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VOLUME XXII, No. 2 APRIL, 1943

England's College Stamps

By HENRY ERDMANN RADASCH, M.Sc., M. D.

(Editor's Note: During the early part of 1942 Henry Erdmann Radasch, M.Sc. and M. D., offered The Collectors Club Philatelist the results of his studies into England's College Stamps. As in previous articles Dr. Radasch was painstaking and very complete in the presentation of his knowledge. In his last letter to the editor of The Collectors Club Philatelist, Dr. Radasch expressed the great hope that he might survive to see this, possibly his last research, in print. This will, unfortunately for philately, never be, for Dr. Radasch passed away a week or two after his letter was written.)



Henry Erdmann Radasch, M.Sc., M. D.
1874-1942

Very few collectors are aware of the fact that at one time the two great English Universities and some towns of England were permitted to have their own postal messenger system; in fact for a short time certain colleges of the universities issued adhesives, embossed envelopes and post cards. They were not issued in great quantities and therefore are not common, so that some issues command fancy prices.

In the dim past, probably shortly after the foundation of the Universities, certain privileges and immunities in the matter of letters and correspondence were conferred upon the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge and the Cinque Ports; the latter comprised the five channel port cities of Dover, Sandwich, Hastings, Hythe and Romney. These were incorporated with peculiar privileges; under the government of a lord warden, under whom writs for the return of members to Parliament from these towns were directed. The members so returned were termed Barons of the Cinque Ports. This still applies. It would seem that such a system was established and recognized in the era of Charles I, Cromwell and Charles II. By this time the Colleges at Oxford had increased to eighteen.

One privilege, permitted these institutions and ports to have their own messenger system to deliver (and collect) all letters of the cities and schools involved for delivery to the Colleges and cities. The mode of payment for this service varied in the different Colleges; in some the members' letters, initialed by the sender, were delivered at a definite rate and charged to their weekly accounts; in others the fee might be paid immediately, while in yet others a certain lump sum was paid for the term. This was somewhat analagous to the "Penny Post" of the General Post Office system.

In connection with the Cinque Ports these privileges were repealed by Acts of Parliament quite early. The growth of learning and the increase in the number of Colleges during the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries and on into the seventeenth no doubt created considerable intercourse between the Colleges and between them and the towns in which they were located. From available published records it is certain that the College postal messenger system was in use in the early part of the Stuart dynasty and probably in the Tudor period; for in the Acts of Parliament between 1656 and 1710 there are references to an ancient custom and clauses especially exempting the two Universities of Oxford and Cambridge from interference and an expression that their ancient rights (of carrying letters) be preserved. The Act in the Long Parliament dated 1656 was amended according to the statutes 12 Carolus II, c. 35, when the privileges of Oxford and Cambridge and the five cities, were still specifically preserved to those bodies; "that the two Universities may use their former liberties, rights and privileges of having special carriers to carry and re-carry letters, as they formerly did, and as if this Act had not been made."

In 1710 the various existing Acts governing the Post Office were amended, in fact completely remodeled, on a firmer basis and strengthened the monopoly by Act 9 Anne, c. 10. Here again the Universities were exempted. The Oxford and Cambridge messenger service was not to be interfered with and respected, as always, "Provided that this Act, or anything therein contained shall not in any wise be prejudicial to the privileges of the two Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, or either of them, or to . . . or their successors, but that they may use and enjoy such privileges as heretofore they have lawfully used and enjoyed and that all letters and other things may be sent and conveyed to or from the said Universities in a manner as heretofore hath been used; anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding." This seems to set the seal of Government approval on the system and it was not interfered with until 1885. Apparently this ended the like privileges in the Cinque Ports.

In 1870 some of the Colleges, in order to simplify their book-keeping and to reduce the complexity of accounts, decided to issue stamps for this messenger

service. In the following years eight Colleges of Oxford and three Colleges of Cambridge adopted this prepayment system for their messenger service. Other Colleges considered it illegal and did not follow suit.

