

With such a primitive mode of manufacture it is no wonder that errors frequently occur. At times the stamp bears two impressions, at others these stamps are impressed in the space for two only, and a few are found *tête-bêche*, though these are very rare, as I have only seen one or two specimens in all that have passed through my hands, the number of which has been very considerable, as at every new date, I have received a supply of the fresh issue, which was made whenever the Treasurer found the supply run short, a system that continued till the beginning of 1887, when the stamps were issued without date, the arms in relief being substituted in lieu of the date. I am unable to fix the precise date when the embossing of the arms was adopted. In February, 1887, I wrote for a parcel of stamps, and in this were some with date of 1886 impressed with the arms, probably remainders of old stock in country offices which had been called in for exchange, or they may have been remnants either of stock or of those filed in the head office for Government reference. But whatever they were the stamps with dates and arms are extremely scarce, and some bear date which I have never seen on those issued with date alone. It is true that stamps may have been issued with such dates, but it only could have been in very small quantities, as none seem to have reached the hands of collectors, so far as I can ascertain from the philatelic papers.

Had I not received the stamps direct, I should have had doubts as to their being genuine, knowing what I do about certain Stellaland forgeries. In the impression of the stamps there are various errors. In the word *Nieuwe* I have specimens in which one or other of the letters is wanting, and one in which the E in F. Again, there are errors in the other words such as JEPUBLJEK, FEPUBLIEK, EPUBLIEK, REFUBLIEK, UBLIEK, REPUEBLIEK, REPUE EK, UID, ID, AFFIKA, UIDFAIKA, etc., and I have one in which *Zuid Africa* is entirely wanting.

I have collected every error which has come to my notice, and now my collection extends to about four hundred specimens. I have not seen any of these typographic errors mentioned in the philatelic papers, though I consider they are as worthy of collection as errors in surcharges, &c., and when collectors take note of reversed watermarks, surely they should pay the same heed to the reversal of the arms, which is an equally good safeguard against forgery.

Behind the arms embossed are four flags, of which only the top and bottom of the staffs of two can be seen. This is impressed on the paper before the stamps are printed, except in the case of those in the issue with date and arms, in which it is clearly impressed after the printing, which corroborates the view that these stamps were simply the remainders of dated stamps.

(To be Continued.)

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THE result of the vote for election of officers and official organ for C. P. A. is as follows: President, H. Hechler, Halifax; Secretary, T. J. McMinn, Toronto; Treasurer, H. L. Hart, Halifax; Official Organ, HALIFAX PHILATELIST. A full report of the proceedings of the Convention and the official figures, as regards officers will be published in our next.