The Collectors Club

Philatelist

A Magazine devoted to Philatelic Study & Research

Volume XXIX, No. 2 March, 1950

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1862-8 PERF. 11-12

4 1p yel. or.	4.50	2.50	3.50	5.25
4a 1p brn. or.	6.00	4.00	—	—
5 2p rose (wht.)	.24	.18	—	—
5a 2p rose (yel.)	1.20	.85	.75	1.40
6 3p bl. (wht.)	.25	.23	2.00	—
6a 3p bl. (yel.)	2.95	1.75	2.50	3.50
7a 6p grn.	6.50	4.50	—	—
8 9p vio.	3.25	2.45	2.50	4.25
9 4p blk. (wht.)	.30	.18	—	—
9a 4p blk. (yel.)	8.00	3.00	4.00	8.00

1870 ENGRAVED

	Unused Fine	Unused Good	Used Good	Used Fine
10 4½p brown	3.50	2.75	—	—
10a 4½p deep brn.	4.00	3.00	—	—
1872 "CENTS"				
11 1c brn. orn.	.25	.20	3.00	5.00
11b 1c yel. or.	.25	.20	—	—
12 2c ultr.	.75	.55	5.00	12.50
13 3c rose	2.50	.95	1.35	2.50
14 4c green	.24	.19	—	—
15 6c black	.26	.21	3.00	—
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2 $1 Lake	—	110.00	—	95.00	17.50	13.25	20.50	15.00	7.50	6.00	3.95	3.50
3 $1 Black	—	45.00	40.00	30.00	6.25	5.00	7.50	6.25	2.10	1.75	1.35	1.20
4 $1 Green	—	45.00	—	—	5.65	4.45	6.75	4.95	1.55	1.25	1.20	.98
5 $1 Purp.	—	—	—	—	7.50	5.50	8.25	5.75	2.15	1.70	1.25	.98
6 $1 Brown	52.50	—	—	27.50	3.50	2.75	3.75	2.95	1.40	1.15	1.10	.90
7 $1 Sepia	—	22.50	—	20.00	3.00	2.25	3.60	2.50	1.70	1.35	1.05	.85
8 $1 B. Car.	32.50	22.50	20.00	17.50	2.75	2.25	3.75	2.75	1.25	1.00	.90	.77
9 $1 Brown	—	15.00	—	—	2.10	1.60	3.00	2.25	1.15	.90	.90	.74
10 $1 Rose	25.00	14.00	—	—	2.10	1.60	3.10	2.50	1.35	1.10	.90	.75
11 $1 Orange	20.00	12.50	—	—	1.95	1.50	2.45	1.85	1.10	.89	.85	.70
12 $1 Black	14.00	10.00	—	—	1.90	1.50	2.25	1.85	1.10	.89	.85	.70
13 $1 R. Brown	12.50	10.00	—	—	1.65	1.45	1.85	1.75	1.10	.95	.85	.70
14 $1 Black	8.00	5.50	—	—	1.35	1.25	1.85	1.75	1.10	.95	.85	.70
15 $1 Blue	8.00	—	5.50	—	1.35	1.25	1.85	1.75	1.10	.95	.90	.75
16 $2 Green	13.50	9.50	9.50	—	2.35	2.25	2.85	2.75	1.65	1.50	.98	.85

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The Collectors Club Philatelist

MARCH, 1950. VOL. XXIX, No. 2

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Philatelic Isolationism

The name "isolationist" today is not a complimentary one. In view of events of the last decade, even an admitted isolationist now keeps himself in the background. Our definition of an isolationist is one whose interests center solely in his own country. However, let us dismiss its popular political application and view it in a philatelic sense.

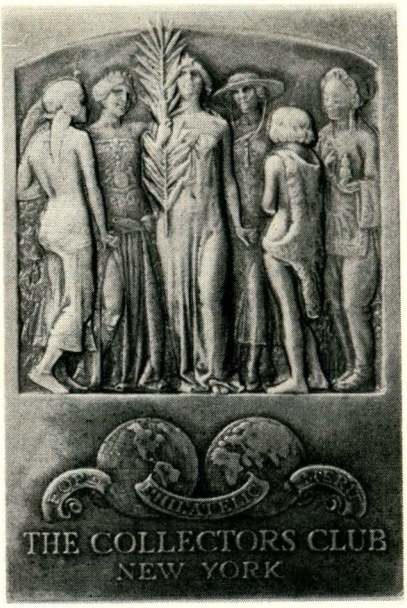
Although we are mostly advanced stamp collectors, we should not overlook the welfare of the beginner or less advanced collector. The normal evolution of a philatelist is to start collecting with a mixture or small accumulation of stamps of the world. One proceeds to enlarge upon this until within time, the task of continuing in this manner becomes beyond one's scope and means. The next step is to refine one's collecting interests, which takes ever so many forms. The usual pattern followed in specialization is first in a group of countries, then one country and finally to certain issues of a country. It is an obvious step to turn to the stamps of one's own country. But we are amazed at the number of collectors, beginners and the young in particular, whose stamp interest is only the United States. The rest of the world does not exist for them. This is even carried so far that the novice collectors commence, immediately with assembling nothing but plate number blocks of U. S. commemorative stamps. This is philatelic isolationism at its highest degree. If stamp collecting is to be educational and relaxing, its scope must be as broad as possible.

And, furthermore, if one will be successful—and success in a philatelic sense means a genuine enjoyment of stamps—he must know what he is doing and show it. In the eyes of most of us, a real collector must know something about stamps. An isolated method of collecting will seldom accomplish this. Thus, we would consider that a true collector must always be a general collector at heart. He must know something of many of the world's stamps issued in both centuries. A confined field or limited outlook will never even make a good specialist. We have observed keen specialists narrow their field of interest so that they do not realize that their philatelic knowledge and contributions have not continued.

What is the answer to this trend towards philatelic isolationism which seems to be so widespread these days? We would think that more thought and guidance should be offered by the experienced collector to those in the introductory stages of philately, and that those of us who have learned the hard way that true specialization can be based only on the broadest possible philatelic experience, can pass on to the new generation the word that general collecting has to come first—and should never be wholly abandoned.

H. M. G.

C. C. P. AWARD FOR 1949



As established last year by the Board of Governors, an annual award will be made to the author of the best article published in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. The method pursued to determine this honor is of the appointment of a committee of four by the Club President for this selection.

Some new regulations were set for the 1949 (Volume XXVIII) award as follows:—

a) The Award Committee shall render an opinion upon the three (3) best articles.
b) The number 1 selection shall receive the *Collectors Club Medal* (shown here).
c) The authors of the next two selections of the Award Committee shall receive *Collectors Club Certificate of Merit.*
d) Members of the Editorial staff shall be ineligible for any award.
e) Only completed articles are to be judged. An article running serially shall not be eligible for the award until the volume, in which it is concluded, has appeared.
f) No member of the Editorial staff shall be appointed to the Award Committee.

The 1949 Awards as selected are:—

1. **LYONS F. LIVINGSTON**—R. A. Villard and The Stamps of China (1949 Medal)
2. **MAJOR G. A. E. CHAPMAN**—Canada, 5c 1859, Record of Re-entries (Certificate of Merit)
3. **HARRISON D. S. HAVERBECK**—The Typographed Stamps of Nepal 1941-47 (Certificate of Merit)

MEXICO

Studies in the 1874-1883 Issues

By CALVERT STIER

Author's Note: Much of the material embodied herein was gathered together by Mr. T. Rhys Jones who studied closely the Hidalgo and Juarez issues of these dates. Mr. Jones formed one of the finest collections of this period and made many new discoveries. I am also indebted greatly to Mr. L. M. Josling who has made a detailed study of the stamps of Mexico for over thirty years and who has supplied me with many new listings. Where the author is using the pronoun "we" in this monograph he is including the above two gentlemen.

* * * *

Part I.

Since the publication in 1918 of J. Brace Chittenden's book on the Hidalgo Issues of 1874 to 1883 *(Collectors Club Handbook No. 1)* much new information has been obtained and we are now enabled to elucidate some of the queries he made. This handbook, essential to the student of these issues, has long been out of print and difficult to obtain. The basic theories of Mr. Chittenden have proven to be sound and altho I have modified his paper varieties, I have in general followed his scheme of listings. In the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Vol. 24, No. 1, I published a revised list of papers collectible for these issues which I am following in this monograph. I am also giving an up-to-date list of what is known for each district, the varieties and errors, and a very extensive listing of the wide laid paper and Papel Sellado stamps.

In July, 1872, Benito Juarez, the patient Indian who outlasted the Empire, died. He was succeeded in the Presidency by Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejado under whose four year term Mexico made considerable strides forward, one of which was in the improvement of its postage stamps and postal service. A contract was let with the American Bank Note Co. in 1873 for a new series of five values to be in the decimal series, viz: 5c, 10c, 25c, 50c, 100c. The plates were made in New York, each value of a different design altho all with the profile of the priest Hidalgo, to print 100 stamps in ten rows of ten. The imprint of the American Bank Note Co. New York appeared eight times on the sheet, twice on each side. The perforation was 12 and clear cut, the margins were perforated so that no straight edges exist for the Bank Note Company work. The centering was generally very good. The Company printed up a large supply of stamps in 1873 and early 1874 on a thin crisp wove paper, the same as was being used by the Continental Bank Note Co. for U. S. stamps of this same period. These stamps were shipped to Mexico in 1874 and first placed on sale May 5, 1874. At the same time, the plates and a supply of this crisp wove paper were taken by experienced workmen to Mexico City. The workmen in the National Printing Office were given instructions how to use the plates and perforation machines, and all printings from middle 1874 until 1883 were made in Mexico City by Mexican workers.



Fig. 1. The set as first issued. A. B. N. Co. printing on the crisp wove paper. (Issue A, paper 1)

POSTAL DISTRICTS

In Mexico at this time (1874) the system of postal districts introduced with the first issue of 1856 was still in force. The country was divided into some four dozen (the number fluctuated from time to time) districts, some very large covering an entire State or more and others very small and just taking care of a single city with the surrounding towns. Initially, the stamps were sent out from Mexico City to each of these postal districts just as received from the printers, but upon arrival at the district office each and every stamp on the sheet was handstamped with that district's name, the idea being much the same as our Kansas-Nebraska system. This system was in effect for the first two issues, 1856 and 1861, the thought being that if any quantity of the stamps were stolen en route to a district they could not be used since they would not have the district overprint on them. As with any system there are always exceptions, so that stamps of the first two issues do appear without any district overprint and regularly used: these however were in the great minority.

In 1864 with the establishment of the Empire by French troops under Maximilian and the issuing of the "Eagles" and "Maximilians" between 1864 and 1867 a further refinement was made by the addition of consignment numbers and abbreviated date to each stamp, this being done in Mexico City before sending the stamps out to the district. In 1868 upon the establishment of the Second Republic under Benito Juarez the consignment numbers and dates were abolished and each postal district given a district number, which together with the last two figures of the date was printed on each stamp. The district numbers for this issue ran from 1 to 41. In 1872 on the appearance of the new lithographed set with profile of Hidalgo (Scott type A8) an entirely new set of numbers were assigned in alphabetical order and new districts created. Mexico City, the head office, was number 1 and the districts ran from 2 Acapulco to 51 Zacatecas. Due to the theft of a large quantity of stamps from the office at Guanajuato in 1873 that number was changed from 18 to the end of the list at 52. With the introduction of the new set printed from the American Bank Note Company plates in 1874 the same district numbering was retained with a few deletions and with 8 additional districts. Again in 1878, while this set was still current, the district numbering was entirely changed, being put in reverse so that, for example, Acapulco was changed from number 2 to 53 and Zacatecas from near the end of the list at 51 became number 2. A further change in the placing of the numbers was also made: in 1874 the district number was half way up the stamp at the left side and the date over to the right side, whereas in 1878 the number and date were together, at first near the bottom and from July of 1878 to 1883 together near the top right.

For the collection of district names and numbers this really divides this issue into two separate series with a sub-series and they are so treated in this article.

At the beginning of the fiscal year 1874-75 there were 57 principal postal districts, but shortly thereafter three were dropped so that at the time of a postal census taken on the 30th September 1875 there were 54 districts supplying 801 sub-offices with stamps. At this time there were 27 states and 2 territories. The postal districts were divided amongst them as follows:

States and Postal Districts from 1874 (July) to 1884

STATE	POPULATION (Circa 1900)	*DISTRICT*	*Number of Sub-Offices* *
Aguascalientes	102,400	Aguascalientes	5
Campeche	86,500	Campeche	4
Chiapas	360,800	Chiapas	31
Chihuahua	327,800	Chihuahua	16
		Parral	9
Coahuila	297,000	Saltillo	31
Colima	65,000	Colima	7
Durango	370,000	Durango	27
Guanajuato	1,061,700	Guanajuato	17
Guerrero	479,200	Acapulco	3
		C. Bravos	11
Hidalgo	605,000	Apam	5
		Huejutla	17
		Pachuca	13
		Tula	8
		Tulancingo	8
Jalisco	1,153,900	C. Guzman	14
		Cocula	14
		Guadalajara	27
		Lagos	9
Mexico (not the City)	934,500	Cuautitlan	5
		Chalco	10
		Jilotepec	5
		Texcoco	1
		Toluca	24
Michoacan	935,800	Maravatio	5
		Morelia	28
		Zamora	11
Morelos	160,000	Cuernavaca	7
Nuevo Leon	328,000	Monterey	28
Oaxaca	948,600	Oaxaca	34
Puebla	1,021,000	Puebla	43
		Tehuacan	6
Queretaro	232,400	Queretaro	32
San Luis Potosi	575,400	S. L. Potosi	27
Sinaloa	296,700	Mazatlan	24
Sonora	221,700	Ures (changed to Hermosillo 1879)	46
Tabasco	159,800	Tabasco	21
Tamaulipas	218,900	C. Victoria	12
		Matamoros	5
		Tampico	11
		Tula de Tampas.	2
Tlaxcala	172,300	Tlaxcala	6
Vera Cruz	981,000	Cordova	4
		Jalapa	21
		Orizava	5
		Tuxpan	3
		Vera Cruz	26
Yucatan	309,600	Merida	33
Zacatecas	462,200	Zacatecas	26
Federal District	541,500	Mexico	
Suburban Offices: (These were listed in 1874 but discontinued ante 1878)		Tacubaya Tepeji? Tlalnepantla? G. Hidalgo?	
Baja California (territory).		La Paz	15
Tepic (territory)		Tepic	10

* The number of offices depending on the principal office varied over the years. The numbers given are for Sept. 1875. The suburban offices, due to their proximity to the head office of Mexico City were listed as head offices in 1872 and carried over into the 1874 list but were dropped some time later; they are all very rare, G. Hidalgo to date being unknown for this issue.

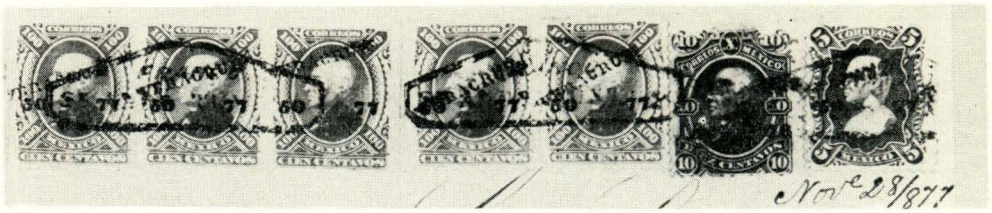


Fig. 2. Five copies of the 100c rose on Papel Sellado wove paper (paper 2), with San Andres Tuxtla cancellation.

Printings and Paper

As stated before, the first printings were made in New York by the American Bank Note Co. on a brittle, fairly thin wove paper. The colors are bright, the work is clear and sharp and the stamps usually well centered. However a supply of this paper was sent to Mexico and printings made there on it in 1874 and possibly 1875.

This thin crisp wove paper (Table 1) was used for all values in 1874 and 1875 and for the 50c and 100c in 1876 and 1877 but rarely for the others in these years. It is the commonest paper for Issue A stamps but is not found in Issue B except for the 10c black in 1878. The next papers used were of Mexican manufacture and were a medium wove (quadrille appearing) or a medium close vertically laid, both showing the watermark Papel Sellado in the sheet. These two papers are the ones Chittenden split up into six separate tables, but actually, stamps on either of these papers without the watermark are from the same sheets as stamps which show parts of a letter or two of Papel Sellado. Sets of course can be made with and without the watermark, the former being very much the scarcer in about the ratio of 8: 100. The vertically laid is commonest for the 5 centavo in 1876-77 and the wove "quadrille" for the 10 centavos 1876-77. Both are scarce used for the 100c. The fourth paper supplied was made in France by the firm of La Croix Freres. It is a wide horizontally laid, of medium thickness and very brittle, and showing part of the papermaker's watermark in the sheet in large double lined letters, viz: LA CROIX FRERES. It was used for the 10c and 25c in 1877. The fifth paper supplied for Issue A stamps was a thick soft wove introduced in 1877 also and is common for the 25c and 50c and rare for the 100c. It does not appear for the 5c and 10c until in 1878 which is in Issue B. Chittenden listed this as Table 3 for all values for all dates 1874 to 1877 but appears to have it confused with unwatermarked copies on the medium wove which I list as Table 2.

At the beginning of 1878 a change was made in the style of district overprinting the district number and abbreviated date appearing together as one number. Thus 5478 would be 54, the district number for Mexico City under this new list, and 78 for the year date. For the first six months the number is at the bottom of the stamp, but after July, 1878 it generally is placed at the upper right except for the District of Mexico which always has the number at the bottom.

Chittenden rather complicates this period of the second series, calling it the "Transition Period," and listing all the stamps dated 1878 (together with a few dated 79) whether the number is at the bottom or the top calling it Issue B and listing all the other close together numbers from 1879 to 1883 as Issue C. It is arbitrary but I prefer to call all the stamps of the second period, with number and date together, at bottom Group B, or Issue B, and those with the number and date together at the top as Issue C. Thus the so-called "transition stamps" are only those with the overprinting at the bottom which are upon the old papers as used for Issue A. It appears that the stocks on hand were used up before any new printings were made. We thus find the following (Chittenden's Tables 10-19):

1878, with number and date at bottom.

5c brown, on close vertical laid (3)
10c black, on crisp wove (1)
25c blue, on soft wove "quadrille" (2, rare)
and on thick wove (5)
50c green, same as the 25c
100c carmine rose, on thick wove (5)



Fig. 3. Stamps with the old cancellations common to the first issue of 1856. Row 1, 5c, Cristobal Llave (Vera Cruz); 10c Franco Tapalpa (C. Guzman); 10c Franco en San Juan Del Rio (Queretaro); 10c Franco en Figueroa (Maravatic). Row 2, Pair of the 100c and a 10c cancelled with straight line "Nieves" (Zacatecas) Strip of 4 of the 25c with Franco en Sain Alto (Zacatecas) struck twice.

This completes the varieties for Issue B, and it will be noted that no new papers were introduced. For the Issue C with the number and date together at top, always excepting the District of Mexico, we still find a few of the old papers used together with three new papers. Taking them in order of their appearance they are:

The 10c black still on the thin crisp wove as used in Issues A and B. This value was superseded at this time by the 10c orange which does not come on this paper.

The 5c on vertical laid, with and without wmk. Papel Sellado, and on wide laid, with and without wmk. La Croix Freres. Possibly a sheet or two of the vertical laid was used for the 25c, and in 1880 for a short time the 100c is found on it.

A few copies of the 25c and 50c have been found on the old soft wove "quadrille" paper (1878), and a definite issue was made of it for the 100c in 1880.

Paper No. 5, viz. the thick wove, is the standard paper for this group from late 1878 to 1882. It varies tremendously both as to thickness and hardness and is always unwatermarked. Chittenden lists it under his tables 13 and 20 and though it may not be the same as that first introduced in 1877 I believe it all from the same source. It was Mexican made and used extensively for revenue stamps of this period.

We now come to an entirely new paper found only for this group: a thick, close vertically laid paper, unwatermarked.

It is true that I listed this as a sub variety of Paper 3 in my former articles in the CCP and did not consider it a definite new variety, and equally true that Mr. T. Rhys Jones after the examination of many thousands of stamps of this period did not believe that they occurred on a true close laid paper. Still, I now believe that it is advisable to list it as a new variety. The new 4c of 1880 is definitely found on it and still is never found with wmk. Papel Sellado, so it seems hardly likely that it is the old paper No. 3. I have found copies of the 5c and the 10c orange dated 79 and 80 on laid paper which could not be just "ribbed" varieties of the thick wove as Jones believes. The latter value is never found with wmk. either.

In 1881 another new variety appears, a thin, soft wove paper, close grained and without watermark. It is very similar to paper used in the United States at this time by the American Bank Note Co. It is the common paper for this date for the 10c and 25c, less so for the 5c and 50c. I have not found the 100c on it.

The eighth and final paper found is a very thin wove with a distinct mesh introduced generally in 1882 and practically exclusively in 1883 for all values. It is accorded a sepa-

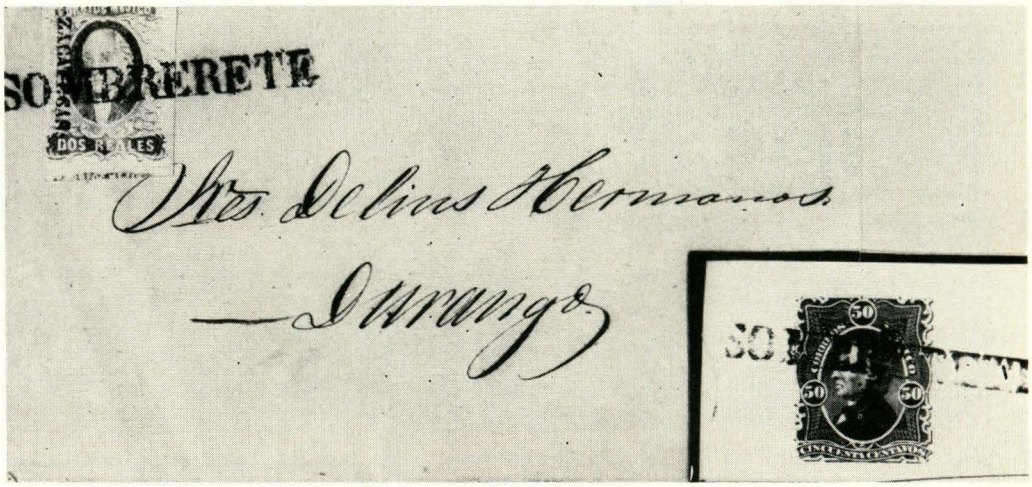


Fig. 4. Straight line "Sombrerete" (Zacatecas District) on cover with 2r. 1856 and the same cancel on the 50c, 1880.

rate listing by the Scott Catalog. It is very often found unused without overprint, these being remainders.

