the unstamped ones used by virtue of the decree of September 27, 1870, during the siege of Paris, by balloon-post, form an interesting fact, but not a special emission. Those for communication and reply are really the first French post cards, and not telegraphic.

The Society pronounces the place of the French colonials to be following those of the metropolis. Those of Reunion and New Caledonia to precede the general set. The next meeting was fixed for Thursday the 3rd of June. The stamps of Belgium to be studied.

ADDENDA TO DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF THE RUSSIAN LOCALS.

THE alphabetical list of these interesting emissions, commenced at page 110 of last year's volume, requires this appendix in consequence of many new issues and resuscitations which cropped up too late for insertion in due order. Certain individuals described in their proper places, having given place to successors, such changes necessitate notice. A summary, as brief as consistent with perspicuity, comprehending all appearances to the present date, will be consequently found useful, and is here given.

ACHTYRSK, pp. 120 and 135, vol. viii.—Green, 5 kopecks; blue, 5 k.

ALEXANDRIA, p. 121, vol. viii.—This spelling is given by a Russian correspondent. The second emission bears the additional word "District."

ALATEER, p. 135, vol. viii., and p. 78, vol. ix.

ARZAMASS, pp. 135 and 165, vol. viii.—Armazass on the latter page is a misprint. For carpenter's levels, *read* masonic squares.

ATKARSK, p. 135, vol. viii.

BELOZERSK, pp. 111, 121, and 181, vol. viii.—The first emission is inscribed "Rural Post of the village of Belozersk." The second bears the additional word "Rural."

BERDIANSK, p. 112, vol. viii.—Inscribed, "Rural Postage Stamp of Berdiansk."

BIEJETSK, p. 112, vol. viii.—Inscribed, "Stamp," the initials of Biejetsk and "Rural Post."

BOBROV, pp. 135 and 165, vol. viii.

BOGORODSK, p. 112, vol. viii.—Inscribed, "Village Post of the District of Bogorodsk."

BOGUTCHAR, p. 121, vol. viii.—Government of Voronej, not Woronetz. Inscription, "District of Bogutchar."

BORISOGLEBSK, p. 121, vol. viii.

BOROVITCHI, p. 121, vol. viii.—Inscription, "Rural Postage Stamp of Borovitchi."

BRONNITZI, p. 122, vol. viii.

CHARKOV, p. 122, vol. viii.—A St. Petersburg correspondent writes that this word and Cherson correctly spelt should commence with H not CH.

CHEREPOVETZ, p. 123, vol. viii.

CHERSON or HERSON, pp. 123 and 135, vol. viii.—Inscribed, "Rural Postage Stamp of the District of Cherson." The first and last two words are abbreviated in the rare 1st issue.

DANKOV, p. 137, vol. viii.

DEMIANSK, p. 123, vol. viii.

- DMITRIEV, p. 123, vol. viii.
 DMITROV, p. 124, vol. viii.
 DNIÉPROVSK, p. 124, vol. viii.
 DOUCHOVCHETSCHINA, p. 181, vol. viii, and p. 19, vol. ix.
 EGORIEV, p. 137, vol. viii.—The central inscription is "Village Postage Stamp," that on the frame is "Rural Administration of the District of Egoriev."
 EKATERINOSLAV, p. 137, vol. viii.
 ELETZ, pp. 137, vol. viii., and 72 and 78 vol. ix.—Our St. Petersburg correspondent spells it thus.
 ELIZAVETGRAD, p. 137, vol. viii.
 FATEJH, p. 138, vol. viii.
 GDOV, p. 138, vol. viii.
 GLASOV, p. 78, vol. ix.
 GRIASOVETZ, p. 138, vol. viii.
 KADNIKOV, p. 139, vol. viii.
 KASIMOV, p. 79, vol. ix.
 KAZAN, p. 139, vol. viii.—The inscription is literally "Stamped envelope of the village post of Kazan."
 KIRILOV, p. 139, vol. viii.
 KOLOMNA, p. 139, vol. viii.—Inscribed, "Village post of the Kolomna District."
 KOTELNITCH, p. 139, vol. viii.
 KOZELETZ, p. 141, vol. viii.
 KRAPIVNA, p. 141, vol. viii.—Our St. Petersburg correspondent argues the central device to be a spray of nettles, the name of the village having that signification.
 LIVNI, p. 141, vol. viii.
 LOUGA, p. 141, vol. viii.—Inscription, "Rural Post of the District of Louga."
 MALMYCHE, p. 181, vol. viii., and pp. 19 and 51, vol. ix.
 MALOARCHANGEL, p. 156, vol. viii.
 MARIUPOL, p. 156, vol. viii.—The circular inscription reads, "Rural Postage Stamp of Mariupol."
 MELITOPOL, p. 157, vol. viii.—The first issue is inscribed "Rural Post of Melitopol;" the second has the additional word "Stamp."
 NOLINSK, p. 157, vol. viii., and p. 78, vol. ix.—Of the two types described on the latter page, one is imagined to be an early issue, but does not correspond with that first described in 1871. The order of the (apparently) eight types has not yet been ascertained.
 NOVAYA LADOGA, pp. 135 and 169, vol. viii, and p. 19, vol. ix.
 NOVGOROD, p. 158, vol. viii.
 OCHANSK, p. 180, vol. viii.
 ORGIEV, pp. 135 and 169, vol. viii, and p. 72 vol. ix.—The spelling of this word and Novaya is from our St. Petersburg correspondent.
 OSTROV, p. 79, vol. ix.
 OUSTSISOLSK, pp. 170 and 180, vol. viii, and 5 and 79, vol. ix.—The later emissions bear the inscription, "Rural Postage Stamp of Oustsisolsk."—"3 kopecks the packet," in the centre.
 PAVLOGRAD, pp. 135 and 170, vol. viii.
 PEREYASLAV, p. 170, vol. viii., and p. 78, vol. ix.—The inscription is incorrect on both pages. It should be "Stamp of Pereyaslav Village Post." It may be, that "village" implies a less circuit than "rural." The two words may be easily recognised on a stamp, by noticing that the former commences with a roman c (the Russian s), and the latter with the character which means z, but looks very much like the numeral 3.
 PERESLAV ZALESKI, p. 170, vol. viii.
 PERM, p. 171, vol. viii.
 PIRYATIN, p. 171, vol. viii.—The inscription on this local is peculiar, reading "Stamp of Piryatin Rural Village Post." Rural Village would appear tautological; but we must take it for granted that some meaning is intended. There is a contradiction in terms in the description of this very rare stamp in the catalogue. It should have commenced, For some time nothing was known, &c.
 PODOLSK, p. 171, vol. viii.
 PSKOV, p. 172, vol. viii.—We have a specimen of this stamp duly postmarked on the original envelope, *without* the addition of any government stamp; thus proving the incorrectness of an assertion that the Russian locals never do duty alone. We have also one of the printed official receipts employed to verify the correspondence passing through the rural district of Pskov.
 RJEV, pp. 5 and 26, vol. ix.—The inscriptions are, "Rural Post of Rjev."
 ROSTOV ON DON, p. 172, vol. viii.—Inscribed "rural," *not* "village," same as the preceding.
 RYASAN, p. 172, vol. viii.
 SAPOJOK, p. 26, vol. ix.
 SARATOV, p. 136, vol. viii., and pp. 5 and 26, vol. ix.
 SCHATZ, p. 27, vol. ix.
 SCHLUSSELBURG, p. 27, vol. ix.
 SHADRIN, p. 27, vol. ix.—Inscription, "Rural Post of Shadrin."
 SKOPIN, p. 27, vol. ix.
 SOUMY, p. 28, vol. ix.—(Incorrect); corrected p. 42, vol. ix.
 SYZRAN, p. 28, vol. ix.
 TAMBOV, p. 43, vol. ix.
 TCHERN, pp. 43 and 72, vol. ix.
 TICHVIN, pp. 43, 51, and 78, vol. ix.—Notice corrected dates of issue on the latter page.

TIRASPOL, p. 44, vol. ix.—Inscribed, "Tiraspol Administration Rural District." We have it in two shades of blue; they form distinct varieties, because not only is the tint of the paper different, but the whiter hue is backed by a darker yellow gum than the other.

TOROPETZ, p. 44, vol. ix.—Inscribed, "Village Post of Toropetz."

TOULA, p. 44, vol. ix.

TVER, pp. 19 and 45, vol. ix.

TSHEMBAR, pp. 44 and (figured) 51, vol. ix.—This local was issued May 1, 1874.

The inscription is "Tschambar Rural Stamp."

VALDAI, p. 45, vol. ix.

VASIL, p. 45, vol. ix.

VERCHNYE DNYEPROVSK, p. 45, vol. ix.—The first issue is rectangular; nearly square. It is inscribed with the Russian equivalent for "Village." The oblong stamp has "Rural."

VESVEGONSK, p. 46, vol. ix.

VOLTCHANSK, p. 46, vol. ix.

WENDEN (Livonia), pp. 46 and 52 (figured p. 71), vol. ix.

THE SPUD PAPERS; OR, NOTES ON PHILATELIC WEEDS.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EARLÉ.

XLIX.

WE are improving;—that is to say, the forgers are. I have two sets of counterfeits to lay before our readers this month, which are executed in a tolerably respectable manner. Perhaps, of the two sets, that for Cuba is the better;—our friends, Messrs. Spiro, have caught the expression (such as it is) of Don Amadeo very well;—but, though I am able to say so much in their favour, I fancy they will not be found dangerous forgeries.

British Honduras.

1865-72; 1d., 3d., 6d., AND 1s.

Genuine.—Engraved in *épargne* on slightly *glacé* paper; perf. 14; watermark, crown and cc. The frames all vary slightly, but the head has only two types, one for the 1d., 6d., and 1s., and the other for the 3d., which was issued later than the others. The hair covers a good portion of the eye-brow. The lettering does not touch the boundary-lines anywhere. There is a very distinct buckle to the garter in all the stamps, differing slightly for each value. The nose is straight in the 3d., but somewhat aquiline in the others. The top of the fleur-de-lis towards the back of the head just touches the arch of the crown above it in all the values. The stamps, as a rule, are very good specimens of *épargne* engraving (typograph), but occasionally we find copies of the 1d. slightly blurred, and not so well printed, the fault being with the printers, not with the artist.

Forged.—Lithographed, on unsurfaced paper; perf. 13; no watermark, un gummed. The head is the same in all the values, with a moderately straight nose. The 1d., 6d., and 1s., have the large square buckle of the genuine 1d., and the 3d. has no buckle at all. The word PENNY or PENCE touches the outer boundary-line of the garter in the lower values. The two little ornamental stops between the name and value are alike in all, being copies of the genuine 1d. In the genuine they are all different. The *cross pattée* in front of the crown just touches the boundary of the shaded oval, as also do the orb at the top, and the bunch of hair at the back. In the genuine they none of them touch the boundary.



POSTMARKS.

Genuine.—Like our own, with a 0 6 by way of central numerals.

Forged.—Four concentric circles, like the old Baden, Transvaal, &c.

I would suggest to my young friends to read this paper, before they invest in British Honduras; as it may obviate a loss both of money and temper.

Cuba.

1873; 12½, 25, 50 C., AND 1 PESETA.

These stamps will probably become comparatively rare after a time, so that there is more likelihood of young collectors being deceived by them. I say comparatively rare; because, owing to the dealers' custom of laying in large stocks of all new stamps directly they are issued, no stamps of the present day can become *very* rare. Twenty years ago, stamps might be in existence years before collectors ever heard of them; but now, what with magazines, dealers, and energetic amateurs, "*on a changé tout cela*," and we now usually have timely notice of emissions before they take place. But, as the stamps under discussion were not long in circulation, they will never be very common, and therefore, there is more chance of our young friends being sold by the counterfeits.

Genuine.—Engraved in *épargne*; perf. 14. The *v*, and the final *x* of **ULTRAMAR** touch the outer frame, but none of the letters touch the outline of the central medallion, though they are very close to it. The end of the moustache, on the left side of the face, is split into two points. The outline of the central medallion is formed of small horizontal lines set very close together, except just above the head, where it is one single line. The edge of the linen collar is formed of two lines. The embroidery on the collar of the uniform has a design in the centre looking like a monogram of the letters *wc*. The outline of the neck, between the ear and the collar, is formed of short horizontal lines.

Forged.—Lithographed; perf. 13. Most of the letters of **ULTRAMAR** touch the outline of the oval. The moustache ends in a single point on each side. The outline of the central medallion is formed of one single line. The edge of the collar is also single, except where it touches the beard. The embroidery on the collar of the uniform is very indistinct. The outline of the neck is one single vertical line. The postmark on the forgeries is somewhat like our own, without the central figures. The colours are tolerably like those of the genuine. The small piece of flesh in the inner corner of each eye is very large and distinct in the forgeries, but it is scarcely visible in the genuine stamps.



A PROTEST BY THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY, NEW YORK.

AT a regular meeting of the National Philatetical Society, held at the Cooper Institute, in the City of New York, on the 19th day of May, 1875, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, it has been announced by the United States Post-office

Department that it is prepared to furnish, at face value, specimens of all its obsolete issues of adhesive postage stamps, and,

Whereas, upon a careful examination and comparison of the stamps so furnished with original copies, it plainly appears that some of said stamps, as now offered for sale by the Government, are entirely dissimilar in type, style, dimensions, paper, and colour from said originals, and have every appearance of having been recently prepared from new plates, and are liable to mislead innocent persons into the belief that they are original impressions, and,

Whereas, this reprinting and reproducing (being ostensibly for the aid of collectors) is wholly uncalled for by such collectors, and entirely fails to meet the wants of any philatelic student worthy of the name, but can only result mischievously and to the detriment of those engaged in preserving genuine specimens of rare and obsolete stamps.

Therefore, be it resolved, that we strongly protest against this action on the part of the Post-office Department, as tending to throw discredit on collections already formed, and as destroying the interest and pleasure which all true collectors feel in gathering the postage stamps of the different governments.

JESSE K. FURLONG, *President.*

R. R. BOGERT, *Secretary.*

OUR FOREIGN CONTEMPORARIES.



