

WE regret that the demands upon our available space this month do not admit of our giving a full report of the Philatelic Exhibition recently held at Turin, and we are only able to congratulate its promoters, as we do most heartily, upon the success which we learn attended their efforts. The show appears to have been a most interesting one, and to have included such a gathering of the stamps of the old Italian States, unused, used on the entire envelope, etc. etc., as had probably never been brought together before. This class was, and we think very properly, intended to be the leading feature of the Exhibition. There are some very fine collections of the Italian stamps outside Italy, no doubt. Even in this country there are some fine old Italians to be found—in the neighbourhood of Brighton and elsewhere. But it is in their native land that we should expect to find them in the greatest profusion, and they are naturally of exceptional interest to Italian collectors. Other classes were, however, fairly represented, and we are sure that Dr. Diena, and those who worked so heartily with him, have no reason to be dissatisfied with the result.

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WE cannot conclude our volume without expressing our thanks to those of our readers who have so kindly assisted us in adding to our collection of Mulready covers and envelopes. Of fresh die numbers, to be added to the lists which we published a few years back, we have seen or heard of very few indeed, but those lists are certainly not complete, and we shall be extremely grateful for further help in adding to them. The arrangement of the numbers, in the order in which they appeared on the entire sheets, is another matter, and a more difficult task; without having copies of almost every number before us, we cannot hope to make an attempt at plating them, and we shall be very glad to see any specimens which their owners are willing to part with. Unsevered pairs or blocks are, of course, of the greatest interest, also single copies with large margins, either sufficient to indicate the edge of a sheet, or showing any trace, however small, of the outlines of an adjoining cover or envelope. It is the One Penny value only that we are studying, as the arrangement of the 2d. is already known, and copies should be sent to the *Editor*, who will take every care of specimens entrusted to him for examination.

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## NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E., or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

**Great Britain.**—Mr. Firth has kindly sent us a third size of the Registration Fee label for use on the largest envelopes, with the setting about 84 mm. wide at top and 93 mm. at bottom, and 98 mm. in total height. He has also met with an *albino* copy of this, with the lettering faintly impressed without any colour!

Mr. Stodart kindly sends us the following note as to some of the Scotch Railway Letter Fee Stamps:—

"It may interest collectors of Railway Letter Fee Stamps to know that no stamp was made for the 'City of Glasgow Union' Railway. Glasgow and South-Western, and Caledonian stamps were used on the line, which was only about a mile long. In March, 1891, 2004 stamps were made for the 'Ayrshire and Wigtownshire' Railway. A few months afterwards the line was absorbed in the Glasgow and South-Western system. Only a few of the stamps had been used, and no trace can be found of the remainders, which the old officials believe were destroyed. The stamps were in *deep green*, rouletted, and printed in sheets of 12. After great trouble, I succeeded in getting the imperf. copy submitted for approval to the manager of the Ayrshire and Wigtownshire line."

**British Central Africa.**—We give an illustration showing the surcharged stamp which we chronicled in March. We have since received specimens of another provisional 1d. stamp, produced by means of an embossing die of the narrow oval shape of the stamp impressed upon cheques, and struck in the same colour. In the centre is the Tree, which forms the Crest of the Territory, with the words "BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA PROTECTORATE" round the upper part of the oval, and "ONE PENNY" in two lines below. This is embossed in *red* on white wove paper, previously marked out in rectangles, with "INTERNAL" at top and "POSTAGE" below, in *blue*. Some of these labels have the postmaster's initials on the back, and we understand that none of them were to be sold to the public, but that they were to be affixed to letters on which the postage was paid in cash. We have before us impressions in *vermillion* (one of them doubly printed) with frame in *dull blue*, and in *rosy red* with frame in *bright ultramarine*.



Adhesive. 1d., red and blue; imperf.

**British East Africa.**—We give an illustration of the design of the stamps of the value of 1 rupee and upwards chronicled in January. Our readers will perceive that it is simply an enlargement of the type of the lower values, without further embellishment.



**British South Africa.**—We give an illustration of one of the "Rhodesia" cards described in February. The stamp is not of the re-engraved type, as we have seen stated, but of the type of 1896.



**Canada.**—We give an illustration showing the stamp upon the new 3 c. envelope. We learn from some of our contemporaries that there are to be 1 c. and 2 c. values of the same ugly type.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—We have seen the new 2d. stamp, and find that the colour is distinctly different from that of the previous printings; it is almost a *chocolate-brown*. The *A. J. of Ph.* states that the colour of the new stamp is almost exactly like that of the older issue. Our contemporary has perhaps not seen the new issue yet.

