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The Philatelic Courier,

AND STAMP-COLLECTORS' JOURNAL.

Vol. 3.

HALIFAX, N. S., OCTOBER, 1884.

No. 10.

The Philatelic Courier

—AND—

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HENRY HECHLER, PUBLISHER AND PROPRIETOR,
184 Argyle Street,
HALIFAX, N. S., CANADA.

HALIFAX, N. S., OCTOBER, 1884.

GUADALOUPE PROVISIONALS AND THEIR MINOR VARIATIONS.

(BY HENRY HECHLER.)

The old issue of the stamps of this French Colony—that bearing the figures of Mercury with winged ankles and of Liberty—of the values of 30c. and 35c., unperforated, were surcharged to serve provisionally, in black, as follows:—

A rectangle a little smaller than the stamp was divided horizontally by a line into two sections, the upper of which bore the letters "G. P. E." in thin Roman capitals, and the lower, the new value, in large figures. The 30c. was thus altered to 20c., and the 35c. to 25c. Besides these two general types the figures used varied, being larger and broader-faced in some than in others. Thus in the 20c. on 30c. the figure "2" is much larger than the "0" standing beside it and than the "20" on other stamps even on the same sheet and line (example 20-20). The same differences appear respecting the "0" in some of the stamps of the same surcharge—viz.: 20, 20 and 30. All the same sorts of variations also occur in the 2s. and 5s. in the surcharges of "25" on the 35c. stamps. We have thus this surcharge as follows:—"25," "25," "25." Other variations are to be noted in the lines composing

the rectangular frame of the above surcharges. These is the 20 on 30c. with the large "2," as above noted, the top and bottom lines are pieced in the middle, the right half of the top and the left half of the bottom line being double the thickness of the other halves respectively. The same difference is observable also in those of 25 on 30c. where the "2" is larger. The 20 on 30c. with the large "0," and the 25 on 35c. with the large "5" have the left side lines heavier than the others. In all the other varieties of these surcharges the lines composing the rectangular frame are equal and light.

We have pointed out these distinctions for the information of our philatelic friends, and we hope that they will observe these variations carefully in arranging their albums as dealers note them in their catalogues, and each variation is a clear difference.

DEFECTS OF OUR POSTAL ADMINISTRATION.

There are several matters in connection with the administration of postal affairs in this Dominion which are serious drawbacks to the efficiency of the department and inconvenient to the public.

One is that the largest value of single stamps is only 15 cents. It frequently occurs that a much larger amount is required to prepay postage on a single package. A regulation of the department makes it imperative that all stamps shall be on the front or direction side of a letter or package. It is manifestly impossible to do this in cases where the direction alone—especially to foreign countries—occupies several lines, or nearly the whole face, as it often does. Other countries—even the small West India and other colonies—have stamps of a much higher value, some of them as high as £5. Canada should provide stamps at least up to \$1. A 25c., a 50c. and \$1 stamp are much needed, and at once.

In this connection we call attention to another evil. That is that the sale of stamps in large cities, instead of being conducted by salaried officials, is put into the hands of private persons, who are allowed a commission of 3% on their sales. As these persons have their own private business to attend to they generally keep only a few stamps on hand at a time, and those of the smaller denominations. We may instance a case—one of many—that recently occurred in this city. A person had a small package to mail the postage on which was over \$1 besides the 5c. registration stamp. Strange as it may seem it is nevertheless true that at the place for buying stamps in the central post-office nothing larger than a 5c. stamp could be obtained! The required stamps to send that package covered every part of its surface, and

THE PHILATELIC COURIER goes everywhere.

Les personnes qui auront reçu plus d'un exemplaire de ce numéro sont priées de les transmettre aux philatélistes de leur connaissance.

The receiver of more than one copy of this number will please give copies to stamp-collectors.

some had to be so put on as to overlap each other. The chief agent for the dispensing of stamps in Halifax is a stationer whose business is at some distance from the post-office, and if a purchaser desires more than one dollar's worth of stamps of any denomination he is generally invited to go to Mr. —'s place, because the central office has them not in stock. A more thoroughly unbusiness-like way of accommodating the public can scarcely be imagined.

Again, Canada enjoys the unenviable distinction of being the only country, so far as we are aware, that charges more than the face value for stamped envelopes. The post-office notices announce that 25c. per hundred over the face value will be charged for envelopes. In reality the agent charges 30 cents per hundred if one takes that number or multiples thereof; and if a portion of one-hundred (more than ten) are purchased the charge is at the rate of 40 cents per hundred. If less than ten a premium of half-a-cent each. It will be readily recognized that the agent makes a good thing by this arrangement, but the public are imposed upon in the coolest manner. Other countries only make a charge more than the face value for registration envelopes, which are cloth-lined.

