

"7 cents, orange; 10 cents, red; 20 cents, violet and black; 25 cents, rose and blue; all of the same designs as the corresponding values in the emission of Dec. 5, 1895.

"50 cents, green and dark chestnut; 1 peso, chestnut and blue; 2 pesos, ochre and carmine; 3 pesos, lilac and carmine; all of the same designs as the corresponding values in the emission of Jan. 2, 1896. (We follow the official description of the colours, not having seen the stamps ourselves.)

"In addition to the above, the long-felt want of postcards, envelopes, and wrappers will at last be supplied by the issue of the following postal stationery:

"*Postcards.* For Interior. 2 cents, single, maroon ink; 4 cents, reply-paid, bright maroon; 3 cents, letter-card, light green; 6 cents, letter-card, reply-paid, red ink.

"*Postcards.* For Argentina. 2 cents, single, blue ink; 4 cents, reply-paid, violet ink.

"For other parts of the Postal Union. 3 cents, single, violet ink; 6 cents, reply-paid, blue-violet.

"*Envelopes.* 5 cents, red ink.

"*Wrappers.* 1 cent, blue ink.

"The usual period of 90 days is allowed for the withdrawal or exchange of previous issues, after which they will be valueless for postal purposes."

We have not yet seen any of the above novelties. When we have we will give formal chronicle.

UNITED STATES.—The destruction of the rollers and plates of the obsolete issues was made the occasion for a "new issue" of a decidedly novel character. When the plates had been melted, a portion of the metal was re-cast into paper-weights, the same being in the new form of a profile bust of Columbus. These paper-weights were presented to prominent officials in the various departments at Washington.

#### OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—We have received from Mr. David Benjamin a complete set of the new issue, from which our illustrations of the three high value stamps are taken. We find that the perforation of the stamps measures from 11 to  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , and not  $11\frac{1}{2}$  all through as stated last month.

These stamps are printed 80 to a sheet. Mr. Benjamin also writes that all the remainders of the recent surcharged stamps have now been withdrawn.

*Adhesives.* 1 dollar, carmine.  
2 dollars, deep orange.  
5 " green and flesh.



ERITREA.—The new 1 c. and 2 c. adhesives have received the surcharge "ERITREA."

*Adhesives.* 1 c., brown; black surch.  
2 c., red " "

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Comoro Islands.*—The *I. B. J.* adds a list of stationery to the new stamps described last month.

*Envelopes.* 5 c., green and red on green.  
15 c., blue " " 3 sizes.  
25 c., black and red on rose; 3 sizes.

*Letter Cards.* 15 c., black and red on grey.  
25 c. " " on rose.

*Post Cards.* 10 c., black and blue on green.  
10+10 c., black and blue on blue.

HAYTI.—The *A. J. of Ph.* has received some sheets of the current 1 c. imperforate vertically.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—The illustration gives the type of surcharge chronicled last month. In sending us copies of these provisionals, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write, "The cause of the surcharge is explained by the fact that all obsolete issues are demonetised after a certain period, during which they may be exchanged for the new issue. After the period has elapsed, stamps of the old issue in the hands of the public can neither be used nor exchanged. The stock of current 5 c. and 15 c. having run out, the remainders on hand of an obsolete issue were overprinted to make them available for use."



SIAM.—There is a new surcharge on the 1 att stamp, this value having overprinted "4 atts" in two sizes; one measuring  $8\frac{1}{2}$  mm. and the other 11 mm.

*Adhesives.* 4 atts on 1 att, green; black surcharge.

TRANSVAAL.—The single card of one penny has been issued with the stamp in two colours.

*Post Card.* 1d., carmine and green.