This ancient messenger custom of the Colleges, however, remains the same as in the time of Queen Elizabeth, et al. This system was known to the Post Office authorities and it has continued and thrived with at least the tacit consent if not connivance of the various postal officials and members of the various Governments; it must have been known to those who framed the various Acts as, no doubt, many of the above mentioned officials must have been members of these Universities. That this messenger service was recognized as a *common and recognized service* is evidenced by the following: About 1770 a Deputy Postmaster-General wrote to the Oxford Postmaster: "In my opinion the college butlers may be of use to you in receiving and dispensing letters, etc., and I wish that you would be in good correspondence with them, and let your letter-carriers call for letters to be sent to London, immediately before the post goes away, as well as to bring letters to them when the post comes in."

These stamps were in use some fourteen years (1871-1885) during which time their legal aspect remained unchallenged. In 1885 a new Postmaster General, doubtless disagreeing with his predecessors and through the action of a disappointed and spiteful don, who "laid information" to the then Postmaster General (Lord John Manners) that certain colleges employed their own special stamps to frank letters for delivery to other colleges and persons. This stirred up matters so that the Government was constrained to cause the withdrawal from use of the stamps, cards and envelopes. The Postmaster General sent a summons to the Colleges to the effect that the monopoly of the Post Office, as carriers of correspondence, was being interfered with, and that unless the stamps were suppressed action would be instituted to vindicate the Post Office's prerogative, the illegality, if any, would naturally lie in *carrying* the letters and not in the *stamps employed;* it is therefore a remarkable circumstance that, after the suppression of the stamps, the system in vogue remained practically the same as it had been while the stamps were in use, the only difference being that the small fee charged for the conveyance of each letter was collected otherwise than by stamps. (The writer wishes to state that the Postmaster General objected on the wrong grounds when he objected to the *carrying* of the letters as being illegal. The two Universities had been granted this privilege for hundreds of years before by an Act of Parliament and only an Act by the same body could rescind it).

The Universities were wholly within their rights in *carrying* letters as their *messenger service* privilege had never been revoked. The *stamps* were the objectionable feature and when they were suppressed the delivery service continued as before. The Postmaster General had no right to interfere with that for the reason heretofore stated). The Post Office merely objected to the use of the stamps and not the principle of the delivery service. Be that as it may, Keble College, in the Hillary Term of 1886, issued, provisionally for three weeks, a post card and an envelope, stamped with the College crest in blue, these being eventually superceded by another envelope in two sizes embossed with the College Arms on the flap, which have been in use ever since (in the nineties).

Now if the use of these were illegal the Post Office authorities would surely not countenance their use for nine years (to the time of this report, 1894); neither would they acquiesce to the method in vogue at very many Colleges of Oxford at the present day, where the sender of the letter writes his initials thereon, and for every letter so initialed he is charged a half penny or penny, as the case may be, in his weekly battels. The initials *frank* the letter; hence this system is to all intents and purposes, similar to that involving the issue and use of stamps, and has been adopted by some of the Colleges from time immemorial.

It would seem that the popular idea that the College stamps, post cards and envelopes were issued and used illegally, is an erroneous one.

In Oxford, in 1871, there were no sub-postoffices, and pillar boxes were few and far between; the number of clearings and deliveries from the post office were wholly inadequate to cope with the thousands of letters, cards, etc., that were left by the residents of the various colleges at these porters lodges. As many of these were urgent and in need of an early reply, the Government service could not have been employed—making necessary the College Messenger Service for the extensive and exacting intercourse between the various Colleges and the townsmen and tradesmen. There were only three collections from the pillar boxes a day and only two or three deliveries.

The Bellamy collection consisted of his own and the chief items of the two Napier collections, that of Prof. A. S. Napier and of his brother, Col. G. F. Napier. J. R. F. Turner formed a fine collection which was later bought by the Earl of Crawford.

Bryone, in 1865, formed a messenger service in Edinburgh to deliver circulars. He was stopped by the law in 1867. Then a company was incorporated in 1868 and they were called up in court and lost the case. The Universities, however, retained their messenger service without molestation.