This completes the list of the papers used for these stamps, and to summarize I have prepared a chart showing the values found together with the corresponding Chittenden listing wherever possible.

CHART SHOWING THE CONDENSATION OF CHITTENDEN'S TABLES OF PAPER

Issue A.	*Present listing Table*	*Chittenden listing Table*
Thin crisp wove,	1 (all values)	1
Medium soft wove, "quadrille" wmkd. P/S in the sheet.	2 (all values)	8
Close vertical laid, wmk. P/S in sheet	3 (all values)	9
Wide horizontal laid, wmk. La Croix Freres	4 (10.25)	7
Thick wove, unwmk.	5 (25.50.100)	2, 3
Issue B.		
Thin crisp wove,	6 (10)	10
Medium wove "quadrille"	7 (25.50)	11
Vertical laid,	8 (5)	12
Thick wove	9 (25.50.100)	11
Issue C.		
Thin crisp wove	10 (10c black)	16
Wove "quadrille"	11 (25.50.100)	17, 22
Vertical laid	12 (5.25.100)	18, 23
Wide horizontal laid	13 (5c)	15, 19
Medium-thick wove	14 (all values)	13, 20
Thick vertical laid	15 (4c.5.10)	21
Thin soft wove	16 (5.10.25.50)	25, 26
Very thin wove, meshed	17 (all values)	27, 29

Study of the Hidalgo Issue, 1874-1883

GROUP I. ISSUE A. With district number and date spaced apart, for the years 1874, 75, 76, 77.

1. On thin crisp wove paper. Plates and first printings by the American Bank Note Co. Issued in sheets of 100. Unwmk.

1 5c chestnut brown, 1874-75
2 10c black, 1874-75-76
3 25c bright blue, 1874-75-76
4 50c dark green, 1874-75-76
5 100c carmine rose, 1874-75-76-77

Notes: The colors are sharp and clear and uniform, even when printed in Mexico. Evidently a supply of inks was sent with the plates and paper. Other dates can be found for the values than those listed (both above and subsequently) but are abnormal use and usually rare, such as 5c for 1876, 10c for 1877, etc. The 25c is not found for 1877.

The above set also exists without overprint and are undoubtedly samples as submitted by the American Bank Note Co. They were not put into use in this form and should not be confused with the very common remainders

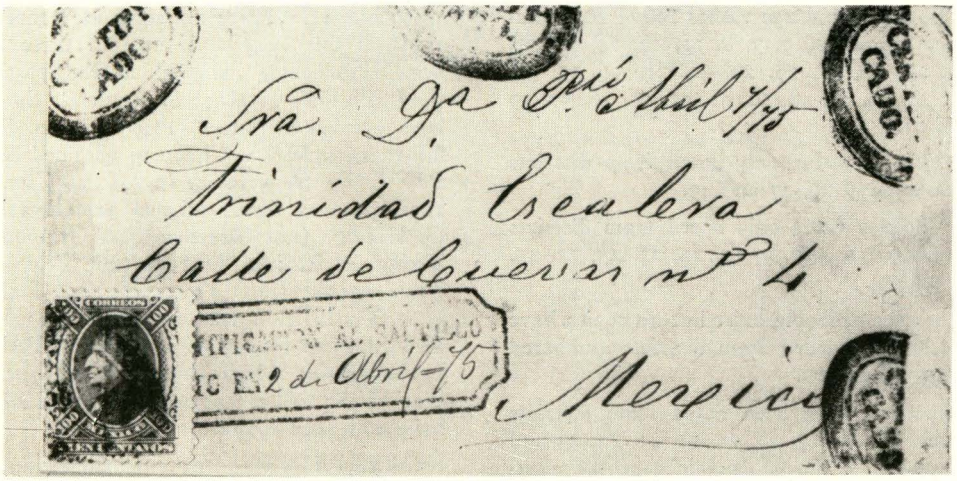


Fig. 5. "Certificado" (registration) oval mark applied at the corners of a cover as per regulations together with oblong "Certification al Saltillo" and date written in.

on the thin paper of 1883. The former are worth about $10.00 apiece unused; the latter much less.

Stamps of this issue with number and date only are remainders which became obsolete when the new-type overprinted 1878 series was introduced and are worth less than unused stamps with the addition of the district name.

2. On medium soft wove paper, termed "quadrille" for ease of reference, with the wmk. "Papel Sellado" in the sheet. Printed in Mexico from the A. B. N. Co. plates.

6 5c brown, red brown, 1876-77
7 10c gray black, 1876-77
8 25c pale blue, 1876-77
9 50c green, sea green, 1876-77
10 100c rose, pale rose, 1877

Notes: These stamps with wmk. are much scarcer than those without, Scott's new prices being about right. The 100c with wmk. for this series is a very scarce stamp. The 5c, 25c and 50c can be found dated 75 but the series was generally used beginning in 1876. Aside from the paper, stamps for this set can be easily recognized from the previous by the shades, the colors being noticeably different than the American Bank Note Co. work.

3. On medium close vertically laid paper with the wmk. "Papel Sellado" in the sheet.

11 5c brown, pale brown, 1876-77
12 10c intense black, 1877
13 25c dull blue, 1876-77
14 50c yellow green, 1876-77
15 100c rose, 1876

Notes: Stamps with wmk. are scarce except for the 5c. With the exception of the 100c the shades are considerably different than in either of the two previous sets. The 100c is a rare stamp with wmk. and rather scarce without. The sheets for this printing were not perforated in the outside margins so that straight edged copies are common. (36 per sheet of 100).

4. On medium hard wide horizontal laid paper with the wmk. "LA CROIX FRERES" in double lined capitals in the sheet, but very few stamps showing any part of the wmk. The paper was made in France.

16 10c intense black, 1877
17 25c dark blue, 1877

Notes: There was evidently but one printing, the stamps always appearing in the same shade. In the 25c the head of Hidalgo appears very white, the fine dots of shading have mostly disappeared. This set was the subject of a previous study of mine published in the CCP, and with the help of Mr. L. M. Josling, T. Rhys Jones and A. Odfjell I am enabled to append below a very complete list of the districts to be found on this paper. It now seems probable that all of the districts listed received supplies of both values except as noted.

Both 10c and 25c values found from districts numbered 1, 3, 8, 11, 12, 14, 16, 19, 20, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 46, 48, 50, 51, 53, 55, 56, 57, 59 and 61.

The 10c value only noted from districts numbered 4, 39, 47 and 49.

The 25c value only noted from districts numbered 2, 5, 7, 9, 15, 22, 24, 25, 33, 45, 52 and 54.

Stamps probably exist but no copies have yet been recorded from districts numbered 6, 13, 58 and 60.

No copies have been noted from districts numbered 10, 17, 18, 21, 32, 41, 42, 43 and 44 and it is almost certain that the numbers were not used or that did not receive stamps in 1877.

5. On thick wove unwatermarked paper of Mexican manufacture.

18 25c dull blue, 1877
19 50c green, light green, 1877
20 100c carmine, 1877

Notes: This paper was not used until 1877 and is the one Chittenden confused with unwatermarked copies of the wove paper, No. 2. It may not be the same as that used for the Issue C stamps but is very likely from the same source. It is very much thicker than either of the previous woves. I have not found the 5c nor 10c on it dated 77.

The color of the 25c is the same as for printings on paper 3; the 50c similar to, but generally lighter than that found on paper 2; the 100c is more of a carmine than the previous rose shades. Josling doubts the 100c for this paper in 1877, but I have copies very definitely not the thin crisp wove nor wove "quadrille" of 1874-76 period. The shades, too, match up with the 100c issued on this paper in 1878-79.

The Districts For the Series 1874-77

As stated before, the numbers ran as in the 1872 issue from 1 to 52 together with eight additions made at the beginning of 1874, viz. Nos. 53 to 60. One district Cordova, changed its number during the course of issue from 10 to No. 61. There are some very rare districts in this issue and some of these have been erroneously assigned in the past; in C. J. Phillip's catalog; in Aguirre's Specialized, even in his latest (1946) edition. From information Mr. S. Chapman obtained at the Post Office Department in Mexico City, the rare numbers were assigned as follows: 17 G. Hidalgo (not Guaymas); 32 Otumba; 41 Tepeji del Rio; 42 Texcoco (not Tepic); 43 Tlalnepantla (not Texcoco); 44 Tlalpam (not Tixtla). I was fortunate enough to find a copy of No. 43 with TLALNEPANTLA overprint which cleared up the use of that district: all except numbers 17, 18 and 44 have now been found.

OVERPRINTS. Although almost invariably found in black, a number exist in other colors and to Collin and Calman's original list, used also by Chittenden, we have made several additions. The list of known colored overprints is as follows:

In blue: Aguascalientes, Apam, Chiapas, Cordova, Cordoba, C. Bravos, C. Guzman, Guadalajara, Huejutla, Durango, Matamoros, Oaxaca, Orizava, Pachuca, Puebla, Saltillo, Tulancingo, Tula de Tampas, Ures, Cocula, Tepic.

In green: Maravatio, Orizava.

In vermilion: Monterrey.

In violet: C. Victoria, Orizava.

These only refer to the 1874-77 series: the districts for 1878-83 are quite common in colors other than black.

In the small and scarcer districts the unused is commoner, especially in the high values, while in the large districts such as Vera Cruz and Puebla the reverse is true. Many pen cancelled remainders are found as well as unused copies with the number and date only.

It is impossible to get all values for all four years for each district. A table is given showing what *has not yet been found* for each district, and it will be noted that for several districts no stamps at all appear to have been sent in 1875 or 1876 and that in other instances a value was allowed to do duty for more than one year. The table is as complete as we can make it, being based on the records kept by L. M. Josling for over thirty years.

DISTRICT NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 61, 1874-77
(Numbers 17, 18, 44 not used)
Values and Dates not yet Known to Exist

		5c	10c	25c	50c	100c
1	Mexico	all found				
2	Acapulco	—	—	—	—	75-6-7
3	Aguascalientes	—	—	—	—	75
4	Apam	75-7	—	76-7	74-5	76
5	Campeche	—	77	—	—	77
5	Isla del Carmen	77	77	77	77	75-7
6	Chalco	76-7	—	—	74-6-7	74-6
7	Chiapas	—	—	76	76	76
8	Chihuahua	—	—	—	75-6	75-6
9	Colima	—	—	—	—	75
10	Cordova (see No. 61)	75-7	75	75-7	74-7	74-5-7
11	C. Bravos	—	—	—	—	74
12	C. Victoria	76	76	76	75-6	76
13	Cuautitlan	74-5-6	—	76	74-5-7	74-5-7
14	Cuernavaca	75-6-7	—	—	77	74-6-7
15	Durango	all found				
16	Guadalajara	all found				
19	Huejutla	76	74-6	76	74-6	74-5-6
20	Jalapa	all found				
21	Jilotepec	75-6-7	76	75-6	74-6-7	76-7
22	Lagos	—	—	—	77	—
23	La Paz	—	75-6	75-6	—	—
24	Maravatio	—	—	—	76-7	76-7
25	Matamoros	all found				
26	Mazatlan	all found				
27	Merida	—	—	—	75-6	76
28	Monterey	all found				
29	Morelia	—	—	—	—	75
30	Oaxaca	76	76	76	76	76
31	Orizava	all found				
32	Otumba	74-5-6-7	75-6-7	74-7	74-5-6-7	74-5-6-7
33	Pachuca	all found				
34	Puebla	all found				
35	Queretaro	all found				
36	Saltillo	—	—	—	75	76
37	S. L. Potosi	—	—	—	—	75
38	Tabasco	75	75-6	75	75	75-7
39	Tacubaya	75	74-5	75-6	75-6-7	75-6-7
40	Tampico	—	—	—	76	76
41	Tepeji del Rio	74-5-6-7	75-6-7	74-5-6-7	75-6-7	74-5-6-7
42	Texcoco	74-5-7	74	74-5-6-7	75-7	74-5-7
43	Tlalnepantla	74-5-6-7	74-6-7	74-6-7	74-5-6-7	74-5-6-7
45	Tlaxcala	75-6-7	74	75-6	77	75-6-7
46	Toluca	—	—	75	—	75
47	Tula	76	—	76	76-7	76-7
48	Tulancingo	75	—	—	75-6-7	76-7
49	Ures	all found				
50	Vera Cruz					
51	Zacatecas					
52	Guanajuato					
53	Cocula	—	75	75	—	75
54	C. Guzman	75	—	—	75	75-6-7
55	Tepic	75	—	—	—	75
56	Parral	—	—	—	—	74-6
57	Tehuacan	75	75	—	—	75-6
58	Tuxpan	76	76	76	76-7	76-7
59	Tula de T.	—	75	—	75	74-5
60	Zamora	76	—	—	75-7	74-5
61	Cordova	76	76	76	74-6	74-6

	5c	10c	25c	50c	100c
1874	W 52	W 53	W 54	W 47	W 40
1875	W 42 Q 6	W 46	W 47 Q 2	W 40 Q 7	W 33
1876	W 3 Q 17 VL 26	W 46 Q 9 VL 11	W 37 Q 15 VL 31	W 15 Q 13 VL 10	W 21 Q 1 VL 5
1877	Q 12 VL 45	Q 43 VL 40 WL 39 W 8	Q 28 VL 22 WL 45 Tk 38	Q 24 VL 14 Tk 21 W 3	Q 28 W 12 Tk 6

Prices for the District Numbers From 1874 to 1877

These vary greatly as do the rarity of the districts. In general it will be found that the basic price as given in the Scott Standard Catalog is about the correct *selling* price for the common districts of this series, the Issue C stamps being worth only about half the Scott price. The high values for the scarcer districts are very rare used, and the reader can easily pick out the scarce districts from the previous list by noting those for which most of the dates are still missing. There was a huge lot of some 10,000 of these Hidalgo stamps in the recent "Taylor" sale, and it is reported that many of the districts were unrepresented in used copies for the 50c and 100c!

The Papel Sellado Watermark

The Papel Sellado paper shows the watermark once in the sheet in large script letters (two varieties). It is comparatively scarce as only a few stamps in the sheet will show any part of the watermark. Chittenden gave a list of 118 varieties, having added 16 to the Collin and Calman list. Mr. Josling has kept a record of the stamps he has seen over a number of years and we are thus enabled to give a greatly augmented list of the Papel Sellado stamps for the period 1875-77. The letter "v" stands for the vertically laid paper and "w" for the wove paper.



Fig. 6. Discoveries are still to be made—a hitherto unrecorded Tula de Tampas. cancellation on the 25c, 1874.

(Photos by Boutrelle)

Stamps Showing Part of the Papel Sellado Watermark, Period 1875-76-77

District		Date	5c	10c	25c	50c	100c
1	Mexico	76	wv	wv	wv	w	
		77	wv	wv	wv	w	
2	Acapulco	75	w				
		76	wv				
3	Aguascalientes	76	w		wv		
		77	v	v	w		
5	Campeche	76		v			
		77			w		
7	Chiapas	77	w	w	v		w
8	Chihuahua	76	w		w		
		77				wv	w
9	Colima	76	w		wv	w	
		77		wv		w	
10?	Cordova	76			v		
11	C. Bravos	76	wv			v	
		77	v	w			
12	C. Victoria	77	wv		v	w	w
13	Cuautitlan	77			w		
14	Cuernavaca	76		v			
		77		v	w		
15	Durango	76	wv	w			
		77	wv	w	wv		w
16	Guadalajara	76	w		v		
		77	wv	wv	w	v	w
19	Huejutla	77	w	w		w	w
20	Jalapa	76	w		w		
		77	v			wv	w
22	Lagos	77		w			
23	La Paz	75				w	
		77	v				
24	Maravatio	76			w		
		77		w			
25	Matamoros	75	w				
		77	v	v			
26	Mazatlan	76	w		v		
		77	wv	w	w	w	w
27	Merida	76			v		
		77	v	w		w	w
28	Monterey	76			w		
		77	wv	w	wv	w	w
29	Morelia	77		v	v	wv	w
30	Oaxaca	77	v	wv	wv	v	w
31	Orizava	76			wv		
		77		w	v	w	w
33	Pachuca	76		wv	wv		w
34	Puebla	75	w				
		76		w	wv		
		77	v	wv	wv	v	w
35	Queretaro	75				w	
		76			wv		
		77	wv	wv			
36	Saltillo	75			w		
		76	wv		wv		
		77	v	wv	v	w	
37	S. L. Potosi	75			w		
		76	w	wv	v		
		77	wv	v	wv		
38	Tabasco	77		w		w	
39	Tacubaya	77		v			
40	Tampico	76	w		v		
		77	v				
42	Texcoco?	76				w	

An extremely rare stamp: possibly unique.

District		Date	5c	10c	25c	50c	100c
45	Tlaxcala	76			w		
46	Toluca	77		wv			
48	Tulancingo	76			v		
49	Ures	75				w	
		76	wv		wv		
		77		wv	v	w	w
50	Vera Cruz	76	wv		w		v?*
		77	wv	wv	w	w	w

* I believe this to be wove paper.

51	Zacatecas	76	w		wv	w	
		77	wv	v	wv		w
52	Guanajuato	76			wv	w	
		77	wv	w	wv		w
53	Cocula	76		w	w		
		77			w		
54	Tepic	76				v	
		77	w	w	w		
56	Parral	76		w		w	
		77	v	w	wv		w
58	Tuxpan	76			w		
		77	v				
59	Tula de T.	76			v		
		77			w		
60	Cordova	75				w	
		77	v	wv			

A study of this chart will show that only the 5, 25 and 50c are known dated 76; only two districts have a 100c dated 76; there are only two vertically laid 50c in 76 and only 5 in 77; there are many more watermarked stamps in 77 than in 76 and 75 combined.

ERRORS IN OVERPRINTING—ISSUE A

A. Errors in District Numbers.

25c	Maravatio	2074	for	2474
25c	Mazatlan	277	for	26-77
25c	Merida	5-76	for	27-76
25c	Morelia	25-76	for	29-76
25c	Puebla	31-75	for	34-75
25c	Puebla	31-77	for	34-77
25c	Toluca	6-74	for	46-74
10c	Vera Cruz	59-75	for	50-75
5c	Zacatecas	12-77	for	51-77
25c	Zacatecas	15-?	for	51-?
5c	Cordova	01-?	for	61-?
25c	Campeche	27-76	for	5-76
25c	Colima	8-74	for	9-74
100c	Lagos	21-77	for	22-77
5c	Mazatlan	20-77	for	26-77
10c	Mazatlan	36-77	for	26-77
100c	Mazatlan	2-77	for	26-77
25c	Saltillo	35-75	for	36-75
5c	Saltillo	27-75	for	36-75
5c	S. L. Potosi	30-75	for	37-75
25c	S. L. Potosi	3-75	for	37-75
10c	Tampico	0-74	for	40-74
25c	Tampico	49-76	for	40-76
25c	Tampico	28-77	for	40-77
10c	Toluca	4-75	for	46-75
5c	Ures	4-77	for	49-77
10c	Ures	48-77	for	49-77
50c	Vera Cruz	59-75	for	50-75
25c	Vera Cruz	59-74	for	50-74

District		Date	5c	10c	25c	50c	100c
50c	Vera Cruz		05-77	for	50-77		
5c	Zacatecas		15-77	for	51-77		
25c	Zacatecas		15-77	for	51-77		
10c	Guanajuato		25-77	for	52-77		
25c	Guanajuato		2-76	for	52-76		
25c	C. Guzman		4-74	for	54-74		

Note: The first eleven listed are from Chittenden's list, the balance we have supplied.

B. Errors in Date

10c,25c	Mexico	1-67	for	1-76
10c	Mexico	1-70	for	1-76
10c	Chalco	6-71	for	6-?
10c	Saltillo	36-7	for	36-77
25c	Vera Cruz	50-7	for	50-77
25c,50c	Vera Cruz	50-70	for	50-?
25c	Guanajuato	52-67	for	52-76
50c	Cocula	53-70	for	53-?

C. With date missing

25c	Mazatlan	26-
25c	S. L. Potosi	37-
50c	Mexico	1-
10c	Lagos	22-
25c	Oaxaca	30-
10c	Ures	49-
50c	Vera Cruz	50-

D. With Date only

5c	Oxaca	-74
25c	Orizava	-77
10c	Toluca	-74
5c	Vera Cruz	-76

E. With Name only

5c	Mexico
10c	Mexico
25c	Mexico
50c	Mexico
25c	Puebla

F. With number and date inverted on the stamp

25c	Vera Cruz	5-76
50c	Mazatlan	26-76
50c	Vera Cruz	50-76

G. Number and date reversed

These latter are quite frequent, and in my opinion of little interest. They were of course made by misplacing the figures upon the stamp so that the figure to the right becomes the figure to the left on the next stamp. Also of little interest are the numerous varieties of double handstamping of the district name. Collin and Calman gave a list of 13 known to them, Chittenden added 7 more, Jones has given me a list of 11 more additions and I have noted some ten more. Practically every district is now represented with double handstamps, as is to be expected in this type of overprinting.