RESS of matter and other circumstances have necessitated the neglect of our accustomed notices of the foreign magazines. Three months' accumulations lie on hand, and must be briefly acknowledged. The April, May, and June numbers of *Le Timbre-Poste* teem as usual with representations and descriptions of novelties, some being new issues, some merely varieties. They contain the proceedings of the French Society, which will be found condensed in our own publication. An article in another journal, disparaging the German envelopes "made to order," is well answered, and those impressions placed on a like footing with our own, which are obtainable only in the same way. The Argentine local is treated as it deserves, and its concoctor exposed. The June number has an article on the documentary history of the Portuguese Indian emissions, and accounts for the rarity of the Persians by the statement that the stamps are not sold to the public, but affixed by the officials alone. They consequently cannot reach the philatelic market in an uncanceled state.

The numbers of *La Gazette des Timbres* for the same months being almost confined to the cataloguing of postals and fiscals, do not call for much notice. A warning against certain current reprints of the rare 12 and 18 kreuzer Baden envelopes is valuable. These said rarities were first reprinted in 1867; but that reimpression is distinguishable by the gum on the flaps, which is more regular than the mere patch upon the originals. The later semi-swindles imitate in some degree the verities; but the gum in lieu of being almost white, is very dark. Finally the seal impression is not the original engine-turned chignon; but the conventional rose of the later issues. A page of the June number contains further discussion upon "envelopes to order."

L'Ami des Timbres, like the preceding, is crammed, but even more fully, with portraits and descriptions of postals and fiscals; so much so, that, in the May number, even the usual account of the Parisian meeting is crowded out.

The American Journal of Philately, from February to May, continues the Overy Taylor chronicles; also C. H. C.'s interesting history of the United States locals; and the latter number has that writer's "Caution to Collectors," viz., an exposure of the reprints—some of which are merely titular, being from altered plates—dishonourably sanctioned by the Government of the States. New issues, correspondence, and other matter, pertinent and otherwise to philately, render the whole publication readable and useful to collectors. The story of the millionaire convict might have been omitted, being in the former category; but the Adventures of a Letter, and some clippings, are worth perusal. A reply to a correspondent, who was evidently wishful to form a collection in the go-ahead style, acquaints him that a *complete* one cannot be formed in a month or two. We would recommend that Philadelphian amateur to ask some of our leading collectors how long they have been adding to the contents of their albums and whether they are yet anything like complete.

The American Philatelic Circular (Chicago), *The Stamp Advocate* (Toronto), and *The Coin and Stamp Journal* (Kansas City), prove the demand for postal periodicals in America. The latter is amusing with the information that our halfpenny post cards with Queen's head embossed were issued for the especial use of the nobility, and those with the mauve stamp impressed, for the plebian (*sic*) or common people! Absurd as this statement appears, and false as we know it to be, we have never yet heard the real intent and purport of the embossed cards in question.

The Kansas journal comprehends numismatics and philately; considerably more than three-quarters of its space being devoted to the former. A short notice, which we copy elsewhere, and a discussion on the word Philately, are nearly all the postal matter. A correspondent, having vainly rummaged the classical dictionaries to find the word, suggests a substitute, Semiography, from two Greek words signifying respectively "stamp," and "writing or description." The editor modestly replies that the word having been now in use some time, and adopted by something like a hundred journals, it would take a more influential paper than his to effect a substitution. He appends a friend's interpretation, which approaches the truth. For the etymology, according to the inventor of the word itself, we refer that gentleman to *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, vol. iii., p. 182.

The April number of the German *Allgemeiner Briefmarken-Anzeiger* published in Hamburg has nearly three portions of its space filled with advertisements and part of a love story. The rest calls for no especial notice.

The Leipzig *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* holds much more interesting matter. Novelties with illustrations, a good paper on the early Sardinian envelopes, the old old story of the Connell stamp of New Brunswick, a paper on Saxon and Prussian essays, articles by Dr. Moschkau, &c: show the value of this publication, whose June number

completes a year and a-half. The numerous advertisements emanating from Amsterdam, Brunswick, Copenhagen, Altona, Lubeck, Hamburg, Vienna, Bucharest, Cassel, Berlin, Dusseldorf, Brussels, Modena, Turin, Bologna, New York, and other parts of America, attest the wide spread of philately.

HUMOURS OF POST-OFFICE NAMES.

THE poverty of the American mind in inventing names for post-offices is a national grievance. We have been amused, in looking over the list of post-offices in the United States, by the frequent recurrence of favourite names, which have sometimes a significance, and sometimes none at all. It is reasonable to suppose that there would be a desire to compliment favourite public men by naming towns for them. We are not surprised to find that Washington has 39 post-offices named after him; Warren, 40; Scott, 26; Taylor about the same number, to say nothing of 16 Buena Vistas; Grant, 38; Sherman, 21; Sheridan, 15; Clinton, 47; Colfax, 13; Cresswell, 9; and so on. Though why there should be 20 Butlers we shall not undertake to say. It is only a slim compliment to the discoverer of the country, and as little as we could do for him, after Vespucci stole the name of the whole country, to call 54 offices after him; and certainly it was no more than right that the author of *Childe Harold* should be complimented by 11 Byrons. If there are 21 Columbus, and 33 more named for Columbus in one shape or another, Dayton could not possibly get along with less than 20. And, speaking of peace in the family, it is perfectly proper to call 27 post-offices by the name of "Concord," in order to secure that favourite old family luxury. So, also, we have 19 Bethels. But why should we have 20 Burlingtons; or 26 Berlins; 55 beginning with Brown, 60 beginning with Brook, and 61 with Buck? The national bird is rather shabbily treated in having but 48 "Eagles," while there are 60 "Elks." In view of the prevalence of games which are not understood, it is not a large misuse of the word "Green" to attach it to 221 post-offices. And, since we are on the subject of green, the word "Forest" seems peculiarly appropriate for Western towns, unless they happen to be on the prairie—so 53 is small enough a number for them. In the same line of thought, we have 110 "Fort" something-or-other; and 111 "Fair" places; 119 "Pleasant" in one way or another; and 628 begin with the appropriate descriptive term "New." The points of the compass are not forgotten—414 places are "East" something; 519 "North;" 396 "South;" and 581 "West." By this happy thought the poverty-stricken intellect is enabled to multiply indefinitely all the other names which have gone before, even without drawing on such reserves as "Middle," "Upper," "Lower," and the like. If it were not for these last, nothing could save us from such infliction as "Southeast by South" Columbus, and "East Southeast" Columbus, and so on until we had completely "boxed the compass." Another resource is to tack on "C. H." The seasons are very unequally treated. There are 17 places named after "Summer;" 149 after "Spring;" 21 after "Fall," nearly all of which are named after falling water rather than the season; and "Winter" has but 12,

including all that are named after old man Winter. The timbers are better treated. "Walnut" has 41; "Oak" 148; and so on. The "Saints" have 198 places called after them—the sinners none at all. There are only eight post-offices beginning with X, and they are all Xenia. There are 56 beginning with Q, of which 16 are "Quincy" and 8 "Quaker." California is ahead of all other States in the odd names—as, for example: "Bulliona," "Yankee Hill," "Angel's Camp," "Copperopolis," "Railroad Flat," "Point of Timber," "Happy Camp," "Fair Play," "Grizzly Flats," "Indian Diggings," "Slippery Ford," "Zem Zem," "Rough and Ready," "You Bet," "Grizzly Bear House," "Yankee Jim's," and so on, leaving out the quaint and curious Spanish names. The readers of Bret Harte's latest story, in "Scribner," will hardly be prepared to hear that its location, "Fiddletown," is a *bona-fide* California post-office.

Of all the post-offices, there are very few that are singular in the use of their names. One is reasonably sure of being unique under the name of Quonochontaug (Rhode Island), though even the name of Comly has a post-office in Pennsylvania, the emoluments of which are put down in the Blue Book at the princely sum of twelve dollars per annum. After this no one can feel safe. At the most unexpected moment some desperate cross-roads may seize upon his name for a post-office.—*American Paper.*

POSTAL SCRAPS.

PIGEON POST.—The *Graphic* says that in France carrier pigeons, as means of conveying intelligence, continue to attract more and more attention, and a tower seventy-five feet high has been erected in the Paris Jardin d'Acclimatation as the head-quarters for the carriers used for conveying despatches.

A CAUTION.—Pause, rash youth, if you are in the habit of removing the postage stamp from your sweet-heart's letter and pressing the under side of the stamp to your lips under the rapturous delusion that the honeyed labials gave it adhesion to the envelope—oh, pause, for Williams of the Norristown *Herald*, detected at the Post-Office the other morning his lady love's coachman applying the stamp to the last letter she sent him. So perishes for ever another of love's young dreams.—*Danbury News.*

THE CHARGE FOR PRINTING THE UNITED STATES OFFICIAL STAMPS.—The investigation into the alleged overcharge by the New York Bank Note Companies for the printing of the United States Government official postage stamps, after the abolition of the franking privilege, is being conducted by the House Postal Committee. Carpenter, an expert from Philadelphia, was examined as to the cost of engraving dies, &c., and his testimony went to show that the companies in question

were paid nearly twice as much as they were entitled to lawfully. The bargain, which seems to have been a very corrupt one, was made while Creswell was Postmaster-General.

A NEW STAMP FIRM.—Mr. Jewell, the Postmaster-General of the United States, recently sent out a printed circular, stating that sets of specimen postage stamps would be furnished at their face value, and the Washington *Star* asserts he received a letter from a physician in Brooklyn which reads thus:

Messrs. Jewell & Co.

GENTS: Enclosed find ten cents—please send me a circular or something by which I can obtain a knowledge of your business. I understand you are issuing P.O. stamps. I have a partial set and would like to complete it. Any information you may give will be thankfully received.

The letter was addressed to "Mr. Jewell, Stamp Dealer, Washington, D.C."

HEAVY POSTAL EXPENSES.—Alexander von Humboldt, the painstaking traveller, was equally painstaking as a correspondent. Up to the age of eighty-six he conducted his own correspondence, which was an enormous one, in his own person. On account of his position at the Court of Berlin, he was made the recipient of letters, not only from scientific men, but from all sorts and conditions of men. From his own country, from Italy, France, England, America, he was bombarded with letters. He received an average every year of over three thousand, and answered two thou-

sand, his account for stamps running up to 500 or 600 thaler—£75 to £90—a year.

—*The Printers' Register.*

THE HELSINGFORS LOCAL POST.—At some unascertained date a private association obtained the necessary authority to establish a local post-office at Helsingfors, and it would appear to have begun issuing stamps in 1866. From the account of the postal service given by M. Moens in 1866, it consists in the delivery of letters and packets within the town of Helsingfors, which, as most of our readers are aware, is an important commercial town. The company has its letter-boxes scattered through the town, whence the letters are collected five times per day, and delivered from house to house; in short, its operations resemble to some extent those of the second-class American local posts.—*The Stamp-Collector's Magazine.*

HOW LETTERS SOMETIMES MISCARRY.

—A prominent American shipping house owning a fleet of European steamers were daily in receipt of letters from the West containing money for passage tickets to be forwarded to Ireland. They frequently complained of the loss of their letters, positively assuring the Postmaster that one of their own firm received their letters. Special Agent Holbrook worked on the case day and night, but was baffled at every turn. One day he followed the young member of the firm after he had received the letters for the firm. It was raining, and the merchant's umbrella rested on his head, the handle being supported between his arm and breast. On his way to the store, Holbrook saw the letters go from one side pocket into the other, and the torn fragments of some of them flutter into the street. These Holbrook picked up hastily while following his victim. The latter entered the office soon after the clerk had passed in, and inquired for the senior member of the house. On asking permission to investigate the matter, he was asked who he was and by what right he interfered with their business. "I am the Special Agent of the Post-office Department," Holbrook replied, "and there"—pointing to the young man—"is the culprit, with the money in his vest pocket, and here are the fragments of the letters from which the moneys were abstracted." The offender was a nephew of the head of the house, and, of course, the matter was hushed up.—*The New-York Times.*

THE REIGNING KING OF THE SANDWICH ISLANDS, though not of the Royal Kamehameha stock, was in rank fully equal to the late King. He is about forty years old, and has held many high offices

of State. He was a member of the House of Nobles, and at one time chamberlain to Kamehameha V. Intellectually, he is said to be very much inferior to his predecessor, Lunailo, and far less qualified to perform the duties of a ruler. His Majesty received a "good common-school education." He is identified with what is called the party of reaction: he is firmly opposed to any interference with the independence of the kingdom, and, consequently, is against annexation to the United States. This fact makes him popular with the natives, and also with the great body of foreign residents. Kalakua is descended from the celebrated Keiwikiwi-Wikau, one of whose privileges was to have lighted torches carried before him in daytime. His grandfather, Kainahawa, had the misfortune to poison his wife in 1841, and "expiated his offence on the gallows," or was, in plain English, hanged for murder. Kamehameha III., who was on terms of intimate friendship with the murderer, was rather reluctant to allow the sentence to be carried out; but Captain Wilkes, who happened to be at the island at the time with the vessels of the United States Exploring Expedition, having been consulted, the result of the gallant officer's opinion was that the law was allowed to take its course. King David Kalakua is married to the widow of the uncle of Queen Emma, but has no children, and is considered peculiar in his habits.—*The New York Herald.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

DISCREPANCIES IN POSTAGE-STAMP CATALOGUES.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR—The two descriptive lists of Gray and Pemberton, published almost simultaneously in England, as guides to collectors, should, from the authority of the names of their authors, be considered as standards, and contain the latest and most accurate information to be obtained about postage stamps, yet I found, on the careful comparison my leisure has at last enabled me to make, that there were a great many differences which could not be attributed to different systems of cataloguing. Comparing these, again, with the list of M. Moens, the latest complete French authority, and embodying the result in a tabular form, I hope by calling attention to these differences to get these matters discussed and cleared up. At present, however, I confine myself to the following points with regard to the stamps of the following countries of Europe, using the abbreviations of P. for Pemberton's *Hand-*

Book, G. for Gray's sixth edition, and M. for Moens' 4th edition.