The cost to the government of post-cards is fully as great as that of stamped envelopes, and no one can point out any reason, good or bad, why a premium should be charged on the one more than on the other. The practical result is that stamped envelopes are very little used in Canada. We are within the mark in affirming that in proportion to business and population one thousand stamped envelopes are used in the United States to every one that is used in Canada. In fact the stamped envelope rarely appears except in elections, when it is chiefly employed to cover the cards of the government candidate. We abstain from comment on this "coincidence."

Another grievance that is much felt is the rate of domestic postage. The neighboring republic to our south only charges two cents for a single letter rate, and promises soon to increase the limit of a single rate from one-half to one ounce. The Empire of Japan charges for letters to any part of its domain only about three-tenths of one cent, and this despite the fact that in many parts the roads are simply foot-paths over precipitous mountains where the mails have to be carried on the backs of carriers. In Canada the authorities adhere to the antiquated three-cent rate for each half-ounce or less. A deputation recently waited on the Postmaster-General to urge a reduction, and showed that it was the practice of many Canadian houses who send out letters by the thousands to customers and others within the Dominion to express them to some convenient place in the United States and thence to mail them back to Canada, thus saving one cent postage (less the small express charges) on each. Hon. Mr. Carling—speaking on behalf of the government of which he is a member—replied that the petition of the delegation could not be entertained, because it would not pay the department to carry the mails at lower rates than at present. No one can understand how it pays to carry such letters for nothing (the United States receiving the postage in the cases above mentioned) better than to reduce the rate

and receive something for doing the work. Most people will imagine that two-thirds of a loaf is better than no bread. But governments can be singularly obtuse when they like. Our government, it seems, cannot comprehend that the idea of having national post-offices, rail-ways, etc. is not to *make money* but to serve the public and to facilitate its trade.

We alluded in a previous issue to the necessity of providing a new set of dies for our postage stamps, as the one that we now have has been in use over sixteen years, and is not creditable to the country as compared with those of others which we are accustomed to regard as far behind us in civilization and refinement, such as China, Japan, Siam, Hawaii, etc.

It is not necessary here to dwell on the want of security afforded by the mails, and to the robberies that are being continually perpetrated, and generally with impunity, which might and should be obviated by the department *insuring the contents* of valuable packages, as is done in Germany, Russia, Belgium, France, and elsewhere.

We have sufficiently proved that the postal department in Canada is wretchedly and disgracefully administered, and that it requires a thorough renovation to bring it up to the necessities of the public and to the example set by other nations. Any other people than Canadians would not submit for a week to such miserable mismanagement of so important a department of the public service, but Canadians appear to enjoy being maltreated by their servants.

ECCENTRICITIES OF TRANSVAAL PROVISIONALS.

For the convenience in reference of our readers we have collated the facts concerning the several variations in the stamps of the Land of the Boers, and now submit them.

In the spring of 1879, the country being then under the British Crown, the stock of the "one penny" stamps was exhausted and, pending the receipt of a fresh supply, recourse was had to the expedient of surcharging the "six-pence" stamp, black, "one-penny." The sheets comprised six lines of ten stamps each—in all sixty. It would appear that the postal authorities did not then command enough type of one font to print the surcharge on each stamp of the sheet alike at the same impression, and so three different sorts of type were employed. Commencing from the top of the sheet, the first three lines were surcharged in small upright letters with a capital letter "P" in the word "Penny." In the first half (5) of the fourth row, beginning from the right small-sized, thick, italic figure and letters were employed with a capital "P" as in the first variety. The rest of the sheet, two lines-and-a-half, or 25 stamps were surcharged in upright black letters—all capitals—and figure. These were the three leading varieties, but five varieties occurred in the figures of the first four rows. In the first four stamps from the upper right-hand corner the figure has a short top-stroke sloping slightly downwards, and has no bottom-stroke. The rest of this line and the first seven of the next row bear a figure with a thin bottom-stroke, and a longer top-stroke than their

Foreign Correspondence solicited.

predecessors, the latter decidedly inclined downwards. In the two of these, occupying the centre of the second line the "y" in "Penny" is without a tail. The remaining three of this row have the figure with a short top-stroke—nearly horizontal—and a thick bottom stroke.

The ten stamps composing the third row have a figure similar to that of the preceding three stamps, and the first letter of "Penny" has also a thick bottom stroke and is a heavier letter than in any of the other varieties. These make thus seven distinct varieties; but the number was doubled by some being printed in red and others in black—making fourteen. There was also a carelessness in placing the sheets while printing the surcharges, so that in some instances the figure was "run off" from the edge of some sheets which, consequently, appear without it, adding in this way two more varieties. The whole number is thus sixteen on a single sheet of sixty stamps.

In 1882 the supply of the one penny stamps again ran short, and the four-pence stamp, light-green, was surcharged "EEN PENNY" in black upright capitals, the initial letter "E" and "P" being larger than the rest of the words. Of these provisionals there were two kinds, some having the surcharge inverted.

