

perhaps should be considered a higher style of art in giving his lettering a background of lines instead of a solid one, his execution must be confessed to be decidedly inferior to that of Mr. Barnard, and his lines can have but little depth, for although these stamps were not in use for more than one year, specimens are found which show quite as much deterioration of the plate as those of the former issue.

The old plate partially re-engraved by Mr. Sherwin and perhaps completed by some one else, appears to have been employed for a short time, either while Mr. Lapirot's plate was being prepared or after it wore out, for there exists a third species of two-penny stamps, specimens of which are somewhat uncommon, showing that they were in use for a short time only, which species is also found in twelve typical varieties, the arrangement of which on the plate, which produced the earlier stamps. I may add that these scarce stamps are about the most hideous things of the kind ever produced, this fact perhaps accounts for so few of them having been made.

The above are the engraved stamps made in Mauritius, the only other postage stamps of local manufacture are some penny and two-penny stamps lithographed by Mr. Dardenne, at the end of 1859, or the beginning of 1860, these were, I believe, in sheets of sixty; the design like those of the engravings is a somewhat primitive one, but there are no varieties of type, the sheets being made up of lithographic reproductions of the original drawing; the design of the two values differ slightly from one another; these also were in use but a short time, being superseded before the end of 1860 by the penny and two-penny stamps sent out from England of the designs which have continued in use down to the present time.—*Mercantile Record and Commercial Gazette*.

A PHILATELIC CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

THE CONNELL STAMP.

THIS stamp has probably been discussed more than any other stamp or series of stamps that have ever been issued, and still a decision has never been arrived at as to whether they are essays or whether any have ever done postal duty. The general opinion seems to be that they were in use but only for a day. The way the stamp originated was this: Mr. Connell, then Postmaster-General of New Brunswick was authorized by a Minute of Council in Dec., 1859, to procure a new set of postage stamps, which the change in currency rendered necessary. Believing that this Minute gave him full power and discretion as to designs, etc., he ordered the plates for the values wanted, 1, 5, 10 and 12½c, and for the 5c. had his own portrait. The stamps came to hand in due time, and Mr. Connell, not probably making any secret of the design for the 5c., spoke to some of his friends about them, and of his intention of going down to posterity thereon. This came to the knowledge of the Council, who, knowing that they had not been approved by them, decided to see the issue before it was sent out to postmasters for public use. As a matter of course they disapproved of