- BADEN**, Second type and 3rd series, small perforations, P. & M. 1861, G. 1860.
 " Third type, white ground, P. omits the 3 kr.
BAVARIA, Second type and 2nd series, 12 kr., P. 1854, G. 1858, M. 1850.
 " Ditto, 18 kr., P. 1858, G. 1854, M. 1850.
BERGDORF, Both issues, P. 1862, G. & M. 1861.
BREMEN, 2 grote, yellow or orange, P. gives it *imp.*, G. & M. do not.
BRUNSWICK, Head, 1862, 1 s. gr., yellow on white, P. gives it *imp.*, G. & M. do not.
 " Small oval on envelopes, P. & M. 1866, G. 1865.
DENMARK, Dotted ground, 2nd issue, 16 sk., P. 1853, M. & G. 1857.
THURN AND TAXIS, $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr., black on white, P. & M. 1864, G. 1862.
 " " P. omits the series of grs. and krs., rouletted on lines.
NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION, P. omits the rouletted series.
HAMBURG, 3 kr., blue, P. 1865, G. & M. 1859.
 " $2\frac{1}{2}$, straight labels, G. perf. and *imp.*, P. & M. only perf.
 " N. G. Confederation issue, G. perf. and rouletted, P. only perf.
HANOVER, Cover of May, 1849, blue, value 3 pf. P., 5 pf. G. & M.
 " Cover of May, 1849, black, value 3 pf. P., omitted by G. & M.
 " The 3 gr., yellow, 1859, & 10 gr., green, 1861, does P. give them perf.?
 " Envelopes, issues of 1861 and 1863 not distinguished from 1858, P.
HELIGOLAND, 1st issue, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, and 6, M. 1869, perf. $1\frac{1}{2}$, omitted by G. & P.
 " 1st issue 1873, $\frac{1}{2}$ sch., green frame, given as an error by P.
 " 1st issue 1873, $\frac{1}{2}$ sch., red frame, given as an error by G.
ITALY, Present issue, G. & M. 1863, P. 1864.
 " Altered 20, G. & M. 1864, P. 1865.
LUBECK, 1st issue, P. & M. 1857, G. 1859
MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN, 4-4ths white ground, P. 1864, G. & M. 1865.
 " " Envelope, 3, orange, 1864, P. & M., omitted by G.
 " " Stamp, 2 sk., lilac, and 5 sk., stone, P. *imp.* and perf., G. & M. perf. only.
NORWAY, 3rd series, 4 sk., P. 1864, G. & M. 1863.
 " " " 2 sk., P. & G. 1865, M. 1863.
 " " " 3 sk., P. & G. 1866, M. 1863.
 " 4th " 1872, 2, blue, G. & M., omitted by P.
OLDENBURG, 1st issue, P. & G. 1852, M. 1851, the $\frac{1}{2}$ G. 1855.
 " 2nd issue, P. & M. 1858, G. 1860.
 " 3rd issue, P. & M. 1860, G. 1861.
PRUSSIA, 1st issue, 6 pf., orange, P. & M. 1850, G. 1856.
 " 1st issue, 4 pf., green, P. & M. 1850, G. 1856.
 " Envelopes, 1st issue, 3 gr., P. buff, G. & M. orange and yellow.
PORTUGAL, 1871, 240 reis, G., omitted by P. & M.
SARDINIA, 3rd issue, embossed on colour, P. 1855, G. & M. 1854.
 " 4th " head only embossed, 5, 20, and 40, P. 1856, G. 1858, M. 1855.
 " 4th issue, head only embossed, 10 & 80, P. & G. 1858, M. 1857.
 " 4th issue, head only embossed, perf., P. & M. 1863, G. 1862.
SCHLESWIG, $1\frac{1}{2}$, green, 1864, of G. & M., given as $\frac{1}{2}$ by P.
 " $1\frac{1}{2}$, lilac, 1856, of G. & M., given as rose by P.

SPAIN, the 25, 50, 100, & 200, P. 1868, G. & M. 1869.

" The 4 mil. Liberty head, 1870, and Amadeo colours changed, 1873, omitted by P.

TUSCANY, 1849, crown watermark on white paper, omitted by P.

TURKEY, 1st issue, P. 1862, G. 1863.

WURTEMBERG, 3rd issue, no threads, P. & M. 1858, G. 1860.

" Rouletted, P. & M. 1866, G. 1865, and omits 18 kr.

" Returned-letter label, P. & M., *imp.* and rouletted, 1857, G. 1862 and 67.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN K. TIFFANY.

Saint Louis, U.S.A.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

* * Correspondents sending specimens for inspection and return, are requested to enclose a stamped directed envelope.

W. K. & CO., Ipswich.—Your card is returned as desired.

B. M. E. W., New York.—Newspaper cuttings received with best thanks.

V. M. T., Cranford.—We cannot appraise fiscals, knowing little of their value. They are priced in the French and Belgian magazines.

W. P. P., Hammersmith.—The experience of six years has led to the supposition that it is quite possible to change the colour of many stamps by a chemical application, so cleverly as to leave no trace of the original hue.

P. S. A., Aberdeen.—Mr. Tiffany's catalogue of stamp publications is only printed for private circulation.—The latest edition of M. Moens' catalogue of postals and fiscals includes an appendix of issues up to the early part of the present year. Price 3 francs.

J. Y.—There is no agent for *Le Timbre-Poste* in London. It can be easily procured direct from the publisher at Brussels. The price of a single number is 5d., post paid. Except those of the 1st and 2nd volumes, we believe any of the back numbers of the Bath magazine can be had at the published price.

T. W. CHAPLIN, Port Elizabeth.—We have to acknowledge the design for a post-card album sent by this gentleman. It is very much of the nature of a photographic album, the cards being slipped in after a similar manner, and thus easily exposing both sides to view. He has taken considerable trouble to make his plan understood; and it seems to have but one drawback, and that is, the unwieldy size of such a book, unless there were several volumes. He places transparent paper over each specimen, presumably to keep the contents clean; but we should think the closed volume would answer that purpose.



THE PHILATELIST.

RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS.

JAPAN.

AT page 136, vol. ix., are quoted certain values printed from the current plates, but of altered hues. Additional to those there chronicled is the 20 sen vermilion-red, formerly lilac, a specimen of which has been kindly forwarded by a correspondent. The type very closely resembles its predecessor, but the size does not exceed that of the 1 sen of same date.

JAMAICA.

The description of the pair of novelties for this island chronicled last



month runs thus: broad rectangles; Queen Victoria's laurelled head to left in beaded circle, JAMAICA POSTAGE above, value in words below, in colour on white; triangular spandrels. Red-brown, value 2 shillings. Similar, not identical head in beaded



octagon, spandrel; like inscription in straight bands above and below. Lilac, value 5 shillings. Both stamps impressed in colour on white, and perforated. Watermarked cc. and crown.

ANTIOQUIA.

It is now nearly seven years since the first set of this state was described at one of the early meetings of the Philatelic Society. Three or four more have followed in quick succession, and another set must now be chronicled from the description given by M. Roussin. Rectangular; imperforate; coloured impression on white. CORREOS DE ANTIOQUIA above, COLOMBIA and arms below the words of value on a bandeau; numerals of value at each angle *reversed*. Black, 1 centavo.

Same inscription differently disposed; above and below same arms surmounted by nine stars; numerals at angles. Blue, 2½ c. Inscription and value on coloured bands above and below profile of Liberty in circle flanked by numerals. This ugly stamp does not bear the word COLOMBIA like the preceding, but has LIBERTAD in minute letters across the bandeau of the head. Light green, 5 c. The next is totally unlike any previous type of the States of Colombia. Three-quarter portrait of some individual with an enormous nose, in centre supported by flags; name above, value below; numerals at angles. Lilac, 10 c.

CUBA, &c.

Simultaneously with this magazine are expected to appear a set for the Spanish West Indies; type similar to that for the Philippines figured at page 112, vol. ix., except that the inscription ULTRAMAR 1876 replaces the name on the said stamps. The colours will correspond with those of the parent country.

URUGUAY.

Le Timbre-Poste describes post cards for this republic. Within a frame composed of double serpentine lines are found above, the words TARJETA CORRESPONDENCIA in a straight line; arms beneath; lower down CORRESPONDENCIA in a curve. There are two lines for the address, and a square marked out for the stamp. A notice below announces the side reserved for writing. In the reply cards, which are joined above, the curved word CORRESPONDENCIA is replaced by the words CONTESTATION PAGA. Mauve on yellowish or deep buff, olive (deep), and rose-grey, for simple correspondence. The same colour on pale olive and rose-grey, and deep buff for communication and reply.

RUSSIAN LOCALS.

Ananiev.—A slight change has taken place with regard to the stamp for this district described at page 151 of vol. ix. The circular inscription remains as before; but some of the words in the centre are abbreviated. Die printed, colour on white as before. Shades of blue, 5 kop.

Kazan.—The once unattainable (perfect) envelope of this district is now found in two sizes, of which the flap is differently cut. Manuscript inscription (two sorts) on the lower flap. Blue on greyish paper, 6 kop.

Maloarchangelsk.—We have been shown a successor to the miserably-printed almost indecipherable type first chosen for this place. It is circular, having the value within a circular inscription.

Tiraspol.—In the same collection we noticed a new emission for this place also. It appears to be an official stamp. Type as before; but the inscription reads "Stamp for official packets, gratis." Lithographed on white, red impression.

CANADA.

In the February number was reported the preparation of a design for two stamps for registered letters of the respective values of 2 and 4 cents. After the lapse of so many months we receive three by favour of a friendly collector; description as follows: narrow transverse rectangles impressed with coloured oblongs with straight sides and scalloped above and below; on white paper, perforated. CANADA REGISTERED

LETTER STAMP in centre. The second word in large, the others in small white capitals, on engine-turned ground, flanked by value in words perpendicularly up and down; numerals at upper angles. Vermilion, 2 cents; green, 5 c.; blue, 8 c. The 30 cents chronicled as forthcoming at page 34, vol. ix., on the faith of M. Roussin, is non-existent.

TASMANIA.

M. Moens describes a green twopenny from M. Diena's collection watermarked TAS, surcharged with the words LATE LETTER.

SWEDEN.

We have omitted noticing a post card for this kingdom described some time since in Messrs. Alfred Smith & Co.'s *Circular*. Framed; P.S. at upper left-hand corner; circle of points at right hand to indicate place for postmark. POST KORT in the middle above; dotted line below commenced by TILL, to hold the name of the office whither the card may be addressed. Black impression on white. A remarkable anomaly in this card, distinguishing it from all others yet known, is the fact that the communication is allowed to be begun on the address side! We imagine it to be for official purposes.

SPAIN.

Last month we acknowledged the reception of a 2 mils. de escudo Spanish, surcharged $\frac{1}{4}$ like certain of the Cuban. In response to our query we have received two letters from correspondents. One summarily pooh-poohs it as a "fancy stamp," made by or for collectorial purposes. The other affords a novel and apparently satisfactory explanation, totally demolishing the universal acceptionation by philatelists of the meaning of the surcharge as implying "and a quarter." He writes that, "in 1855-6 he was resident in Cuba, that the city post was then first established to convey letters from one part of Havana to another. This is called in Spanish *Correo Ynterior*, and the postage of a single letter was then, and may still be, a quarter of a real. There being no stamps of this denomination, some of the 2 reales were surcharged for this purpose, the letter Y standing for the word Ynterior, and the fraction $\frac{1}{4}$ for the postal value." We imagine this want of a certain value may have given rise to the production of the black $\frac{1}{4}$ real of 1867, which many have hesitated to accept as a verity. Our correspondent proceeds to remark that, "in view of the preceding facts the supply of the $\frac{1}{4}$ real stamps of Queen Isabella type running short, or the authorities objecting to use the effigy of her dethroned majesty, resort was had to the old device, and the 2 m. de esc. mural type, surcharged $\frac{1}{4}$, did duty for city postal purposes." The writer consequently classes the stamp now in question among the Cubans. This presupposes an importation of the low values of the mother country, which would seem unnecessary, there being probably a supply of the mural issue Cuban proper at the time, one value of which might have been surcharged as formerly. We give the explanation, leaving philatelists to draw their own deductions.

Referring to the prepayment of post cards. The other correspondent writes that there must be a mistake in supposing that a 10 c. alone is sufficient, if the card comes viâ France. He instances, however,

some anomalies in the arrangements of the Spanish post, forwarding for inspection three post cards. One of them bears an impressed mauve 5 c. armorial type and a lilac 5 c. Alfonso type. It was addressed to London viâ Gibraltar, but the dates certify its passage through France. In this instance there was no additional charge, but another with impressed and adhesives 5 c., both of the Alfonso type, was charged for extra. Another of precisely the same description arrived without further charge! Truly the Spanish authorities are marvellous specimens of mismanagement.

FRANCE.

We have been favoured by Mr. F. G. Lott with a sight of the new French post card; size, $4\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$ ins. The border is similar to that of the card issued Jan. 15, 1873, for use in the provinces and Algeria. At top, CARTE POSTALE; after which, a full-stop; and underneath, a short stroke. Then four lines of instructions as follow:—"Prix pour la France et l'Algérie: 10 centimes pour la même ville ou la circonscription du même bureau; 15 centimes de bureau à bureau. Prix pour les Pays étrangers avec lesquels l'échange des cartes postales est autorisé: 15 ou 20 centimes suivant la destination." A short stroke underneath, then five lines for the address; at the beginning of the first line, M; on the fourth A, without an accent; on the last line, DEPARTEMENT OU PAYS; to the left of the card, reading upwards, in two lines: "L'adresse seule doit être mise de ce côté de la carte. L'autre côté es réservé à la correspondance." To the right, an unscribed space for one stamp, under which the following inscription in six lines, reading downwards: "Lorsque la carte est à destination d'une ville, indiquer très-exactement la rue et le numero de la maison. Quand elle est destinée pour une commune rurale, indiquer le nom du bureau de poste qui la dessert." Lastly, in the lower right-hand corner, outside the frame, in very small type: NOVEMBRE 1875." The card is of a pinkish tint, and was franked by two stamps of 10 centimes.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Except variations in hue, it is long since we had occasion to note changes in the fertile issues of this colony. It seems the admired sets fabricated by Messrs. Waterlow having become worn, need replacement. Wishing to exchange lithographic productions for engravings, the Crown Agents applied to Messrs. De La Rue, who, "*ça va sans dire,*" recommended their hackneyed queen's head design, being cheaper by more than sixty guineas than any other. We are happy to congratulate the artistic world in general, and philatelists in particular, that the members of the government almost unanimously determined "to stick to the ship." The extra expense will be speedily met by collectors alone.

ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE ISLANDS.

M. Moens announces a 40 reis blue for these islands, type of the current set. It is presumably for international purposes.

LUXEMBURG.

The 10 centimes plate being worn out, stamps are expected from a new one; colour deep blue-lilac.

OUR FOREIGN CONTEMPORARIES.

THE Belgian postal magazine for November notices two pairs of probable forgeries that passed the post. They were Lombardo-Venetians of the first type. The circumstance is so interesting, that we transfer the account for the benefit of our readers. Dr. Magnus's article on stamped envelopes and post cards is resumed, and continues its valuable condensation of information. The rare Koorsedjah hand-impression is justly included under the former head by the learned writer. New issues and varieties fill the usual large space.

The December number, besides the usual notice of novelties, and that of the meeting of the French Society, contains two articles of peculiar interest and value, which we regret the limits of this magazine will not allow to be bodily transcribed. A full page is filled by the commencement of an explanation of the appearance of emissions of Buenos Ayres stamps proper from 1858 to 1862, during the periods of the separation of that province from the Argentine Confederation, into which it was eventually again immersed. The other article, much more lengthy, is an elaborate explanation of the terms *type* and *variety*, from the able pen of Dr. Magnus, in reply to a query of the worthy Secretary of our Society addressed to that of Paris. Those of our readers, desirous of perusing this (and it will well repay their trouble), must be referred to the original French, an abbreviated translation of which would not do justice to the learned writer.

Le Timbre-Fiscal for December completes the first volume devoted exclusively to that particular branch of stamp collecting. The editor commences the number on hand with a lament at the unusual paucity of novelties. We could have assisted him with a list of the new legal stamps emitted for the use of Courts now merged into one name, "Judicature," whose values range from twopence to five pounds! These, it seems, are but provisional, during the preparation of a permanent set.

M. Roussin's magazine for November, after notices of novelties, gives the text of the decree which comes into operation on New Year's Day, including France in the International Postal Union. We learn thereby that 30 centimes is the prepayment for letter postage to those countries of Europe and Africa whither and whence the lower sums of 25 c., or 2½d., perform the same duty. What causes the greater expense of working the post-office in France than in any other country? Post cards, value 15 centimes, travel the same path. The allowed weight is raised to the 30 grammes or half ounce, long since adopted by other civilized nations. 50 gr., or more than 1½ oz., is the allowance for newspapers, patterns, &c., to the same places; obligatory prepayment, 5 centimes. The French authorities seem determined to maintain some distinction from other states in their postal arrangements. In accordance therewith, the prepayment for letters, post cards, and printed-matter, &c., to the United States (and presumably Canada), is respectively 30 centimes, 15 c., and 5 c. Another exception, this time on the liberal side, which one would imagine likely to give rise to much trouble and confusion, is this: the postage from French towns on or near the frontiers of Spain, Belgium, or Switzerland, to either of those countries,

when the distance from the transmitting to the receiving post-office in a straight line does not exceed 30 kilomètres, or something less than 22 miles, is reduced to 20 centimes for a letter not exceeding 15 grammes, or a $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. in weight. Registered letters, post cards, printed matter, patterns, &c., will be subject to an additional charge of 50 centimes. This does away at once with the costly and absurd regulation of double postage, so long an incubus on French mercantile correspondence. The rules as to non-prepayment, &c., remain as before.

The December number, amongst its novelties, gives us descriptions and figures of the new Antioquias. The catalogue portion, having arrived at the Russian locals, is particularly resplendent with their representations, of which forty-three adorn its pages, and nine more of postals and fiscals.

The Leipzig magazine commences with an article on forgeries. It is high time something were done to nullify the effects of the infamous traffic therein, which seems brisk as ever. The "Spud Papers," commenced by Mr. Atlee, and so satisfactorily continued by Mr. Earée, are valuable assistants to the collecting tyro, and frequently to the more advanced amateur; but, unfortunately, every collector does not subscribe to *The Philatelist*. An article on French "enveloppes publicité" is continued by a gentleman hailing from Angers. One on the Persian postal arrangements follows; reviews, &c., complete the number.

The second volume of the Leipzig magazine is completed by the December number. The preface, title-page, and index, filling necessary portions, leaves little room for aught save the usual novelties. There is a good article on the Luxemburg essays; and two others of no immediate interest to English amateurs. The editor and publisher are to be congratulated on the success of their work.

The American Journal of Philately for October gives the first five pages to Mr. Overy Taylor; next comes C. H. C.'s continuation of the U.S. Letter Express envelopes, followed by a meagre notice of novelties, at the conclusion of which comes this most extraordinary paragraph: "Portuguese Indies.—Some time ago a number of bogus stamps, purporting to represent a new value 15 reis for use in these colonies extensively circulated throughout the country, have been by a streak of good fortune which occasionally comes to the help of criminals, the government of the Portuguese Indies, shortly afterwards prepared a stamp of this value (as we are informed by M. Moens whose statement we do not question), but unfortunately for the concoctor of the bogus stamps, the colour selected is carmine while he had printed his in green. This will enable our young friends to distinguish between the genuine and the false, unless the manufacturer changes the colour of his to that of the genuine stamps, which, in the light of present developments, he is not likely to do." This choice specimen of composition is concluded by another equally amusing remark:—"The editor of *The Philatelist* has got his ideas considerably mixed up in regard to these stamps, but as he often credits other papers with information they have taken from his own, it is not to be wondered at." The succeeding paper on the History of Spain as illustrated by her postage stamps, by Phi Beta Kappa, is, we presume, the prize essay. It is well

written, containing many sensible remarks on the connexion of postage stamps with history. Correspondence of a peculiar character concludes the number.

The November number continues the article on the Plimpton envelopes, and gives us other interesting matter; but one communication ought to give collectors more pleasure than all the matter lumped together,—we mean the notice of a raid on one of the infamous gangs of forgers. We sincerely congratulate philatelists on the circumstance, and hope the example of the American authorities will be followed by our own; and that none of the quirks and quibbles of the law will allow American or English swindlers to escape the penalty of their villainy.

PHILATELIC FORGERIES.

THE science of philately has suffered much at the hands of the makers and sellers of fac-similes; or, to speak plainly, of forgers. Stamp dealers of good business repute have, before now, been entangled in the meshes carefully prepared for them by unprincipled rascals. They have begun, often, by selling fac-similes, ostensibly as such—a practice which ought, from the temptations to which it leads, to be discouraged—and they have sunk deeper into the mire until they have been barefaced enough to palm off worthless imitations of rare specimens at very high prices. These swindlers have been over and over again abused by all respectable philatelic publications; and they have even been proceeded against in courts of law; and now, we are happy to say, their trade appears to have dwindled to abject nothingness. Hamburg, the *dépôt* of the manufacture of cheap champagne, cheap cigars, and cheap worthlessness of all sorts, was for a long time the residence of stamp-forgers, who flooded not only the continent, but England as well, with their miserable productions. America, too, the land of wooden hams and shoddy cloth, was also to blame; and the impudent attempts at imitation which owe their existence to the honest Yankee, must be seen to be appreciated. In our own country, it should be added, we have also our culprits; and we could even at the present moment name a villain in Glasgow who has secured to himself a comfortable competency by swindling little boys into the belief that what he sold them were indeed genuine postage stamps. His trading days are, however, numbered. He did too much, poor fellow, and he got into hot water; for one day, thinking he had caught a big fish, he forwarded, in blissful ignorance, a large quantity of his wares to a well-known collector, warranting them genuine and asking a good round price. The canny Scot was ill-at-ease in a day or two, when a solicitor wrote to inform him the matter would not be allowed to drop; and we can imagine the disgust with which he disgorged a considerable number of his ill-gotten "bawbees," at the close of the consequent legal proceedings. If any gentlemen of a similar nature are now at work, we strongly advise them to keep clear of us, for when we do catch a swindler, he will find that we have made most thorough and complete preparations for hanging him up by the heels, and coaxing the money from him at a considerably faster rate than that at which

he made it. To a wise man a word is more than enough; unfortunately most knaves are fools more or less, and so we think it necessary to speak with unwonted perspicuity.—*The Mercury.*

THE FALSE STAMPS OF LOMBARDY.

LOOKING over his correspondence, Mons. Ch. Diena has met with two letters addressed him from Milan on the 13th of April and 31st of May, 1858, from the same individual. They each bear a stamp of 15 and 30 centesimi of the 1850 type, which we consider false.

The reasons for so doing are as follow:—the forger has evidently engraved every stamp on his plate separately in his ignorance of any other method; in consequence, the four stamps on the letters in question form so many varieties. They are recognizable in this way: though separately engraved, the stamps of the same value have nearly the same defects. The 15 centesimi are a trifle smaller than the genuine. The crown is too round, and has small vertical lines. The *KK-POST* has an apostrophe instead of a hyphen. The *L* of *STEMPEL* and the oak-branches touch the frame. The shield has the dotted groundwork very irregular. The shield on the eagle's breast is separated in the middle by one small line instead of three. The lion looks more like a sort of snake. The numeral 15 has the upstroke of the 1, and the top of the 5 too strongly marked. The word *CENTES* is very irregular. The 30 c. is likewise too small. *KK-POST* has a full stop instead of a hyphen. The *L* of *STEMPEL* almost touches the frame. In one of the shields the dotting is too close; in the other it is too far apart. The shield on the eagle's breast is divided in the midst by one line in one of the 30 c. and by three indistinct ones in the other. The lion resembles that of the 15 c. The sword is balanced on the eagle's claw instead of being grasped. The 3 is too cramped and the 0 too large. The *CENTES* has not the regularity of the authentic stamp. This is the guiding word for tracing these falsities. The colours are correct.—*Le Timbre-Poste.*

THE NEWSPAPER STAMPS OF THE UNITED STATES.

OWING to the fact that many collectors will never, in all probability, be able to see the full set of newspaper stamps, much less obtain them, either in a cancelled or uncanceled condition, partly owing to the strictness of the law and partly to the high price of many of them, a thorough description of the stamps and their peculiar uses will not be amiss.

On the 1st of January, 1875, the new law regulating postage on newspapers came into effect. Previous to this law the newspaper publishers required no stamps, as they paid so much postage quarterly, which was indicated on the wrappers of the papers. Now, however, the case is different. The papers for subscribers living beyond the limits of the county in which the papers are published are made up in bulk in the publication office, carried to the Post-office, and there weighed. The postage is then reckoned on the whole package, the proper amount is handed to the Post-office clerk, who immediately gives the publisher a receipt, in the stub of which are affixed the stamps representing the postage, the rates being so arranged that no

more than five stamps can be used for any ordinary amount, and these stamps are then cancelled by punching a large hole through them. The stub, with its stamps are kept in the Post-office Department as vouchers for the postage paid. It will thus be seen that the stamps are not affixed to the papers or to the packages, and in no case pass through the mails.

These stamps are twenty-five in number; were prepared by the Continental Bank-Note Company of New York, and are among the most beautiful specimens ever issued by any government. No idea of their beauty can be obtained by examining the low values, which will readily find their way into collections. But if one could see the full set, in their delicate colours, the diversity of designs, and their perfect appropriateness, one would then have just cause to be proud of them.

We will now examine these stamps in the order of their values: 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 6 c., 8 c., 9 c., 10 c., 12 c., 24 c., 36 c., 48 c., 60 c., 72 c., 84 c., 96 c., \$1.92, \$3, \$6, \$9, \$12, \$24, \$36, \$48, \$60.

2 c. to 10 c. inclusive.—Emblematic figure of America looking to right. This is an Indian in full robes. The left hand rests on a shield



and holds a wreath; the right hand rests on a staff. The head of this figure, which may be male or female for aught there is to indicate it exactly, is adorned with an elaborate head-dress, consisting of a coronet of stars surmounted by an eagle's head and plumes. The vignette stands in an arched frame, with a background of sky and clouds.



On either side of this frame are slabs containing the inscriptions *NEWSPAPERS*, *PERIODICALS*, and the value. In the upper corners are large figures of value, the lower corners being ornamented with shields. The colour of all the values from 2 c. to 10 c. is *black*.

12 c. to 96 c. inclusive.—Vignette of *Astraea*, or *Justice*, in niche carved at top. The figure faces, holding in her right hand the balance, and resting with her left on a shield bearing the U. S. coat of arms. The figure is full-robed, mailed and girdled as to the upper part, and helmeted. Surmounting the helmet is an eagle with outstretched wings. Figures of value on shields in upper corners; value in sunken letters below, richly ornamented. Inscriptions in shaded capitals on lined ground. Colour, *pink*.

\$1.92—Vignette of *Ceres*, Goddess of Agriculture, in niche. She holds in her left hand an ear of corn; her right, holding a wreath, rests against the knee. The figure faces to front, and is clad in full, flowing robes. Value in figures in upper corners; in letters in solid tablet below. Inscriptions in italic capitals on obelisk on either side, resting on lower slab containing *U. S. POSTAGE* in white shaded capitals. Colour, *deep rich brown*.

\$3.—Goddess of *Victory*, in full robes, girdled with sword to left. Toga thrown over right shoulder. The right hand is stretched

forward, holding a wreath; the left, resting on shield. Figures of value in upper corners. Value below, in letters on either side of large figure 3. Inscriptions in solid labels on either side. U. S. POSTAGE above. Colour, *vermilion*.