We would strongly urge all collectors to spare no effort to secure the whole of the above twenty provisionals if possible. As they were but a short time in use their value must constantly increase and they will always form an interesting and important feature in every collection of any pretensions.

SYSTEMATIC MAIL ROBBING.

A paper published in this province relates the following story, the facts of which we are assured are correct:

"There seems to be a good deal of systematic thieving going on in the post office department—somewhere between Boston and points in Nova Scotia. A Nova Scotian working at Taunton, Mass., during the past few months addressed five letters to his wife, living in Halifax County. Not one of them ever reached its destination. Three of them contained money. The first of the three was unregistered. The next letter contained \$30 in greenbacks was registered. Yet that fared no better than the money in the unregistered letter. But the waiting wife wanted money. And the husband wondered why his wife never wrote him. Next he sent her

a post office order for \$25. Now a money order is considered to be absolutely safe. But that letter too met the fate of all the others, and never arrived at Lawrencetown. But unlike previous letters containing greenbacks the money order was useless to the thief. He did not attempt to get it cashed, and the owner of the money will get that amount returned when a duplicate order is obtained from Washington or Ottawa. How does it happen that four or five letters, one after another, sent by the same person in a small town in Massachusetts to the same person in a small settlement in Halifax County, should be stolen?"

POSTMASTERS in the United States have received orders not to pass matter through the mail prepaid with official postage stamps, and all government officers have been notified to use the "penalty" envelopes exclusively in future. The Treasury, and perhaps other departments, have been using official stamps to pay the fee on registered letters, but they can do so no more, and the official stamps have come to their end at last.—*Ex.*

COREA.

Our attentive correspondents both in China and in Japan—to whom we desire to express our obligations—have notified us that the quasi kingdom of Corea has decided to issue a series of postage stamps of its own and has ordered the plates for printing them from Europe. The designs have been submitted and approved but no description of them has been made public. It is expected that the new stamps will be ready for issue about the end of the current year. Philatelists will eagerly look for them as they will bring another nation into line, postally, with the civilized world.

Corea occupies a peninsula in the north-east of China and, though it is nominally independent, both China and Japan claim a titular sovereignty over it and, we believe, both have exacted tribute from its kings. About two years ago the two empires nearly came to war over the dispute as to which had the best right to Corea. The question has not as yet been definitely settled but is in the mazes of diplomacy. Though but little is known of the interior of this country, it is asserted to contain many valuable mines of silver, lead copper, coal, etc., and to be richly wooded.

INVITATION TO PHILATELISTS ABROAD.—We shall always be pleased to receive consignments of used stamps, etc., from any of our readers in Central and South America, the West Indian Islands, Africa, all parts of Asia, and any of the islands of the Pacific. Stamps must be in perfect condition, i.e.: neither soiled or torn. Parties living in any of the above-mentioned countries who have quantities of such stamps and desire to enlarge their collections will do well to communicate with us. Any consignment that they may see fit to make will be treated with the greatest consideration, and valued at the highest market rates as per our exchange circulars which we will forward with returns. In order that our exchange correspondence may be conducted to mutual satisfaction, we will send approval sheets from which the consignee may select to his

entire satisfaction such as he wants to the value credited for remittance. We thank our world-wide correspondents for past favors and hope that our relations with them and all new ones may always be agreeable and mutually beneficial.

All communications may be addressed,

HENRY HECHLER,
184 ARGYLE STREET,
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

THE PHILATELIC COURIER circulates in the "FIVE CONTINENTS."

Our approval sheets are the finest in the world.

We are always happy to exchange with other Philatelic Publishers.



NEW ISSUES Of Adhesives, Post Cards, and Envelopes.

Angola.—The following new stamps are announced:—

20 reis, red.
25 " magenta.

Also two post cards:
10 reis, blue.
30 " green.

Argentine Republic.—The current 10c., 15c., 20c., 25c. and 30c. are surcharged "official." The following have been added to its already large list of provisionals:

1884. black on 5c. 1867.

"1884." red on 15c. of 1867.

1884. black on 15c. of 1867.

66 " " " red on 15c. of 1867.
1884.

[We have also a specimen of the latter with the surcharge inverted.]

Also, "Cuatro Centavos, 1884" on 5c. of 1867. These provisionals have been superseded by a ½ centavo, brown, and a 1 centavo, vermilion, of new die. The design is similar to that of 1882 but the engraving is much more artistic and the colors brighter.

Austria.—Newsbands complying with the type of the new adhesives are in use. Also, a 2 x 2 kr reply card.

Assam.—The 150 reis, yellow, have appeared with a small surcharge. The color of the 20 reis is to be changed to red. Three new post cards have been issued—a 10 reis, a 30 reis and a 10x10 (reply) reis.

Bahamas.—New 1d carmine and 4d. orange stamps of an entirely new design, are in use.