Before leaving this series of stamps with the name and number printed apart, I would call attention to the pairs known that are imperforate between. These are extremely scarce varieties and none were known until discovered by Chittenden. Usually the perforation is well done and carefully placed in the stamps printed between 1874 and 1877, and it was not until early in 1882 that shoddy perforations were the order of the day. Chittenden noted:

5c Mazatlan, 26-76, vertically laid, imperf. vertically

10c Vera Cruz, 50-77, wove paper, imperf. vertically

Messrs. Jones and Josling have added:

5c C. Victoria, 12-77, imperf. vertically

5c Matamoros, 25-76, imperf. vertically

(To Be Concluded.)

CALVERT STIER, a former resort hotel and restaurant owner and operator, is now residing in San Clemente, California. With the cares of his former business behind him, he is at present devoting his time to stamp collecting and deep sea fishing.

He commenced collecting stamps as a schoolboy back in 1915 and has never forsaken the hobby, being at it ever since. His present specialty is the 19th Century stamps of Mexico, which includes for him not only the postage stamps but the postal stationery, express covers and revenue stamps. As all real philatelists should do, he has built up an extensive reference library on this specialty. He also maintains a general collection *(Editor's Note: See Editorial)* and one on U. S. Match and Medicine stamps. He has been a member of The Collectors Club for more than a few years.

SEDANG

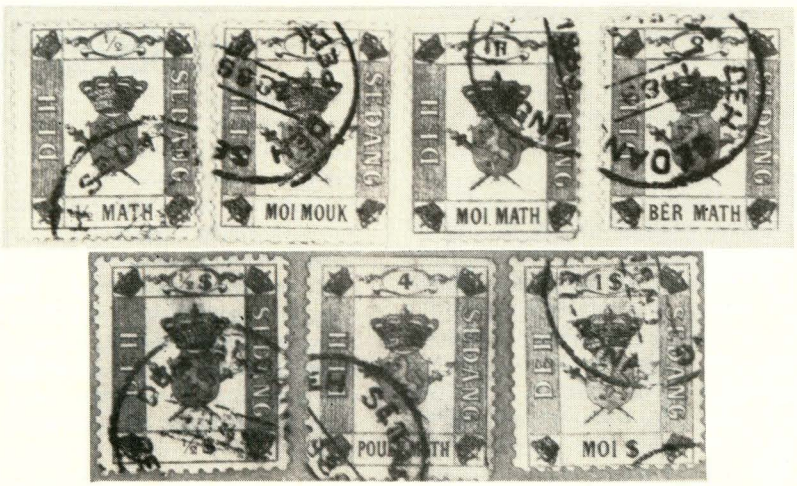
The Story of a Philatelic Phantom

By H. D. S. HAVERBECK

The appearance in recent years of some bogus issues of stamps represented and sold as having been officially issued by recognized governments brings to mind some of the hoary phantoms of the earlier days of stamp collecting. The last thirty years of the nineteenth century saw the appearance of many stamps which were completely bogus, as well as the beginning of the present trend of supplying some complaisant governmental officials with stamps, while retaining possession of the plates against sales to collectors or other devious means. The period saw the beginning of modern commercial manipulations as well as the flowering of the soldier of fortune, to whom stamps were just another symbol of royal prerogatives. Many of these were works of art, well designed and with romantic backgrounds, showing imagination and inventiveness. They were not "the business deal" made only for the purpose of defrauding the public.

One perpetrator of a beautiful phantom was a soldier of fortune who tried to conjure up reality out of his dreams. He was Marie I, "par le grace de Dieu et la volonte nationale, Roi des Sedangs." In reality Marie David de Mayrena was an officer in the French Corps de Guides. He served with distinction in the Franco-Prussian war. We first pick up the trail of his dream in 1885, when, after executing a commission for the French Government in Sumatra, he went to Cochin China, and travelled for some months in Annam. He is known to have joined some Jesuit fathers who were bound on a mission to the interior. They reached the region of the Sedangs, a stretch of country between the river Mekong and the boundary of Annam, lying north of Cochin China and west of Siam.

Mayrena returned to Paris after this trip with glowing reports of the mineral resources of the area. As he had considerable reputation as an engineer and mineralogist, these reports probably had a basis in fact. He was successful in obtaining financial backing for another trip. He was commissioned by one M. Constans to survey the region and to trace the source of the Mekong river. This was a lengthy expedition. When he reached the country of the Sedangs he found fever



raging. He quelled the epidemic with his medical supplies. This gained him the confidence of the natives. He stayed in the region for some time, aiding the tribesmen in their hunting and wars. He became so well liked that the senior or paramount chief of the area gave him his only daughter in marriage. This much is fact.

On this fragile basis, he erected the pomp and circumstance of royal estate. Early in 1889 he appeared in Hong Kong where he was vouched for by the French Consul. Invited to dinner at Government House, he appeared "wearing a short scarlet jacket with enormous galons on the cuffs, a broad blue ribbon, a magenta sash in which was stuck a long curved sword, worn across the front of his body, white trousers with a broad gold stripe, and a white helmet with a crown of gold and three stars." He soon left Hong Kong and went to Paris. Here he became the lion of the season. He was wined and dined. He was lavish in his entertainments. He instituted and bestowed freely—one of those decorations beloved of the romantic—the Order of Marie I. He ran up enormous debts. He disappeared from Paris as abruptly as he had appeared.

It was probably at this time that he conceived the idea of issuing stamps. They were printed in Paris and appeared in July, 1889. The stamps were backed up by a decree, supposed to have been made at Kon-Jeri, 9 July, 1888, authorizing the establishment of a postal service; another of 24 August, 1888, authorizing the issue of the stamps, and an "annex" to the decree of 24 August, dated 6 June 1889, introducing the stamps. A circular was issued on his Majesty's behalf by M. Dorsan Astruc, sending sets of the stamps to the various postal administrations and requesting an equal number of sets of their emissions.

The stamps of Sedang did not receive a cordial reception. The efforts of M. Astruc received a set-back when the Universal Postal Union refused to recognize the "Kingdom." The nations to whom he had sent the stamps did not comply with his request for postal recognition. The stamps were offered to dealers in large quantities at a discount from face value. This discount was considerable in the case of the low values, but for the high values there was a slight premium! But the net effect was a discount for the complete set. The contemporary philatelic press did not report the stamps in a favorable manner and they were very soon branded frauds. The large stocks gradually disappeared. And within time what was once a common fraud used for packet material has today become a scarce item.

The design represents the royal arms, "a lion rampant on an azure, surmounted by a crown." The inscription reads "DEH SEDANG" (Kingdom of Sedang). The denominations are given in Math, Mouk and Dollars. The stamps are lithographed in color on white paper and are perforated 11. The Dollar was stated to be equivalent to 5 Francs, the Mouk to 1 Franc and the Math to 10 Centimes. These stamps appear to be only the attempt at printing valuable paper that Marie I made. There do not appear to have been any attempts at printing money or striking coins. His promissory notes were payable in Francs at his capital, Kon-Jeri. The stamp issue consists of:

½	Math	Bistre
1	Math	Violet
2	Math	Green
4	Math	Orange-red
1	Mouk	Blue
½	Dollar	Yellow
1	Dollar	Rose



The entire set exists with a postmark reading, "DEH SEDANG — PELEI-AGNA" within a single lined circle. The date, 1889, is between two horizontal lines in the center of the circle. It is unknown whether the cancelled specimens were distributed by him. The evidence points to the cancellation having been applied by other parties. In all the decrees supporting the issue the capital of the Kingdom of Sedang is named Kon-Jeri. It is not logical to suppose that he would use the cancellation of another "city" on his

(Continued on Page 96.)

INDIA

Retouches of The 1854 Four Annas Lithographs

By E. A. SMYTHIES

The Four Anna lithographed stamps of India have several claims to distinction; they are amongst the first stamps issued in Asia; they are amongst the most interesting stamps issued ever and anywhere; they provide one of the classic stamp rarities of the world, the "Inverted Head," comparable with the "Inverted Swan" of West Australia or the 1869 "Inverted Centres" of U. S. A.; finally they show a wealth and variety of retouching which is probably without parallel in the whole range of Philately.

In this article, I will attempt to give some idea of the extent and the causes of this astonishing retouching. But first a few explanatory remarks.

Prepayment of postage by means of stamps was started in India on October 1, 1854. The half-anna and one anna lithographs were available on that day. But as the minimum postage to England or abroad, even on the smallest letter, was 10 annas, and there was literally no room on the small envelopes to put ten stamps, the Postal authorities immediately realized the necessity for a higher value. Captain Thuillier of the Survey Department in Calcutta, who was printing the half and one anna values, was asked, on October 11, to produce four anna stamps in addition, as quickly as possible. Three days later he supplied the first 700 sheets (of 12 stamps each), and by October 28 he had supplied 17,170 sheets.

These four anna lithographed stamps were regarded from the very beginning as a provisional makeshift until the four and eight anna stamps ordered from England were received, which were expected very soon. As it happened, however, there was considerable delay in getting these, and in fact they did not arrive until more than a year later. So Captain Thuillier had to meet several supplementary indents, and in all he made five different printings, totalling 99,956 sheets and 1,659,984 stamps. These printings were: —I. October 1854. II. December 1854. III. March 1855. IV. April 1855. V. October 1855.

The design of the stamp was an octagonal red frame inside which was a blue head of Queen Victoria in profile. Two small copper dies were engraved, one of the frame and the other of the head. The head die also had a wide frame of wavy lines with rosettes at the corners. (This frame part of the die was used only in the first three printings). The stamps were printed by the lithographic process. A set of impressions (12 in the first three printings, 24 in the last two) were transferred from the two dies on to two different lithographic stones, one showing the frames, the other the heads and (for the earlier printings) wavy lines and rosettes. These two stones had obviously to be carefully synchronized to ensure that the heads fitted into the frames.

When printing started, first the red frames were printed on the paper, and later—probably next day—the blue heads, wavy lines (in the wide spacings), corner ornaments and marginal inscriptions were printed on, to complete the sheet of stamps. During the course of the first printing only, some sheets (not less than six) were placed wrong way up on the blue stones, causing the classic error of the "Inverted Head," of which 24 or 25 genuine copies are known at present.

At each printing, a considerable number of printing stones (both red and blue) were made by transfers from the copper dies. Thus in the 1st printing there were at least 8 red stones, in the 2nd printing at least 12, in the 3rd at least 15 and so on, and probably the same numbers of blue stones. In the half anna lithographs, which were printed by Captain Thuillier about the same time (May to August 1854 and again in 1855), there were only 24 transfers from the die for the 1st printing, 96 for the 2nd printing and again 96 for the 3rd and final printing, a total of 216 for producing the 30 million half anna stamps. Multiplication of the printing stones was done by transferring impressions of whole sheets from one stone to another. In the four annas this multiplying device was not adopted (so far as we know), and, by contrast, there were at least 420 transfer impressions of each die for less than a million stamps of the first three printings.

Now the construction of so many printing stones *from the dies* resulted in considerable wear of the dies. This had two important results. A weak or worn die gives a poor transfer on the printing stone, and if, for example, the Queen's nose in profile fails to register on the stone, and therefore on all stamps printed from that stone, such stamps will look odd and may be suspected of being forgeries. To avoid this, the faulty impression of the stone has to be retouched by hand, and a nose put in with greasy ink to the best of the operator's skill and ability. Secondly a weak or worn die itself requires to be touched up and strengthened to minimize faulty transfer impressions on the printing stones. (Figure 1)

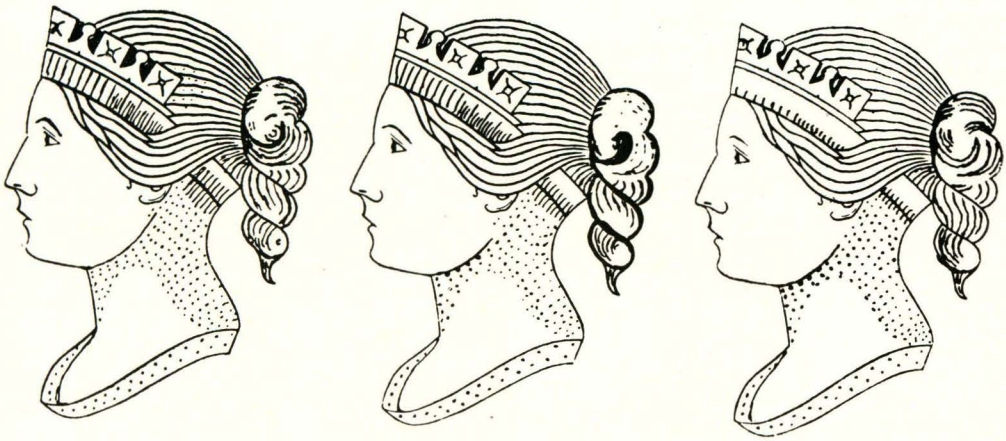
Both these operations were carried out extensively by Captain Thuillier and his staff. For the sake of simplicity I propose in this article to call all operations on the dies "touches-up," and on the stones (whether made before printing started or not) "retouches."

The Postal authorities were terrified of forgeries, and Captain Thuillier and his staff went to endless trouble in touching up the plates and retouching the stones, to try and get standard or similar stamps in the various printings—urged on, no doubt, by the prevailing fear of forgeries to cheat the Post-office, but it must be confessed they were not very skillful or successful. To the modern philatelist the differences in the various states of head die (see illustration) are striking and obvious, while if the Queen had chanced to see some of the retouches—her portrait showing a moustache, a hare-lip, or the expression of an imbecile (see illustrations)—she would not have been amused!

It is perhaps advisable to emphasize that over-inking, smudges and flaws are *not* retouches (although often noted as such), but a retouch must show some distinct difference in detail from the original die to be recognized and classed as such. (Figure 2)

The head engraving started at a disadvantage. Even before any printing stones were made from it, Captain Thuillier noted that the first transfer was poor, and added "I am touching up the copper plate." This first touching up dealt with the shading of the chignon, the band of the crown, the line of jaw and dots on the neck, and the bust, and *all* these details were put on delicately and weakly, so that they soon wore down. As a result we find weak transfers and examples of retouching even in the first printing of October 1854. In the Dawson collection there is an entire cover (to China) (Figure 3) franked with 12 cut-to-shape copies all taken from the one sheet of 12 stamps of the 1st printing, of which 7 of the heads show retouching of chignon by the addition of two or three strong lines, and one—No. 2 of sheet—shows additional retouch of band of crown (see Figure 4). On another stone in several positions the chignon was retouched with delicate wriggly lines. On yet other stones we find:—(i) No. 3 with the whole head redrawn, an exceptional retouch; (ii) No. 5 with the top of head and crown retouched; (iii) several stamps with outline of

HEAD DIE



DIE I Early state. October 1854 DIE II Early state. December 1854 DIE III. March 1855.

FRAME DIE

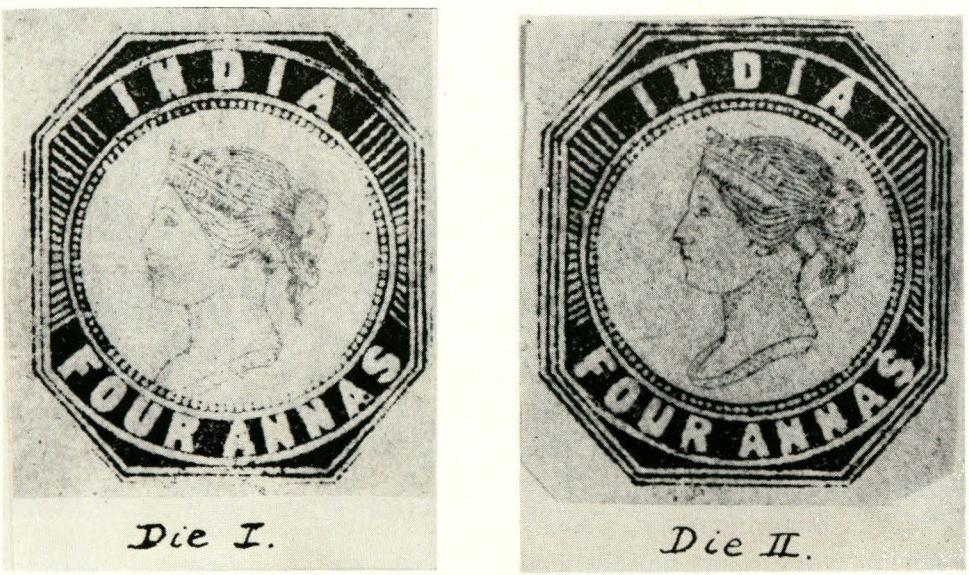


Fig. 1. The different states of Head and Frame Dies.

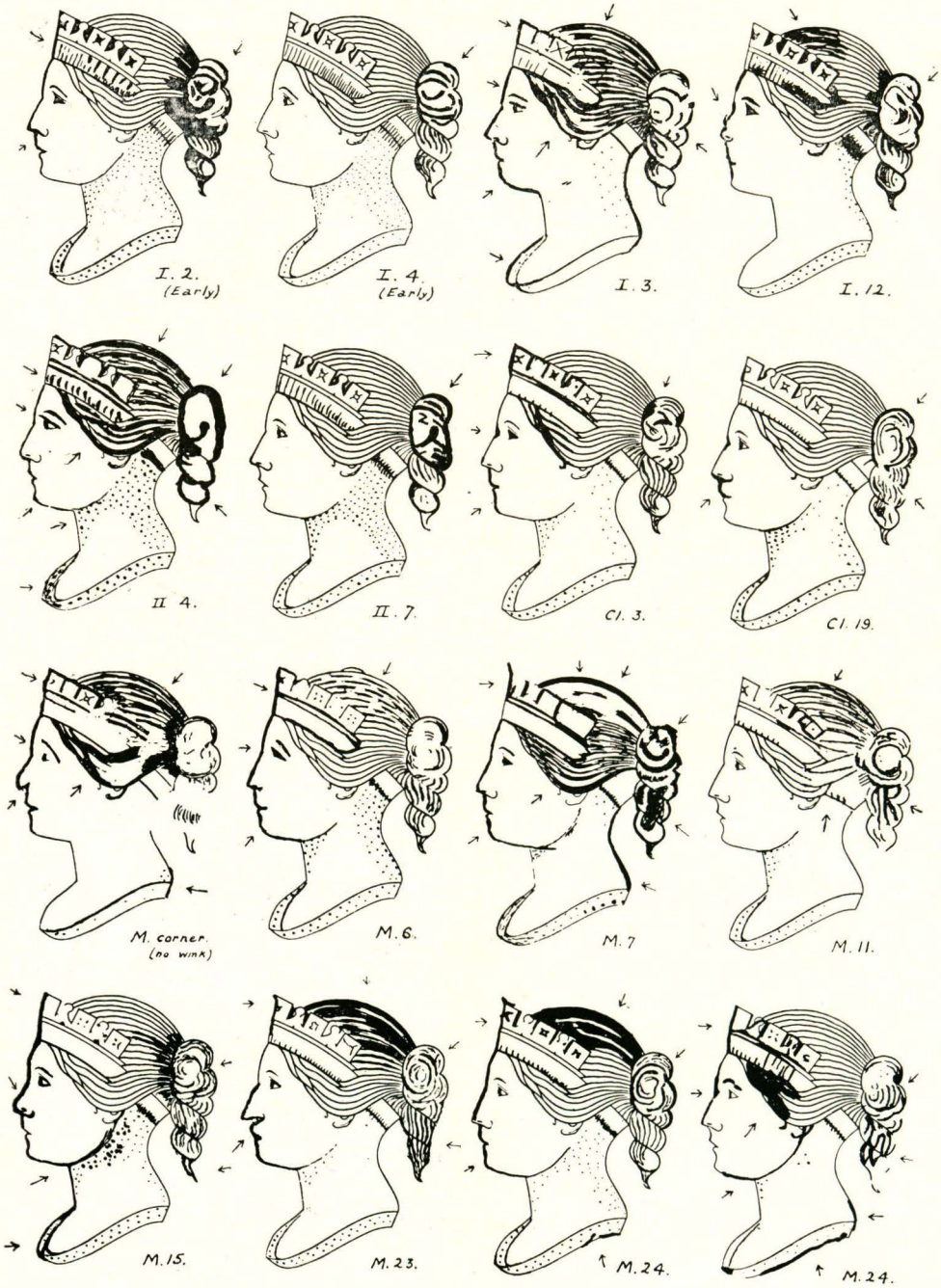


Fig. 2. Some striking Head retouches illustrated by enlarged drawings. Stamps showing several of these retouches are included in other illustrations, i.e. 1.2 & 1.4 on figure 3, 1.12 and 11.7 on figure 4, and M.6, M.11, M.23 and M.24 on figure 5.

face retouched. Two of the "inverted heads" show retouches, Sir John Wilson's copy, with band of crown, chignon, outline of face and bust strongly retouched, and the James-Daver copy with retouched chignon. There may be a third retouched "inverted head" in a Belgian collection.

So we can say that at least 4 or 5 printing stones of the 1st printing were retouched to a greater or lesser extent, and some of these retouches are shown (by stamps or enlarged drawings) on the accompanying plates.

The frame die, in contrast, was strongly engraved from the first, and required no touching up, and no red retouches in the 1st printing are known.

Before the 2nd printing started, in December 1854, the head die was again touched up, a large comma mark put in the chignon, the hair strengthened near the chignon, and the line of jaw and dots on the neck deepened; as a result good impressions were made on the printing stones, and major retouches in this printing and state of die are practically unknown. Minor retouches are found however, consisting of extra lines in the blank upper part of the chignon.

In the 3rd printing in March 1855, the head die was touched up twice (to form Die IIIA and Die III heads). Here again major retouches are extremely rare. But by this time the frame die had become still more worn and weak, and a good deal of retouching was done on the red frame stones. In fact, just before the close of the 3rd printing, the frame die itself was touched up, to form the Die II state, (see plate). This was the last time either die was touched up.

In the 4th printing, as both dies were in comparatively good condition after their latest touching up, very little retouching of the printing stones was required, although a few fine retouches are known.