§6.—Clio, Goddess of Poetry, in full robes. Figures of value in upper corners, surrounded by carved ornaments. Inscription and value in white shaded letters, on lined ground. Colour, *light blue*.

§9.—Minerva. The left hand is placed across her breast, holding a portion of her toga; the right, grasping a spear. Figures of value in upper corners; inscriptions to left and right, in shaded italics. Value in letters below, in scrolls; beneath is a large 9 in carved ornaments. Colour, *orange*.

§12.—Vesta. The left hand lifts her drapery; the right hand holds a burning lamp. Figures of value in upper corners in tablets. Value in letters, in beaded frame beneath. Inscription in solid italic letters. This is a very beautiful stamp, and the colour a rich *green*.

§24.—Goddess of Peace, a half-naked figure, leaning against a broken column. She holds in left hand an olive branch; while the right grasps three arrows. The value in words beneath, on solid tablet. Inscriptions in white shaded letters, and figures of value in ornamented curve, between which and the inscriptions is a large six-pointed star. Colour, *purple grey*.

§36.—The Patroness of Commerce, in full garments. She holds in her left hand the Caduceus,—the winged rod of Mercury; in her right, a miniature ship. Figures of value above; in ornamented capitals below. Inscriptions also in ornamented capitals. Colour, *light claret*.

§48.—Hebe, partly draped. The right hand holds a cup which she is offering to the eagle, around whose neck is thrown her left arm. She stands in a very easy position, with her legs crossed. Figures of value in shield, in upper corners; value in letters below, in carved ornaments. The letters U. S. in circles, between value and inscriptions, which are in carved labels. Colour, *chocolate*.

§60.—Vignette of Minnehaha, the Indian maiden of Longfellow's poem of the same name, in rectangular frame. She is robed from her waist downward. Her right arm is extended, while the left hangs by her side. The background is a landscape; trees and vines to the right, and wigwams to left in the distance. Value in figures, in shields in upper corners; in white letters on solid tablets, below. Inscriptions in white, in solid labels on either side. This is the most beautiful stamp of the series; the colour being a rich *purple*.

From the above meagre description of these stamps, some idea may be had of their beauty. All the vignettes, with the exception of those in the lowest values and that of Minnehaha, are taken from pictures of classic times, and are standing in niches. The finish and execution of the stamps are beautiful, and give promise that, in some things at least, the U. S. Post-office Department is sometimes willing to break loose from the restraint of false economy.—*J. Allan Mason & Co.'s Circular*.

UNADDRESSED LETTERS.—Last year upwards of 20,000 letters were posted without any address; one of these letters containing more than £2,000 in bank-notes.

THE FRENCH TIMBROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

A MEETING was held on the 4th of November, during which divers communications respecting stamps were read, new members accepted, and other business transacted. The Secretary read an article composed by him upon the emissions of Cashmere, written with his accustomed acumen, and which, we are happy to say, will be published in the next bulletin of the Society, and consequently fall into the hands of the members of the English Society. The next meeting was fixed for the 2nd of December, when the stamps of Luxemburg were chosen for discussion.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE third and fourth meetings of the season were held on the 4th and 18th ultimo respectively, the former at the residence of M. Raffalovich, Esq., the latter at Dr. Viner's.

Owing to the dense fog prevailing on the 4th of December, this meeting was thinly attended, and it was decided to postpone the study of the stamps of France. The Secretary read his proposed programme for the ensuing year, as well as letters on the subject from Lieut. E. B. Evans. After a lengthy discussion, all members present agreed upon the chief points, and it was resolved to bring the matter before a fuller meeting.

At the meeting of the 18th of December, Dr. Viner took the chair until the arrival of the Vice-President. The study of the stamps of France was resumed, and the Reference List continued and revised by comparing the work done at the previous meetings with the matchless collection exhibited by the Vice-President.

The following gentlemen were proposed as members and elected: W. P. Parry, Esq., and R. Lennox Macdonald, Esq., by the Secretary; the Rev. P. H. Newnham, by Lieut. E. B. Evans.

Senor de Ysasi exhibited the new Canadian stamps for registered letters, and the proofs of the forthcoming Cuba emission for 1876.

The meeting dissolved at 6 p.m., and the next fixed for the 8th of January, at 2 p.m. precisely, to be held at the residence of M. Raffalovich, Esq., 32, Inverness Road, Bayswater, W. Members are earnestly invited to attend this general meeting, which will be presided over by Sir Daniel Cooper, Bart.

The subject of study will be the stamps used in the French Colonies, and the post cards for France and Algeria; the Secretary will again bring forward the decisions approved of at the meeting of the 4th December.

GOOD NEWS FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

AN article in the *Philadelphia Times*, after preambuling that the collection of home and foreign postage stamps has of late years assumed considerable proportions, &c., proceeds to state that certain individuals have found it profitable to manufacture counterfeits, for the sole purpose of disposing of them to collectors, or to the stores where such things are vended. It seems that a law exists in the United

States to the effect, "That any person who shall forge or counterfeit postage stamps of any foreign government, shall be deemed guilty of felony; and on conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than two nor more than ten years, at the discretion of the court."

In consequence of information laid, an office at 135, South Fifth Street, was entered, and forgeries purchased by a detective agent. Lithographic stones, perforating machine, and printing press, Petroni, and James Davidson, were all seized together, at 2,003, North Fourth Street. Counterfeits were found at 513, Vine Street, and a man named Wilson apprehended there. Petroni, who pleaded innocence of any intention to violate the law, was placed with Wilson under 2,500 dollars bail each; and Davidson, the smaller sum of 1,000 dollars.

Means for forging the impressions of Nicaragua, Greece, Guiana, Baden, Angola, Canada, Hanover, Roumania, Japan, Austria, and the Argentine Republic, were found. The swindlers, having carried on their nefarious trade on both sides of the water, if they escape justice in Philadelphia, by any technical quirk, will give their accusers opportunity of amending the indictment in New Jersey. We cordially hope they will get their deserts; and that similar proceedings will be instituted here, and in Switzerland and Germany.

ADVICE TO THOSE ABOUT TO COLLECT.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EARLÉ.



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

And first of all, as to

THE BEGINNER

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

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

THE ALBUM.

In the great majority of cases, our first album is a present, so that we cannot be said to choose it ourselves. But I think the beginner cannot too soon accustom himself to do things properly,—and therefore I should suggest that he *begin* (as he is sure to end) with a blank album; i.e., one without ready-drawn spaces for the stamps. I do not deny that an album with the spaces for the stamps ready drawn and numbered, &c., is a great help to the beginner; but he will very soon find that he has not half enough spaces for all the varieties which will, sooner or later, come into his possession; and then these varieties must be altogether kept out, or else the album will look untidy, with emissions arranged out of their due order. There are many different sorts of albums, and it is no easy task to say which is the best. My own albums were made by Moens, of Brussels; they are made of a thick grey paper; one side only being used for the stamps, the other side covered with tissue-paper fastened at the edges only. By this means, the stamps do not touch each other, and the tissue-paper prevents their being too much flattened. The leaves are fastened in by brass screws, passing through two eyelet-holes in the margin (which is jointed, and has tape beneath the paper) so that, in a few minutes, a leaf can be removed, or placed in a different part of the book. In mounting the stamps, I measure the spaces I intend to allow for the stamps, and put a faint pencil-dot where a stamp comes, so that all the stamps can be truly placed, without the *modus operandi* being seen. Another amateur, whose collection I have seen, arranges his stamps on loose sheets, which are to be bound when complete;—the sheets being, meanwhile, kept in a sort of cabinet or box. His sheets are folio, and the stamps are mounted on them *lengthwise*, so that the books, when bound, will look like gigantic Lallier's albums. My own sheets are square. Before choosing his album, the beginner ought to see that the paper of which it is composed does not readily stain. If a spot of gum happens to touch my sheets, it leaves a mark which is very hard to take out. This is a great defect, and arises, I fancy, from the paper being altogether unsurfaced; so that I should recommend a slightly surfaced paper to be chosen.

MOUNTING.

It is my firm opinion that there is only *one* way of mounting stamps which is likely to give entire satisfaction. Unfortunately, it is a little troublesome, and therefore has not yet become universal. I will endeavour to explain it as clearly as possible. The stamp is hinged, by a piece of tissue paper, on to a piece of white foreign letter-paper (or other thin white paper), somewhat less than the stamp in size. Three tiny dots of gum are put at the back of this piece of paper, which is then placed in position in the album. The advantage of this plan of mounting is, that the stamp, being hinged, can readily be turned up for inspection of the watermark and other peculiarities; and the date of issue and any other things worthy of notice can be written on the white paper to which it is hinged. Then again the stamp is very easily

moved when mounted in this manner, which is no small advantage. I do not hinge the stamp directly on to the white paper (which I will call the *back*, for the sake of clearness), because the paper is too thick. I do not use tissue-paper entirely for the back, because we cannot write on tissue-paper. Therefore I use both:—tissue-paper for the hinge, and foreign letter-paper for the back.

And now I will try to explain my *modus operandi* on the large scale. I cut the tissue-paper into strips of about $\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide, and any length. Then I get my stamps; and (after removing any paper from the backs of them, mending them with tissue-paper, if torn, &c., &c.) I draw the gum-brush across the top of the stamps at the back, taking care not to gum more than the eighth of an inch in width. I then gum the stamps side-by-side along the edge of the strip of tissue-paper; and when I have thus filled up one edge, I proceed to fill the other edge in the same manner; for this width of tissue-paper serves for *two* hinges. When the gum is dry, I cut the tissue-paper in two, along the whole length, which leaves two strings of stamps, attached to each other by a very narrow strip of tissue-paper. Then I separate the stamps by cutting through the tissue-paper, which must be done a little obliquely, so that none of the tissue-paper may be seen when it is folded down to form the hinge. Then, taking my thin white paper for the backs, I cut it into strips a little narrower than the depth of the stamps, and gum the stamps on to the strips by their tissue-paper hinges. Then I cut the strip under each stamp slightly obliquely, so that it is not visible below the edges of the stamp. By thus doing a number at once, a large quantity can be mounted in a very short time. Now I got this method from Senor de Ysasi, so I don't pretend that it is my own idea. I used to mount my stamps by a large tissue-paper hinge only, but I found that the perforation, date of issue, watermark, &c., could not be written on the tissue-paper, because it always blotted. For mounting post cards, see my paper on that subject in last year's volume.

(To be continued).

NOTICES OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

Handbuch für Postmarken-Sammler. By DR. ALFRED MOSCHKAU. Leipzig: Louis Senf.

THE above work, a clearly-printed volume of more than 200 pages, having been forwarded to the "Redaction" for "Recension," we acknowledge the same with thanks. The outer wrapper states it to form the third volume of the philatelic library. The title page, faced by a portrait of the editor, Dr. Moschkau, informs us that it is a Handbook for Postage-Stamp Collectors, being a Catalogue of all emissions from 1653 till December, 1875, including envelopes, post cards, post-office-order cards, envelopes, &c., and newsbands, by Dr. Alfred Moschkau; all prices marked of stamps obtainable from Louis Senf, of Leipzig; 2nd edition, with portrait and biography of the editor.

Like the Belgian catalogue, this is a catalogue and price list combined; and as far as can be judged without examination of page upon page, line upon line, cannot but be thoroughly adapted for all German-understanding collectors. One can comprehend how it must have

galled them to be compelled to use a French one. The name of the editor, who, we understand from the biography, enlisted in the philatelic ranks so long since as 1860, is a sufficient guarantee of the general correctness and value of the book. Some of our old friends,—the illustrations which have run the round of all the magazines, English, French, German, and American,—help to adorn the work. The early date noted above, may astonish those who do not recollect the very early French envelope, which, strange to say, does not appear to be adopted by the French timbrological *savants*! The strictly alphabetical order, certainly the best for catalogues, though not for albums, is observed; thus doing away with all necessity for an index. The colonies, except those of Great Britain, which are too voluminous, follow the parent country, The dates of emission are conspicuously placed, which is a great boon for facility of reference. The one fault, inseparable from everything, in this instance, is the paper cover, which ought to have been of some substantial nature. With this exception, there is nothing but good to be said or written of this new volume.

POSTAL SCRAPS.

WATCHES PER BOOK POST.—In the chief office in London, a short time since, two gold watches were found, each enclosed in an unregistered book-packet, addressed to New Zealand; the leaves of the book having been cut so as to admit of the watches being enclosed. The packets were sent to the Returned-Letter Office, whence information was forwarded to the addresses, there being nothing to show who were the senders.

THE GROWTH OF THE MANCHESTER POST-OFFICE.—A post-office was first established in Manchester in 1722, and in 1790 it was stated as an extraordinary fact that Manchester paid in postages £11,000, being a larger amount than any other provincial town. In 1794 the whole business of the office was conducted by a post-mistress and two clerks. In 1832 the postages collected in Manchester amounted to £53,510; in 1834 to £60,621; and in 1835 to £64,373. According to Mr. Lewins, in *Her Majesty's Mails*, the average general postage at this period was estimated at 9½d. per letter. At that rate £64,373 would represent 1,626,266 letters; and assuming that about an equal number would pass through the office on which the postage was collected elsewhere, the annual 'turnover' of letters would be some 3,250,000, or under 63,000 per week. In 1864 the receipts from the sale of postage stamps, at this office, amounted to £89,193, in 1874 to £181,245; and it is estimated that in the present year, owing to the removal of the Inland Revenue Stamp Office, the receipts under this head will amount to no less than £260,000. In September, 1861,

the number of letters delivered per week was 401,471, whilst in October, 1874, they amounted to 927,645 per week. The number of letters posted per week in October, 1861, was 485,784, and in October, 1874, 1,134,684. In 1861, 66 post-office clerks and 117 letter-carriers were employed, whilst in 1874, there were 133 clerks and 272 letter-carriers in the service, in addition to 330 telegraph clerks and messengers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

COLLECTORS AND DEALERS BEWARE OF HEINRICH BAUMER!

