

1856 issue, 2 pence, blue, watermark 5 ;	
1856 issue, 6 pence, grey, " 8 ;	
1856 issue, 1 shilling, red, " 8 ;	
1860 issue, 3 pence, green, " 6 ;	
1860 issue, 6 pence, violet, " 5 ;	
1860 issue, 6 pence, violet, " 12.	

WATERMARK REVERSED.

1850 issue, 5 pence, square green ;	
1860 issue, 2 pence, blue, watermark 1 ;	
1860 issue, 2 pence, blue, " 3 ;	
1860 issue, 2 pence, blue, " 5 ;	
1863 issue, 1 penny, red, " 2.	

If these errors occurred at the present time, we would hear it said that it was done on purpose ; but we fancy that these are genuine errors.

On looking over a late set of the New South Wales stamps it is surprising to an ordinary mind how people in their proper senses could issue to the public such mean looking stamps in place of the old issues. The old ones had artistic work about them, both in designing and engraving, which is something that the present issue lack very much. It is a sorry fact, but one which we cannot help admitting, that the British Colonies have deteriorated more than any other countries in the artistic merits of their postage stamps.

DAVID LANG.

POSTAGE RATES FROM NOVA SCOTIA IN THE YEAR 1854.

LIMIT OF WEIGHT $\frac{1}{4}$ OUNCE.

To Alexandria, 2/3 ; Algeria, 1/10 ; Austria, 2/8 ; Bavaria, 2/2 ; Belgium, 2/3 ; China, 2/10 ; France, 2/3 ; Gibraltar, 2/1 ; Holland, 2/2 ; Hong Kong, 2/10 ; India, 2/10 ; Norway, 2/7 ; Portugal, 2/1 ; Prussia, 2/2 ; Russia, 2/6 ; Spain, 2/2 ; Sweden, 2/2 ; Turkey, 3/-.

LIMIT OF WEIGHT $\frac{1}{2}$ OUNCE.

To Adelaide, 2/- ; Antigua, 1/8 ; Australia, 2/1 ; Bermuda, -/8 ; Brazil, 3/9 ; Cape Verde, 2/10 ; Cape of Good Hope, 2/- ; Chili, 1/7 ; Cuba, 1/3 ; Denmark, 1/10.

These figures will give some idea of the postage which our fathers had to pay. It would have been somewhat expensive to have had many foreign correspondents at that time. Now, with very few exceptions we may send a letter to any of these places for five cents.

The following figures show the increase in the sale of postage stamps in Nova Scotia in the first four years after their introduction, viz. :

1852 amount sold	£ 325 2 6
1853 "	473 4 8
1854 "	898 0 6
1855 "	1656 16 3

An increase of five hundred per cent.