But in the 5th and last printing in October 1855, both dies were in poor condition and gave weak transfers on the stones. In consequence we find an amazing amount of retouching, both of heads and frames, in fact

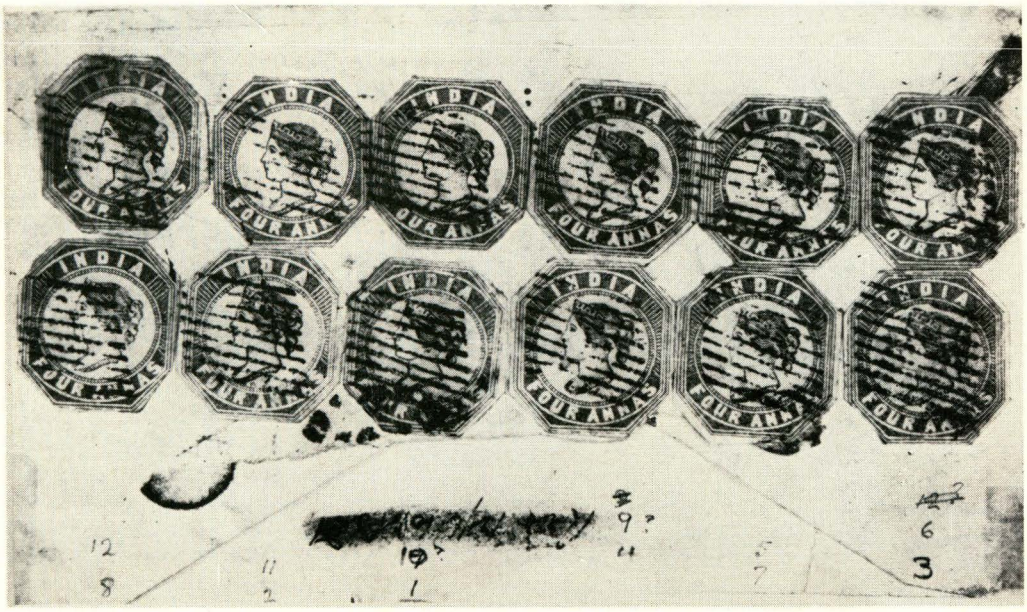


Fig. 3. Dawson's "China" cover, showing all 12 stamps of a sheet of the 1st printing with head Die I, of which seven show retouches of chignon. The key below shows the location of the stamps, those in boldface type having retouches:—

12	11	**10**	**9**	**5**	**6**
8	**2**	1	4	**7**	3

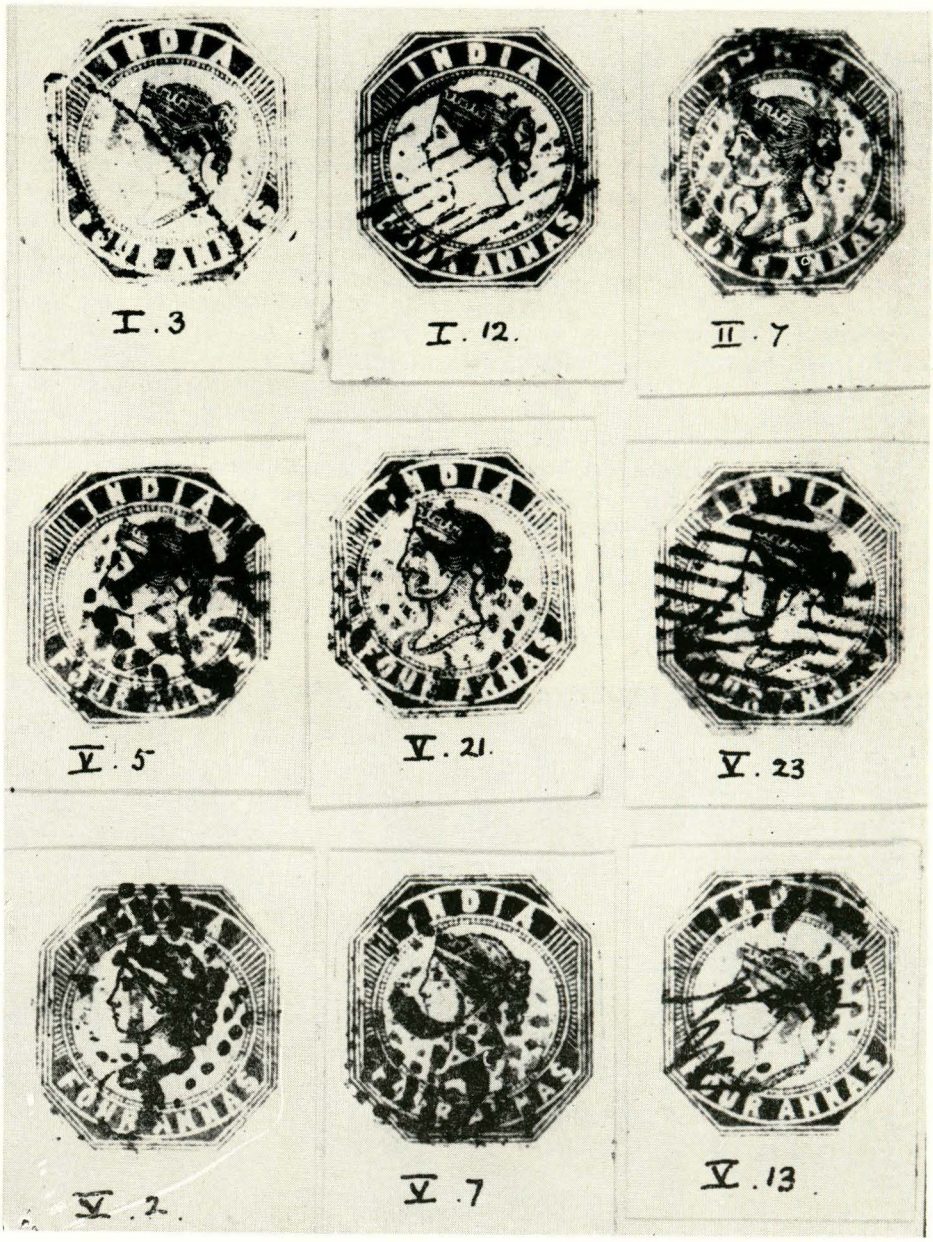


Fig. 4. Head retouches. I.3 Beautiful retouch of Chignon. I.12 Nose and chignon, II.7 chignon, V.5 chignon and outline of face ("dew-drop" on nose), V.21. Outline of face, jaw, back of neck. V.23 Chignon, forehead, jaw. V.2,7 & 13. Smudgy heads with considerable retouching-out. No. 13 also shows retouch of forehead, chin, line of jaw, ear.

it has been estimated that one stamp in three of the medium setting (i. e. 5th printing) was retouched.

The head retouches fall into several distinct categories, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying plates. (Figures 4 and 5)

Type 1. Outline of face, line of jaw, throat, bust, neck strongly retouched. Some of the results are really rather comic. In one specimen in my collection, the operator, when strengthening the line of the nose, carried the stroke several millimeters too far. Result—a large blue "dew-drop" on the end of the nose! In another specimen, he had two shots at the line of jaw, one short and curved, the other long and straight, and left them both in. I like to think it was the same operator who, on one of the half-annas, put in two eyes, one above the other, and left them both in also!

Type 2. Blurred head and overinked hair, with considerable retouching out, i. e. blank spaces and also numerous fine scratches as if made with a pin. I have seven different positions on the sheet showing this type of retouch.

Type 3. A number of extra lines in the chignon. This is the most common of all the Four Anna retouches, I have fifteen different positions of this type. It may have been done on more than one stone.

Type 4. Extensive retouching, amounting to complete redrawing of parts or whole of the head. These show the finest retouches of all, some are illustrated in the accompanying plates.

These different types were probably on different printing stones. For example, I have four copies each of Nos. 2, 5 & 7 of the sheet showing all four different types and therefore on different stones. But combination retouches also occur. I have a very interesting series of six different retouches on stamp No. 23, as follows:—(i) & (ii), outline of face, jaw, bust etc. retouched in two quite different ways—type 1. (iii) chignon retouched with extra lines, type 3. (iv) chignon, top of head, crown, and eye strongly retouched, type 4. (v) & (vi). These show identical retouches to top of head, chignon, eye etc. as No. (iv), but *in addition* No. (v) has a moustache, and No. (vi) has what I call a "hare-lip" (see plate). These last two provide clear evidence of retouching of the printing stone *after printing had started.* Here is a possible explanation. After printing from stone No. (iv) had been in progress for some time, the operator decided to strengthen the nostril on head No. 2, but made a bad shot and put in a moustache. After some more sheets had been printed, he rubbed out the moustache and retouched the gap formed, leaving a grotesque slit where the upper lip should be!

Some beautiful red frame retouching occurs in this 5th printing. The late A. J. Sefi illustrated three in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain,* and a number are shown in the Four Anna monograph published by Stanley Gibbons for the Philatelic Society of India. Some more are shown in the accompanying plates. (Figure 6)

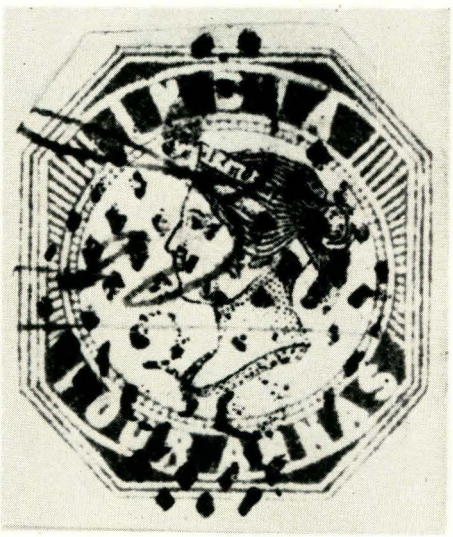


Fig. 5A. Enlargement of V.24 on Figure 5.

As the printing from the red and blue stones was carried out in two quite distinct operations, it is possible to find a particular retouched frame with several different types of retouched heads. For example, I have three copies of the striking red retouch No. 7 (see illustration), each with a different retouched head, an interesting example of compound retouching. With a dozen or more printing stones of each sort (red and blue),

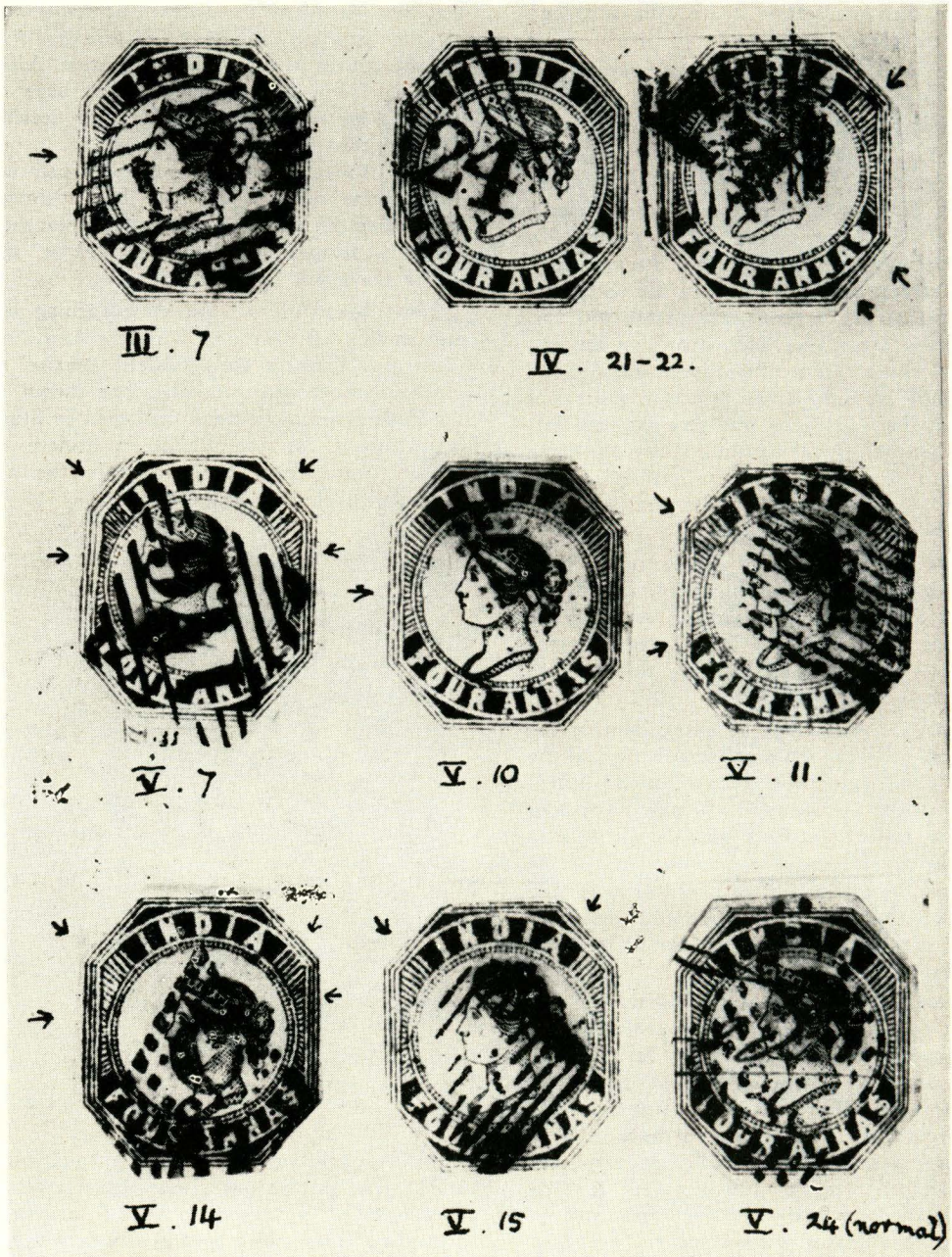


Fig. 5. Head retouches. V.3 Fine retouch of extra lines in chignon. V.23 (two copies), with the same retouched chignon, but one shows a "moustache" and the other a "hare-lip." V.12 Extra lines in chignon. V.2 Eye and eyebrow, hair, chignon. V.7 Superb retouch, practically the whole head redrawn. V.6 Outline of face, eye, crown, top of head. V.11 Whole back of head redrawn. V.24 Chignon, hair, jaw, band of crown shaded.

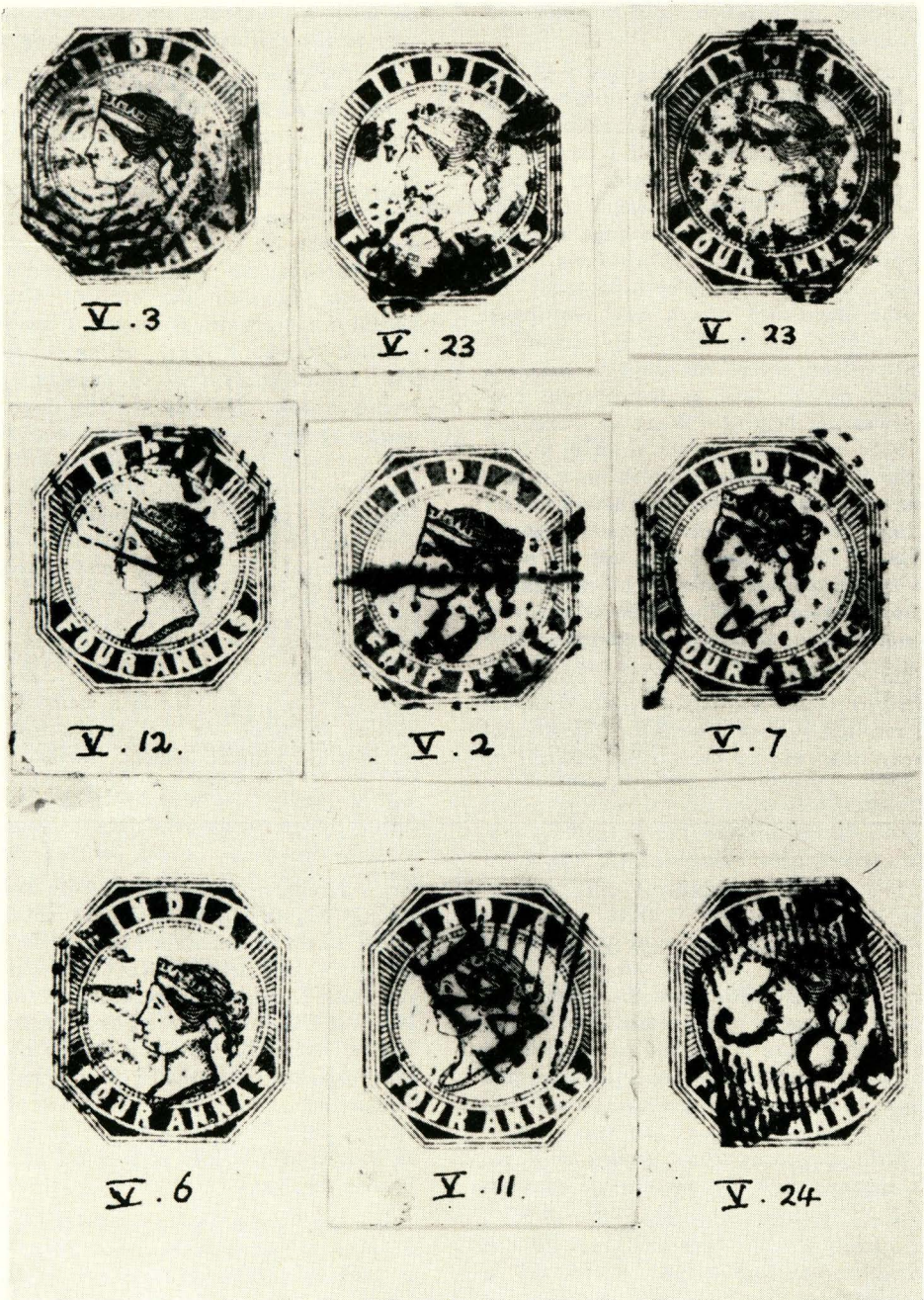


Fig. 6. Frame retouches. Very fine retouches III.7 Frame and circle of jewels on left redrawn, (and very badly done!) IV.22. Frame at 2 o'clock and lower label, see NAS. V.7 Another remarkable retouch. Too many diagonal lines on left, too few on the right! V.10 Pearls left, and outer frame lines. V.11 Frame 8 to 11 o'clock redrawn. V.14 Extensive retouching at 2 and 10 o'clock. V.15. A of INDIA and diagonal lines. V.24. A normal stamp without retouching, by contrast.

the possible permutations and combinations are endless!

In my opening paragraph I noted:—" . . . they show a wealth and variety of retouching which is probably without parallel in the whole range of Philately," and I have given more than a little of the evidence to support that statement. When one comes to think of it, the conditions that encourage retouching were quite exceptionally favorable. The printing of postage stamps by lithography (or any other methods) was a new venture in India or Asia, and the hot sticky climate of Calcutta—long before the days of air conditioning, electric fans or temperature controls—was not helpful. Weak or worn dies gave poor impressions on the printing stones, and the fear-of-forgery complex on the part of the authorities made it necessary to try and improve such impressions to a constant standard. The personnel who did the work were untrained, particularly in delineating the human face, and their efforts to draw this were not infrequently grotesque.

What an irony that Captain Thuillier's efforts to produce a constant standard should have resulted in such a wealth of variations! Anyway, they are of exceptional interest to the modern philatelist, and add very considerably to the fascination of these early Indian lithographs.

MR. E. A. SMYTHIES, C. I. E. is one of the world's leading authorities on the stamps of India. He was formerly in the Indian Forestry Service, now retired, and makes his home in Ireland. He is the author of several monographs on Indian Stamps; his particular field being the early lithographed stamps. He was awarded the coveted Crawford Medal for his writings on the 4 anna lithographed stamp of 1854. He was editor of *The Philatelic Journal of India* for about twenty years. He has written outstanding works on the stamps of Nepal and Burma, and with his friend and collaborator, L. E. Dawson, wrote a fine monograph on the stamps of Jammu and Kashmir.

His collections have been exhibited in many International Exhibitions, and have won prizes at Durban, Melbourne, Berlin, Basle, etc. He has been an indefatigable writer of articles for *The London Philatelist, Gibbons Stamp Monthly, Philatelic Journal of Great Britain,* etc. He is a member of the leading philatelic societies and a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

SEDANG

(Continued from Page 86.)

stamps. On that basis, I would doubt that Marie I originated the cancelled specimens. Perhaps they were a creation of the printer who received no money for his labor and thought that cancelled stamps would sell quicker; or they represent the fine hand of one of the numerous stamp dealers of Paris. It is a minor riddle in the curtain of mystery surrounding Marie I, "Roi des Sedangs."

King Marie I was unable to obtain sufficient funds to maintain his royal household in style. His debts drove him from Paris and from Europe. He returned to the East. We next hear of him in a remote part of the Malay peninsula. He had settled down on an up-country plantation with one male companion and a household of three women. His dreams were brought to an abrupt end when he died from the bite of a cobra at Kwalo, Penang in 1890.

BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS POST

Chapter IV

Critical Years

1851 - 1853

By HENRY E. ABT

(Continued from Vol. XXIX, page 29.)

Government "of the people, by the people, for the people" sometimes functions in strange ways.

The scene was the House of Representatives, Thursday, January 16, 1851. The House was convened as a "Committee of The Whole" to consider H. R. 351, "A Bill to Reduce Rates of Postage."

For some months past, the legislators had been flooded with communications, many identically worded, "respectfully petitioning Congress" to pass a law establishing "a uniform rate of Two Cents postage on letters weighing half an ounce, and two cents for every additional half ounce, prepaid, and double that rate if not prepaid." The drop letter rate, the petitioners had asked, should be reduced to 1 cent from the 2 cent level established in 1845.