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—An English dealer has kindly forwarded for my inspection some Zurich stamps, 4 and 6 rappen, Orts-Post, Poste-Locale, Winterthur, and a whole sheet of Rigi Coulm, all of which have turned out to be forgeries. The Zurich being very well executed, it is a pity the forger cannot be executed also. I cannot say for certain that

HEINRICH BAUMER

of Olten, Switzerland, is the forger of the above stamps, but the fact is certain that he sells forgeries; perhaps he gets them second-hand from

ENGELHARDT FOHL,

of Riesa, Saxony, whose character ought by this time to be well known to him. The Rigi Coulm greatly resemble the genuine, provided you look at the genuine from the back of the stamp. In the genuine the stem of the flower is turned to the left; in the forgery to the right.

Besides, the facial value of the genuine sheet (six horizontal rows of five stamps) is 2/6, and the wholesale price of the forgery 1/6 only.

To conclude, I recommend to the special notice of collectors and dealers Heinrich Baumer, hoping they will not forget at the same time his worthy *confère* Engelhardt Fohl, the notorious forger of postage stamps whom I had great pleasure in exposing in *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* for November, 1874.

H. A. DE JOANNIS.

London.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, a portion of *The Philatelist* is set apart each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements must be accompanied by the cheque given with each number.

2. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Royal Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 18th of the month.

3. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.

4. IF AN ADVERTISEMENT EXCEEDS 20 WORDS A CHARGE OF 6D FOR EVERY ADDITIONAL 10 WORDS WILL BE MADE.

5. *The Stamp Exchange* is intended for the use of amateur collectors only; notices from dealers cannot therefore be inserted.

A. M. REIS, 21, Lord Street, Liverpool, has many very rare duplicates to exchange for others new to his collection.

H. FERRIERE, Napoli, per Pozzuoli, Italy, has many very rare duplicates, and wishes to exchange for other scarce stamps.

THOS. STEPHENSON, Albemarle Lodge, Wimbledon Park, Surrey, has still a large number of stamps for exchange. Please send duplicates.

C. NICHOLSON, Oaklea, Wimbledon Park, requests offers of exchange from all parts. Has a great number of duplicates to exchange.

H. CHARLES, 39, Highbury Quadrant, London, has many rare duplicates, including Monte Video, Argentine, &c., to exchange with other collectors.

LIEUT. EDWARD B. EVANS, R. A., Fort Picklecombe, Devonport, requires vol. i. and ii. of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, and the first eight vols. of *The Philatelist*.

ATHOL C. H. JOHNSTONE, St. Moritz House, Brighton, will give one shilling each (in exchange) for clean copies of numbers 26, 50, and 74 of *The Philatelist*. Correspondence particularly requested. All letters to be prepaid.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

* * Correspondents sending specimens for inspection and return, are requested to enclose a stamped directed envelope,

V. G. Y., London.—Thanks for your letter on Spanish cards, &c., and for a sight of the novelties.

NEMO., Alexandria.—Thanks for specimens of the reversed yellow 2 piastres current Egyptians.

F. J. G., Brantford, and A. M., Montreal.—Accept our best thanks for your early information and specimens.

F. F., Porchester Gate, Hyde Park.—Many thanks for your ingenious explanation of the surcharged Cubans.

R. W. B., Finsbury Park.—Best acknowledgments for a sight of the orange 6 sen and the 20 sen changed in colour, which latter stamp, hitherto unchronicled, will be found noticed in the proper place.

A. J., Brighton.—Your blue stamps are Turkish newspaper fiscals, not postals. They are described at pages 71 and 80 of vol. ix.—Our three-halfpenny adhesive came out as an essay in 1858; but was not employed for postage until 1870. The same value appeared as an envelope essay at the same early date; but was not used for postage till 1872. The original colour was lilac-pink. The 1870 impression was pale pink; and at the end of 1874, the colour was changed to brown.

PHILATELIST, Birmingham.—Your 8 annas Indian on yellowish paper is of the 1858 issue. The other with elephant watermark appeared in 1866, and continues in use. The Hamburg locals cannot be called forgeries because they imitate nothing that ever existed. They are simply humbugs. The penny English is discoloured from age or accident. Your British Guiana is genuine. The newspaper Railway stamp is so likewise. The old letter covers are interesting as showing the charges for postage at their date. See reply to Nemo respecting the three-halfpenny stamp. The stamp with G. R. in fancy letters was used on deeds; a similar one with V. R. is now employed. They are affixed at the backs of the large blue embossed stamps of sundry values seen on leases, &c. The Nevis is unmistakably forged. Our fourpenny on bluish paper is very much rarer than that on white. Your New Granada must be false: it is found with and without star after value, but yours has an extra star. Gum arabic will do very well if you are not too liberal with it.

THE SPUD PAPERS.—The publication of these papers will be resumed in our next number.



RECENT AND UNDESCRIBED EMISSIONS

NORWAY.

A correspondent kindly forwards a stamp, whose description is—small broad rectangle; within frame ornamented at the angles is inscribed, in five lines, the words,—SOM UBESORGET AABNET AF POST-DEPARTEMENTET. Black impression on pink paper, lithographed and perforated. It is evidently employed officially for returned letters; and, as our correspondent remarks, although devoid of monetary worth, has equal right of admission into philatelic albums with the Bavarian and other adhesives of like nature.

ANTIOQUIA.

The four very different types composing the last new issue of this component part of the Colombian States, chronicled last month, are here represented. Colours and values will be found at page 1.



FRANCE.

The acumen of one of our subscribers has detected a variety among the earliest emissions of the present republic which has marvellously escaped the observation even of the French Society! It was either contemporary with, or perhaps earlier than the Bordeaux impressions. Two or three values are known; but we have only the 20 c. on view. Like those of Bordeaux, it is lithographed, and has been proved to be a native of Tours. Used specimens are not uncommon; but we were fortunate enough to secure an unused pair, totally unaware of the treasure-trove. It is surprising this issue was not noticed earlier. At the merest glance the stamps are distinguishable from either of the types or sub-types of Bordeaux. The stamps greatly resemble the first of that city; but the shading in the neck consists of lines, not of dots. There is no shade beneath the eyes or other parts of the face; and the

lip and nostril show a slight but distinct variation. We have them in two or three tints of blue.

Since the 26th of last October, it has been lawful for any one in France to prepare inland post cards for transmission according to his own design, within the limits of size ($4\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ in.) and weight (30 to 35 grains) prescribed by the French post-office. The front is to be printed according to a published model; any method of writing or printing may be adopted; any colour or material may be used. The franking is by an adhesive stamp. From the new year the regulation will include foreign post cards.

AUSTRIA.

We have seen used specimens of the current 15 kreuzer of this empire printed in a very rich red-brown colour.



BAVARIA.

On New Year's Day came out a long set of stamps for this kingdom corresponding with the types figured above. The first represents the following values: yellow-green, 3 pfennige; bluish green, 5 pf.; carmine, 10 pf.; ultramarine, 20 pf.; bistre, 25 pf.; red, 50 pf. The second serves for timbre-tax issue: they are grey with red surcharge vom EMPFANG ZAHLBAR, 3, 5, and 10 pf., respectively. The 1 mark, a reduced portrait of which forms the present design, has a companion.—2 marks, orange. The third cut figures the type of the envelope impression, 10 pf., carmine, and the newsband, 3 pf., yellowish green. This type serves also for the post card, which is much as before, with the new stamp impressed: 5 pf., bluish green. There is also a double card for reply. On perusing the description of these Bavarians, and comparing it with the reported emission for the German Empire chronicled in *Le Timbre-Poste*, we fancy there can be no doubt that some individual not well up in geography saw the proofs of them somewhere, and jumped to the conclusion that they must be for the Empire. The official Brunswick newspaper on the 13th of last November "took up the wondrous tale," and deceived the editorial magnates. In addition to this imbroglia, there seems still some misunderstanding respecting the Bavarian issue, because the *Circular* of Messrs. Alfred Smith & Co. gives a list of the new stamps for that kingdom with violet for the colour for the 5 pf. adhesive, for a single and double post card, and for an additional envelope! Also grey for the 50 pf.; and caps the confusion by figuring an exceedingly-tastefully devised stamp bearing a central head of the king as the new type! The same is figured at page 165 of last year's *Philatelist*.

The now superseded 1 kreuzer, 3 kr., and 7 kr., are found water-marked with undulating lines.

ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY.

In *Le Timbre-Poste* is figured a stamp of the following description. Broad rectangle; flag bearing crown upon St. Andrew's cross on horizontally-lined ground within circular frame inscribed ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY. Spandrels complete a square; leaving room below for the value in words, colour on white,—anomalous if issued by an English government, being 10 cents. Carmine-pink on white; perforated.

SPAIN.

A new emission bearing Alfonso's head, like the current one, is reported to be in process of print in London.

WURTEMBERG.

Some envelopes of the respective values of 5 and 10 pfennige will be shortly out, formed of paper watermarked with an arabesque pattern and post horn in a band. The post cards will be changed in hue from bluish to buff. The money-order cards are likewise modified. The name-inscription is arched in lieu of being in a straight line. A double hyphen takes place of the single one, and M... PF. added in blue on the first line. Blue; 20 pf.

ST. VINCENT.

A late mail has brought over the shilling value of a dark claret, and a dark green sixpenny; both watermarked with a star. The perforations of the former are much larger than those of the latter.

PERSIA.

It is announced that the Persian Government, in order to carry out its newly-established postal service, which has already been placed under the direction of two Austrian officials, has now decided to effect a junction with the Russian postal system at Tabreez, near the frontier, where a Russian official will be placed in charge. In this case, the stamps referred to at page 34 of last year's volume, which we understand are affixed to letters by the authorities, and not obtainable by the public, may become common like other stamps. We give an engraving of one of the values chronicled in last year's *Philatelist*.



NEW SOUTH WALES.

We have been favoured by the President of the Philatelic Society, with the sight of a pair of proofs of a new emission for this colony, to supersede the perennial large square type so long representing the shilling value in shades of red and pink. It is a rectangle of the most usual size; bearing Her Majesty's coroneted head to left within inscribed frame arched above and below. Name at top; value in words at bottom; POSTAGE in capitals on either side. Spandrels delarued. The colour is light bluish green. The proof necessarily gives no idea of watermark or perforation. The current threepenny green now bears N. S. W. and crown.

To another correspondent we are indebted for calling attention to a variety which has marvellously escaped the lynx-like eyes of Dr.

Magnus, Mr. Pemberton, and even M. de Joannis, the worthy Secretary of the Philatelic Society. This allusion is to the large-sized violet sixpenny of 1861-71. The later impressions have the queen's head strikingly different from those earlier issued, which resemble the shilling, eightpenny, and fivepenny of similar type. The difference is evident at the slightest examination; the nose, mouth, and expression vary so much. Both varieties are so common that our readers can easily verify this from their own collections, and be surprised they never made the discovery themselves.

RUSSIAN LOCALS.

Bronnitzi.—At page 151 of last year's *Philatelist* is chronicled a slightly modified type for envelopes. The same alteration now exists for this district's adhesives.

Elizavelgrad.—M. Moens describes three new values emitted for this place of similar type with that of the 5 kop. previously and still in use. Black on white, 2 kop. Larger, name misspelt; red on mauve, 10 kop. A trifle smaller than the preceding; name spelt correctly. Deep blue on white, 20 kop. The four values are thus accounted for:—the original 5 kop. for general correspondence; the 2 kop. for postal (official) notices: the 20 kop. for petitions to the justices of peace, which require the additional 10 c. if accompanied by documents.

Perm.—Its stamps are now printed on sheets of eight, in two horizontal lines, each row of four forming so many varieties. No stop after the word *СЕР.* The paper is of an azure tint.

Rostov-on-Don.—The original type has been repaired or remade. The letters are generally larger; the corner figures longer; the inner circle has but one line, and the bit of ornamentation above has disappeared. The sheets now consist of twenty impressions in four vertical lines. Lithographed on white in pale and bright blue.

Voltschansk.—Extinct envelopes for this place are noted at page 123 of last year's volume, and some then known varieties at page 151. The indefatigable editor of *Le Timbre-Poste*, having become possessed of all the resuscitated stock, gives a lengthy list of the whole, forming no fewer than 34 varieties! They are so numerous in consequence of being of two different sizes; on plain and on laid paper; faced internally with various colours; and the impressed stamp being on the right, on the left, or on the flap of the envelope.

JAPAN.

M. Roussin announces the probability of a new emission in consequence of a treaty with the American company undertaking its postal service, and M. Moens notes many changes recently made in the current stamps. The reduced size of the existing 20 sen is as noticed last month; the same alteration has been made as regards the 10 s. and 30 s. The former is now ultramarine, the latter is found both pale and bright violet. M. Roussin quotes specimens of the former 10 s. of a dark bluish green. The 2 s. is slightly altered; the branches of chrysanthemum and paulownia being now united by a kind of ribbon. Ever since February, 1874, the inscription on the envelopes has been changed. It was formerly like that on the adhesives, and bore the

equivalent for "postage stamp;" by an alteration of the third character it now means "post envelope." There are only four values,—1, 2, 4, and 6 sen.

A post card unimpressed by stamp is reported also by M. Moens; and he figures the type used for newsbands. It is of the same broad oval shape as the well-known coin of the empire; bearing the conventional chrysanthemum and branches, enclosing inscription "Band for newspapers, value 2 rin 5 mons" ($\frac{1}{4}$ sen). It is impressed to the right, on Japanese paper. The colour is red. This description does not apply to the newsband described at page 152 of last year's *Philatelist*, both from used and unused specimens. In that case, the stamp was square like the adhesive and envelope types.

CANADA.

A description of the elegant stamp here depicted and its two companions appearing in last month's number, no further remarks are needed.



FINLAND.

M. Moens announces an orange 5 penni of the new type, and the colour of the 20 p. changed to ultramarine. The Helsingfors card is slightly modified: the word *no* being larger, and followed by a large full stop. Its colour is pale, full, and dark green. The 10, 20, and 25 p. stamps of the Tavastehus and Tammerfors Steamboat Company exist no longer in an active way, in consequence of the liquidation of the concern. The stamps of the Helsingfors and Bobaco Company were issued on the 25th of February last year. Their value is 25 and 50 p. Their employment is for packets and baskets. We have just met with a rare variety of the 1866 Helsingfors, green and vermilion, pierced in serpentine on a green line.

