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CENTENNIAL STAMPS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

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ON January 26, 1888, New South Wales completed her one hundredth birthday. For the celebration of this, various proposals were submitted to the government of the colony. Most of these were rejected; and of those accepted, the only one of interest to philatelists generally is the issue of a new series of stamps for the colony. On August 5th, a deputation from the Philatelic Society of Australia, consisting of the President, (Archdeacon King), the Vice-President, (Mr. Thos. Rogh), the Secretary, Mr. F. Hagen, and Dr. Honison waited upon the Premier, Sir Henry Parkes, to recommend that a new issue of stamps should form an item in the programme for the celebration of the centenary of the colony. Sir Henry Parkes informed them that he would represent what they had said to him to the other members of the government.

The cabinet met the same afternoon to consider the above proposal, and decided to have enquiry made as to the cost of new dies.

This enquiry seems to have proved satisfactory, as the following notice appeared in Government Gazette of November 16:

GENERAL P. O.,

SYDNEY, 15TH NOV., 1887.

Designs for new Postage Stamps.

"Designs will be received at this office until noon on Tuesday, the 6th December, for *Eight New Postage Stamps* intended to be commemorative of the one hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the colony.

"The designs must be drawn in black and white, to a scroll four times the size of the present penny postage stamp, a distinct design will be required for each of the following denominatives, viz:

One Penny,

Two Pence,

Four Pence

Six Pence,

Eight Pence;

One Shilling,

Five Shillings,

Twenty Shillings.

"The value of each stamp must be expressed in words, and the words 'New South Wales Postage' and 'One Hundred Years' to be common to all.

"Tenderers may submit designs for one or the whole.

"A premium of £10 10s. will be given for the best design for each denomination, and £3 3s. for the second best.