**Ceylon.**—We noted last month the fact that new tints are being employed for various values of this Colony. We have before us the 8 c. in a brighter shade than before, with a little more inclination to *orange*, and very white, clean gum, which perhaps has not yet had time to turn *brown* and discolour the paper.

**Fiji.**—We have the current ½d. stamp, perf. 10, 11, and 11 x 10. The last is, we understand, No. 70 in the Catalogue; the first we chronicled in January, the second appears to be new.

**Gibraltar.**—We learn from various correspondents that owing to the depreciation in the Spanish currency it is probable that there may be another issue of Gibraltar stamps shortly, with values in English money, as in the case of the earlier issues. In the meantime the Gibraltar stamps for use in the British post offices in Morocco were issued, on June 1st, surcharged "Morocco Agencies," in two lines in *black*, to distinguish them from those sold at Gibraltar itself. The 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 25 c. have been issued in this condition, and we believe the whole series exists.

- Adhesives.*
- 5 c., green.
  - 10 c., carmine.
  - 20 c., olive and brown.
  - 25 c., ultramarine.
  - 40 c., orange-brown.
  - 50 c., lilac.
  - 75 c., olive-green.
  - 1 p., bistre and ultramarine.
  - 2 p., black and carmine.
  - 5 p., grey-blue.

**Grenada.**—A correspondent has very kindly sent us a copy of correspondence which has passed between the Governor of this Colony and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject of a proposed Columbus Commemoration Label for Grenada. Why are philatelists to be fleeced because Columbus was foolish enough to go on voyages of discovery?

"GOVERNOR TO SECRETARY OF STATE.  
"GRENADA, 12th March, 1898.

"No. 34.

"SIR,—On the 15th August next the 400th anniversary of the discovery of Grenada will take place, for on that day of 1498 Columbus, after passing through the Strait of Boca del Dragon, which separates Trinidad from the mainland of South America, sighted the islands of Tobago and Grenada, and called them respectively Ascension and Conception.

"2.—It is my desire, which is shared by my Executive Council, to mark an anniversary of such interest and importance in the Colony's history by the issue of a special 2½d. postage stamp of the design enclosed (subject to the discretion of the Crown agents as to its size and colour) commemorative of the discovery, and I accordingly submit the proposal for your approval.

"3.—For sale to the public I recommend an issue of 500,000 of the stamps, after which the plate can be destroyed; and should you approve of the proposal, I would ask that the Crown agents may be authorized to take the necessary steps to give it effect in time to admit of the issue reaching the Colony about July next.

"4.—I append a requisition in duplicate on the Crown agents for the supply desired.

"I have, &c.,  
(Signed) "ALFRED MALONEY, Governor.

"The Right Honourable JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., &c. &c."

"SECRETARY OF STATE TO GOVERNOR.  
"DOWNING STREET, 16th April, 1898.

"No. 48.

"SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 34 of the 12th of March, submitting a proposal for the issue of a special postage stamp to com-

memorate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of Grenada by Columbus, and to inform you that I am prepared to approve of such an issue, and have accordingly caused the Crown agents to be instructed to proceed with its preparation, adopting the design marked B enclosed in your despatch.

"I have, &c.,  
(Signed) "J. CHAMBERLAIN.

"Governor Sir C. A. MALONEY, K.C.M.G., &c. &c."

**Hong Kong.**—Our illustration shows the 10 c. on 30 c. stamp, chronicled last month, when we omitted to state that the surcharged value is expressed in Chinese as well as in English. On the specimen shown us the Chinese character was barely visible.



**India.**—A correspondent tells us that he has met with the current ½ anna stamp bearing a double surcharge of "On H.M.S."; the first impression having fallen partly on one stamp and partly on the next, a second was printed in the correct position. Another instance of economy on the part of the printers. Has the waste-paper basket been lost? The 2 rupees stamp reaches us with the frame in *deep brown*, instead of *chestnut*—possibly the result of some chemical change. It does not appear to have been noticed that the spandrels of these stamps are filled in with the words "INDIA POSTAGE" in minute capitals.

**Charkari.**—Le *C. de T.-P.* chronicles a double card, similar to the single card of this State.

*Post Card.* ½+½ a., lilac on buff.