HOLLAND.

A correspondent has obliged us with a sight of the new international envelope for this kingdom. It is of the usual letter size; white paper, having no seal impression or watermark. The stamp impressed on the right resembles in every respect the adhesive of like value, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents; and is of the same ineffective colour, a pale grey, duller even than its prototype. The postmark is BREDA, date JANUARY 22/76.

MEXICO.

In addition to the values of the *Porte de Mer* locals chronicled and figured at page 149 of last year's volume, are a 2, 60, and 75 centavos.

BAHAMAS.

A bright vermilion penny watermarked cc and crown is announced.

THE RETURNED-LETTER OFFICE.—Respecting returned unaddressed and mis-directed letters, the Post-office Report for last year says,—“The number of letters received in the Returned-Letter Office was more than 4,400,000; being about one in every 220 of the total number of letters. As respects more than three-fourths of these it was found possible either to re-issue them or to return them to the writers.”

GOOD NEWS FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

UNDER this heading appeared last month an account of the apprehension of a certain G. Patroni and others for forging postage stamps. We regret to say that, evidently in consequence of the incorrect wording of the indictment, the gang was let off.

A very garbled statement of the matter in *The American Journal of Philately* gives a contrary view. It is headed "Convicted of Selling Counterfeit Foreign Stamps," followed in capitals by "Two Years in State Prison." This has deceived two of the foreign magazines already, and probably all who have not been favoured like ourselves with a correct account of the extraordinary and amusing proceedings, which afford a strange idea of the official knowledge of equity, geography, and polity in the United States.

The actual fraud of the accused was that of obtaining money under false pretences; whereas the indictment against them was that of attempting to defraud the governments of Nicaragua, Egypt, British Guiana, Angola, and St. Thomas and Prince Islands.

Nicaragua was first taken in hand. A young dealer owned to purchasing a dozen of the 1 centavo stamps for 30 cents. This admission was fatal; because selling 12 cents worth of stamps for 30 cents evidenced no intention to cheat the Nicaraguan government.

Egypt stood next in the arraignment; but the judge decided that, as the stamps of Egypt bore certain hieroglyphics which neither himself nor the jury could read, and consequently could not distinguish the false from the true, that charge must be abandoned!

Similar good luck befel the prisoners in the case of British Guiana, for the astounding reason "that the government of British Guiana, it being a colony, was not recognisable in that Court, which knew no such government, it being a part of England only; and he should as soon think of recognising the officer of an English county, or the mayor or alderman, or governor of London!" Our informant adds that this was a fine point; but good law, until reversed by the Supreme Court.

Angola followed suit; but the judge owned his ignorance of such a locality, and that both the place and its stamps must be proved to exist before he could allow it on the record! The attorney for the prosecution had no witnesses who could prove of their own knowledge anything about it; and hearsay evidence and books were inadmissible in a criminal court; and all books but stamp books were silent as to the stamps of Angola. The Portuguese government could have been communicated with, but documentary evidence was not allowed; and as Patroni had pleaded, no adjournment could take place without his permission!

St. Thomas and Prince Islands were likewise dismissed; for had even the existence of these and the preceding place been admitted, as colonies they fell under the same category as British Guiana, being alike devoid of a recognisable government!

Mr. Scott, of New York, states that he swore that he had been in the stamp business since 1860, and that the stamps purchased from Patroni were printed from the lithographic stones in court. He added that the

stamp business extended to all parts of the civilized world, and estimated the number of collectors in the United States at 200,000, whose collections varied in value from five to fifty thousand dollars each!

For the defence, Mr. S. Allan Taylor attested that he kept counterfeit stamps, and had done so for years; that their sale was common; that he was still in the business, and had received from Patroni similar counterfeits to those in court! The counsel for the prosecution was staggered at this, as well he might, and elicited from the witness on cross-examination that he made his living by making, keeping, and selling forged stamps!

After all this judicial farce, the judge charged the jury, and said these the stamps of Nicaragua *might* have been used to defraud the government; and that although there was no evidence to prove criminal intent, it was still illegal to make them. The jury took three hours' consideration, and handed in a sealed verdict of guilty, with recommendation to mercy. The prosecuting attorney, thereupon, declined to move for a sentence, and Patroni was discharged. One of his companions being under accusation of some other iniquity was not tried; and the engraver of the falsities was let off on pleading his ignorance of their intent to deceive.

The judge, though unwilling to pronounce sentence, approved of the verdict, because if the prisoner was acquitted, other individuals might forge the stamps of England, France, and Germany (which he actually condescended to consider governments), and defraud them, citing the result of this trial as a precedent were the verdict otherwise.

We hope some measures will be taken on this side the Atlantic to stop the infamous trade in forgeries, which has done so much harm to philately, and disgusted many a collector into giving up his album. Our informant caps his account by the remark that the said Patroni is a very gentlemanly man—very likely—so was Wainwright—so also was Thomasen—so most probably are Engelhardt Fohl of Riesa, Heinrich Baumer of Olten, and others of the same nefarious type.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE fifth and sixth meetings of the season were held on the 8th and 15th of January respectively, at the residence of M. Raffalovich, Esq., 32, Inverness Road, Bayswater, W. The President in the chair. At the former meeting, the Chiffre-Taxe and some of the Colonial stamps of France were studied. M. Raffalovich pointed out that an emission of lithographed postage stamps had taken place at Tours, previous to the emission known as "Bordeaux." The distinguishing feature of these two sets will be found in the Society's Reference List. Full sets of both emissions were exhibited.

Lieut. E. B. Evans showed some beautiful proofs of a new process for illustrating postage stamps, which were greatly admired by all present.

Mr. F. G. Lott exhibited the used French international post card described in *The Philatelist* for January. That post card was posted on the 1st of January, at 8.30 a.m., at the Gare du Nord post-office, and is probably one of the first that left Paris. This interesting meeting,

which was very numerously attended by both town and country members, broke up at 5 p.m.

At the meeting of January 15, the study of the stamps and post cards of France was brought to a conclusion. M. Raffalovich pointed out that there are two sets of perforations in all official perforated issues, viz., one $13\frac{1}{2}$, the other 14, and that both sets exist on two thicknesses of paper. The same gentleman directed the attention of the members to the fact that, the 15 centime imperforate 1871 Republic, used in the Colonies, existed lithographed as well as engraved; all the used lithographed specimens were postmarked M Q E. It remains an open question, whether this value was prepared in Martinique or in France, and whether the 25 c. is also to be found lithographed. The Society will feel greatly obliged if any collector who possesses the lithographed 15 c. with a different postmark, and the lithographed 25 c., will communicate the same to the Secretary, enclosing a copy for exhibition at the first meeting in February.

The next meeting was fixed for the 29th of January, at 2 p.m., at the residence of Dr. Viner, 34, Denbigh Street, Pimlico; the subject of study to be the stamps of the Dominion of Canada, including Canada proper, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia, and Vancouver Island. At the following meetings, the society will study, *seriatim*, Newfoundland, British Honduras, the West Indies, and British Guiana.

ADVICE TO THOSE ABOUT TO COLLECT.

BY THE REV. R. BRISCO EAREE.

(Concluded from page 14).

GUM AND BRUSH.



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

CHOICE OF SPECIMENS.

This, I suppose, may be considered debatable ground. Of course I recommend my own practice; which is, to choose a very dark, a very light, and a medium shade of every stamp. Those who content them-

selves with one shade lose many interesting varieties. Let us take any common stamp,—say the 20 c. France, blue, imperforate. Now I see in my collection a very pale sky-blue copy, another of a medium shade of dull blue, and a rich dark indigo, approaching almost to black. I should be very sorry to have to take out any of the three. However, I leave this matter to the individual taste of beginners, reminding them that, sooner or later, they will be sure to come across two or three shades of every attainable stamp; and therefore I would decidedly advise that, in mounting, there should invariably be left spaces for at least two shades of every stamp. Torn, or very much obliterated stamps, do not look well, and had better not be put into the album at all. I never put in any damaged ones myself, unless they happen to be extremely rare; but a stamp that is torn can often be patched up with a little piece of tissue-paper.

REMOVING BACKS OF STAMPS.

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

TRIMMING STAMPS.

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

EXAMINING WATERMARKS.

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

COUNTING PERFORATIONS.

Messrs. Stafford Smith and Co. have published an "Odontometer," which will be found useful for this purpose, but there is another little instrument (invented, I believe, by Dr. Magnus) which deserves mention. Take a visiting-card, and gum in the centre of it a strip of

black paper about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in depth, and exactly 2 centimetres in length. When a stamp is laid upon the black paper the denticulations can be very easily counted. As I write for the beginner, I would remind him that it is not the *whole* of the perforations in a stamp which are counted, but merely those included in a space of two centimetres. I know that there is some confusion in the minds of beginners as to this two-centimetre gauge, so this explanation may not be thrown away.

ENVELOPES.

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

LOOSE ADHESIVES.

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

FORGERIES.

These are the *bête-noire* of the beginner, who must make up his mind to be swindled now and then. Perhaps I shall not be thought very egotistical in recommending a perusal of the "Spud Papers" in this magazine, in which a goodly number of vermin will be found, dissected for the benefit of young collectors. Dr. Magnus's essay on the various modes of printing stamps, will be found very useful as an aid to the detection of forgeries (vide *Philatelist*, vol. vii., p. 80); for the beginner will please remember that almost all forgeries are lithographs, whereas comparatively very few genuine stamps are printed in this manner,—and Dr. Magnus's essay shows very clearly how the three methods of *taille-douce*, *épargne*, and lithograph printing are to be distinguished from each other. With regard to the purchase of stamps:—let this be only from well-known dealers, who have a character to lose, and who will never sell a forgery knowingly.

REPRINTS.

I think the dealers are not sufficiently candid on this point, because some of the most respectable ones have offered me reprints without naming them as such. The less the tyro has to do with reprints the better,—though Réunion, Bergedorf (1st issue), and some few others, may

be accepted in default of the originals. My own plan is to accept the reprints *as such*, and to leave spaces for the originals, trusting that they may turn up some day. Let the beginner not be too ready to purchase unused obsolete stamps for originals, as there is scarcely a country in Europe whose earlier stamps have not been reprinted; and the same may be said of many other countries *not* in Europe; notably the United States, British Guiana, &c. Mr. Overy Taylor's "Papers for Beginners" in *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, and my own monographs on the stamps of Portugal, Sweden, &c., may be of use as regards reprints.

ESSAYS AND PROOFS.

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

ARRANGEMENT OF SPECIMENS.

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

CONCLUSION.

I hope, in conclusion, that the beginner will not be alarmed at the wide extent of his future studies, for he will find them grow upon him by degrees. I firmly believe that stamp collecting is most useful in many ways; for it improves most marvellously one's knowledge of contemporary history, of geography, of political changes, of the coinages of the various countries, and even, in some slight measure, of languages. Some time ago, for instance, I was enabled to construct a table of most of the Chinese and Japanese numerals, entirely by a study of the stamps. And from stamps alone the presence or absence of the decimal system of coinage, the dates of the sovereigns since 1840 or so, and many other useful facts can easily be gathered. I am sure that the money expended on albums and catalogues, &c., cannot be said to be wasted; and there are few hobbies which are so entirely devoid of evil, so entirely harmless, as our own especial pursuit. If these few remarks of mine have decided anyone to begin a collection, my object in writing them will be quite attained; but by way of final warning, I would remind all beginners (and this is really a piece of good advice)

that they will never do much good in this, or any other pursuit, unless they possess those two very necessary virtues, PATIENCE and PERSEVERANCE.

THE FRENCH TIMBROLOGICAL SOCIETY.



At the meeting of the 2nd of December, after preliminary business, the Secretary submitted a reply to the question proposed by M. de Joannis—What is a *type*? or a *variety*? After a deep discussion, the Society voted that "Considering the intimate relations subsisting between philately and numismatics, the Society is of opinion that all terms used in the latter science which are applicable to stamps, ought to be understood and applied in the same manner."

Under these admissions the word *type* must be taken to comprehend any design whatever represented on a stamp; and *variety* must be the term employed for all differences met with relative to the design, legend, colour, impression, &c.

The term *sub-type* was subsequently adopted for special indication of any variety of design arising from a repair or renewal of the die.

After a discussion on the Cashmere impressions, in which that with three bars was pronounced to be a $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, the first being a crescent, the sign of 1 anna, the two others being quarters. Further discussion on these interesting issues was adjourned. The stamps of Luxemburg and Denmark were to be the subject of the January meeting.

The application of the two terms above mentioned would seem not precisely what is understood thereby among English philatelists. If not mistaken, we imagine the sheets of New Caledonia, Nevis, certain Japanese, and Russian locals,—Tichvin, Perm, &c., for instance,—are taken by us to constitute one type and many varieties of detail. The seals of Newfoundland, the vermilion and mauve Hong Kongs, the blue candareens of Shanghai, &c., show varieties in colour of the same type. Difference of watermark or perforation on a similar impression also constitute a variety as generally conceived here. But we would submit that a mere difference in legend or design, decided to be such by the French Society can scarcely fall under the category of a variety, otherwise our own English twopenny would be but a variety of the penny; all the stamps of Sarawak, except the first, would be varieties of each other; so likewise would be those of Hong Kong, the several emissions of Shanghai, those of Japan (bird type excepted), of St. Vincent, Barbados, Trinidad, the first French Republics, &c. So much for the legend. If diversity in the same design constitutes a variety, the current Italians, some of the Belgians, all the emissions of Lagos, the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone (except the 6d.), the current Straits Settlements and Ceylon, and in short, almost all the productions of Messrs. De La Rue are mere varieties of one another! This anomaly might be easily removed by employing the word *variation* in these latter cases, and *variety* as usually conceived in England.

NEWSPAPERS sent to this country from the United States and from Canada frequently contain enclosures liable to the letter-rate postage; and in six months of last year more than 14,000 newspapers were found to have such enclosures secreted within them.