Oxford University

Oxford is the older of the two institutions and is located in Oxford, a cathedral city. It represents an affiliation of twenty-one Colleges and five Halls. Although it was said to have been founded by Alfred the Great in 879, and while the courts are said to have upheld it, this origin is apparently mythical and evidence does not support it. The earliest charter was granted by King Henry III, in 1248, and this was confirmed and extended by subsequent monarchs. The authentic history seems to begin with the arrival from Paris of the theologian, Robert Pullen, in 1133. Before 1163 it was not a university or *studium generale.* The coming of the religious communities (Dominicans, Franciscans, Carmelites and later the Benedictines) affected the advance of learning. The first college to be founded was University, in 1249. Balliol was founded in 1263; Merton, 1264; Exeter (Stapleton Hall), 1314; Oriel, 1326; Queens, 1340; New College, 1379; Lincoln, 1427; All Soul's, 1437; Magdelen, 1458; Brasenose, 1509; Corpus Christi, 1516; Christ Church, 1525; St. John's, 1555; Trinity, 1555; Jesus (by Queen Elizabeth) 1571; Wadham, 1612; Pembroke, 1624; Worcester, 1714; Keble, 1870, and Hertford, 1874. The foregoing are all incorporated.

There are also five Halls or Colleges that are not incorporated, specifically Magdalen, St. Edmund's, St. Mary's, New Inn and St. Alban's.

Each College is bound by its own statutes but is controlled by the general laws governing the University and contributes from its members, elected by vote, to the executive and legislative departments of the University. During the middle ages Oxford Town was under the authority of the University.

Attached to the University are the Bodlean Library, Radcliffe Library, Sheldonean Theatre, University School and Convocation House, Taylor Institute, Ashmolean Museum, several other museums and the Clarendon Press.

Non-collegiate students were admitted in 1863 and were known as members of St. Catherine's College. Four women's colleges were established, Somerville (1879), Lady Margaret (1879), St. Hugh's Hall (1886), and St. Gilda's (1893).

Independent foundations for the teaching of theology are Pusey House (1884), Wycliffe Hall (1878), Church of England and Mansfield College (1886) and Manchester College (1893).

To obtain the bachelor's degree the students must pass three examinations. The B.Ld., and the B.Sc. degrees were set up in 1895; Ph.D. in 1917; B.Lit. in 1927-28.

Cambridge University

Cambridge University was founded in the twelfth century and was an early training school or center for the mendicant orders of Franciscans and Dominicans. It played an important part during the Reformation. Its Statutes were confirmed by Queen Victoria in 1858 and women were admitted in 1881.

In 1209 Oxford suspended teaching for a while and many students came to Cambridge. Its Chancellor was recognized by the King and the Pope as early as 1226 and before 1300 the institution had a constitution patterned after that of Oxford and Paris.

The University is really an affiliation of eighteen colleges and while each is an independent institution and is governed by its own statutes the Colleges are all controlled by the general laws of the University.

The supreme laws lay in a full congregation of regents and non-regents. Cambridge became the home of orthodoxy and by the fifteenth century it had become the important center of education of Eastern England.

The first College to be established was that of Peterhouse, 1284. It was modeled after Merton College of Oxford. University Hall was established in 1326 and changed to Clare Hall in 1336; Pembroke in 1347; Gonville Hall in 1349 (this was enlarged to Gonville and Caius College in 1558); Trinity Hall was established in 1350; Corpus Christi, 1352; King's, 1441; Queens' (originally St. Bernard's in 1446 and refounded in 1475); Jesus, 1497; Christ's 1505 (absorbing God's House which was founded in 1441); St. John's, 1511; Magdalene, 1542; Trinity, 1546; Emmanuel, 1584; Sidney Sussex, 1588; Downing, 1800, and Selwyn, 1882. The foundation for Ridley Hall was laid in 1879.

There are two women's Colleges: Girton College, established in 1873, and Newham in 1875.

Cambridge played an important part during the World War. In 1923 women were admitted to degrees but not to full membership in the academic body. The degree of Ph.D. was established in 1919; M.Lit. and M.Sc. in 1920.

Postal paper did not come into use until the 1870's. While all of the colleges availed themselves of the messenger service, only eleven of them availed themselves of the privileges of issuing stamps, or envelopes and cards, for this service. Between 1871 and 1885 eight of the colleges of Oxford and three of Cambridge issued adhesives. The only postal paper to bear a value was the adhesive of Lincoln College.