**Labuan.**—We have received the North Borneo 12 c. label, with the highly necessary surcharge transferred from the upper part of the design, where it covered the value, to the lower, where it covers the original name. It is now in a straight line also, instead of an arch.

*Adhesive.* 12 c., black and red; *new edition.*

**Mauritius.**—It seems to be fated that we should refer to the Jubilee label as often as if it were a stamp of the most desirable nature. We have received copies and find that the value is in *blue*, as we gave it in April, not in *carmine* as stated last month. The colour of the rest of the impression we should term *brown-orange*, rather than either *brown-yellow*, or *yellow-brown*. The provisional cards exist in three varieties:—

*a.* On the 6 c. single cards, with the top line of the inscription barred and all the edges plain. *b.* On the first half of the double card, similar to *a.*, but showing perforations along the top. *c.* On the second half of the double card, similar to *b.* and with the word "REPLY" barred. All have the lower part of the card cut away, reducing the size to 140 x 75 mm.

A correspondent informs us that the supply of 4 c. stamps has run short, and that the following numbers of other values are to be surcharged:—

<i>Adhesives.</i>	16 c.	.	.	50,000
	18 c.	.	.	300,000
	25 c.	.	.	80,000
	50 c.	.	.	50,000
<i>Envelopes.</i>	18 c.	.	.	80,000
	36 c.	.	.	80,000

Which, said Mr. Barlow, reminds me of the tale of "The Sagacious Speculator and the Patient Philatelist." But we have heard that story before!

**New South Wales.**—We have received the 6d. of the 1888 type (quite an old inhabitant) printed in a new colour to distinguish it from the current 1d.

*Adhesive.* 6d., blue-green; *perf.* 12.

**New Zealand.**—It seems worth while to quote the following *official* description of the pictorial posters—we mean postage stamps—recently issued, especially as it even goes so far into philatelic detail as to tell us the gauge of the perforation! A *vertical oblong* is a shape that is quite new to us, but we suppose it is all right.

Extract from the *Post and Telegraph Official Circular*, 1st April, 1898:—

"*New Issue of Postage and Revenue Stamps.*

"It is notified, for the information of all officers, that a new issue of postage and revenue stamps of the values of ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d., 1s., 2s., and 5s. will be made on the 5th proximo. For the present

the supply of these stamps is limited, and they are to be sold side by side with the stamps of the present issue until a sufficient stock is on hand to enable the present issue to be superseded. The following is a detailed description of the new stamps:—

*One Halfpenny (lilac-brown).*—View of Mount Cook, in oval frame on shaded background, surmounted by curved inscription in white letters, 'POSTAGE AND REVENUE,' and at top by label with ornamental border containing 'NEW ZEALAND' in coloured letters on white ground. Central design is flanked by sprays of ranunculus and celmisia, below which on each side are small oval labels surrounded by scrolls, and bearing figures of value on white ground, the value in words being in straight label at foot.

*One Penny (light brown, with blue centre).*—View of Lake Taupo, with Ruapehu in background, and cabbage-palm in left foreground, surrounded by semi-circular labels containing 'NEW ZEALAND' in white letters on colour above, and 'POSTAGE AND REVENUE' in coloured letters below. Value in words in straight label at foot, broken at each lower corner by square containing figure of value. Ornamented spandrels.

*Two pence (wine-red or claret).*—View of Pembroke Peak, Milford Sound, surrounded by oval band with inscription in white, 'NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE AND REVENUE.' Figure of value at base of design, with ornaments on each side. Value in words at foot, in straight label, full width of stamp. Sides and top of stamp are enclosed by dotted border of Greek design, and ornamented spandrels.

*Two pence-halfpenny (Antwerp blue).*—Oblong (horizontal), view of Mount Earnslaw and head of Lake Wakatipu, with *phormium tenax*, toitoi, and cabbage-palms in foreground. Inscription, 'NEW ZEALAND' in white, 'POSTAGE AND REVENUE' in colour, at top of stamp. Value in figures only, enclosed in scroll ornament springing from lower right-hand corner, and bearing name of locality (misspelt Wakitipu). Name, 'MT. EARNSLAW' in left-hand lower corner.

*Three pence (light brown).*—Central design, a pair of huias on branch, surrounded by a circular border, inscribed 'NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE AND REVENUE' in white letters on colour, and broken at lower corners by Egyptian ornamentation. Value in words at bottom, divided in centre by shield of solid colour, with figure '3' in white. Upper spandrels are filled in with similar labels, bearing figures of value, placed obliquely.

