

Varieties of Perforation.

Written for the Stamp Reporter.

The following is an abbreviated list of the methods that have been used for separating postage stamps.

1. Machine perforations, made by punching round holes out with a machine, and measured by the number of holes in space of two centimeters (see Great Britain, France, etc.)

2. Square perforations, like the machine but square holes instead of round.

3. Pin perforations, in which the holes are merely pricked in the paper and not punched out, as in some of the older Antigua, Grenada, Natal, New Zealand, etc.

4. Rouletting, done by passing a roulet wheel over the paper which makes a succession of cuts as in the Prussian, Chili, Brazil, etc.

5. Serpentine perforation, is caused by cutting a wavy line into the paper so that the little projections on the edge of one stamp fit into the hollows of the other. When separated the stamps look as though they had been machine perforated but are without the holes when joined together.

6. In the *Perce-en-arc*, the perforations are similar to the serpentine but differ in the shape of the curve. They form a series of small curves concave on one edge and convex on the other.

7. In the *Pere-en-points* the edges form a series of regular triangular points.

8. Imperforate, that is, not perforated.

9. *Susse*, a term used when referring to certain French stamps of 1853-62 perforated unofficially by *Susse Bros.* of Paris in 1861. The perforations are large numbering but two to seven centimetres.

11. Compound perforation is when the perforation at the side of the stamp is of a different size than the top and bottom and vice-versa.

12. Double, a stamp perforated with two rows of holes on one side. (See some U. S. stamps.)

13. Irregular, stamps perforated with different sized holes.

14. Part Perforate, stamps not perforated on all sides.

News in Brief.

A collector in Denver has his bathroom papered with stamps.

The division of China will likely bring forth some new stamps.

A Revenue Stamp Exhibition will likely be held at the Collection Club in New York in the near future.

There is at present on the market a fluid soap which will remove dirt and grease from stamps, without removing the cancellation. It would be a very good thing to have about.

Teacher:—"For what is the province of Cashmere noted?"

Bright Youth:—"For its stamps being awful hard to get."

Wicks has some great bargains for you. See second page of cover.