The reason why so few colleges issued stamps may be attributed to the fact that the authorities believed that their use was illegal, being an infringement upon the prerogative and monopoly of the Post Office; in some of the colleges a fixed sum was charged against each undergraduate for the messenger service and as no extra charge was made for the delivery of a letter the issue of stamps would have served no purpose.

The paper used was mostly white wove and unwatermarked. Only two of these colleges employed an adhesive consisting of an embossed impression on surface colored papers (Keble and Merton) and even they discarded this method after a few years in favor of surface printed stamps. Such were the only ones used by the other colleges. In the cases of Exeter, Merton, St. John's and Keble (No. 6) and probably All Souls', Hertford and Keble (No. 5) single stamps were engraved on a copper plate and impressions thence taken on paper from which the requisite number was transferred to the lithographing stone.

Lincoln stamps, on the other hand, were printed straight from an engraved plate on which were 30 representations of the stamp.

The variations in color and shade observed in many of the College stamps is due partly to their being printed at different times, and partly to the fact that

the firms supplying most of them not being accustomed to produce a considerable number of stamps of exactly the same shade.

As a rule no obliteration was employed as most stamps met with have no cancellation at all. Pen and pencil were used, but rarely.

It has been stated that College stamps are not postage stamps, the definition of a postage stamp being given in a different quarter as a "stamp issued or used by the Post Office." The Dictionary, however, gives, "Price paid for the conveyance of a letter." A stamp issued or used by a College and private against the Government issue as public.

J. F. R. Turner, in the *London Philatelist* of 1894 states:

"The stamps have been used for purely postal purposes dying a natural death, not even their ghosts in the form of reprints and forgeries appearing, as has happened in the case of Circular Delivery and other stamps too numerous to mention. This singular state of affairs is not hard to explain, except for a stray copy occasionally turned up in an old collection, which perhaps caused more wonderment as to its real character, comparatively few seem to have found their way into the country, and dealers made no effort to lay in a stock when the stamps were easily obtainable.

"Soon after their suppression all collection of College stamps seems to have died slowly. Several of the issuing Colleges can give no information on the subject, and in one instance a don at Keble, who had been resident for over twenty years, assured me that no stamps were issued by that College previous to the blue lithographed stamp of 1877, whilst the authorities of Hertford were unable to explain the fact that whereas the stock of adhesives was supplied to the College in 1875, yet none was actually used until the end of 1883 or commencement of 1884, the supply of 15,000 lying idle in the College bursary during the intermediate period of eight years. Further difficulties were experienced with the printers of the stamps, one of whom retired from business some years ago, whilst another who was responsible for the manufacture of the embossed Kebles, states that they were embossed in blue and rouletted, but of the actual number printed and their dates of issue he appeared to know nothing. Under these circumstances it was fortunate that just about a year ago (1893) the leading oldest established firm of accountants in this city very kindly allowed me (J. F. R. Turner) access to their private correspondence between the years of 1875 and 1885 when after a patient search, extending over 15 hours, I brought to light specimens of most of the adhesives used on original envelopes—each envelope having the day it was received by the firm in question. The "find" was undoubtedly a most valuable one, including, as it did, several stamps whose existence had been forgotten, one of them being a copy of the Merton adhesive type III, which so far seems to be unique. By the aid of these dated letters, about forty in number, the chronological order of some of the issues was ascertained, besides which it became possible to fix the exact time when the stamps themselves were in use. I have since advertised freely in the Oxford papers and elsewhere, but, with one notable exception, have received no replies whatever, and on interrogating business people and University dons through whose hands plenty of the stamps unquestionably passed, I find few have kept their own letters, in these cases the envelopes have invariably been destroyed. In the face of insuperable difficulties like the above, it is therefore little short of miraculous that Prof. Napier, in so short a time, should have been able to gather all the facts contained in his paper on College stamps, and the remarkable reaction that has taken place in their favor is obviously due to his careful and exhaustive research, which is clearly deserving of the gratitude of the philatelic world, leading, as it did, to a complete resuscitation. With one exception the stamps under discussion have been spoken of eulogistically by several leading

philatelic papers of the day, whilst their undoubted popularity among the high class collectors is more than evidenced by the excessively high prices for College emissions."

