

# The Montreal Philatelist.

*A Monthly Philatelic Magazine.*

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## NEWS OF THE MONTH

It has now been officially announced in Parliament that a design for the new stamps of Great Britain has been selected, and that they are being prepared. It may be some time yet before they are issued, as a large quantity of the current issue are still to be used up, in the meantime all obsolete issues have been declared unlawful for the payment of any duty on and after June 1st, 1901. Whether the obsolete stamps will be exchangeable for current issues is not stated in the official notification, but our English contemporaries speak of it as a demonetization of the old issues. We do not think this interpretation of the notice is meant, however our English friends, accustomed to their own legal phraseology ought to know. New stamps for the colonies will not appear before those of Great Britain, at least from those colonies administered from the Colonial Office in London, so there is no immediate prospect of the flood of new issues that is yet to come. In the colonies having local self government, as new stamps are required, it is probable, as in the case of the high values of Victoria, announced this month, that the King's portrait will be used. With the issue of the new stamps for Turkey, an attempt has been made by the Sultan to suppress the numerous foreign post offices that exist in the Ottoman Empire. The representatives of the Powers protested, as they are not inclined to entrust their correspondence to the inefficient Turkish service, and in consequence the Porte has expressed regret at the interference and has ordered that no obstacles are to be raised to the foreign post offices, which are established under treaty rights.

### ENTRANCES AND EXITS.

AUSTRALIA.—(No  $\frac{1}{2}$  d commemorative stamps.) The  $\frac{1}{2}$  d stamps reported as "decided upon" in our last number are

not to appear, the Federal authorities having declined to take the responsibility of issuing stamps before the postal bill is passed by Parliament.

BELGIUM.—(10c rose envelope.) The color of the 10 centimes envelope stamp has been changed from red brown to the U. P. U. color—rose.



BOLIVIA.—(5 cent-avos color changed.)

It is announced by several of our contemporaries that the color of the current 5c has been changed from green to dark red.

BULGARIA.—(Commemorative stamps.)

Two stamps, 5 st red and 15 st green are announced commemorative of the 25th anniversary of the liberation of Bulgaria from the domination of Turkey. A view of the first wooden cannon constructed to combat the Turks figures in the design. 230,000 of these stamps are said to have been issued for domestic postage only, and they are reported to have been on sale for two days only May 3rd and 4th. (Provisional 5 st.) The .3 st brown has been surcharged with a heavy figure "5" and a bar across the original value.



COLUMBIA REPUBLIC.—(Additional Tumaco Provisionals.)

In addition to the values reported in our May number the following are said to have been issued:—

2½c, 50c, \$1, \$5, \$10, all are printed on common white paper from the same type, the value only