

L'Excellentissime Gouverneur General of the Philippines is certainly overburdened with postage stamp work. By a Decree dated the 4th October last he has ordered 350,000 more stamps of 2 4-8 centimos (why not 2½ c.?) to be issued by surcharging

110,000 Postal Union stamps of 10 centimos.

219,500 postage stamps of ½ centimo.

20,500 passport stamps of 20 centimos.

A few months since the stamps of 2 4-8 c. de peso were surcharged to form other values, and now other values are surcharged to make this value. Besides which a considerable number of the 2 4-8 c. de peso have lately been surcharged with *HABILITATO PARO GIRO*, with 20 c. and 40 c. for use as bill stamps. Is all this absurdity merely for the purpose of giving employment to the officials? or is it a speculation on collectors not only connived at, but aided by *L'Excellentissime*? or is it to increase the sale of the stamps—a “trick of the trade?”—*Ph. Record*.

Russia—Envelope, 7 kop. on cream, 114x18 mm.

South Australia—We have a 1d. band, green on manilla, stamp of 1875 type, 146x284 mm,

Sarawak—Mr. Campbell has sent us a fresh portrait of the Raja, Sir C. J. Brooke, *a la* De La Rue & Co. It is a three-quarter portrait to the right, on a ground of horizontal lines, and is within an oval band, inscribed *POSTAGE SARAWAK & REVENUE*. The classical style has very properly been done away with, and the Raja is represented in the dress of ordinary mortal. Below his chin is a tablet, 10½ by 7 mm., printed in a different colour from the rest of the stamp, on which is the value in uncoloured numerals on a horizontally lined ground. The impression is on white wove paper, and the perforation 14. There is a “jubilee” line round the pane of the colour of the stamp. The design is the same for all the values, and the impression of the stamps, with the exception of the tablets, is in one or other of Messrs. De La Rue & Co.’s two doubly-fugitive colours.

Adhesive. 2 cents, purple; tablet red.

3 “ “ “ blue.

4 “ “ “ yellow.

6 “ “ “ red-brown.

8 “ green; “ red.

12 “ “ “ blue. —*Ph. Record*.

Turkey—*Ph. R.* notes the 20 para stamp with background in brown, the tablet in pink, and overprinted in carmine.

United States—The 2c. of 1883 has been found in Europe on laid paper. Mr. Rechert has shown us a stamp printed in black on pink paper, about 46x29 mm. It is inscribed in three lines “U. S. Post Office Department—Officially sealed—opened through mistake by.”

Wadhwan—The *Ph. R.* thinks this stamp is a fiscal.

Zululand—The 1½d. red of Great Britain is now surcharged “Zululand.”