"Unfortunately, however, erroneous statements have been put forward which, if uncorrected, will inevitably lead to create a false and misleading impression, and at a wish of some of the Oxford Philatelic Society I beg to record a few facts that tend to remove the mistaken ideas."

He considered the College stamps worth collecting for the following reasons:

1. Is the term "postage" applicable to College stamps? Yes. They serve the same purpose as the Government issues, they *franked* a letter. The only difference is the manner of issue and the names of the issuing bodies.

2. Have the College stamps better claims in philately than the Circular Delivery and the German and other Continental Locals? Yes. They were issued for a bona-fide postal purpose and not for collectors. Circulars are not letters.

3. Were the College stamps, post cards and envelopes used in defiance of the law? Most certainly not for every College that used them did so in the belief that they were acting within their rights. Some Colleges thought them illegal and hence did not issue any.

4. Did the issue and use of the College stamps infringe upon the prerogatives of the Post Office? No. They were used to make the bookkeeping concerned with the students' accounts simpler."

These stamps were not known across the Channel up to 1876, apparently. Tapling held these stamps in high esteem.

A misapprehension seems to have arisen with respect to the method employed in cancelling the stamps of the respective Colleges. In the case of Keble an *obliterator* consisting of five round (circular) dots placed like the "five of hearts" on a playing card, was used especially for the purpose, although of great rarity; types I, II, and III are known to bear this cancellation in black.

Hertford used an obliterator that took the form of a Maltese cross with an additional point in the form of a "spear-head" shooting out perpendicularly from the bottom and regularly used during the whole two years or more during which Hertford issued stamps. Yet only one copy postmarked in this manner is known to exist and that at present rests in the Bodlean Library. Prof. Napier has an *envelope* uncanceled and the messenger informed him that *adhesives,* only, were to be obliterated in that way. Other letters of Exeter and Lincoln were canceled by pen or pencil; but Merton and St. John's, with later issues of Keble, went uncanceled through the "University Post."

Rumors have gotten about that several of the College issues have been reprinted, but this, apparently, was without foundation. A strip of three Hertford stamps appeared with an additional margin and a row of perforations appeared outside of the stamps. This strip was perforated 12½ while the originals were perforated 11½, as noted in full sheets. There was only one printing supplied to the College. It was found that a certain gentleman had acquired, prior to 1890, six unperforated sheets direct from Spier and Son (the printers of the stamps). They printed (reprinted?) these for him and he must have thought that he was receiving originals. Six sheets of the unperforated Lincoln issue must have been of the same nature; for although the printer states that he found them in an old pattern book, he states on another occasion that he had reasons to believe that they were struck off subsequent to the suppression. Turner considered them fresh (recent). The only duly authenticated sheet is blue and in his collection he has one of the reprinted sheets as companion and the difference is readily noted.

No attempt will be made to give all of the details in connection with these issues but the general information concerning them, their types, pertinent facts and obliterations, as far as possible, will be considered.

Keble College, 1870-71

Keble College, the twentieth in Oxford, was founded in 1870 as a memorial to the Vicar of Hursley, a scholar at Corpus Christi and a Fellow at Oriel College. In 1831 he became professor of Poetry in the University and a notable member of the Faculty. The foundation stone was laid in April, 1868, and the College was opened by the Marquis of Salisbury on June 23, 1870. It was admitted to restricted privileges of the University April 18, 1871, by Decree.

This was the first College at Oxford to decide to use stamps for the messenger service and although the earliest notice of this issue was in the December Philatelist of 1871, no doubt the stamps had been used since the fall term of the previous year, as the College authorities had decided upon their use at the beginning of the College.

The notice in the Philatelist reads as follows:

"A stamp has been issued by the authorities of Keble College, Oxford, freeing letters thence to the other Colleges or to any part of the city itself. A college messenger carries the letters, the stamp being simply obliterated by a pencil mark (which is incorrect). A second stamp affixed prepays the reply, if necessary. The stamp is rectangular, bearing the arms of the College in the center, within an upright pointed oval inscribed: "KEBLE COLLEGE, OXON." The design is in relief, on vermilion colored paper, gummed and perforated; value one half penny."

