

tal administration under the control of the German Imperial Post Office Department.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.—A 1d. news band in carmine on buff paper, and a 1½d. post card green on white have appeared. Both are of the current type of the adhesives.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.—A 4d. registration envelope printed in blue has been issued to supersede the temporary one surcharged on the Cape of Good Hope envelope.

CEYLON.—A 12c. stamp, olive green and carmine for double rate Imperial penny postage letters has been issued of same design as the rest of the current adhesives, also a 6c. post card carmine on white, single and reply with stamps of the 1895 envelope type (Scott E 10). *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* states that a 6c. letter card is also to be issued, and that this new postal stationery is being manufactured by the Ceylon Government printing office.

COLUMBIA REPUBLIC.—In addition to the two provisionals chronicled last month from Cartagena, a set of four values has been issued of similar design, bearing a surcharge of horizontal wavy lines. They are very poorly executed by lithography and are pin perforated. The values and colors are:



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| 1 centavo | brown on buff |
| 2 | black on buff |
| 5 | purple on green |
| 10 | red on salmon. |

Mekeel's Weekly also reports another provisional from the same locality consisting of the Bolivar 1891 1 centavo black, of which it is said 4000 were used, mostly on newspapers, the wavy line surcharge was applied, after the stamps were affixed to the wrappers, by a rubber hand stamp.

DAHOMY.—A 25 centimes stamp black on rose, and a 5c. envelope yellow green are reported, of the regular French Colonial type. They are doubtless the fore-runners of a complete set.

ECUADOR.—It is announced that the 1 sucre revenue stamp of 1896, has been surcharged 10c. for postal use. There are two varieties, a black surcharge and a double surcharge blue and black.

EGYPT.—*French offices.* The set of French stamps reported last month, surcharged "Alexandrie," turn out to be only for the French post office in the City of Alexandria. The *P. J. of G. B.* reports a similar set surcharged "Post Said" and it is stated that each French office in Egypt is to have a set, should this turn out to be a fact, the stamps would only find their proper place in a collection of "Locals." Local issues always are limited in quantity, as regards actual postal requirements, the authorities are constantly running short of one or more values and resorting to surcharged makeshifts; hence the indifference with which most collectors regard them. The Post Said post office seems already to have run out of the 25 c. value for two varieties of surcharge are reported 25c. on 10c. in words only and also in words and figures. They were not old in that state but affixed to letters handed in at the post office, and 2000 are said to have been so used.

FRENCH SOUDAN.—This colony has ceased to exist as a separate administration, and the stamps in consequence have been suppressed.

FRENCH COLONIES.—The 5c. light yellow green is gradually coming into use in the various French possessions; Martinique, Mayotte and Senegal are the latest places reported to have adopted it.

GERMANY.—A new value for printed matter 2pf. gray is to be included in the new issue. A 5pf. post card of the new type was issued Dec. 28th for use only on and after Jan. 1st. but up to the time of our going to press no others of the new stamps had come to hand.

HUNGARY.—The stamps with values expressed in the new currency, reported in our December issue are now appearing.

The design consists of a large Imperial crown surmounted by an Eagle with outspread wings, in a circle. Above is the inscription "Magyar Kir. posta", with value bel w. The 1 heller grey and 25h. blue are the only specimens reported as yet.