*Four pence (rose-lake).*—View of White Terrace, Rotomahana, in oval dotted border, flanked by sprays of tataramoia, and broken at base on each side by bands containing inscription, 'POSTAGE,' 'REVENUE.' Name of colony at top of stamp, and value in words at foot, in straight labels.

*Five pence (brown-lake).*—Oblong (vertical), view of Otira Gorge, with snow-peak in background. Name in lower right-hand corner; also small circular view of Mount Ruapehu superimposed upon left foreground. Inscription, 'NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE AND REVENUE' at top of stamp, and value in words at base, in straight label.

*Six pence (sap-green).*—Representation of kiwi *regardant*, surmounted by semi-circular band of solid colour, bearing words 'NEW ZEALAND' in white letters, and supported by oblique labels, 'POSTAGE,' 'REVENUE,' on left and right respectively. Value in words only at base of stamp, in straight label. The corners of the design, which has a distinctive appearance resembling a horse-shoe, are filled in with ornamental scroll-work on shaded ground.

*Eight pence (steel-blue).*—Large outline figure '8,' supported by fern-trees and cabbage-palms on shaded background. Within the upper portion of the figure is an Imperial crown, and in the lower portion a view with native war-canoe over the word 'PENNY' at base of figure. The lower corners of stamp contain circles with figures of value in white, the upper corners being bevelled and filled with scallop ornaments. The words 'NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE AND REVENUE' are inscribed upon the curves of the large figure which forms the central device.

*Nine pence (lilac).*—Oblong (horizontal), view of Pink Terrace, Rotomahana, with tree-fern and nikau-palm at sides. The legend 'POSTAGE AND REVENUE' at base of picture. Value in white figures in coloured circles at each

corner. 'NEW ZEALAND' in arched inscription above, and value in words below, in straight label; both white letters on colour.

*One Shilling (orange-red).*—Representation of pair of kakas on branch, in colour on white background within fancy frame, having arched label 'POSTAGE' above 'AND REVENUE' below. Name of colony at top of stamp, and value in words at bottom, in straight labels. Value in figures in circles at lower corners, above the bottom label.

*Two Shillings (blue-green).*—Oblong (horizontal), view of Milford Sound in fancy frame, with title below in label, and clump of cabbage-palms on left-hand side above scrolled circle enclosing value in figures. The words 'NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE AND REVENUE' in white letters at top of stamp.

*Five Shillings (vermilion).*—Oblong (vertical), view of Mount Cook, with name in white label below. Inscription, 'NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE AND REVENUE' above, and value in words at foot, white letters on coloured ground.

All the above stamps are printed on white-wove un-watermarked paper and perforate 14 to 15. The rectangular stamps measure about 18 mm. by 22 mm., and the oblong stamps 33 mm. by 20 mm., or, say,  $\frac{1\frac{1}{2}}{8}$  in. by  $\frac{1\frac{1}{8}}{8}$  in., and  $\frac{1\frac{1}{2}}{8}$  in. by  $1\frac{5}{8}$  in.

W. GRAY, Secretary.

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, WELLINGTON, 24th March, 1898."

**Queensland.**—A correspondent tells us that he possesses a companion to the 2d. of 1882 with the letter "U" transformed into "J," in the shape of a copy of the 6d. of the same issue, showing the same peculiarity.

**St. Lucia.**—From a letter received from this Colony we learn that the Postal Union rate from St. Lucia has been reduced to 2d. Our correspondent very kindly sends us a copy of a 2d. stamp of the current type (Die II.), which was issued on the 9th May. Watermark and perforation as usual, name and value in the second colour.

*Adhesive.* 2d., ultramarine and orange.

**Straits Settlements.**—*Negri Sembilan.*—We have received copies of the stamps chronicle in January, and find that the name and value on the 5 c. and 20 c. are in identically the same colour, which we think should be termed *olive-yellow*.

**Uganda.**—The following extract from a letter published in *The Pioneer of India* for March 11th is of interest, as describing the postal arrangements in Uganda:—

"I am sorry I cannot send you any B. E. A. stamps. They are not in circulation here, and those you find on our letters have been put on at Mombasa. Our postal regulations are complicated, and are as follows: From Mengo we put on the local stamp which carries the letter to Kikuya, 400 miles from here, and the limit of our postal union. This is paid for us by the C.M.S. From Kikuya to the coast there is a charge of 3 rs. per pound on each person's mail, payable at the coast from our private account, and at the coast the officials put on the B. E. A. stamp to complete the journey. The local stamps have been designed and printed on the C.M.S. press at Busoga by Mr. Rowling by special request of the Government."