Belgium has made sudden changes in some of its stamps, as follows:—The 1c. is now grey; the 2c. and the 5c. will shortly appear in new colors. The 10 centime is of a new die which is the second change within twelve months. The 1 franc and 2 francs also appear in a new die. A new 5c. post card, green, is announced soon to appear.

Bhopal.—This principality has recently issued several new styles of stamps. The first to appear was a ½ anna, green, on wove paper, but each sheet had four errors. Then appeared stamps of ½ anna, green, with "B. L., C. I." in each corner and a ½ anna, black, of similar design. In all these the perforation is very large and coarse.

Brazil.—The 100 reis, lilac, of the new die and the 200 reis, red-brown, are in use. Other values of this design will doubtless follow.

Bulgaria has come to the front by adding to its already large series the following provisionals:

5 " 30 "
15 " 25 "

Cuba has issued a 5 annas, circular, red, of the old die.

Canada.—A provisional 1c. has been created by cutting the 3c. green in halves perpendicularly to meet the needs of certain offices. None are regarded as genuine unless with ample envelope margin so as to show full obliteration. Some of the facials have been employed to prepay postage.

Cape Verde.—The announcement has been made that the following new stamps and cards will appear shortly:

Stamps 20 reis, red.
25 " magenta.
Cards — 10 " blue.
30 " green.

Candinamarca.—A new 5 centavos, blue, stamp has appeared.

Ceylon.—The following changes in the color of stamps are noted. The 2c. is now green and the 24 cts. lilac-brown.

Denmark.—A seal stamp for Copenhagen 10 ore, blue and rose, a letter card of 10 ore, red, and a 3 ore post card, blue are in circulation.

Dominion.—The 1 shilling carmine fiscal is surcharged in black and used for postal purposes.

It is expected that the 6d. and 1s. stamps will be soon surcharged ½d. as the supply of the latter is exhausted and the department has on hand a larger quantity of the higher values than are likely to be needed for many years.

Ecuador.—The postal cards of this republic have been changed. The new ones are of a poorer and coarser quality than their predecessors, and the 2 centavos cards are brown, in pink and in white. The ornamental work of the frame is different from those preceding them. The first address line is prefaced "Sr" instead of "Ser." The colors are not materially changed, though some philatelists find a difference of shade which we think is not sufficient to make a distinction. The current 1c. stamp has been surcharged with a larger figure "3," and made to serve for the latter value.

Egypt.—The stamps of this Pashalic have changed and are now:

10 paras, green.
20 " red.
1 piastre, blue,
5 " grey.

A reply card has also issued.

Falkland Islands.—This colony has issued its first post card—1½d. brown on buff.

Faridkot.—A ½ anna red of one of the most ancient issues has been unearthed recently.

Fernando Po.—The 2 cent de peso stamp has been surcharged as were those of the Philippine Islands with "Habilitado Para Correos 50 cent Pta."

Fiji Islands.—Fiscals of 1d. and 3d. have been employed to pay postage.

France.—The 2 franc stamp is now brown. A new envelope, 115 x 75 mm., green on white, 5c. is in use. A 60c. unpaid-letter stamp has been lately issued.

French Colonies (West Africa).—A card has been issued, 125 mm. x 90 mm., black on green, and bearing the inscription at the head of "Senegal et dependances." The card is green and the inscriptions are printed in black. The upper right-hand corner is divided off by lines creating a space in which is to be placed the adhesive. The 10 centime stamp of the current issue is used for this purpose.

Gambia.—A reply card 1½ x 1½ d. is used in this colony.

Gold Coast.—The following stamps have changed colors and are now:

½d. green.
1d. rose.
2d. gray.

Granada Confederation.—A new post card, 2 centavos, black on deep buff, has appeared.

Greece.—The 25 and 50 lepta will soon be introduced, thus adding two to the current series.

Grenada has added a new value to its series, an 8d. stamp, bistre.

Guadeloupe.—This French Colony has adopted a new series of unpaid letter stamps in which the value numeral is in a square frame with "Guadeloupe" above, and "A Perveoir" below. The values and colors are:

5 centimes, white.
10 " blue.
15 " violet.
20 " rose.
30 " yellow.
35 " grey.
50 " green.

Guinea (Portuguese).—A new series has been introduced. The design is uniform throughout the set. It bears a profile bust of the king with the face turned to the right, enclosed in an oval with the inscription, "Guine Portugues" above, and the value below. All are enclosed by a rectangular frame. The values and colors are:

5 reis, black,
10 " green,
20 " red,
25 " violet,
40 " yellow,
50 " blue,
100 " lilac,
200 " orange,
300 " brown.

The new post cards, 10 reis, blue, and 30 reis, green, are announced.

Hong Kong.—The 25c. green, 30c. brown, and 50c. purple, revenue stamps have been used for postal purposes as is evidenced by their bearing the post-office obliterations.

Hungary.—An official reply card of the value of 2 kr. has been issued for the convenience of tax collectors.