The origins of this flood of petitions had been well known to most of the congressmen. To the postal reformers, the rate reductions enacted in the Act of March 3, 1845, had been but a beginning. On the day the Act had been passed, the *New York Evening Post* had observed:(1)

> "The reduction of postage, though it will be a great public convenience, is *not* sufficient to show the beneficial working of cheap postage. A still lower rate in our opinion would bring about a much larger revenue . . . Taken altogether, the Bill is a poor jumble of compromises, a timid half measure attempting to steer a middle course behind contradictory views."

The *Post's* editorial had well expressed the views of Barnabas Bates of New York, who, prior to 1845, had been one of the tireless leaders of the movement for America's adoption of the British "low rate—high volume" postage system. The ink was not dry on the Act of 1845 before Bates had initiated a new campaign for still lower rates. In this work, he had soon been joined by Joshua Leavitt, a Boston writer.

Working in close collaboration, these two had brought about the formation of the "New York Cheap Postage Association" May 26, 1848, and the "Boston Cheap Postage Association" the same year. With skill that would do credit to the most efficient among modern lobbyists, they had set in motion another militant postal reform movement throughout the nation.(2) By 1851, further action by Congress had become a foregone conclusion.

The record of the Post Office Department, in the five-year period during which the Act of 1845 had been in force, had added weight to the basic theory of the postal reformers. The House Committee on Post Office and Post Roads, studying the subject during the fall of 1851, had noted that a postal deficit of $810,232 in 1845-46 had been followed by a lesser deficit of $536,299 in 1846-47, and only $22,222 in 1847-48. In 1849 and 1850, the Department had operated "in the black."(3)

Reluctant to plunge the Post Office into a renewed deficit, larger than could be avoided,

however temporary it might be, the House Committee had deemed a basic rate of 2 cents too low, and had reported in a Bill establishing a 3 cent rate for prepaid one-half ounce letters to be carried not exceeding 3,000 miles, 5 cents for the same sent "collect" and 10 cents for prepaid letters sent greater distances. The Committee had also agreed to the 1 cent drop letter rate as well as a number of other modifications of the Regulations affecting newspapers, circulars and foreign mail. The controversial subject of Congressional franking was not embraced by the Bill.

After a month of intermittent debate, on January 16th it appeared that the agreement of a clear majority of the House to the measure, as it had been submitted, was at hand.

Then up rose the Hon. James Brooks of New York City (Whig), founder and editor-in-chief (when he was at home) of the *New York Express,*(4) a daily newspaper. Brooks begged and was granted leave to present an amendment.(5)

> "It shall be the duty of the postmaster general, at all post offices where postmasters are appointed by the President of the United States, to provide for conveying letters to the post office by establishing suitable and convenient places of deposit, and by employing carriers to receive and deposit them in the post office; and at all such offices, it shall also be his duty to cause letters to be delivered by suitable carriers to be appointed by him for that purpose, for which not exceeding one-half cent shall be charged."

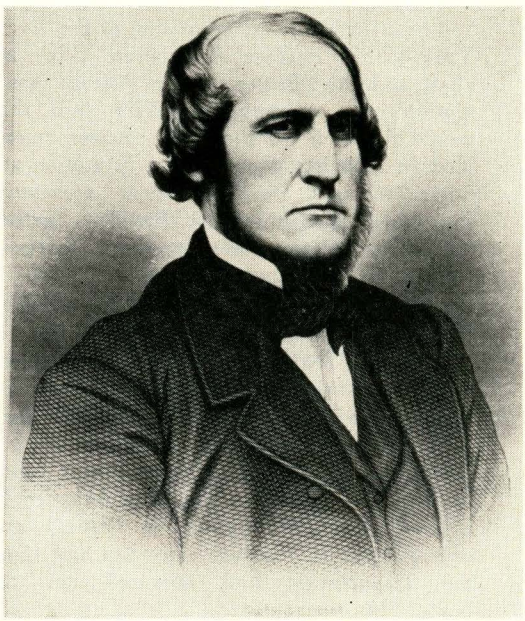


Figure 1. James Brooks, 1810-1873
(Photo, Courtesy, New York Historical Society)

To most of the Congressmen, this seemed to be an innocuous enough amendment. The provision obviously related only to big cities. Few of the farmers, planters and small-town politicians, who then constituted a preponderant majority of Congressmen, were familiar with the advancing conflict in the metropolitan centers between postal authorities and well established private mail carrying enterprises. It is doubtful if a majority of the Representatives had ever visited New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, or New Orleans, (the five cities with populations of 100,000 or more) for more than a few days' sightseeing.

Those who were familiar with Postal Law saw little in the measure that was not already in force by virtue of the Acts of 1825 and 1836. The earlier of these Acts had provided:(6)

> "That letter carriers shall be employed at such post offices as the Postmaster General shall direct, for the delivery of letters in the places, respectively, where such post offices are established; and for the delivery of each such letter, the letter carrier may receive, of the person to whom the delivery is made, two cents . . . "

The Act of 1836 had said:(7)

> "The Postmaster General shall be authorized whenever the same may be proper for the accommodation of the public in any city, to employ letter carriers for the delivery of letters received at the post office in said city; . . . for the receipt of letters at such places in the said city as the Postmaster General may direct, and for the deposit of same in the post office; and for the delivery by a carrier of each letter received from the post office, the person to whom the same may be delivered shall pay not exceeding two cents; . . . and for every letter received by a carrier to be deposited

in the post office, there shall be paid to him, at the time of the receipt, not exceeding two cents; all of which receipts by the carriers in any city shall, if the Postmaster General so directs, be accounted for to the postmaster of said city, to constitute a fund for the compensation of the said carriers, and be paid to them in such proportions and manners as the Postmaster General may direct. Each of the said carriers shall give bond with sureties . . . for the safe custody and delivery of letters . . ."

It had been under the authority of the latter Section that postmasters in the several larger cities, since 1836, had employed and bonded carriers to deliver incoming intercity mail, and from 1842 to 1846, this provision had been the basis for the operation of the United States City Despatch Post in New York. A reinterpretation of the Act by Postmaster General Collamer, appointed by President Taylor, had, in 1849, provided the authority for the unsuccessful bonded "Carrier Department" of New York City, established by Postmaster Morris and headed by Robert Roberts.(8)

Without explaining the basis of his computations, Brooks assured the House that the proposed amendment would yield a new bonus of $20,000 to $30,000 to the revenues of the Post Office Department.

Representative Charles Allen (Free Soil) of Massachusetts called attention to the reduction of the carrier rates stipulated in previous Acts and objected that in smaller places such services could not be made to pay at an allowed rate of one-half cent per letter.

Representative John S. Phelps (Dem.) of Missouri,* observed:

"If I understand the gentleman's amendment it is intended to authorize the Postmaster General to establish post routes. This power is conferred upon us, and upon us alone. If Congress establishes post routes it then becomes the duty of the Postmaster General to establish service upon those routes . . . So far as the object contemplated by the amendment is concerned, I approve of it" [but] "suggest . . . it would be better to establish the various streets in the cities as post roads, instead of vesting a power to make them post routes in the Postmaster General . . . "

Mr. Brooks accepted Congressman Allen's objection, insisting, however, that a one-half cent rate could achieve the promised results in New York, but admitting that the volume of mail handled in smaller places might not yield revenues enough for a "pay-load." He could not concur with Mr. Phelps' objection regarding the delegation of congressional powers, but since all mail was carried under the Constitutional authority given to Congress to establish "Post Roads,"(9) he took account of it in the following revision of his proposed amendment:

"It shall be the power of the Postmaster General, at all Post Offices where the Postmasters are appointed by the President of the United States, to establish post routes within the cities or towns, to provide for carrying letters to the post office, by establishing suitable and convenient places of deposit, and by employing carriers to receive and deposit them in the post office; and at all such offices it shall also be in his power to cause letters to be delivered by suitable carriers to be appointed by him for that purpose, for which not exceeding one or two cents shall be paid by the persons sending or receiving letters, and all sums so collected shall be paid into the Post Office Department."

In the course of the debate several other minor changes were made, and the provision added:

"The amount of the compensation allowed by the Postmaster General to carriers shall in no case exceed the amount paid into the Treasury by each city and town under the provisions of this section."

There was little discussion in the House debate of the aims or objectives of this amendment, and perhaps purposely, few references to the existent situation in the large cities.

Brooks did say:

"There are companies in that city" (New York), distributing letters three or four

* Governor of Missouri from 1877 to 1881.

times daily, and if there were a still greater facility afforded for this constant intercourse I have no doubt that much larger profits would be derived."

The Hon. Joseph R. Chandler (Whig) of Pennsylvania had this to say:

"I suppose I *ought* to *oppose* this Amendment. If this system was introduced into the city of Philadelphia, I believe it would disturb one of the most beautifully arranged and well-executed plans of letter-carrying that was ever introduced." [Ed. note: Blood's Despatch, a private enterprise.] "We have no complaints of the system of letter-carrying there, and I fear that the adoption of this measure would tend very much to disturb a service that is very acceptable and highly approved of . . . "

The Hon. David K. Carter (Dem.) of Massachusetts came closer to the heart of the matter:

"What is this proposition? It is to make in the city of New York—a city already overrun by legions of custom-house dependents—another legion of office holders for the purpose of public patronage. If I was a citizen of that town I would pay sooner for a pestilence to visit it . . .

"There is in these large cities, under the supervision of private enterprise, and resting on private integrity, which is superior to any official service, a system of penny postage that accommodates all the localities of the cities and meets all the demands of business. The proposition of the honorable member from the city of New York is to set Uncle Sam at the work of entering into competition with these private companies. And what is the reason? Why, he wants to command the votes of this pack of poor scatterwags that he proposes to appoint there when the elections come around . . . "

But Mr. Chandler voted for the amendment, and so did the Whig majority generally. It was evidently an approved party measure and desirable for the maintenance of political leverage.

In those days, and too often since, a sense of justice or a social principle could not stand in the way of the "higher law" of political self-preservation. Even the Democratic minority could not offer too great a protest, for did they not hope to return to power in 1852, and would not more jobs to give out be desirable in that hoped-for eventuality? Patronage was one of the cornerstones of political power and few in that glass house could afford to throw stones.

When the new postage law had been passed by the House and came to the Senate Committee on Post Office and Post Roads, the Brooks amendment was promptly eliminated. The provision was considered an unnecessary reiteration of existent powers, and it was sensed that there was more to the proposal than met the eye.

But on the floor of the Senate the Whig machine again went into action. On February 20th, Senator William H. Seward of New York * demanded to know what had become of the amendment.([10])

"This provision," he said, "would be applicable to the cities of New York, Philadelphia, Boston and New Orleans and such larger cities. It is to establish and maintain a penny-post department to be under the supervision and subject to the care and management of the Post Office Department. The provision was carefully guarded so that the United States could suffer no pecuniary loss from the recognition of that institution because the amounts to be allowed for payment of expenses incurred in the transportation of letters within the city are to be kept within the amount of the penny postage received . . . "

He said that "the Representative from New York" had "called his attention" to the matter, and he spoke of "small irresponsible penny posts" then operating "all over the cities." He described the predicament of "any stranger, say a member of this body, if he should be in New York and have occasion to send a letter to the Post Office, he must be under the necessity of carrying it himself, or employ a porter at considerable expense, or send it to some place, he knows not where, and commit it to some hands, he knows not whose, to convey it."

* Secretary of State in President Lincoln's administration, 1861-1869.

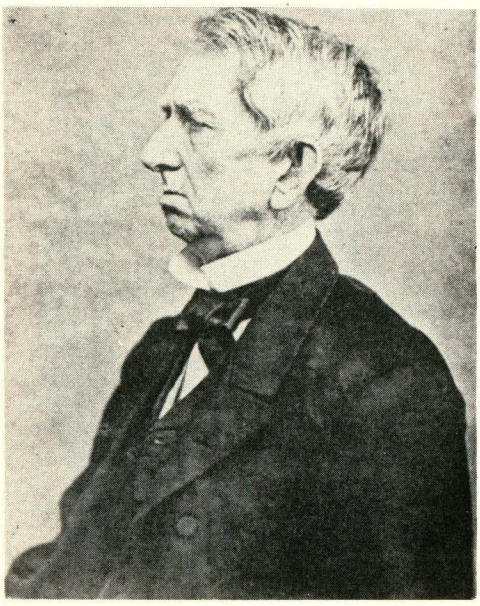


Figure 2. William H. Seward, (1801-1872)

Senator Thomas Jefferson Rusk (Dem.) of Texas, Chairman of the Committee on Post Office and Post Roads offered feeble objection to Mr. Seward's insistent demands. Rusk expressed the belief that "similar authority is now vested by the Law in the Postmaster General" and called attention to a circular of the New York Carrier Department "that there are ninety-eight places for reception and delivery of letters in the city of New York . . . visited three times a day, at 7 A. M., 12 M. and 2 P. M." He did not think "the amendment" would "increase the powers of the Postmaster General," but it might "embarrass the Bill."

He added "the only difference between the case as it now stands and that proposed by this section is that there may be a charge of 'one or two cents.' Now the charge is but one cent."

Mr. Seward blandly replied:

> "If there be such a provision in the law, this can do no harm."

And so the amendment became the 10th Section of the Postal Act as it was passed by the Congress and signed by the President March 3, 1851.([11])

In fairness to the members of both houses of the 31st Congress, it should be repeated again that the debates revealed no intention on the part of the majority of the legislators to interfere with or alter the relationship of government with private enterprise in city mail service.

It should be noted that unlike the Act of 1845, Sections 9 to 12 inclusive of which were clearly designed to eliminate private enterprise in *inter-city* service, there were in the Act of 1851 no specific prohibitions of private enterprise or penalties for the operation of independent service in municipalities; nor were there in the debates on this amendment any references to the application of the pertinent sections of the Act of 1845 to city dispatch posts.

To many, the amendment was merely a reassertion of existent powers, long since granted to the Post Office Department. To others, Section 10 was undoubtedly a party measure, in approval of which they followed the Whig leadership, sensing that political jobs were at stake, but without realization of other issues involved. To those who were conscious of an issue involving the rights and privileges of a group of businessmen, adoption of the amendment was a matter of strengthening the government's position rather than destroying or weakening the competition.

Subsequent events indicate, however, that Brooks and his associates in the Whig delegation from New York were quite aware of the issues and certain of their objectives. This aim was the total suppression of the city mail carrying enterprises operated by Boyd, Swarts, Blood and the others engaged in that business.

As we reconstruct the circumstances leading up to the amendment, it appears likely that the proposal originated with William V. Brady, postmaster of New York. A Maiden Lane jeweler, Brady had long been associated with Brooks in the New York City Whig organization. They resided not far from each other, and Brooks had supported Brady's successful campaign for mayoralty of the city in 1847. When the Whigs were triumphant in the national elections of 1848, Brooks was one of those who sponsored Brady's appointment to the postmastership of the metropolis.

One of Brady's first experiences after he assumed his new responsibility had been the

thorough defeat of the Post Office (Robert Roberts) carrier department([12]) by Boyd and the other privately operated mail services. As time had passed, other circumstances had also contributed to Brady's hostility.

There was, of course, no limitation on the number of enterprises that could operate within a single city, and during 1850 more than a dozen were functioning in New York City alone. Boyd, Swarts, Hanford and the other older firms were thoroughly responsible, but many small enterprises would come on the scene briefly and then disappear. Letters entrusted to them "for the mails" would not always reach the Post Office—and the Post Office would be blamed for non-deliveries of mail it had never handled.

Finally, Brady was a good politician and recognized the job-dispensing possibilities of the Post Office-monopolized carrier service. By 1850, between Boyd in New York and Blood in Philadelphia alone, close to 100 postal jobs, inaccessible to the patronage dispensers, had been created.([13]) Since the time of Benjamin Franklin, postal jobs had been regarded as the primary outlet for patronage, and here was a rapidly growing aspect of postal service in which no faithful henchmen could be placed.

The last named consideration was reason enough for Brady to find Congressman Brooks, and other members of the Whig congressional representation from New York State, sympathetic to a proposal that Congress give the Postmaster General specific powers with respect to the transmission of mail within cities.

It is certain that the measure did not emanate from the Post Office Department in Washington. Nathan Kelsey Hall, of Buffalo, New York, had been appointed Postmaster General when Vice President Millard Fillmore was elevated to the White House, July 9, 1850, following the sudden death of President Zachary Taylor. As is the custom, the members of the deceased president's cabinet, including his Postmaster General Jacob Collamer, had offered their resignations, and Fillmore had accepted the previous Postmaster General's withdrawal, appointing Hall in his place.

During his first seven months in office, the new Postmaster General had been ill-informed concerning the subject of city carrier service. This fact is established by the following letter to Brady, written by Hall, February 3, 1851,([14]) a full two weeks after the introduction of the amendment in the House:



Figure 3. Nathan Kelsey Hall, (1810-1874)

Postmaster
New York

"The Honorable Cave Johnson, late Postmaster General, issued an order bearing date December 21, 1848, appointing letter carriers in the city of New York and giving certain instructions and regulations in regard to the delivery of letters . . .

"Will you please inform me, at your earliest convenience, whether . . . said order . . . has been carried out or not?

"If it has how many boxes for the receipt of letters have been established in New York?

"How does the system work and what changes, if any, should be made in order to perfect it?

"Has such a construction been placed upon it as to deprive the Department and

the Postmaster at New York of all benefit from the receipt of 'drop letters' where they are delivered to the carriers or deposited in the boxes provided for such order?

"Are letters frequently delivered to carriers in their respective districts which do not pass through the Post Office?

Very Respectfully

N. K. HALL"

Brady's reply is not recorded but its substance, and perhaps some encouragement by Senator Seward, who undoubtedly had been one of the sponsors of his fellow western New Yorker's appointment to the Postmaster Generalship, apparently won Hall's prompt interest in and support of the Section.

Certainly, following passage of the Act, Hall lost no time in initiating plans to use what he conceived to be his new powers. His first task was the reorganization of the New York City Carrier Department.

John H. Hallett was employed to replace Robert Roberts as "superintendent." The total of ninety-eight stations for collection of mail, referred to in Senator Rusk's remarks on the Bill, was expanded to more than 200. The carrier force was increased to 45 men. The collection schedule was revamped in contemplation of four pickups daily instead of the previous three, thus matching Boyd's schedule.

Although the Act became effective July first, Hall's plans were not completed until August twelfth. On that date, he prepared the following announcement to the public of New York, released August 23rd:([15])

"CITY PENNY POST.—POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Washington, Aug. 12, 1851.—Notice is hereby given that in the execution of the powers conferred by Congress, under the provisions of the 10th section of the Postage Act, approved 3rd March, 1851, the Postmaster General has established post routes on and over all the streets, avenues, roads, and public highways within the limits of the city of New York. The following arrangements have been adopted to carry out the provisions of said 10th section:—A superintendent and forty-five letter carriers have been appointed, and two hundred places have been selected and boxes put up for the reception of letters. Carriers call at said boxes four times a day. Letters to be sent by mail out of the city, found in the boxes, or delivered to the carriers, will be taken to the Post Office free of charge. Letters to be delivered in the city, found in the boxes, or delivered to the carriers, will be delivered at a charge of one cent. Circulars and handbills each one cent: Newspapers and pamphlets, each half cent: Letters from the mails, two cents. Letters dropped into the Post Office to be delivered in the city, in addition to drop-letter postage, one cent. Stamps for the pre-payment of the carrier's fee, will soon be for sale by the superintendent and carriers; and the number of carriers will be hereafter increased, and such other arrangements made from time to time as may be necessary to make the carrier's department in the highest degree efficient and useful.

N. K. HALL,
Postmaster General."

This sweeping designation of *all streets* as "post routes" was clearly with intent to establish a monopoly rather than, as at least most members of Congress had conceived the purpose of Section 10, given as a legal background for the operation of an efficient service over specific routes. It became clear now, that Hall had in mind invoking the sections of the Act of 1845, placing city streets within the category of "places where the United States mail is regularly transported" and applying the penalties for private conveyance of mail stipulated in the earlier act.

Furthermore, the Postmaster General's interpretation of the rate scale permitted by the Act was entirely foreign to any of the concepts expressed in the Congressional debate. The words in the Act "not exceeding one or two cents" were interpreted by Hall to mean *any rate* or *lack thereof* the Postmaster General chose to set, not in excess of 2 cents.

Hall obviously believed that, by establishing free collections of letters for outgoing United States mail, he would cut away a major segment of the patronage of the private dispatch posts. Since the Post Office had an

inherent monopoly of letters coming into the city from out-of-town sources, it could charge the maximum, 2 cents, for delivery of these letters and offset the cost of free collections.

The reaction of the Press was divided.

The *Sun,* without comment, forecast the monopolistic purpose.([16])

> "The Postmaster General has declared every street and avenue in the city a 'Post Route' *and is about to claim jurisdiction over them as such,* by virtue of the 10th Section of the postage act now in force."

The *Herald,* called the move a "desideratum" and, with great unfairness, tarred Boyd and the older firms with all the sins of their less reliable competitors. It said.([17])

> "This arrangement gets rid of the numerous express offices in which there have been great delays and irregularities."

The *Tribune* observed:([18])

> "This arrangement will go into effect forthwith and we presume all other City Post establishments will be obliged to close their business."

On the other hand, *The Evening Post* raged:([19])

> "The government, which is always thrusting itself into affairs with which it has no proper call to intermeddle, has set itself to establish a penny post in this city. The step has one advantage in the eyes of the politicians: it makes new places for partizans and increases the patronage of the Executive."

Boyd, himself, was of course faced with grave questions.

(1) Did the terms of the Act and Notice affect his *legal* right to remain in business?

(2) Would the courts sustain Hall's interpretation of the Act?

(3) Would the courts permit the prohibition and penalties named in the Act of 1845 to be applied to Hall's definition of "post routes"?

(4) Assuming that the "post route" order would not be sustained in court, could he compete successfully with the new carrier department, particularly its free mail collection service for inter-city mails?