**Victoria.**—We give illustrations, merely by way of warning, of the two hospital labels issued last year.

Our readers will perceive that they are very large and very ugly, equally uninteresting either from the philatelic or the artistic point of view.





PART II.

**Austria.**—We have received quite a pile of the new cards, among which are some complicated varieties that require a little description. It would appear that two distinct modifications of the inscriptions have taken place, but whether a full set of either exists we cannot say, though we find that some of the bi-lingual and tri-lingual varieties exist in both.

First, with "Correspondenz-Karte" in the same type as before, but with the long "f" and the lettering slightly compressed, so that the words measure about 51 mm., instead of 54 mm. The second line of the heading—where there is more than one—is also in similar type to that previously used for it, and in each case that we have seen there are only two lines to the heading, though in one instance the second line is in two languages. The abbreviated name of the province is given at right below as before, except in the one instance alluded to above, where there are two names given preceded by "Deutsch." We quote in the list below the abbreviated names as given upon the cards. Of this series we have the following:—

- Post Cards 2 kr., German,  
 " " ("Böhm.)"  
 " " ("Deutsch-Illyr.-Ital.)"  
 " " ("Slov.")  
 2+2 " German,  
 " " ("Rum.")

Second, with "Correspondenz-Karte" (still with long "f") in much smaller type, with ordinary German capital initials, the words measuring 40 mm. in length. The heading in the other languages is, on the other hand, given in larger type, and where there are two other languages the heading is in three lines; the abbreviated name (or names) is now always preceded by "Deutsch." Of this series we have:—

- Post Cards. 2 kr. ("Deutsch-Böhm.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Illyr.-Ital.)"  
 " " ("Deutsch-Ital.)"  
 " " ("Deutsch-Poln.-Ruth.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Rum.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Ruth.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Slov.")  
 2+2 " ("Deutsch-Böhm.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Illyr.-Ital.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Ital.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Poln.-Ruth.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Ruth.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Slov.")

We have also letter cards, with the German heading in smaller type (28 mm. long instead of 42 mm.), and the other languages in larger type and in two lines where there are two of them:—

- Letter Cards. 3 kr. ("Deutsch-Böhm.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Ital.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Poln.-Ruth.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Rum.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Slov.")  
 5 " ("Deutsch-Böhm.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Ital.-Illyr.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Poln.-Ruth.")  
 " " ("Deutsch-Slov.")

**Belgium.**—*Congo State.*—We give illustrations of the designs of the two new stamps which we chronicled last month. Civilization may be seen proceeding up the Congo in a steamboat, but the price to be paid for it is a little high.



**Brazil.**—We give an illustration of the design of the new cards chronicled last month. *Le T.-P.* tells us that the 100 reis Unpaid Letter stamp of the latest type made its appearance on April 5th.

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 100 r., brick-red.



A note in the *Revue Ph. F.* states that the 60 reis of 1850 has been found *tête-bêche*. The discovery has been rather long in coming.

**China.**—We have received a copy of the 2 c. on the 3 c. Revenue stamp with the surcharge upside down.

**Ecuador.**—The provisional is still the only thing that is permanent here. *The Ph. Monthly and World* has met with some more of the current Revenue stamps used postally, with surcharged values also as usual.

- Fiscals used Postally. 1 c., in black, on 5 c., pale blue.  
 2 c., carmine.  
 4 c., in red, on 20 c., dark blue.

**Egypt.**—*Le T.-P.* informs us that some copies of the 1, 2, and 3 millièmes and the 2 piastres Egyptian stamps received the *Soudan* surcharge in red, instead of in black; but we are not told whether this was a trial printing or whether any of the stamps thus surcharged were put in circulation. *Le C. de T.-P.* has been informed that no genuine *Soudan* surcharges exist in red. Let us hope so.

We have received specimens of the 1 millième with the *Soudan* surcharge inverted. We understand that one sheet of 60 was found thus among a large quantity with overprint correctly placed.

Adhesive. 1 mil., brown; surcharge inverted.

Mr. Aphonides kindly sends us a copy of the 3 mil. on 2 piastres Unpaid Letter stamp, in which there is a minute error, altering the meaning of one of the Arabic words of the surcharge. Over the third character from the left there should be two dots, and the inscription then commences "el ghirsh" = *the piastre*; in the error there is only one dot, making it read "el farsh" = *the bed*. The difference is evidently a more serious one than would appear at first sight.