Italy.—This nation has presented a new series of unpaid letter stamps, which are upright rectangles 25 x 30 mm. The values in figures occupy the centre of the stamps which bear in large letters the inscription "Segnataste-da-Lira," with the addition of "Cinquanta" for the 50 l. green and of "Cento" for 100 l. brown.

Levant.—The 7 kopeck stamps appear both in pale and in dark blue. A fiscal, 5 centesimo lilac, is reported to have been used to pay postage but the report wants confirmation.

Jamaica.—The following new post-cards have been introduced:—

½ x 1½ brown on buff, (reply.)
1 x 1d blue " "
1½ d grey on buff.
1½ x 1½ d grey on buff, (reply.)

The last two are of a new design.

Japan has issued a newsband, 1 sen, deep blue, of a rather neat design. The frame of the adhesive is a long oval twelve pointed star. Inside of this is an oval band, the upper half of which is occupied by Japanese characters and the Imperial arms. The lower half bears the inscription "Imperial Japanese Post," and across the centre horizontally is a band with a Japanese inscription. Above the latter band is the value in the Japanese language, and below "1 Sen."

Japan.—This state has produced a diminutive square stamp, brown, of the value of ½ anna and a post card of the same value, green.

Labuan has issued provisional ½ stamp, red and blue.

Malacca.—Since our last announcement a provisional of 80 reis, black, on 100 reis, lilac, has appeared. Two post cards, 10 reis, blue, and 30 reis, green, are also in use.

Martinique (F. W. Indies) has issued a black on green card without adhesive.

Mexico.—This country has added to its series a 3c. and a 25c., green, and a 5 peso and a 10 peso, blue stamps. Also, a white envelope, 145 x 90 mm., with a large circular water mark (65 mm. in diameter) in the centre bearing the eagle and the usual inscription and having an adhesive of 10c., green, in the usual corner. Two new post cards are also in use. Both are buff and are impressed with a 5c. green adhesive. One has the eagle bearing a serpent in its beak on the upper left-hand corner, and in the centre "E. U. M." traversed by a ribbon carrying the inscription "Tarjeta Postal Servicio Interior." The word "Senor" at the left and three dotted lines for address are printed in pink. The other card bears "Servicio Postal Mexicano" in the arc of a circle and "Tarjeta Postal" in a straight line below. The words "Servicio Interior" are at each side and as well as the inscriptions, etc., are printed in black.

Montserrat.—The ½d. stamp of the De La Rue type is in use, as is also a 1½d. card.

Mozambique.—The new stamps of this country that have been announced thus far are 3c. rose, red, and 25 reis, magenta. It has also two post cards, 10 reis, blue, and 30 reis, green.

Nevis.—The 1d. has changed its color to carmine and the 2½d. to blue.

New Caledonia.—The 75c. has been again surcharged in the same way as formerly noted, but the letters are further apart.

New South Wales.—The 2d. seal, brown, has been employed for postage.

New Zealand.—The following fiscal stamps have served as postals:

1d., lilac and green.
1d., red and green.
1d., red.
2s. 6d. rose and blue.
3s., violet and red.

Nicaragua.—A reply paid card, 3 x 3 c, blue on yellow, has been issued. The arms of the State are in a triangle surrounded by a circular band bearing the inscription "Union Postal Universal." Below

We are always ready to buy stamps, etc., if prices are moderate

Remittance promptly made for any provisionals. 25 per cent. commission allowed if sent on appearance.

British American Coins exchanged for others.

THE PHILATELIC COURIER PACKET IS UNRIVALED. PRICE 5c.

the triangle are the words "Republica de Nicaragua" and "3 centavos." Cards for 2c. and 3c. and 2 x 2c. reply of the same design are in use.

Norway.—A post card for army use has appeared. It is 144 x 93 mm., and is blue on yellowish ground headed "Militaert Tjenestbrevkort." The 12 ore stamp has changed its color from green to brown, and the new 25 ore stamp has appeared. The following locals are also in use: For Drammens, 10 ore, blue on black and 10 ore blue on gray. For Drontheim 4 ore brown.

Orange Free State.—A new 2d mauve of the same type as the rest of the current series has made its appearance.

Paraguay.—The 1 real stamp was surcharged with a large figure "1" in black, and is used for 1 centavo provisionally. The new 10c., green, 2c., red and 5c. blue stamps have just been issued. In them the arms occupy the center surrounded by a circular band inscribed "Republica del Paraguay." Above this is the word "Centavo," and below in two lines "Union Postal" and "Universal." The four corners are occupied by the figures of value in circles. They are printed in blue-green on thin paper, without water marks. The following post cards were also provisionally used:—A three centavo card was made by attaching a new 1c. stamp to the old 2c. card and the 6 x 6 reply card, bearing the surcharge "3" on each card, has been made to do duty as a 5 x 5c. reply, by surcharging also "2 centavo" on one and "5" over the "3" on the other card.