The first three questions were subjects for advice by legal counsel. The fourth, Boyd must decide for himself, with his knowledge of his market and his experience to guide him.

We do not know, of course, precisely what Boyd's attorneys said to him. Yet, on the basis of subsequent events, we can surmise some of their opinions.

The fact that the Act of 1851 made no specific reference to private mail services, nor established any penalties for their operation in municipalities was very much in Boyd's favor.

The interpretation by the Postmaster General of his power to *establish* post routes within cities, as an authority to designate all streets to be such routes, counsel in all likelihood said, was certainly debatable in court.

As for the applicability of the Act of 1845 to New York City service, the legislation had been very specific in the limitation of its penalties to violations on routes where the mail was "regularly transported." As yet, the government had a very dubious case for the present or previous regularity of its service anywhere on Manhattan Island.

It is very likely that Boyd's counsel advised him to stand his ground and wait for the government to make the first move. In weighing the fourth question, namely, his probable ability to meet the new competition projected by the government, Boyd no doubt reasoned that the postal authorities had "talked big" before. *Free* service could at no time be much more of a threat than 1 cent service had been *unless* it was consistent, trustworthy and, in other respects, satisfactory to the public. In the light of the past record, the burden of proof rested with the government.

Three days of consultation and analysis of his problem brought Boyd to his decision. On August 26th the *Journal of Commerce* and *The Post* both carried this courageous statement:([20])

> "OFFICE BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS POST, NO. 45
> William Street—To my friends, the public—I have for many years served you, and I believe to your satisfaction, in promptly delivering your letters; you have been bene-

fited by my services and I have been greatly benefited by your kind patronage.

The Post Office Department are now making an effort to destroy my business, and to break up this happy connexion which has existed between you and me, and that too without the least prospect that they will serve you as well as I do.

My legal advisors say the law does not prevent my attending to your business as heretofore.

My Letter Boxes, numbering over two thousand, are continued at the same places, and I will continue promptly to deliver all letters deposited in them, or at my office, as heretofore.

JOHN T. BOYD, Proprietor."

Answering the *Tribune* and *Herald,* and commenting on Boyd's notice, the editors of the *Journal of Commerce* had this to say:([21])

"Boyd's City Express Post.—Referring to an advertisement of Mr. Boyd in another column, we remark that his establishment has been an immense convenience to our citizens, and has been conducted so much to the general satisfaction, that we do not recollect ever to have heard a complaint concerning it. Mr. Boyd has more than 2,000 places of deposit for letters in the city, and intends to continue his business, notwithstanding the efforts of Uncle Sam to undermine it. We do not believe that any government system can be so perfect, or so well *operated,* as that of Mr. Boyd. We therefore hope that he will continue to receive a liberal encouragement."

The *New York Post* added:([22])

"Below is a card of Mr. Boyd, of the City Express Post, to his friends and the public. He appeals to them against the intrusion of the public authorities into a business that private enterprise was already managing very well. We hope he will be fully sustained."

Boyd's judgment and the counsel of his attorneys proved to be eminently *right.* While he may have been harassed by notices and threats, the Federal Courts are without record of any formal action whatsoever, at that time or later, taken by the government to effectuate the terms or purposes of Hall's notice. In all likelihood, the Federal attorneys gave the Postmaster General some of the same advice that Boyd's lawyers had provided.

There is also evidence that Hall himself was soon in trouble endeavoring to effectuate his plan for a genuinely competitive efficient government carrier service. His fundamental difficulty lay in the fact that he had no way to make it worth his carriers' while to fulfill his promises to the public.

The *New York Herald* in its editorial on the new Act stated that, in July 1851, the government handled slightly more than 200,000 city letters. At the 1 cent rate this provided a total revenue of around $2,000. To this, of course, should be added the 2 cent fees collected on incoming mail from out-of-town, but it is believed that the advance of the charge for this service cut down the public's demand for home deliveries. Assuming, however, that the Carrier Department's gross monthly revenue was as much as $3,000, the Act had firmly specified that all of its expenses and the compensation of the carriers must be met from that sum.

Expenses of the Department, including Superintendent Hallett's $125 monthly salary,([23]) and necessary clerk hire for sorting and cancelling the mail, surely ate up one-third or more of the total. Thus, there was not more than $2,000 for distribution among the 45 carriers, or an average per man of about $45 a month.

In depression periods, a century ago, $10 weekly might have been attractive compensation. However, the discovery of gold in California, in 1848, had brought boom times to the country and prevailing prices were high.

A government carrier job was, therefore, not a very attractive form of employment and the service was little better than it had been before the 1851 reorganization. Even though Boyd's charge remained double that of the government, and by that time twice that of most of his private competitors, his seasoned carrier force was the best in the city, and his 2,000 collection points provided ten times greater accessibility than the Federal service. As a result, he continued to get

a much larger share of the business than anyone else.

We cannot leave the story of the 10th Section of the Postal Act of March 3, 1851, without recording, as an amusing epilogue, a letter dated December 31, 1851 addressed by the Postmaster General, jointly to Congressman Brooks and the latter's colleague, the Honorable George Briggs, another Whig representative from New York City.(24)

"To the Hon. J. Brooks
and the Hon. George Briggs
House of Representatives, U. S.

"Gentlemen:

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26 inst.

"The 10th section of the Act of 3rd March last which authorized the Postmaster General to establish Post routes in certain cities, and to provide for the delivery of letters, by carriers, to be employed by him for that purpose, also authorized a charge on each letter, which sum must be paid by the person dispatching or receiving it.

"The charge is not postage but is a compensation to the carrier for the delivery of the letter or packet, after it has passed through the mails, and is in addition to the postage.

"I am therefore of the opinion that letters carried over these routes and delivered by letter carriers, though they may bear the frank of a member of Congress are subject to the charge authorized by the Act above referred to for such conveyance.

Very respectfully yours,
N. K. HALL"

The nature of the congressmen's inquiry of December 26th is quite clear from the foregoing text—and we cannot avoid the conclusion that, after this correspondence, the interest of Mr. Brooks and Mr. Briggs in a Federal monopoly of the New York City mail service must have been somewhat diminished.

Elliott Perry has expressed the view that, after July 1, 1851, in consequence of the government's free carrier service to the post office—for the mails—"local postage stamps are rarely found used with United States postage stamps."(25)

The adverb "rarely" is, of course, subject to definition. In the philatelic material known to philately, the proportion of strictly local mail to the total of all letters carried by private enterprises with dates subsequent to the effective date of the 1851 Act is undoubtedly considerably higher than it is in known material prior to that date. However, Mr. Perry, like the writer, has without question seen many combinations of post-1851 "Locals" with the United States stamps and Federal postal markings, and the evidence indicates that convenience, confidence in the private service, more rapid transmission and other factors kept a goodly quantity of traffic moving via private enterprise to the United States Post Office.

To students of "Locals" and "Carriers" the most interesting aspect of the Act of 1851 was Section 10, granting the Postmaster General power to designate city streets as "Post Roads." To the United States specialist, however, and the general collector, the Act was significant for its establishment of the 3 cent general postage rate, with the resultant issue of the popular '51's and new 3 cent postal markings.

Boyd's variety No. 20 L. 7 is found in combination with the orange brown shades of U. S. No. 11 (the first printings of the 3 cent stamp) and also the 1852, brownish carmine and rose claret, shades. 1853 usage of No. 20 L. 7 is rare, Boyd having issued a successor variety, and thus combinations of the dull red shades of U. S. No. 11 and 20 L. 7 are also scarce.

No. 20 L. 7 is also found on cover with the 35 mm. red circle "New York—PAID—3 CTS," listed by *Postal Markings*(26) as type XXXVII (See Figure 4.) Other New York Post Office cancellations and markings of the early 1850's are also known on Boyd covers.

In 1850 Boyd extended his activities by entering into an arrangement with Francis L. Hagadorn of Stapleton, Staten Island, proprietor of *The Staten Island Express Post* and of *The Staten Islander,* a weekly newspaper, to complete Manhattan deliveries of mail collected from the Island Post's Boxes and brought to New York by ferry.

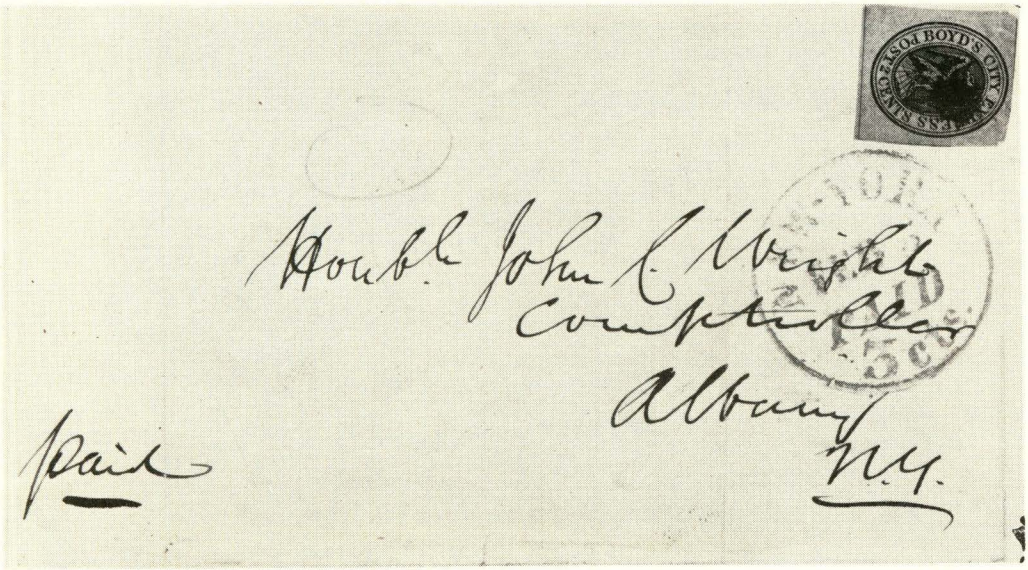


Figure 4. No. 20 L. 7, cork cancelled, on an undated cover bearing U. S. Postal Marking No. XXXVIII, indicating 3 cents prepaid to Albany, N. Y. Boyd brought to Post Office, U. S. mails to Albany. Probable date of use, February, 1852.

The Staten Islander of September 21, 1850([27]) carried an advertisement by Mr. Hagadorn which, with other information concerning his service, announced:

"AN EXPRESS MAIL
"Leaves for New York with every boat; connecting with Boyd's City Despatch Post and forwarding
LETTERS FOR THE U. S. MAILS
in time to reach the Great Northern, Southern and Eastern Mails twice a day.
Letters are forwarded to the city and delivered from every boat until after 2 PM."

Covers combining markings of the Staten Island Express Post and of Boyd are rare. An illustration of one in the possession of Mr. Elliott Burgher is shown with this Chapter (Figure 5). It is not believed that the arrangement was reciprocal, no evidence of covers consigned by addressors to Boyd in New York and delivered in Staten Island being known.

Writers have sometimes stated that in this period Boyd had reciprocal arrangements with private postal enterprises other than the one directed by Mr. Hagadorn. This may be supported by evidence unknown to the present writer, and was undoubtedly true some years later, but no reliable evidence of such reciprocation in the early 1850's, has been seen in the course of the research attendant to the preparation of the present manuscript.

By the end of 1851, the insecurity of the summer months had become a memory, and it is certain that Boyd once again viewed the future with sanguine confidence.

In the spring of 1852, however, he experienced an inestimable personal tragedy which was to blight the remaining years of his life and to make him a lonely old man.

The *Tribune,* on Friday, April 16, 1852, carried this sad announcement:([28])

"Died, Thursday morning April 15, Hannah, wife of John T. Boyd, aged 42 years. Her remains will be taken to Philadelphia for interment, with the 8 o'clock line."

Here ended the romance which, during the previous 14 years had given Boyd the new youth, new courage and the inspiration to which the people of New York owed its most efficient and popular city mail service.

Eighteen months earlier, October 6, 1850, Hannah had borne him the last of his children, Melville, who in his adulthood was to

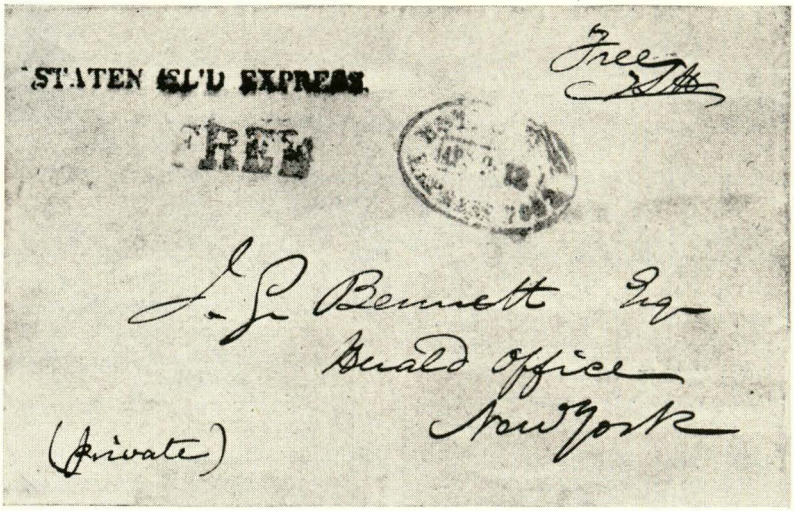


Figure 5. Letter originating in Staten Island, carried by Staten Island Express Post and delivered in New York by Boyd. The "FREE" is believed to be a mark of the Staten Island Express Post. Boyd's Type "E" postmark. Photo, courtesy of Elliott Burgher, by whom this cover is possessed.

become the Rector of the All-Saints (Episcopal) Church, on Seventh Avenue, in Brooklyn, New York.

Now, 57 years old, Boyd was widowed with four surviving children, the oldest John Thomas, Jr. being only 12 years of age and the youngest, an infant of a year and one-half.

We do not know which of the many scourges that threatened life in those days took Hannah Boyd from the family that so urgently needed her. Nor is there any surviving record of the arrangements John made to bring up his young children. Directories inform us that he continued to make his home in the house at 70 Grove Street, and it may be concluded, therefore, that the children remained with him. Perhaps one of his unmarried sisters, or a member of Hannah's family served as foster mother.

Though his helpmate and inspiration were gone, the incentive for Boyd remained. The business must go on to provide the essentials of life, education and opportunity for the young ones.

At some time in this period, the plate of the previous Boyd stamp, No. 20 L. 7 (Type V) was found to be too worn for further printings.

Shopping for a new issue, Boyd returned again to the process of stone lithography, probably because by this method he could obtain the quantities now necessary for his many outlets and large volume at more reasonable cost.

The earliest use this writer has seen of Boyd's new lithographed stamp No. 20 L. 8 (Figure 6) was a specimen in the Helen F. Novy collection on a cover dated July 13, 1853.

J. W. Scott([29]) gave "January 10, 1849" as the date of the first cover he had seen bearing this stamp, but the present writer believes this notation, and a statement by Coster([30]) that 20 L. 7 and 20 L. 8 "appear to have been used simultaneously," both to have been based on mistaken identification. All present evidence points to the issuance of the lithographed stamp in 1852 or early 1853. Aside from the comparatively "flat" appearance which lithography produces, the Type (VI) is so similar to the previous plate, that several early philatelic writers classified them both as variations of the same variety.

The outer dimensions of the new oval were 17 x 20½ mm., the inner oval 10 x 13¼ mm. The outer oval is framed by a rectangle 20½

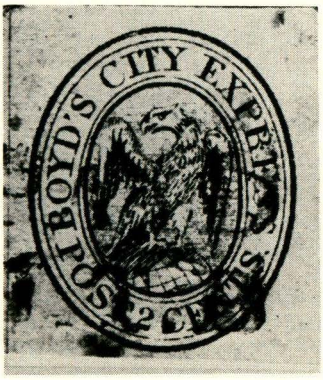


Figure 6. No. 20 L. 8 (Type VI) Boyd Adhesive Stamp, (1853-1854) cancelled with Type "e" prepayment mark.

(Photo by Boutrelle)

x 22¾ mm. The most apparent distinction of this type from its predecessor, aside from the method of printing, is a period after the "S" of "CENTS." The outer oval line framing the design is about ¼ mm. thicker than that encasing the design of Type V.

The globe, on which the familiar eagle is perched, measures, at its maximum height, 3 mm. The line above the eagle's eye is drawn differently from the way it appears on the preceding Type. On Type V this line extended from the beak to the crest, a distance of 2 mm. On the new stamp it was drawn only from above the eye to the crest, 1 mm. in length. The eagle's mouth, considerably opened on Type V was only slightly open on the new Type. The letters are somewhat more broadly drawn on the new Type than on its predecessor, and the figure "2" is slightly different.

No. 20 L. 8, probably having been used in 1853 and 1854 only, on covers carried to the United States post office is seen only with the dull red and rose red shades of U. S. No. 11, the printings of those years, and with U. S. postal markings of that time. (Figure 7).

The paper on which No. 20 L. 8 was printed was white wove, surface colored a green of Ridgway's "Light Cendre" shade (Plate VI 35'd), but of a somewhat lighter and greyer hue than the paper used for No. 20 L. 7.

The George P. French collection, sold by the late Eugene Klein of Philadelphia, March 22, 1933, included an unused "block of 90" of this variety. This writer has never seen this desirable piece, nor does he know its present whereabouts. However, its existence

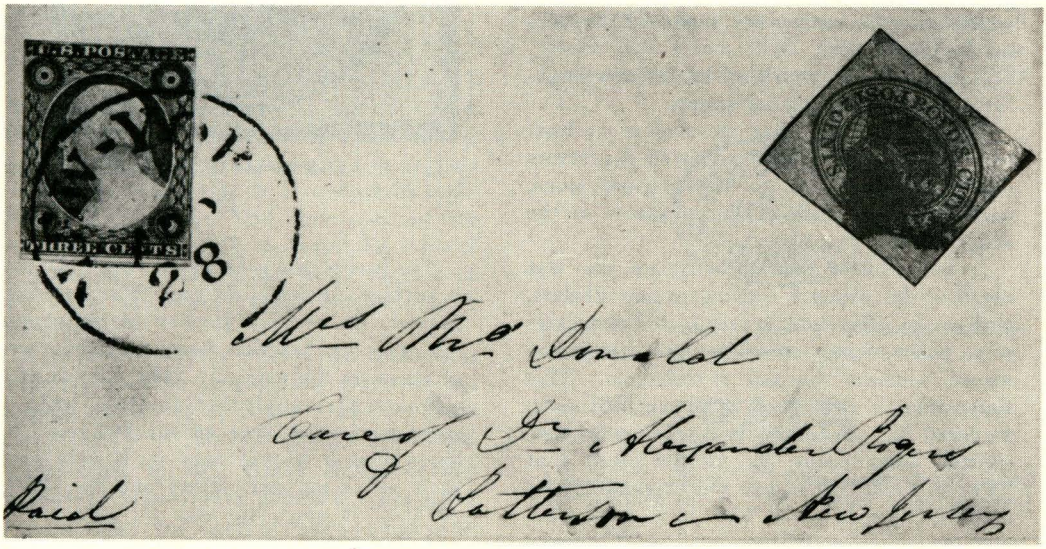


Figure 7. No. 20 L. 8 (cork cancelled) on cover addressed to Paterson, N. J. with U. S. No. 11 (Orange Brown). No dated letter, but probably carried April 28, 1853. Boyd brought to Post Office., U. S. mails to Paterson.

leads us to the belief that the original stone had 90 or more, probably 100, subjects.

This point is of distinct philatelic importance, because Scott's *United States Catalogue Specialized* for some years had included the statement "No. 20 L. 8 was reprinted in 1862 on unglazed paper; and about 1880 on glazed paper but without rectangular frame."

This writer has seen so-called "reprints" printed on glazed surface-colored paper of three different shades of green. Mr. H. W. K. Hale possesses an entire sheet, with full margins, the paper having yellowish tint (nearest Ridgeway "Pinkish Buff," Plate XXIX, 17″d), surface colored Ridgeway's "Oriental Green" (Plate XVIII 33′b). This sheet has 72 subjects (12 x 6).

A second "reprint" has been seen on a darker paper (Ridgeway, "Cream" Plate XVI 19′f) and surface-colored a grayer green (Ridgeway, "Deep Turtle Green" Plate XXXII 31″b). The specimens of the latter shade plate exactly on Mr. Hale's sheet.

Mr. Hale also possesses a block of 42 reprints (6 x 7) printed on white paper surface colored a bluer green (nearest Ridgway, "Cobalt" Plate XIX, 37′b) which does *not* plate on Mr. Hale's sheet of 72 subjects. The horizontal rows on this block are set somewhat closer to each other than are the ones on the larger piece.

None of these "reprints" has the rectangular frame of the original stamp.

It appears, then, that there were at least two stones of this type prepared for stamp collectors subsequent to the original stone, and neither of them produced sheets of the same size as the original.

It is probable that the original die was obtained by printers serving stamp dealers, perhaps in 1862 and in 1880, and transfers were made to new stones for the lithographing of "reprints" for sale to collectors. This supposition is confirmed by a pencilled note, mounted in the Luff reference collection, written many years ago, to the effect that "The S. S. & C. Co. has the original copper plate of Type L. 51". The "S. S. & C. Co." was the old Scott Stamp and Coin Company of the 1890's when Henry Calman was proprietor. Tradition has it that in those days Calman possessed a number of the plates from which collectors' reprints had been made. No one now knows what later became of those plates. "Type 51" was the former designation used for the sixth type of Boyd stamps in *Scott's Standard Catalogue of Local Stamps,* published during the first dozen years of the current century. "The original copper plate" was probably the metal die from which lithographic transfers were drawn.

A counterfeit (imitation) of No. 20 L. 8 was also sold to collectors in the 1870's or 1880's. This Type (Figure 8) could not be mistaken for the original by anyone who has seen genuine copies.