**France.**—*Le T.-P.* announces the issue of the 10 + 10 c. card, with heading "REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE" surcharged "10 CENTIMOS," in carmine, for use in the French offices in Morocco.

Post Card. 10+10 centimos on 10+10 c., current type.

**Guatemala.**—*The A. J. of Ph.* states that some of the sheets of the 1 c. on 5 c. of 1895 contained a row of stamps bearing the date "1894" in error. If any were issued in this condition it is curious that they have not been recognized before now. There is also, we gather, a second type of the 1894 surcharge, the date measuring 14 mm. in width instead of 12 mm.

**Hayti.**—We give an illustration showing the customary surcharge as it appears upon the stamps chronicled last month. It is reported to be struck in red in each case.

We have received some of the new stamps, and find that the 1 c. is *ultra-marine* and the 2 c. *lake-red*.



**Holland.**—Mr. Gordon Smith tells us that he has seen the 12½ c., grey, of 1872-88, perf. 12½ all round. This is an addition to Issue V., Section d, of the Reference List given in our February number.

**Dutch Indies.**—We gather from *Le T.-P.* that the current envelopes 12½ c., 15 c., 20 c., and 25 c. have been overprinted in some way for the purpose of facilitating the *écoulement*, to use a classical expression. The nature of

the surcharge is not stated, and even its colour seems doubtful. There is some fearful mystery here! We have learned since from *The A. J. of Ph.* that the surcharge alters the value to 10 c. all round.

**Japan.**—We give an illustration of one of the new 4 sen cards already chronicled.



**Liberia.**—According to the *A. B. J.* the Registration Envelope, size H<sup>2</sup>, exists with stamp Type VII. in red, and large "R" in an oval.

*Reg. Env.* 10 c., red; size H<sup>2</sup>.

**Mexico.**—We have received the 1 c., 2 c., and 15 c. with the Eagle and "R. M." watermark, and the usual ineffective perforation, gauging 12. The *Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 5 c. with the same watermark., perf. 6. We understand that this eccentricity is due to alternate pins of the machine being shorter than the others, so that when several sheets are perforated together the top ones come out perf. 12 and the bottom ones perf. 6.

*Adhesives.* 1 c., deep green; new wmk; perf. 12.  
2 c., carmine-red " " 12.  
15 c., greenish blue " " 12.  
5 c., ultramarine " " 6.

**Montenegro.**—*La R. Ph. Belge* reports that a new issue has appeared in this Principality, with the colours of the various values re-shuffled. The perforation is not described.

*Adhesives.* 2 nov., blue-green. | 7 nov., grey-violet.  
3 " red. | 10 " red-lilac.  
5 " ochre. | 15 " claret.  
25 nov., blue.

**Morocco.**—*Fes-Mesquinez.*—The first illustration below shows the design of the Unpaid Letter Labels chronicled last month; they are stated to be perf. 11½.



**Tangier-Morocco-Lavaiche.**—The second illustration represents one of a series of six values for this service, chronicled by *Le T.-P.* These also are perf. 11½.

*Adhesives.* 5 c., lilac. | 25 c., green.  
10 c., pale blue. | 50 c., grey-black.  
20 c., olive. | 1 p., blue.

**Persia.**—We give an illustration of the 2 ch. card chronicled last month. The higher value has, we believe, the same stamp, but the formula of Type 5 in the Catalogue.



**Portugal.**—The *Porto Philatelico* describes some copies of the 50 r. and 100 r. of 1853, obliterated with a mark formed of 11 bars; also specimens of the stamps of 1862-66-68-69, with a square obliteration formed of 10 bars with a figure "1" in the centre. The latter are stated to be reprints with an obliteration employed in Lisbon after 1871; the former are said to bear a fraudulent obliteration, not used until after 1855—but in that case what are the stamps themselves? Surely no one has been fraudulently oblitterating unused originals!

**Russian Local.**—*Morschansk.*—*Le T.-P.* chronicles a new stamp, of the annexed design, for this district. The impression is in divers colours and the perforation 11½.

*Adhesive.*  
5 kop., black, lilac, gold, and salmon.

**Samoa.**—The Editor of *The Australian Ph.* tells us that he possesses the whole current set, including the 1½d. and 3d. on 2d., perf. 11. We have therefore to add to the values previously chronicled with this perforation:—

*Adhesives.* 1½d., in blue, on 2d., orange.  
3d., in black, on 2d. " "  
4d., blue. " "  
5d., vermilion. " "  
1s., rose. " "  
2s. 6d., mauve.