Peru.—The largely varied series of the stamps of this country has received the addition of three provisionals, viz:—

The 10 shahi is halved and each half surcharged "5 shahi" in blue.

The 10c. is similarly treated in the same way, and surcharged.

The 1fr. is also halved, and each half surcharged "10 shahi" in red.

Peru. This republic is noted among philatelists for the immense field occupied by its almost innumerable varieties of provisionals, and we now have to add the following to the list as the newest of the sisterhood which have appeared:—

The unpaid letter stamps of 1, 5, 10 and 20 centavos have received the triangular surcharge in black.

The 1 and the 50 centavos have also received a red circular surcharge in addition to the above.

The 5c. adhesive is surcharged in black with a circle bearing in the upper half "Correos," and in the lower, "Lima," and in the centre a figure of the sun. The same stamps in some instances bear "Cusco," in others, "Pasco," and again in others "Puno."

The 10c. red envelopes are surcharged "Puno." **Porto Rico.**—The 20 and the 80 cent pesos have changed color. It is announced that a post card will shortly be issued.

Portugal.—The following stamps, new in die and design have appeared:

- 2 reis, black.
- 10 " green.
- 20 " red.
- 500 " black.
- 1000 " "

The first named has the numeral in an oval and has also "Correos E. Telegraphos" above and the value below the oval. Those of all other values have the portrait of the King in the centre, surrounded by the word "Portugal," at the top "Telegraphos" on the right, "Correos" on the left, and the value at the bottom. A reply card, 10 x 10 of this new die is in use.

Rumania.—The color of the 5 bani has been changed to dark green.

Santander [U. S. of Columbia] has issued the following stamps:

- 1 centavo, blue.
- 5 " red.
- 10 " lilac.

These are all the values yet received by us through the entire series will doubtless be completed before long.

Sandwich Islands [Hawaii].—For a detailed description of the new envelopes, alluded to in our last, please see editorial description in the appropriate column of this issue.

Sierra Leone.—The color of the new 1d. stamps is green. The 2d. is blue and the 4d. brown.

Switzerland. Since describing the new 1d. in our last issue the following additional values of the same series and type have appeared:

- 3d., orange.
- 4d., blue.
- 6d., lilac.
- 1s., green.

St. Christopher.—A new 1d., red and a 2d., blue, are in use. The 6d. green, black and blue and the 1s. rose, black and blue [aerols] have served for postals.

St. Lucia.—The fiscal 1d. black and green, and 4d., black and yellow, have been used on letters for postage.

Straits Settlements [Bankok].—The 5c., blue, is surcharged with a large capital "B." Also, the 2c. rose, is surcharged in black Roman capitals "Parak."

St. Thomas and Princes' Islands.—The following new stamps are announced:

- 10 reis, green.
- 20 " red.
- 25 " magenta.
- 40 " yellow.

Also two post cards, 10 reis, blue, and 30 reis, green. **Sweden.** A new series to bear the King's profile is announced to shortly appear.

Tahiti.—The current perforated 20c. stamp of this French Colony has been surcharged "TABITI 50."

in several different positions.

Transvaal.—The following stamps of the usual die have issued for this republic:

- 1d., grey.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2d., violet.
- 3d., orange.
- 4d., grey-green.
- 6d., blue.
- 1s., green.
- 2s. 6d., yellow.
- 5s., blue-green.
- 10s., brown.

Trinidad.—Two new bands have issued, viz: 1d., green, and 1d., carmine. They resemble those of Barbados. Also a 2d., blue, registration envelope.

United States of Columbia. A 50c., brown, of the current type is in use.

United States.—A new die for the 2c. envelope which somewhat resembles those introduced in November 1883, has appeared. This makes the third die that has been used within a year. The second die was used sometimes with brown ink and sometimes with red. The first always in red and the third altogether with brown, thus making four varieties. Each of these varieties was impressed on four different colors of paper: white, buff, brown and blue. We have thus sixteen distinct varieties of 2c. stamped envelopes. We observe that some of our philatelic exchanges, by following closer deviations count up many as eighty-one varieties, but we are satisfied with leaving others to consult their own taxes on minor points.

Uruguay. A new 5c. stamp is in preparation, and will shortly be introduced. This will complete a very handsome series of stamps of this republic now current.

Virgin Islands. The new 2d. stamps are printed in blue.

We are indebted to our many friends in various parts of the world for furnishing us with early information of contemplated or accomplished changes, new issues and provisionals. Such information is always fully appreciated and will be noticed by us. We hope that they all continue their kind offices.

OUR EXCHANGES.

We are always glad to exchange with all publishers of philatelic papers who will send theirs regularly. Publishers will confer a favor, which will be reciprocated, if desired, by sending two copies—one for editorial purposes and the other for filing.