OUR FOREIGN CONTEMPORARIES.

THE Belgium magazine of January is rife with illustrations and descriptions. It seems that many of its correspondents have had grave doubts respecting a reported emission for the German Empire; and the editor refers to an apparently authoritative authority. We imagine the true explanation is that given in the present number of this magazine. A long, elaborate, and interesting article on the Japanese stamps, which is alone worth the price of the publication, is continued by Dr. Magnus. We have also the conclusion of M. Wonner's interesting letter on the stamps of Buenos Ayres.

Very few amateurs in this country have yet taken up the study of fiscals; and a very cursory glance at the twenty-five numbers of which the *Timbre Fiscal* now consists, viz., two volumes, and the commencement of this year's, would scare any but millionaires from the pursuit, were it not that stamps of this sort are usually in sets with all values of the same type, so that a collection of low values only, would generally serve for illustration.

L'Ami des Timbres bristles with representations of Russian locals and the later novelties. We have noted elsewhere its adoption of Scott's garbled statement of the "Good News for Collectors" affair.

The Leipzig *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*, in addition to its accustomed features, affords an interesting account of pigeon-post history, illustrated with portraits of celebrated post birds, and a pigeon held by the tail in one hand, and wing extended by another; a third preparing to stamp the letter transmitted; and a quill labelled 103 and SOCIÉTÉ PERISTERAPHILE COURTRAI.

The American Journal of Philately gives a translation of M. De Bosredon's paper on stamps viewed from an historical stand-point, read before the French Society. A few postal novelties, more than two pages devoted to revenue stamps, the trial-account alluded to more than once in this number, and the Hanoverian stamps by Mr. Overy Taylor, (whom the editor or printer persistently mis-names Ovary), with the Index and Title-page of the ninth volume, fill the concluding number for last year.

TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

WURTEMBERG.

SINCE New Year's Day the charge for telegrams being 20 pfennige and 5 pf. per word, two new adhesives have been issued of similar type with the existing set. The values are 5 and 10 pf; the 80 pf. when exhausted will not be renewed.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Postmaster-General announces the issue of distinctive telegraph stamps for the payment of telegraph messages—foreign as well as inland—and which must be used instead of postage stamps. The telegraph stamps will be of the value of 1d., 3d., 1s., and 5s. respectively. Message forms, embossed with a stamp of the value of 1s., will also be issued, either singly or in packets of 20. Telegraph stamps will not, like postage stamps, be repurchased from the public, and if used for payment of postage the letters will be treated as unpaid.

UNITED STATES.

Supplementary to the account of the Complimentary Western Union Telegraph Company's stamps described in last year's volume, we are enabled, by favour of the same obliging correspondent, to state that their colour for 1875 was bluish green, in three shades varying from pale to deep; the surcharge being vermilion. The present year's colour is bright vermilion, with full blue surcharge. He forwards also one of the books wherein they are affixed which shows the stamps to have tin-foil laid between every sheet of four, presumably on the conserving principle.

POSTAL SCRAPS.

THE NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS AND BOOK-PACKETS posted in the United Kingdom during the year 1874 amounted to 259,000,000, being an increase of 2 per cent. as compared with the preceding year.

CURIOSITIES OF POSTAGE.—Among the articles posted last year contrary to the regulations of the department, and sent to the Returned-Letter Office, were a horned frog alive, a stag-beetle alive, white mice alive, snails alive, an owl, a kingfisher, a rat, carving knives and forks, gun-cotton, and cartridges.

PRINCE BISMARCK AND CHEAP POSTAGE.—A private letter from Berlin, which is printed in the *Boston Advertiser*, gives Bismarck credit for at least the idea of international postal reform. Some years ago, according to the correspondent, he desired to reduce the international postage to a penny, two cents, or ten centimes all over the civilized world.

THE NEW FRENCH POSTAGE STAMPS.—The manufacture of postage stamps, at present carried out by private contract at the Paris mint, will shortly be undertaken by the Bank of France, the new arrangement being made for two years, with a provision for its renewal if the result is satisfactory. The post-office gains considerably by the change. The arrangement came into force on the 1st inst., and the new stamps will be sent out at the end of the month.—*The Printers' Register*.

THE BERNE POSTAL CONGRESS.—On the 26th ult. the Committee of the Congress proposed that the entry of the British Indian Empire and the French Colonies into the Postal Union should be agreed to, and that the postage should be fixed at 50 c. for letters weighing 15 grammes; this rate to come into force on the 1st July, 1876. It also proposed that the question of the entry of other colonies into the Union should be deferred until the meeting of the next Congress. These proposals were agreed to, the ratification of the entry of the colonies being reserved.

PUBLIC CARELESSNESS.—A registered letter from Switzerland was found, some time since, open in the chief office, London. The contents, which had become exposed owing to the flimsiness of the envelope, consisted of cheques for upwards of £200, and of bank-notes to the value of more than £500. A registered letter, containing Turkish bonds with coupons payable to bearer, worth more than £4,000, intended for a firm in the city of London, was lately misdirected to a street in the West-End, where it was delivered. On enquiry being made for the packet, it was found that the bonds had been mistaken for foreign lottery tickets of no value, and had been put aside for the children of the family to play with.

POSTAL STATISTICS.—Statistics, relative to the use made of the Post-office in the principal countries of the world, show that Switzerland occupies the first place, with 31 letters annually per inhabitant. England comes next, with 20½; then the United States, with 19. France only ranks ninth. With respect to telegraphic communications, Switzerland also takes the lead with 81 messages per 100 inhabitants. Next follow, England 54; Holland 51; Belgium 47; the United States 32; Germany 31. France has the tenth place in the thirteen chief States; Russia the last, with 1 telegram only per 100 inhabitants.

THE ONE-CENT CONFEDERATE STAMP.—It is extremely doubtful whether the one-cent stamp was ever actually in use. Of the first supply of same sent out by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., one portion was lost by the shipwreck of the vessel, and the other portion was sent to St. Thomas for transshipment, and kept there until the war was over. A second batch was sent out, and lost with the vessel which carried it; a third consignment reached the Confederacy in safety, but only just before its fall; and the unused specimens which have become so common no doubt come from the stock seized at Richmond, or left unclaimed at St. Thomas. The five cents is found on surfaced and unsurfaced paper, and a few

sheets are asserted to have been officially perforated as a trial.—*Dr. Gray's Illustrated Catalogue.*

GLADSTONE ON THE POSTAL SYSTEM OF THE PRESENT DAY.—I cannot tell you what I think of the benefits of that system of postage, of all the accelerated communication which we now enjoy. I am sure that you all cherish it. In former times, to write a letter to a distant relative was a thing that a labouring man of this country could not think of. It cost him to send a letter from London to Edinburgh 15½d.; and if there was an enclosure in it, if it consisted of two pieces of paper instead of one, then it cost him more than half-a-crown. How would you like to carry on intercourse with the absent friends and members of your family under these conditions? The enormous mass, the millions and hundreds of millions of letters that pass to and from all the post-offices of this country show that the people appreciate this great boon.—*Gladstone's Speech at Hawarden.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LOCAL STAMPS OF BELOZERSK AND MARIUPOL.



BELOZERSK.



MARIUPOL.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—The following extract from *Incidents of Travel in Greece, Turkey, Russia, and Poland*, ch. xix., p. 76, seems to give the reason why the CROSS and CRESCENT appear on the stamps of Belozersk and Mariupol.

The steeples in Novgorod bear the cross, unaccompanied by the crescent, the proud token, showing that the Tartars, in all their invasions, never conquered it, while in the reconquered cities the steeples all exhibit the crescent surmounted by the cross.

In the 13th century, the Mongolians penetrated westward as far as Novgorod, reduced the Tzars and their subjects under their sway, and kept them in bondage for nearly three hundred years; until their great deliverer, Joan Vasilivitch, roused the energies of the natives to cast off the Tartar yoke, and led the Russians on to subdue their powerful oppressors. The

reconquered cities, as a memorial of their deliverance, surmounted the crescent of the Mahometans by the cross of the Christians.

Yours truly,
C. STROOBANT.
Derby.

THE CUBAN $\frac{1}{4}$ SURCHARGE.

To the Editor of "THE PHILATELIST."

DEAR SIR,—I thank you for your complimentary remarks respecting my last communication about the Spanish 2 mil. de escudo with the surcharge $\frac{1}{4}$. Your only objection to my theory is that this presupposes an importation of the low values of the mother country, which would seem unnecessary, there being probably a supply of the mural issue, Cuban proper, at the time, one value of which might have been surcharged as formerly.

Your objection, however, would fall to the ground on considering what is a well known fact, that the stamps of the Spanish colonies are manufactured and supplied by the mother country, and the surcharge in question would not therefore necessarily presuppose an importation of stamps into the colony.

But my explanation is after all but a conjecture, and the novelty which has given rise to this discussion may well be, as your other correspondent terms it, a "fancy stamp," made for collectorial purposes. My object in penning these lines is not principally to carry any further this comparatively unimportant matter, but to make some observations suggested by your saying that my note would totally demolish the universal acceptance by philatelists of the meaning of the surcharge as implying "and a quarter." Having but recently joined the army of philatelists, I was unaware, when I wrote, that such was the received acceptance. If it is, I can assure you that it is a most erroneous one, and I believe, myself entitled to speak with some authority on the subject, for the reasons stated in my previous letter. The explanation of the surcharge is none other than the one I have given you, as is well known to every resident of Cuba, and the one which appears to be universally received in Europe is simply absurd. There is not, and never has been, to my knowledge, any rate of postage in Cuba requiring a $2\frac{1}{4}$ real stamp. The postage, at the time I speak of, was $\frac{1}{2}$ real for the interior of a city, $\frac{1}{4}$ real from one place to another in the island, and 1 real to Spain. Postal service with other countries was carried on by foreign steamers, and letters forwarded by them could not be prepaid.

Besides, if the idea of the surcharge was to convert a 2 real into a $2\frac{1}{4}$ real stamp, the surcharge would have been $2\frac{1}{4}$, not $y\frac{1}{4}$, a curious and unusual ellipse indeed. Even then, if the letter y was made to stand for the conjunction *and*, a small, not a capital letter, would have been used.

As you justly remark, my statement is borne out by the appearance shortly afterwards (in 1864, I think) of a $\frac{1}{4}$ real stamp to supply the deficiency which was felt, a stamp which may be accepted without hesitation as a verity.

I beg you will excuse my trespassing on your time and space to this length, but I am induced to do so by the belief that the subject is important as marking the period of a postal reform, and will therefore be entertained with interest by your readers. Should this be the case I am happy to have been enabled to aid in establishing the truth.

I am, dear sir,
Yours obediently,
F. FESSER.

London.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

NOTICE.

For the accommodation of those subscribers who may be desirous of exchanging their duplicate stamps, a portion of *The Philatelist* is set apart each month to facilitate exchanges.

RULES.

1. Advertisements must be accompanied by the cheque given with each number.
2. Advertisements to be addressed to "The Editor of *The Philatelist*, Royal Colonnade, Brighton," and received not later than the 18th of the month.
3. The full name and address of the writer must be sent with each advertisement.
4. IF AN ADVERTISEMENT EXCEEDS 20 WORDS A CHARGE OF 6D FOR EVERY ADDITIONAL 10 WORDS WILL BE MADE.
5. *The Stamp Exchange* is intended for the use of amateur collectors only; notices from dealers cannot therefore be inserted.

M. STRONG, Alexandria, Egypt, requires vol. i. and Nos. 96 and 97 of vol. ix. of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*.

ATHOL C. H. JOHNSTONE, St. Moritz House, Brighton, has for exchange about 6,000 used English Stamps; offers requested.

FREDERICK E. A. CAVELL, Saxmundham, Suffolk, has vol. viii. of *The Philatelist* to exchange for Books. Wants an album for post cards.

A. C. THOMPSON, Cambridge House, Sandgate, wishes to exchange for used stamps bank-notes of different countries, also a large selection of unused stamps. Requests offers.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

. Correspondents sending specimens for inspection and return, are requested to enclose a stamped directed envelope.

J. W. W., City.—The blue 40 c. of Amadeo is mentioned at page 81 of last year's *Philatelist*.

E. W. W., Leighton Buzzard.—Best acknowledgments for your politely forwarding the U. S. complimentary book of telegraph stamps.

J. C., Sunderland.—Your hitherto undescribed Norwegian is thankfully acknowledged, and chronicled in the proper place; also the new Dutch envelope.

A. C. H. T., Brighton.—The stamp placed in collections as an emission of the Falkland Islands, is merely a postmark.—Chiffre-tax stamps of the 1870 type were issued in Italy in 1874, values 5 and 10 lire. The same values exist in the official set of 1875.

J. M. F., Glasgow.—The catalogue and supplement of Moens have never been, nor are likely to be translated into English. His postage-stamp album and *Illustrations* were Englished by Dr. Viner, but no other of his works.—You must apply to Messrs. Grant & Co., Torquay, for information respecting the *Philatetical Catalogue*.—Accept our best thanks for the newspaper cutting.

IOTA, Bury St. Edmund's.—Your Brazilian is forged: the Guatemala is a wretched imitation of a falsity: the Cashmere is genuine. The Würtemberg envelope impressions are very frequently found faulty from careless manipulation. Our collection contains many values in the same condition. The paper being thin receives the impression of the die on the back of the envelope, and gets coloured from that previously stamped if still remaining moist.

W. M. S., Oporto.—From lack of the proper paper, or the printer's carelessness, some Queensland stamps are found water-marked n. s. w. The violet 4d. of South Australia ought to be star-watermarked. Yours is almost, not quite, indecipherable. Read Mr. Earée on the subject in the present number. The eight, instead of nine, stars condemns the New Granada, notwithstanding the fictitious postmark. The Bolivian appears properly so. Your 5 gr. Saxony greenish blue is a decided variety. The Greek, with King George's head, is an essay. Thanks for calling attention to the head-variation in the New South Wales large sixpenny. Your Oldenburg, Austrian newspaper, and green Argentine stamps, are forged. All the rest seem genuine, except the New Granada noted above.