Figure 8. Counterfeit of Boyd Adhesive Stamp No. 20 L. 8

(Photo by Boutrelle)

The hue of the green with which the paper is surface colored is darker. The lettering is heavier, the vertical strokes on the counterfeit, without exception, being double the width of those on the original. The bottom of the globe on the counterfeit does not touch the inner oval as it does on the original. The outer oval is several times as heavily drawn as it is on the real stamp and the "T" of "POST" is much too near the numeral "2."

A "social stamp," No. 20 L. 9, serving the same purposes as the earlier No. 20 L. 6, was printed in gold on creamy white glazed paper from Type VI. We may presume it was

issued in the early 1850's, after No. 20 L 8; and from the types of postal markings seen on covers, it is believed that this "social" stamp continued to be sold and used for a number of years after Boyd issued new stamps for general postage replacing No. 20 L. 8. Unfortunately, no covers bearing No. 20 L. 9 seen by this writer have contained correspondence with year dates, and the exact period of usage of this variety therefore is uncertain.

Whereas used specimens of No. 20 L. 9 are quite scarce, unused specimens, as "Locals" go, are comparatively common. Though the possibility must be entertained that a reprinting of the variety may have been made for collectors, it is the writer's belief that the known unused copies are genuine. This conclusion is based on a comparison of characteristics of several unused copies with specimens genuinely used on covers. Possibly the unused copies are remainders sold to the stamp trade in the 1860's by subsequent proprietors of the Post.

If we accept the genuinity of known unused copies of No. 20 L. 9, we can draw further conclusions about it from a block of 15 in the collection of Mr. H. W. K. Hale. This block consists of 3 rows of 5 subjects, from the bottom of the sheet from which it was cut. There are full margins on three sides, left, right and bottom.

The block is divided by horizontal and vertical lines which frame the subjects each in a rectangle. It definitely could not have been printed from any of the reprints stones, previously described, nor from the stone used for printing No. 20 L. 8, if the latter numbered 100 subjects. The dimensions of the rectangles vary slightly because the vertical lines are not exactly equi-distant from each other, the differences being fractions of a millimeter.

It is believed likely that a new stone was prepared from the original die made for the printing of No. 20 L. 8 and a smaller sheet, 5 x 5, or 5 x 10 subjects printed therefrom.

The block in Mr. Hale's collection does not appear to have been gummed. The paper is quite heavy and hard textured. The glazing is high.

Locally addressed covers of the early 1850's carried by Boyd, continued to be struck with the 30 x 20 mm. (Type "E") postmark of which there were at least six minor variations of composition and lettering. Some of these differences reflected the duplicate handstamping equipment, undoubtedly necessary to dispose of the several thousands of letters Boyd was now handling daily. Subtypes often appear on different covers of the same day.

A tabulation of the incidence of these subtypes does not reveal any reliable pattern from which the order of their adoption can be determined. Two of the sub-types varying most from each other, one reprinted from the Chapter III of this series([31]) and one traced from a cover of 1853, accompany the present chapter. (Figure 9)

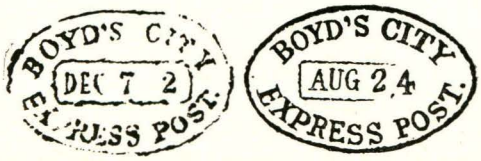


Figure 9. Two of the six variations of Boyd's Type "E" Postmark, (1848-1857). Left hand illustration is reprinted from Figure 8, Chapter III.

A postmark similar to Type "E," but with considerably larger lettering, was used in the latter months of 1853 and in 1854. This was Type "F" (29 x 19½ mm.), the lettering of which was 3 mm. high, (See Figure 10) as compared with the 2 mm. lettering of Type "E."

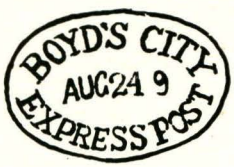


Figure 10. Boyd's Type "F" Postmark, (1853-1854). (Tracing from original)



Figure 11. Type "c" Prepayment Mark, Used in 1850 or 1851. (A tracing from original)

A new prepayment mark, Type "c," appearing briefly in 1850 or 1851 was a 5 mm. handstamp "PAID." (Figure 11) This has

been seen struck in black on undated covers of about that time. This Type seems to have been used only for a very brief period, and is a scarce postal marking.

PAID
J.T.B.

Figure 12. Type "d" Prepayment Mark, Used in 1851. (A tracing from original)

Early in 1851 the Type "d" prepayment mark (Figure 12), a variation of the early Type "b," came into use. This handstamp struck in black was a 2-line "PAID" (above) "J.T.B." (below), the letters of the upper word being separated from each other by 3 mm. spaces and drawn 4 mm. high; and the initials below being drawn 2½ mm. high and condensed to a distance of 2 mm. apart.

PAID PAID
J.T.B J.T.B

Figure 13. Type "e" Prepayment Mark, Used with Minor Variations 1852-1857. (A tracing from original)

It does not appear to have been used beyond the Spring of 1852, when a new "PAID J.T.B." prepayment handstamp, (Type "e") (Figure 13) was put into use. The lettering of the upper line of this handstamp measured 4 mm., the lower line 3½ mm.; the upturned lower extremity of the "J" was directly under the vertical stroke of the "P" of "PAID" and the vertical stroke of the "D" on the upper line was directly above that of the "B." This prepayment mark is first noted on a cover dated May 24, 1852, and with variations on covers as late as 1857.

The specter of drastic government interference faded, and Boyd could breathe freely for some years to come, when the Whigs were overwhelmingly defeated in the national elections of November 1852. Democratic candidate, former Senator Franklin Pierce of New Hampshire, defeated the Whig nominee, General Winfield Scott, by an electoral vote of 254 to 42. Scott carried only four states, Massachusetts, Vermont, Kentucky and Tennessee.

The following March, James Campbell, a Philadelphia lawyer and businessman, became Postmaster General and in his administration there is no evidence of further Federal attack on the private local posts.

The Federal Government's carrier service in New York continued to function under Section 10 of the Law of 1851, collecting and delivering such mail as the public entrusted

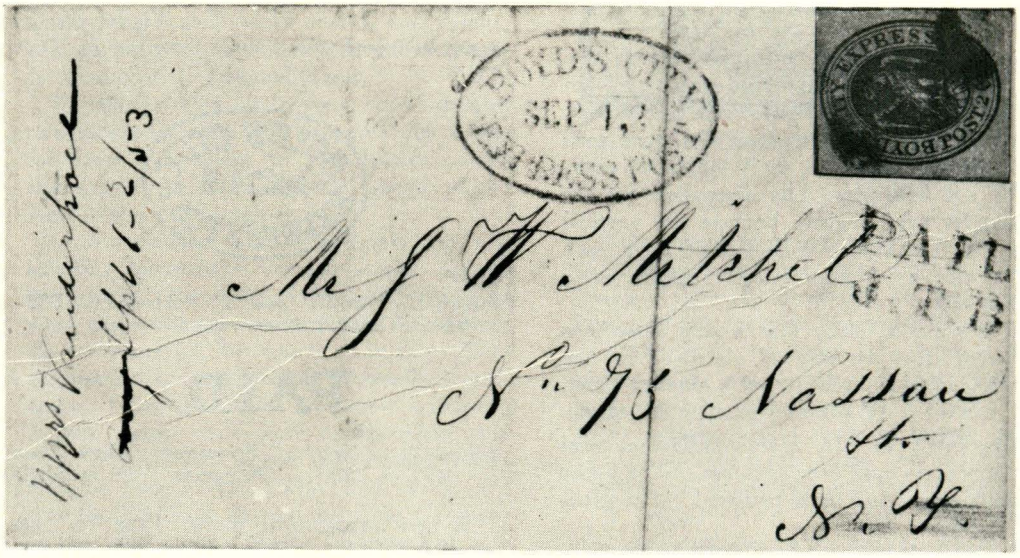


Figure 14. Locally delivered letter dated September 1, 1853, bearing No. 20 L. 8, cork cancelled, with Type "F" Postmark and Type "e" Prepayment Mark. (Abt collection).

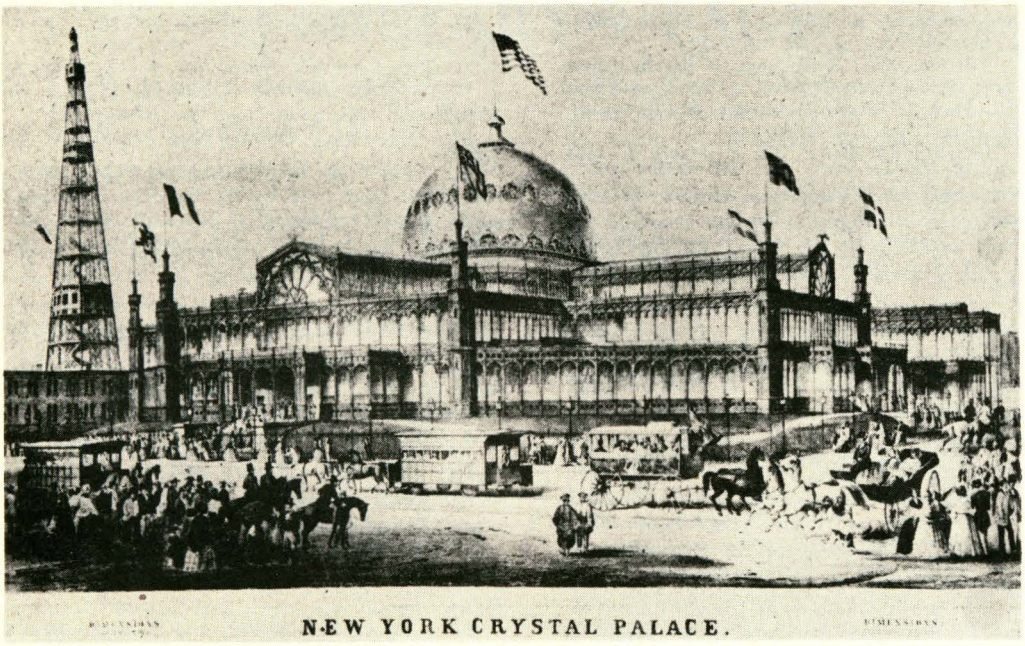


Figure 15. The Crystal Palace, Scene of the New York World's Fair of 1853.

to it—but neither matching Boyd's widespread and numerous facilities for collecting mail nor the rapidity or reliability of his service.

1853 was the year of the first World's Fair in America. A "Crystal Palace" resembling the iron and glass hall by that name which had been constructed for the London exposition in 1851, was erected on the present site of Bryant Park, at the intersection of 6th Avenue and 42nd Street. (Figure 15)

The good times that had begun in 1850 reached new heights in 1853 and prosperity was widespread. New York hotels and lodging houses were crowded with visitors from the "four corners of the earth." A typical reflection of how Boyd's City Express Post at that time functioned peaceably and almost companionably along side of the Federal Government's postal system was this announcement on a souvenir map issued by the World's Fair officials([32])

> "There are in the building three U. S. mail boxes, a Boyd's City Express Box, three telegraph offices and two refreshment rooms."

Thus was John Boyd's service included with the best in communication and hospitality which New York could offer its thousands of visitors.

(To Be Continued.)

REFERENCES

CHAPTER IV

1. *New York Evening Post,* March 3, 1845, p. 2, col. 1.

2. For a full account of the postal reform movement, after 1845, see Van Dyck MacBride, "Barnabas Bates, The Rowland Hill of America," *The American Philatelist,* (May, 1947) Vol. 60, No. 8, pp. 626-640; (June, 1947) Vol. 60, No. 9, pp. 724-735.

3. *Annual Reports of the Postmaster General,* 1846-1850.

4. By curious coincidence, this was the same James Brooks credited by the late Henry Needham in his "United States Local Stamps, A Concise History and Memorandum," *The American Philatelist,* (March, 1920), Vol. XXXIII, No. 6, p. 197, with having established the New York City Express Post, a private mail service, in 1847. There appears to have been no more basis for this conclusion than a listing after Brooks' name, *"New York Express,"* observed by Needham in The New York City Directory. This, of course, was the name of Brooks' newspaper, and probably had nothing whatsoever to do with any mail

carrying enterprise. See Elliott Perry, *Pat Paragraphs,* (March, 1941) No. 40, pp. 1242-1245.

5. The proceedings of the House of Representatives, January 16, 1851, are reported in *The Congressional Globe,* John C. Rives, Washington, D. C., printer, (1850-1851), Vol. XXIII, p. 259.

6. United States Postal Act of March 3, 1825, Section 36.

7. United States Postal Act of July 2, 1836, Section 41.

8. See Chapter III, this series, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, (January, 1950) Vol. XXIX, No. 1, p. 25.

9. Constitution of the United States, Article I, Section 8.

10. The proceedings of the Senate, February 20, 1851, are reported in *The Congressional Globe, Op. cit.,* pp. 270-271.

11. United States Postal Act of March 3, 1851, Section 10.

12. See Chapter III, this series, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, January 1950, *Op. cit.*

13. The Boyd advertisement in *The American Advertiser,* shown as Figure 16 in Chapter III of this series revealed that, in 1849, with 1,300 collection stations, Boyd employed 35 carriers. The expansion of his activities in the following year must have increased the number to 40 or more. Mr. Blood, in 1851, had built a patronage that it required 40 government carriers to challenge. (See Ashbrook, *United States One Cent Stamp of 1851-1857,* H. L. Lindquist (New York, 1938)) Vol. II, Elliott Perry chapter on "Carriers and Carrier Markings," (pp. 192-193.) Clerks and supervisory employees would bring total payroll of the two Posts to somewhere in the neighborhood of 100 persons.

14. *The Letterbook of The Postmaster General,* (July 21, 1850 to April 23, 1852). National Archives, Washington, D. C., Vol. Y-1, p. 169.

15. *New York Herald,* August 23, 1851, p. 2, col. 3.

16. *New York Sun,* August 25, 1851, p. 2, col. 7.

17. *New York Herald,* August 23, 1851, p. 2, col. 6.

18. *New York Tribune,* August 23, 1851, p. 5, col. 2.

19. *New York Post,* August 26, 1851, p. 2, col. 3.

20. *New York Journal of Commerce,* August 26, 1851, p. 2, col. 6, and *New York Post, Op. cit.*

21. *New York Journal of Commerce,* August 26, 1851, p. 2, col. 2.

22. *New York Post, Op. cit.,* p. 12, col. 3.

23. Ashbrook, *Op. cit.,* Vol. II, Perry Chapter, p. 178.

24. *The Letterbook of The Postmaster General,* July 21, 1850 to April 23, 1852, National Archives, Washington, D. C., Vol. Y-1, p. 334.

25. Ashbrook, *Op. cit.,* Vol. II, p. 176.

26. *Postal Markings,* (July-August, 1932), Vol. 2, No. 8-9, p. 91.

27. Elliott Burgher, "The Staten Island Express Post," *Proceedings of The Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences,* (January, 1949), Vol. II, No. 2, pp. 44-47.

28. *New York Tribune,* April 16, 1852, p. 8, col. 1.

29. J. W. Scott, "A History of Postage Stamps," Section II, Local or City Delivery Stamps, *American Journal of Philately,* Second Series (October, 1888) Vol. I, No. 10, p. 345.

30. Charles H. Coster, *U. S. Locals,* Scott and Company, (N. Y. 1877), p. 27.

31. See Figure 8, Chapter III, this series, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, (January, 1950) Vol. XXIX, No. 1, p. 18.

32. *New York Daily Mirror,* April 4, 1939, p. 11, col. 3.

BOOK REVIEW

(Continued from Page 118.)

The Postal Laws of The Republic of Colombia 1821-1859. Compiled and Bound by F. G. Larsen. W. Cucuta, Colombia. (Spanish. Introduction in English.)

This recent library acquisition should not be placed upon the Club's shelves without notice. As the author wrote in his brief introduction, "the present volume comprises all laws and decrees from 1821 to 1859, as far as I have been able to find them."

This is not a printed handbook. Mr. Larsen, upon the completion of his research, had five typewritten copies made, one of which he generously donated to THE COLLECTORS CLUB in a bound cloth cover volume. Its value to the interested philatelist can best be expressed by quoting again from the author's Introduction:

"Included in the compilation are laws and decrees about: territorial grouping and regrouping and about weights and measurements: which have been included in order to facilitate the understanding of certain postal laws and regulations.

I hope that these . . . shall be of some interest to students of Colombian postal history."

The students of Colombia's stamps are fortunate to have such invaluable reference material made conveniently available to them and it would be of inestimable worth to have similar undertakings on the early postal laws and regulations of other countries. Mr. Larsen hopes to continue this Colombia work in a second part, carrying on from 1861 up to the present time. We hope he shall succeed. *H. M. G.*

SECRETARY'S PAGE

The Meeting of January 4, 1950.

The speaker of the evening was *Mr. Harry L. Lindquist,* who showed some early *Guatemala* from his extensive collection. This showing included all of the outstanding errors and varieties. Included among these were the only reported pair of the 4 Reales, violet (No. 5), as well as a copy of this stamp on cover. The 1882 "Quetzal" issue was shown with all varieties, which included blocks of the 2c (No. 22) and the 20c (No. 25) with the inverted center. The 5c (No. 23) with the inverted center was also shown in singles. Included in his collection, Mr. Lindquist pointed out, are numerous covers of the early issues, which are quite scarce, and many proofs. Mr. Lindquist showed a good philatelic knowledge and his presentation of the material was good considering that it was shown from the stand rather than being placed in the wall frames.

The Meeting of January 18, 1950.

This meeting was devoted to the showing of a portion of the outstanding collection of *United States Local stamps* formed by *Mr. Alfred H. Caspary.* As Mr. Caspary was unable to be present in person, he left the material to be exhibited in the care of *Mr. George B. Sloane,* who arranged for its mounting in the wall frames. The collection was ably described by *Mr. Elliott Perry,* who is an acknowledged authority upon this subject. Mr. Perry has the happy faculty of keeping his listeners interested at all times.

While the stamps are usually referred to as "Locals," a more comprehensive term would be "Private Posts," as there is a big difference in the meaning. Many of the firms, as Hale, American Letter Mail, Pomeroy and others conducted independent mail routes over large sections of the country. Others, as Wells Fargo and Berford, maintained lines across the continent, even into the territory of foreign countries. "Local" firms were those who handled mail only within the limits of a city, and several of these companies actually were government carriers, officially appointed because the Post Office Department could or would not provide the service.

The Caspary collection abounds in the great rarities and is confined almost entirely to covers. The only exceptions to this are cases where he has been unable to find a satisfactory cover. Many of the items shown are the only known specimens to date, and of much of the other material, there are no more than a dozen copies known in any condition, on or off cover.

Some of the outstanding stamps and covers shown were: Baker, Cincinnati; Barnard, Boston; Berford (two extraordinary covers); Blood's; Franklin City; Bouton's Manhattan Express; Bradway's; Briggs'; Browne, Easton, Pa.; California City Letter Express; City Express, Phila.; Cressman and Co.; Cummings, (the only other copy of the red Cummings is in the Collectors Club Reference Collection); Davis, Baltimore; East River Post, New York; Frazer; Glen Haven; Hall and Mills; Hill; Homan; Hopedale; Jefferson Market; New York City Express Post; Providence Dispatch; Staten Island, New York; Third Ave. Post Office, New York; Wood and Co.; and several which are as yet unlisted.

This meeting stands out as one of the most unusual that we have had at the Club in many a year, both as to the quality of the material shown and as to the ability of presentation of the speakers.

The Meeting of February 1, 1950.

The topic of this meeting was *Foreign Essays and Proofs. John J. Britt* gathered his speakers from our loyal members in the city of Philadelphia. The evening started with a display by *Mr. W. G. Higginbotham* of the proofs (Epreuves de Luxe) of France and French Colonies. These proofs are die proofs prepared for presentation purposes. He was followed by *Mr. George Caldwell,* who displayed his studies of the "Standing Helvetia" and "Helvetia Bust" stamps of Switzerland. Mr. Caldwell showed the stages in the design from the original essays thru to the die proof of the accepted design. This was a most interesting subject and very ably presented.

The third speaker was *Mr. Archy S. Meyers,* who showed his studies of the proofs

and trial printings of the airmail stamps of Czechoslovakia. It was unfortunate that *Mr. Joseph Mandos* was ill and unable to attend in person, but his material was ably presented by Dr. Clarence Brazer. This consisted of a complete history of the development of the design and engraving of the die for Guatemala Nos. 217, 218. The designs were shown from the artists drawings to the finished stamps, with each stage in the engraving of the die represented by progress proofs. This study has taken several prizes at National Exhibitions and is one of the outstanding examples of the historical study of design by means of proofs.

Mr. Britt wound up the evening with a brief showing of his material, which included some interesting proofs from France, Switzerland, Salvador and other countries. An interesting item in his showing was a complete sheet of semi-official airmails of Switzerland. This sheet showed a complete plate impression of the frame of a bi-colored stamp upon which some one, presumably the artist, had drawn in the vignette in four different colors by hand.

Harrison D. S. Haverbeck.

The following new members were elected to membership as of the Board of Governors' meetings held December 28th, 1949 and January 25th, 1950:

December 28th, 1949:

#2824 Arthur C. V. Hostler, Flushing, N. Y. Collects Air Mails of the World and Sudan

#2825 Donald H. Jackson, New York, N. Y. Collects U. S. Mint

#2826 John S. Murdock, New York, N. Y. Collects U. S., Great Britain & Colonies, Germany

#2827 Earl F. Blinn, Camden, N. J. Collects Hungarian Stamps

#2828 Wilbur F. Cannon, Davenport, Iowa Collects Air Mail

#2829 V. G. Walton, Ontario, Canada Collects Brit. North America

January 25th, 1950:

#2830 Michael W. Martin, New York, N. Y. Collects Poland

#2831 David S. Stern, Riverdale, N. Y. Collects Russia, 19th Century

#2832 Ralph S. Von Kohorn, New York, N. Y. Collects Austria 1850-1938

#2833 W. Arthur McKinney, White Plains, N. Y. Collects U. S. and French Colonies

#2834 Herbert F. Reuben, Long Island, N. Y. Collects United States

#2835 E. W. Harlan, Chicago, Ill. Collects Precancels

#2836 Samuel C. Paige, Taunton, Mass. Collects U. S. 19th Century

#2837 Raymond V. Seaman, Gilbertsville, N. Y. Collects U. S., Westervelt Locals

#2838 Winifred H. Shriner, Baltimore, Md. Collects Portugal, Egypt and U. S.