The following are those most recently received: The Philatelic Referee, General Anzeiger für Philatelie, Stamp World, Philatelic Globe, Clubes Courant, West African Reporter, L'Ami Timbrien, Union Tribune (late Moon), Philatelistische Berichte, Philatelic Monthly, New England Philatelist, Stamp News, The Philatelist, California Philatelist, Universum, Independent Philatelist, Guis Collectionists, Health and Home, Philatelic World, Our Own Fireside, Mittheilungen of the W. Philatelic Club, Shorthand Writer, Welt-Post, Moniteur des Timbrophiles, Canadian Philatelist, Collector's Companion, Capital City Philatelist, Our American Youth, Philatelic Gazette, Chair City Collector, Philatelic Herald, L'Union Timbrophiles, Southern Collector. The Collector, The Hermes, The Stamp Collector, Der Bucharester Philatelist.

THE WORLD'S BLACK LIST.

We warn our philatelic friends against the following parties whom our experience has, we are sorry to say, proved to be swindlers. We will spare no effort to make their true characters known in the philatelic world, and request other publishers to aid us in this good work.

The Postmaster at St. Vincent, W. I., has not accounted for money sent to him by Henry Hechler over three years since, though it has been proved that the registered letters containing remittances reached their destination in safety. The Home Department will be applied to, and a demand for thorough investigation made, unless immediate settlement, for which we have written, is made.

If the following do not at once settle their indebtedness to us we shall publish full particulars of each case in our next issue:

- H. R., Russia..... \$3 10
- R. B. L., Porto Rico..... 5 42
- F. R. V. "..... 5 85
- P. A., Peru..... 13 20
- M. G. Z., Turkey..... 5 90
- F. D. S., Brazil (balance)..... 3 00
- J. B. J., Belgium..... 6 50
- M. D., France..... 0 50

Mr. L. L., of Brazil, requests us to place F. D. S., of the same country, on our Black List, as he has been indebted to him for \$7.50 in cash sent, for which he has never accounted or remitted. Mr. A. D'O British Guiana, requests us to place Mr. J. R., of St. Th., W. I., in this list, requesting immediate settlement.

If any of the above wish to avoid further publicity and unenviable notoriety they will consult their interests by prompt settlement. We shall not spare them if they do not do so after this warning.

We withhold allusion to several others who appear to be trying to swindle us or our correspondents, but we assure them that if the delinquencies are not speedily explained or made good we shall give details in our next which will prove more interesting and valuable reading to others than to them.

VOLUMES I AND II.

As there are only a few complete sets of the first two volumes of the PHILATELIC COURIER remaining on hand, philatelists who have not already supplied themselves should hasten to do so. Price of the two volumes only \$1.00, which may be remitted in P. O. Order or unused stamps of the lowest denomination of any country.

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- ARGENTINE REP.—1858, 5c. red (large figure) 1884, prov'l, 1c. red on 15c. blue (surch. reversed).
BERMUDA.—Prov'l, 1d. on 2d. blue, 1d. on 3d. buff, 3d. on 3d. blue.
BRITISH GUIANA.—1853, 4c. blue. 1861, 1c. rose. 1882, prov'l (12c. light mauve, type of 1860), surcharged "1c. official." " (24c. green, type of 1863), surcharged "2c. official." 1863, 4c. red.
CANADA.—1877, "Service" envelopes, entire, 1c. blue and 3c. red. "Official" envelopes, entire, 1c. blue and 3c. red. 1881, prov'l, 1c. green (halved 2c.).
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—1850, wood-block, 1d. vermilion and 4d. blue.
COSTA RICA.—1881, prov'l, 2c. brick-red (in reverse) on 4 real blue.
CUBA.—1880, prov'l, post card 74c. on 124c. (surch. in reverse).
DOMINICA.—1882, prov'l, post card, 1d. carmine on white " (stamp) 4d. surch. reversed.
DOMINICAN REP.—1883, prov'l, 1 franco 25 centimos, surch. in black on 25c. mauve (with network). " prov'l, 2 francos 50 centimos, surch. in black on 50c. yellow (with network).
GRANADA CONF.—1861, 1 peso, light rose.
GRENADA.—1881, prov'l, 4d. purple (error "Ostago" instead of "Postage" in surch.).
GUADALOUPE.—1884, prov'l, 20c. on 30c. brown. " " 20c. " 35c. yellow. " " 20c. " 30c. brown. " " 25c. " 35c. yellow. " " 45c. " 35c. "
GUATEMALA.—1873, " 1 peso, yellow.
JAMAICA.—1877, prov'l, postcards, blue and red on white. " 4d., 1d. and 3d. " 1d., 1d. and 3d. (interlaced frame).
MAIL PACKET (R. M. S. P. C.)—10c. rose.
MEXICO.—1858, 4 ris. red, 8 ris. claret. 1861-8, 4 ris. brown, 4 ris. red on yellow, 8 ris. green on brown. 1864, eagle, 3c. brown. 1866 (Maximilian), lith. 7c., 13c., 25c. and 50c. 1867, prov'l, 1 rl. blue, 2 ris. green on blue (Guadalajara) 1867, prov'l, un real, white, rose, lilac, yellow-green, light blue. 1867, prov'l, 2 reales white, rose, lilac, yellow-green, light blue. 1868, prov'l, un real, white, rose, lilac, yellow-green, light blue. 1868, prov'l, 2 reales white, rose, lilac, yellow-green, light blue.
Registration Stamps (R.), blue. (C), "Paquette," vermilion. "De Certificado," vermilion. (C), "Paquette," rose. "De Certificado," rose. (C), "Service Postal Certificado," vermilion. (C), "Service Postal Certificado," rose. (R), "Bureau D'Exchange De Veracruz," blue.