**Servia.**—We have been shown two curiosities, consisting of the backs of old letters bearing, one the half of a 40 paras of 1866, and the other the half of a 40 paras of 1869, each of which is divided vertically down the centre, and has apparently passed for 20 paras postage.

**Spain.**—*Cuba.*—The editor of *Le T.-P.* has found four varieties of the rather scarce card of 1879, differing principally in the breaks in the thick line of the frame, and in the presence or absence of accents in the instruction. Those of our readers who collect cards will find these worth looking for. Efforts are apparently being made to prove some legitimate use for the labels issued—in the United States—by the representatives of the supposed Cuban Republic. *Le T.-P.* publishes an illustration showing a would-be provisional, producing an unheard-of rate of 4½ centavos—sufficient in itself to reveal the nature of other obliterated copies. We gather from the newspapers that the Government of the United States has already discovered what the Spaniards could have told them before, that there is no Cuban Republican authority to do postal or other business with outside the United States.

**Philippine Islands.**—We have received a set of the new cards for this Spanish colony, identical with that already described for Porto Rico (except that the 3 c. single card has not reached us). We have not yet seen the Cuban series. We have seen some of the surcharged stamps of last year, including a 5 c. on 5 c., green (apparently on the stamp of 1895 according to the Catalogue); the colour is certainly not yellow-green, but perhaps there is a yellow-green stamp that has been similarly overprinted. The colour of the 25 c. also is not yellow-brown, we should term it brown, without any qualification, and call the 20 c. of 1892 pale brown. Oh, for a colour chart that would settle all these things for us out of hand!

**Porto Rico.**—We are informed that the 2 c. and 5 c. of the "Baby Head" type have been converted into War Tax stamps, by means of a surcharge, the 2 c. being intended for the collection of an extra charge upon each letter, and the 5 c. for a similar charge upon telegrams. Our information was, however, contained in a letter, the postage on which was represented by a 1 c. stamp of the new issue, with a 2 c., red-brown, a 2 c., lilac, and a 5 c., green, of the previous type, surcharged "IMPUESTO—DE GUERRA," in violet, in two lines of tall capitals; so that there was apparently only 1 c. postage and 9 c. tax!

**Turkey.**—An extract from *The Levant Herald*, quoted in *Le T.-P.*, gives the numbers printed of the various values of the Thessalian rubbish as follows:—

10 paras, 413,400. | 1 piastre, 313,400.  
20 " 413,400. | 2 " 313,400.  
5 piastres, 300,000.

After which the dies, plates, etc., were solemnly destroyed and defaced, as certified by six officials, ranging from a *Directeur de l'Hotel des Monnaies* down to a *Damgha Nazir*.

**United States.**—The following is the latest official description of the forthcoming Omaha labels :—

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF THIRD ASSISTANT-POSTMASTER-GENERAL,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 16, 1898.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing having found it impracticable to furnish satisfactorily or in the time desired supplies of the several denominations of Trans-Mississippi stamps in two colours, or with black centres and coloured borders, as was at first intended, and as is announced in the current—May—number of the Postal Guide, the Department is constrained to issue each of the denominations of these stamps in a single colour. This change has necessitated several other changes; so that the description of the stamps as given in the May Guide must be ignored. The following description is now the correct one :—

The Trans-Mississippi stamps differ materially in size from the ordinary series, the engraved space being about seven-eighths of an inch wide by about one and three-eighths long. The designs are also radically unlike those of the ordinary stamps—consisting of a border (substantially the same in all the denominations, except that the figures and letters representing values are different) and a central scene, indicative in some way of the development of the great region beyond the Mississippi River. The scenes and the borders are all printed from lined engravings on steel, executed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department.

The border, which forms in its inner line an irregular oval framework to each of the scenes represented, consists of a fluted figure on either side, with interior cross-bars, beginning in a single line near the bottom of the stamp, and enlarging until it reaches a shield in each of the upper corners, wherein is engraved in white the Arabic numeral of denomination—the dollar mark being also included in the case of the one and two dollar stamps. At the top, connecting the two shields, and united to the fluted framework on the two sides, is a curved tablet, on which are engraved in small white capitals the words "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA." Above this, on either side, are heads of wheat, and between these a small scroll. Immediately below the central scene is the title of the picture in diminutive white Gothic letters on a curved tablet, and below this on either side, in scrolls, are the words of value, "one," "two," and so on, in white capitals, except in the case of the two highest denominations, when "\$1.00" and "\$2.00" are substituted for letters. Above each of these is a projecting ear of corn, and at the bottom of all on a straight black tablet are the words "POSTAGE ONE CENT," "POSTAGE TWO CENTS," and so on, in white capitals.