#2839 Karl Heinz Hennig, Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Rep. Collects German Col., Zeppelin—Air Mail Covers

#2840 Federico G. Larsen, Cucuta, Colombia, S. A. Collects Colombia, Venezula

#2841 Miguel A. Odreman, Caracas, Venezuela. Collects Air Mails, British Col., America

#2842 Derek Palmer, Santiago, Chile. Collects Poland, Chile, Postal History

#2843 Romeo J. Routhier, Guatemala, C. A. Collects Guatemala.

#2844 Alex Varga, Paris, France

* * * *

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:—

"British Postage Stamp Varieties Illustrated" by R. C. Alcock

"Stamps" Magazine—Bound Volumes #65, 66, 67 and 68, by H. L. Lindquist

"Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue," 1950 Combined Edition, by Scott Publications

"Stanley Gibbons Simplified Stamp Catalogue, 1950," 15th Edition, by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

"The Great Mail," Postal History of New Orleans, by L. V. Haber and C. A. Wagner

(Continued on Page 123.)

FERNANDO PO

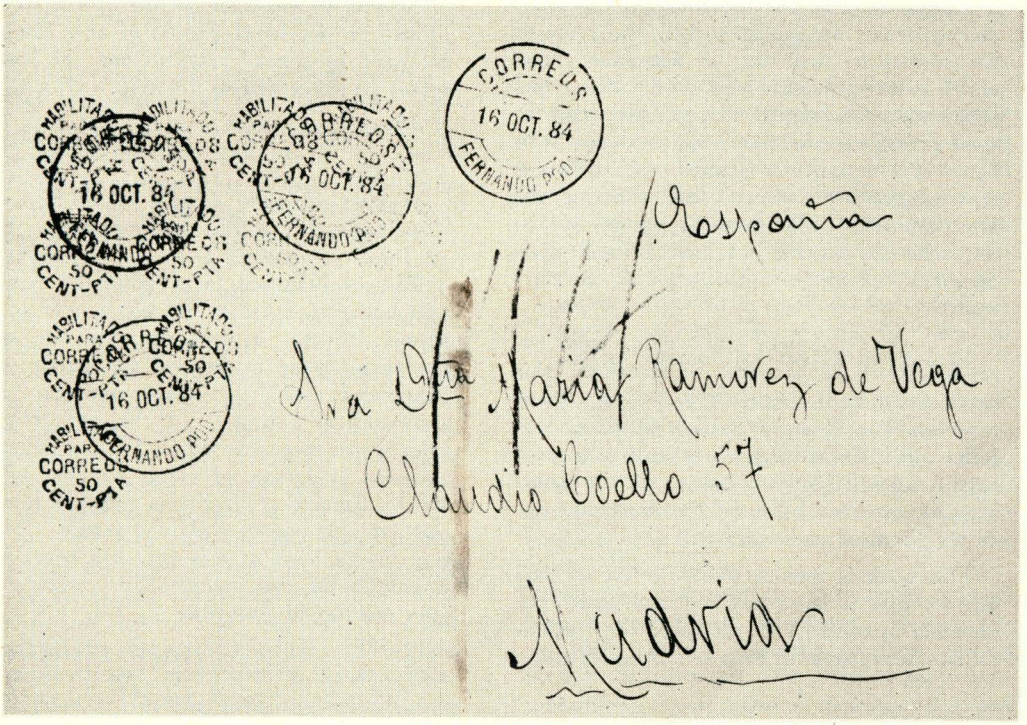
1884 Provisional Issue

By EDWIN MUELLER

In 1884 the Spanish colony of *Fernando Po* issued its first *provisionals*. The *2c stamp* current at that time received a surcharge *HABILITADO PARA CORREOS 50 CENT-PTA,* arranged in circular form. There are *two types* of this surcharge, which can be distinguished by the different shape of the "5" and the size of the initial "H," which is the same size as the other letters on Type I but is considerably smaller on Type II. The Galvez Spain Catalog gives the date of issue as *July 1884* but the Kohl Handbook says, *"not later than May, possibly earlier."*

The two catalogs mentioned above, as well as Stanley-Gibbons, list, as another provisional, the same surcharge also applied to *pieces of paper* or printed *directly on envelopes,* claiming that it became necessary due to complete lack of any stamps. These handstamps on pieces of paper or on envelopes of various kind and color exist in black and blue. They are listed and priced by Galvez as No. 19 and 19a, Kohl No. Ia and Ib, and

(Continued on Page 123.)



BOOK REVIEWS

Postage Stamps in the Making (F. J. Melville) Rewritten and Completed by John Easton. Published by Faber & Faber Ltd., London. 246 pages.

As stated in the foreword, "This book is sponsored by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, as a Memorial to Fred J. Melville, who was the author of the original work published in 1916—. The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain was fortunate in securing the cooperation of Mr. John Easton, of the firm of Messrs. Robert MacLehose & Co. Ltd., of Glasgow, a master printer well qualified to undertake the rewriting of the book, and himself a philatelist of high standing.—"

This is a work which commands our high respect and recommendation. It clearly explains to the philatelist the intricacies of the graphic arts with which the stamp collector is obliged to continually contend but about which he has all too little comprehension. A collector has to differentiate between printing processes, such as line engraving, lithography, photogravure, etc. as frequently the price of the stamps he will buy is dependent upon which printing method was used. Paper and perforation variations, always confusing to most of us, have seldom been properly clarified. If a design was printed upon different types of paper, the scarce (and, of course, the more expensive) kind generally cannot be distinguished by us and we have to rely upon another's opinion that the paper is as warranted.

In a clear, coherent style, along with exceptionally well planned illustrations, this work could be "a Rosetta Stone" for many a philatelist. Being a British publication, it follows that the spotlight is focused to a great extent upon British emissions, yet the printings and papers of United States stamps are amply discussed and explained.

This book is serious philately but so well written that it is educational and easily understood in contrast to the usual dry, technical and heavy style of most philatelic writings.

H.M.G.

Guide Lines to the Penny Black. By P. C. Litchfield. Robson Lowe Ltd., London, 1949. 224 pages. With numerous illustrations.

After the publication of the printing of the first English stamps by Dr. Herbert Munk in the *Kohl Handbook,* and the English revised edition by J. B. Seymour, F.R.P.S.L., one would think this subject would be exhausted. However, the present author has done a fine job in fully explaining the intricacies of the First Stamp of the World, the minute details of the eleven plates used and the innumerable flaws, re-entries, re-cuts, re-touches, double letters, etc., to such an extent and in such manner that even the beginner can find his way through the jungle of varieties. The use of letters employed is fully described, the time of use for each plate given, and every such detail is also explained by enlarged photos. At the end, we find a systematised description from AA to TL with the features of every plate to enable the collector in this way to locate a stamp.

In spite of the denial of the author to have offered in this work results of new research, we have to admire his skill and the way in which he succeeded in creating such a useful work.

Paul P. Lindenberg

Stamp Collectors' Annual 1950. Edited by Tom Morgan. A Harris Production. Harris Publications Ltd., London. 120 pages.

This well-known large philatelic publication house in London has given here to the stamp collector a very commendable work containing some interesting and partly well-illustrated articles on many important subjects such as Samoa, U. P. U., philatelic literature, an extensive Who's Who, a philatelic calendar, addresses of stamp societies of the British Empire, study circles and even humorous explanations of philatelic terms. It is a pity that a book of this type has never been attempted in this country. It could prove very popular in America.

Paul P. Lindenberg.

(Continued on Pages 114 and 121.)

TRANSVAAL

The "Five Pound Green."

By STEPHEN G. RICH

The Transvaal, then known as South African Republic, brought out its first stamp for postage with a face value above 10 shillings, in 1892. In the type then current for the whole range of values, the "Arms in Circle" type of 1885, this stamp offers nothing unusual in design. It was issued primarily for postage on packets of gold bars from the mines at Johannesburg. Another use was on telegraph forms, apparently when press cablegrams to Europe were paid for in the then usual manner. The designer was Mr. Jan Vurtheim; the printer, J. Enschede & Sons, of Haarlem, The Netherlands.

The "Five Pound Green" is letter press printed in a color that hardly varies at all, and always comes perforated 12. The paper is a somewhat variously yellowish, medium soft wove, with the wove character fairly visible by transmitted light in most copies.

This stamp alone of the 1885 series, continued in use after the octagonal design of 1894 supplanted the lower values. In fact, it alone of the stamps prior to the octagonals in the colors of 1896, was converted by surcharging with V. R. I. after the fall of the Republic during the Boer War.

This stamp is ascribed to 1889 by Scott, but on what evidence we have no information. Catalogs the world over, either warn collectors against "excellent counterfeits" or state that "Most specimens on the market now are either reprints or counterfeits." The main purpose of any article on this stamp therefore has to be a summation of the points for detection of a good or a bad copy.

On the description of the identification points of the genuine and forgeries, as well as on almost all other matters, this article has drawn heavily on the one handbook worthy of serious attention: *"Transvaal Postage Stamps,"* by Curle & Basden. London, 1940. This has been supplemented by actual first-hand inspection of various copies sporadically over a period of many years.

The £5 has two known constant plate varieties, which have been chronicled and located on the plate by Stiehl and by Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein, South Africa *(South African Philatelist,* Jan. and Feb. 1944, pp. 12, 24). In one, a large white dot between "A" and "F" in "AFR." occurs, stamp No. 1 of row 5. In the other, "A" of "AFR." lacks the cross bar, stamp No. 2 of row 2.

Current catalog practice is not to price the £5 green either used or unused. Prior to the late war, it found pricing used in some catalogs, at around $3.50. Thus the impression has gotten into collectors minds that it is a great rarity. Actually, it is *common,* both used and unused. Curle & Basden, p. 133, say in this connection:

> "The £5 of this issue continued in service until 1900, and when used is comparatively common. The unused is common because of the remainders that came on the market in 1911. The £5 was in ordinary use for the postage of gold bars; many were also irregularly removed from telegraph forms when they should have been destroyed, and others taken from receipts for telephone rentals. Discretion should be used in judging between the various postmarks."

The Five Pound Green, unused, was plentiful in South Africa between 1916 and 1920, and then brought around 10 shillings ($2.45 then). The present writer bought it thus, and was assured by other collectors that the plentiful copies were from lootings of the Boer War period.

Whether any reprints were made, cannot here be stated with assurance. If such exist, they may be expected to show up on unduly whitish paper, and probably perforated normally. From various remarks here and

there in Curle & Basden's book, it is safe to infer that if any were made, most of them probably were surcharged with the well known and easily identified counterfeit V.R.I. Overprint (See note after Transvaal No. 213 in the Scott catalog 1949 edition).

The forgeries are five in all.

1. A "crude lithograph." This is not plentiful but may be found lurking in old time juvenile and adolescent collections. The characteristic lithographic lines, with their irregular string-of-beads effect, will give this counterfeit away to anyone who might not spot it by its lack of the characteristic smoothly typographed press work of Eschede & Son.

2. Fournier's. This is a good counterfeit, with even the paper closely imitated. Such few copies as the present writer has seen of it, seem to be afflicted with small white spots here and there in the solids. The unfailing test for the Fournier is the presence of 14 colored lines joining the label with "Maakt" in it to the solid below that label. These are missing in the genuine. But if this is obscured, the irregular shading of the background of the arms, contrasting with the smooth and even shading of the genuine, can serve. Fournier also made the letters "DR" of "Eendrach" and "MA" of "MAGT" join each other, as contrasted to the separate letters in the genuine.

Fournier imitated the cancellations very well, so that an apparently good town or numeral cancellation cannot be taken as any guarantee that the stamp is not a Fournier.

3. Forgery of unknown origin, apparently known unused only. This can be recognized instantly by 10 lines of shading under the wagon, as contrasted with only 9 in the genuine.

4. Forgery of unknown origin, apparently known unused only. This can be recognized instantly by 11 lines of shading under the wagon, as contrasted with only 9 in the genuine.

5. Forgery done apparently in the 1920's. This lacks the stigmata for the first four. The paper and color under daylight match the original very closely. Mr. W. S. Boggs informs me that under the violet-ray lamp the color differs materially from that of the genuine. Mirza Hadji's name is sometimes handstamped in small letters on the back, in red. This forgery has the first "E" of "Eendracht" broken. This I have not seen on any known genuine copy. The ends of the numeral "5" in upper right corner of the stamp are rounded in this forgery, in contrast to the square-cut ends on all known genuine ones seen by me. The false Barberton postmark, mentioned later in this article, is struck on the copy whence this information has been derived, with a November 1896 date.

The present writer has not yet seen any of the forgeries with the counterfeit V.R.I. surcharge on them. The bad V.R.I.'s are apparently all on genuine stamps, presumably remainders. But, as mentioned earlier, there is the possibility that there were reprints, which may have had this false surcharge applied.

The recognition marks for the genuine are the following:

1. All letters in the motto separate, and none broken.

2. 9 lines of shading, diagonals, under the wagon.

3. Shading of the coat of arms background substantially uniform in thickness and spacing of lines, with lines rarely broken and the lines separating the four quarters straight.

4. No vertical lines between portion of ribbon carrying "Maakt" of motto, and the solid beneath this. But there are sometimes slight irregular spots of ink just below this ribbon in the genuine—never as many as 14, and not connecting to the lower solid.

5. The ends of the numerals of value are definitely not rounded. The upper right numeral is the one on which to see this character most usefully.

Counterfeit postmarks exist. They have been presumed to occur on genuine stamps, but the present writer suspects that most of them are really on the more deceptive forgeries. The known counterfeit postmarks are:

A. Double circle, reading JOHANNESBORG Z.A.R. in black, stars at sides. The spelling "BORG" identifies it forthwith. Dates are in February 1896. May not occur on this stamp.

B. Double circle, reading JOHANNESBURG Z.A.R. in black, stars at sides. Dates are in May 1886. Date earlier than issue

of stamp marks it as bad forthwith, if it exists on the £5. Probably is found on one of the forgeries only: any copy with it should be under suspicion and tested by the stigmata for the forgeries. This is a very good imitation of a genuine "Joburg" postmark.

C. Double circle, KRUGERSDORP. in black, stars at sides. Dates in 1902 (April mostly). This may be expected to be found on the V.R.I. surcharged stamp. If on an unsurcharged stamp, it is obviously false, since no use of the stamp later than April 9, 1901, when the Transvaal republic government's last remnants of any stamps were taken on the fall of Pietersburg, could take place. As far as we know, postal service in the unconquered parts of the Transvaal ceased at that date.

D. Double circle, OTTOSHOOP Z.A.R., in black, stars at sides. Date, 1 November 1895. Probably not found on the £5, since this small office would have been unlikely to use this stamp. But forgers have been known to make just such errors!

E. Double circle, PIETERSBURG Z.A.R., in black, stars at sides. Dates in Sept. 1895; also known with 1886 dates. A very good imitation of the genuine Pietersburg postmark. May not occur on the £5.

F. Double circle, POTCHEFSTROOM Z.A.R., in black, stars at sides. Dates in May 1885, May 1900. The early date will give it away instantly if it occurs on the £5 stamp.

G. Single circle, BARBERTON Z.A.R., in black. Dates November 15 and 16, 1885, 1887, 1895 and 1896. Letter A above date; period after NO (abbreviation for November); 6 with extra long upper end. This false cancel is known on presumed genuine £5 stamps; but its presence on the deceptive Type 5 forgery, makes us question such items as to genuineness.

There does not appear to be any sure way in which copies bought at face when current can be distinguished from the looted copies or even the remainders. In some few cases, known remainders seem to look fresher and to show yellowing of paper with age than known looted copies or copies known to have been bought at the period of use. But the difference is so slight as to be utterly unreliable. The remainders are unused copies, as are the looted ones, except where false postmarks have been applied.

A curious circumstance is that the Mirza Hadji identification handstamp is found, not only on forgeries, but on undoubtedly genuine copies. I understand that Mr. Hadji has stated that he bought a large lot of the remainders when they were sold.

In view of the known fact that remainders in quantity exist in certain hands in this country, and that looted copies show up fairly often in philatelic sales circuits, the judgment is here given that the Five Pound Green probably changes hands at around a dollar a copy unused, and simply is not bought when held at higher actual prices. The demand for it is small, and undoubtedly another hundred or two copies coming into the market could depress it to 50 cents. Copies with genuine cancellations are less plentiful and in still less demand, and accordingly seem to bring about the same price with informed buyers.

To sum up: The Five Pound Green of the Transvaal, both the 1892 stamp and the 1900 surcharged one, cannot be considered an item of great price, nor yet one of which most copies are bad. Thanks to recent work, we can readily recognize anything save the looted copies and the remainders.

BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from Page 118.)

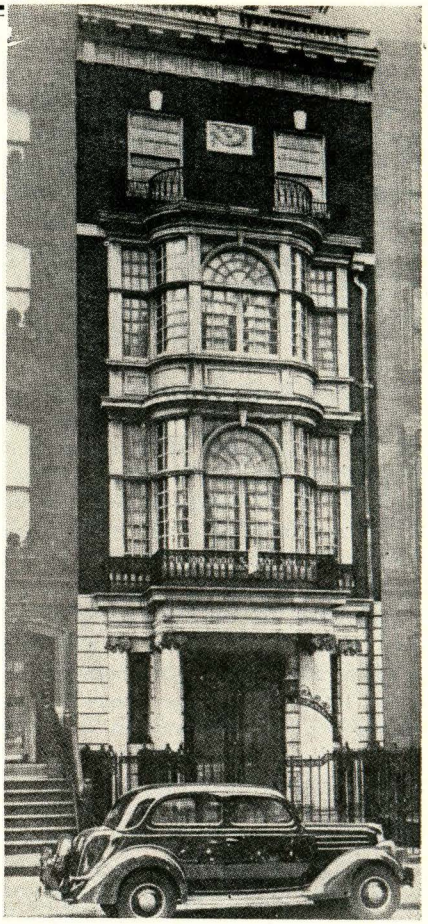
Official Handbook of Post Office Registration Labels of the States and Commonwealth of Australia. Edited by the Philatelic Stationery Society of Australia, Moonee Ponds, Victoria, Australia. Price 1/-. 9 pages, 14 illustrations.

This booklet on an apparently out-of-the-way subject offers the labor of many years of close study and cooperation resulting in the establishment of a definite history and system used for these labels. Its worth lies in the realization that it is a model for similar studies upon such type of philatelic material in other countries.

Paul P. Lindenberg.

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SECRETARY'S PAGE

(Continued from Page 116.)

"Danmark Fire R. B. S. 1851-4 Pladning," (Plating Danish Stamps), by J. Schmidt-Anderson

"Postage Stamps from Germany," by H. A. Fraenkel

"The Coronation Stamp 1937," by L. Birch

"Die Briefmarken fur Liechtenstein 1937-8," by M. Schiestl (Purchased)

SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR MARCH, APRIL AND MAY, 1950

March 15 — **Ireland** under the direction of **Messrs. H. G. Zervas** and **Malcolm O'Reilly.**

April 5 — Materials to be shown at the 1950 London International Stamp Exhibition by **Mrs. John Dale.**

19 — **Mr. Alvin W. Hall**—Anecdotes of a quarter century as Director of the U. S. Bureau of Printing and Engraving—Conducted by Mr. George B. Sloane.

May 3 — **Switzerland** by members of the **Helvetia Society** under the direction of Mrs. Edith Fisher.

17 — **U. S. Postage Stamps, 19th and 20th Century.** We hope every member will bring along some material to show. Each exhibitor allowed five minutes.

FERNANDO PO

(Continued from Page 117.)

Stanley-Gibbons No. 11d and 11e. In regard to the date of use, the catalogs differ. Kohl gives "1893" as year of issue and states that later use may have been made not through necessity but to create collectors' items. Stanley-Gibbons gives the year dates "1893-98." The Galvez specialized Spain Catalog, which previously agreed with Kohl and gave "1893" as year of issue, has in its last edition advanced this date to "1890." The Kohl Handbook states that the use of several handstamps on one cover, to take care of higher rates, has been reported by the philatelic press in 1894.

The envelope from Fernando Po to Madrid, pictured here shows eleven handstamps (Type II) in blue. Except for the rather large size of the envelope, which may have held a heavier content, and for a blue pencil figure, which may be a registration number, there is no indication why the high postage of 5½ pesetas was necessary. We may suspect a philatelic franking, inasmuch as there are no arriving or transit postmarks. But the interesting fact is that the cancellations show clearly the date of *Oct. 16, 1884,* six years earlier than the date given by Galvez and only a few months later than the date, on which the handstamp was first used to surcharge stamps. It is not known that the Fernando Po postmark had been used predated and therefore we can suppose that the first use of the handstamp directly on covers did not happen in 1893 or in 1890, but as early as 1884. We know no other examples of such an early date (other copies we have seen are dated 1893 and later, as late, in fact, as August 15, 1898), but we suspect that they exist. If they could be located, they would prove that the use of the 50c handstamp directly on covers started shortly after it was used to surcharge 2c stamps in 1884, if not simultaneously.

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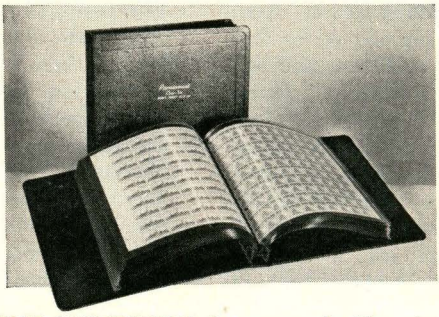
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