Every Philatelist should secure Volumes I and II, bound.

- MONTEVIDEO.—1856 (Diligencia), 00c. blue and 1 real red. " (thick figures) 60c., 80c., 100c., 120c. and 180c. 1859 (thin figures), 60c., 80c., 100c., 120c. and 180c. " (block letters) 180c. and 240c. 1883, prov'l, 6c. green, surch. reversed. 1884, " 1c. black on 10c. red, surch. reversed.
NATAL.—1877, prov'l, 4d. surch. black double and treble on 1d. rose.
NEW BRUNSWICK.—1857, 3d. (unused), 6d. and 1s. (used).
NEWFOUNDLAND.—1857, 4d. (used) and 8d. (unused), both orange red 1865, 5c. brown.
NOVA SCOTIA.—1850, 1d. red-brown, 3d. blue (on blue and on white paper) " 6d. dark and 14ht green, 1s. violet. 1800, 84c. green.
ORANGE FREE STATE.—Prov'l, 4d. black on 6d. rose—two different types reversed. " 5s. green.
PERU.—1882, 10c. green, surch. with Chilian arms in red in reverse. " 10c. green, surch. with Chilian arms in black reverse. " 10c. green, surch. with Chilian arms in blue reverse. " 10c. green, surch. with Chilian arms in purple reverse.
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, prov'l's of 1881—Fiscals surch'd "Habilitado pa Correos," and used as postage, viz:— 24-8 c d p black on 10 cuartos bistra. un real " 10 " " " " green " 10 " " " 8 cms. black " 2 reales blue. 3 c d p yellow on 200 m d p green. un real black " 12 4-8 c d p blue. " red " 12 4-8 " "
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, prov'l's of 1881—Fiscals used as postage without surch.:— 200 m d p green. un peso.
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, prov'l's of 1881—Telegraph surch. "Habilitado pa Correos" and used as postage:— 2 reales carmine on 250 m d p blue.
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, prov'l's of 1881—Telegraph used as postage without surch.:— un peso brown. 250 m d peso blue.
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, prov'l's of 1881—Postals surch'd "Habilitado pa Correos" and new values:— 2c d p black on 24c d p brown. 8c green on 2c carmine. 8c " " 2c " in reverse un real green on 5c d p blue. " " 5c " " in reverse. " carmine on 5c d p blue. " green " 8 " brown. dos reales black " 24-8c d p blue. 20c " " 8 " brown. 20c " " 8 " reverse.
PORTO RICO, prov'l's of 1878—5c light brown, imperf. 1884—8c orange.
SANDWICH ISLANDS.—1853, 50c red and \$1 vermilion.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, prov'l's of 1883— "Two cents" black on 8c orange. " " " 5c blue. " " " 32c vermilion. 2c black on 12c blue. " " 4c rose. 4c red " 5c blue 8c black " 12c " 8c " 12c purple. 8c in black and in red (double surch.) on 12c purple. 18c black on 6c mauve.
TRANSVAAL.—1879, prov'l, 1d red on 3d black. " " 1d black on 6d black.
TURK'S ISLAND—provisionals of 1881: 24d black on 1d red (small). 24d. " 1d. " (large). 4d. " 6d. " (heavy figure.) 4d. " 6d. black (reversed, slender figures.)
TUSCANY.—1850, 3 lire, yellow.

- VENEZUELA.—1875, 1 centavo, lavender, surch. in minute letters two lines reverse. " 1 rl magenta and 1 rl vermilion, surch. in same way. 1879 (interior), 80c blue, 1, 2, and 5 venezolanos red. 1880 (interior) 1, 2 and 5 bolivares blue and 10 bolivares carmine.

I do not bind myself to accept any offers for specimens of the list above, but reserve the right of approval.

I have also a remarkably fine collection for sale. It comprises over 5,000 stamps, envelopes, newsbands and post and letter cards. All are in the best preservation. Many ancient, rare, specimens and numerous provisionals, some of which are hardly procurable. As a whole the collection is a rare and valuable one, in excellent, clean condition, as the stamps are but slightly attached with gum to the pages by the centre of each. To any one desiring to purchase I will furnish full details if written for and if stamps to pay the postage on reply accompany letters of enquiry. None but CASH offers will be considered.

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