The scenes represented on the stamps, together with the colours of the several denominations, are these :—

**ONE CENT.**—"Marquette on the Mississippi," from a painting by Lamprecht, now in possession of the Marquette College of Milwaukee, Wis., representing Father Marquette in a boat on the Upper Mississippi preaching to the Indians. Colour, dark green.

**TWO CENT.**—"Farming in the West," from a photograph representing a western grainfield with a long row of ploughs at work. Colour, copper-red.

**FOUR CENT.**—"Indian Hunting Buffalo," reproduction of an engraving in Schoolcraft's *History of the Indian Tribes*. Colour, orange.

**FIVE CENT.**—"Fremont on Rocky Mountains," modified from a wood engraving, representing the Pathfinder planting the U. S. flag on the highest peak of the Rocky Mountains. Colour, dark blue.

**EIGHT CENT.**—"Troops Guarding Train," representing a detachment of U. S. soldiers conveying an emigrant train across the prairies, from a drawing by Frederic Remington, permission to use which was kindly given by the publisher, R. H. Russell, of New York. Colour, dark lilac.

**TEN CENT.**—"Hardships of Emigration," from a painting kindly loaned by the artist, A. G. Heaton, representing an emigrant and his family on the plains in a "prairie schooner," one of the horses having fallen from exhaustion. Colour, slate.

**FIFTY CENT.**—"Western Mining Prospector," from a drawing by Frederic Remington (permission to use which has been kindly given by the publisher, R. H. Russell, of New York), representing a prospector with his pack-mules in the mountains searching for gold. Colour, olive.

**ONE DOLLAR.**—"Western Cattle in Storm," representing a herd of cattle, preceded by the leader, seeking safety from a gathering storm; reproduced from a large steel engraving after a picture by J. Mac-Whirter—the engraving having been kindly loaned by Mrs. C. B. Johnson. Colour, light brown.

**TWO DOLLAR.**—"Mississippi River Bridge," from an engraving—a representation of the great bridge over the Mississippi at St. Louis. Colour, sapphire-blue.

No Trans-Mississippi postal cards or stamped envelopes will be issued.

Although this series of stamps will be discontinued on the 31st of December, 1898, they will be good for postage at any time afterwards.

JOHN A. MERRITT,

*Third Assistant-Postmaster-General.*

## STAMPS IN THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

By DONALD A. KING.

It is rather an uncommon circumstance to have a philatelic or semi-philatelic debate in Parliament, but that was about what occurred when the Hon. the Postmaster-General of Canada was having his estimates for the ensuing year passed in the House of Commons. The Jubilee issue, and the manner in which it was handled by the department, and the unsatisfactory nature of the present issue, were the subjects under discussion. The first part was due more to the want of knowledge on the part of members of the methods of distribution employed by the department than to any real cause of complaint,\* and the chief point criticized was the disposition of the half cent value, that being the only one mentioned, the other point being an excess of eight cent stamps over the number given to Parliament as the quantity to be issued. In both cases the Hon. the Postmaster-General was quite able to give perfectly satisfactory explanations. In the matter of the current issue objections were raised to the absence of figures indicating the denominations, and to the colours employed. These imperfections were practically admitted, and a statement was made to the effect that a new issue was now in course of manufacture, in which the sins of omission and commission in the current series would be atoned for.

This means that some of the values of the current issue will be scarce, as the quantity used must necessarily be a limited one.

The following is an extract from the report of the debate :—

*Mr. Sproule.* I would like an explanation why it was that the post offices in the rural districts of the country could not get certain denominations of these stamps. When the explanation was made here, before the issue was to take place, it was stated that they would be sent all over the country in proportionate numbers of the various denominations, according to the quantity of stamps issued in the post offices. My information is that the rural post offices could not get certain denominations at all, for instance the half cent stamp. I know there were many enquiries made about them for a length of time. There were some few distributed through offices here and there, but the denominations that were in great demand were not supplied, they were taken up somewhere before they reached these post offices. The

\* Query. *ED. M. J.*