Keble continued the issue of stamps, envelopes and postcards until 1886, there being seven issues of stamps alone. Although no value was expressed on the stamps they were sold at one-half penny each. All of the stamps except No's. 3 and 7, were printed by Spiers and Son, of High Street, Oxford. The seventh issue was printed by Emberlin and Son, of Oxford. In some instances the number printed is unknown; on the other hand a second supply of some numbers was printed.

ADHESIVES, 1871

While these were ordered in the fall term after the opening of the College some state that they were not used until 1871 and others think that the stamps were possibly used in the opening term. Not many, however, seem to have been used in the earlier years of the College.

Type I, Embossed

1. This stamp consists of the coat of arms of Keble College within an upright pointed oval inscribed "KEBLE COLLEGE, OXON." This is embossed upon surface-colored paper from a steel die. The color of the paper is a bright orange vermilion, or bright orange (Bellamy). The perforations are rough, 10½ or 11 (11 according to Napier, and 10½ to 10¾ according to Bellamy). They were in general use March or October, 1871.

The design, the arms, consists of the chevron with the chief of three rowels and bordered by a double-line pointed oval (upright) containing the words "KEBLE COLLEGE, OXON," closely resembling the arms of the Keble family. The same die was used for the first three issues. The stamp measures 23 by 25½ mm.

These were embossed by hand in sheets of 48 stamps, about 6½ by 7 inches and probably consisting of six rows of eight each. Some of them are tête-bêche. Unused copies are quite scarce. The earliest known used specimen is dated Nov. 29, 1871 and the latest, May 22, 1876.

2. For this issue the same die was used and it was impressed upon orange vermilion surfaced paper. The perforations, however, were clean and regular,

numbering 12 (11¾, Bellamy). The sheets were gummed before perforating. They were apparently printed in the same size sheets as before. The number printed is unknown. They are readily distinguished from the preceding (No. 1) by the clean, regular perforations. The size of the stamp was 22 by 25 mm. In both of these issues the perforations did not extend around the periphery of the sheet so that the marginal stamps show one side imperforate. These were issued January 7, 1872.

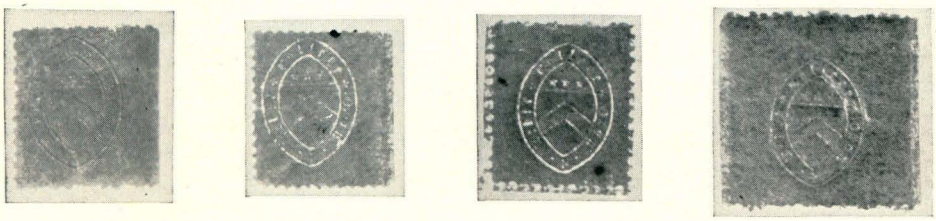


Fig. 1. A. Keble, first issue. Right margin copy showing imperforate margin. Deep vermilion. B. Second issue. C. Third issue. Lower left corner copy showing narrow sheet margin. Pink. D. Fourth issue. Note large size and imperforate sides. Deep carmine.

3. This was issued in 1872 or 1873 and the same die was used as for the two preceding issues. The paper used, however, was a rose-pink (cerise) surface-colored paper (dull to bright). This was white on the back and gummed before perforating. They were apparently printed in the same size sheets but the perforations were rough, 10½ to 10¾ (Napier states 11 rough). The color rubbed or wore off. Perfect copies are scarce. Both unused and used copies are quite scarce. Known used copies are dated 1874 and 1877. Light and dark shades exist. The stamp measures 22 by 26 mm., and the perforations extend around all of the stamps.

The stamps of all three issues were apparently embossed by hand, individually, it is said, as the stamps are somewhat out of line. Also after four rows were embossed the sheets were turned and the embossing was done from the other end so that rows 4 and 5 are tête-bêche (six pairs).

The 48 stamps were arranged in two panes of 24 stamps each, upper and lower halves, and in the first two issues the marginal stamps show one straight edge, or imperforate side, but in the third issue all sides are perforated.

The first order of stamps was probably small and all three issues were used concurrently from 1872 to 1877. Used copies of the second issue, especially, are quite scarce.

4. Bellamy considers this issue of a "provisional" nature preliminary to the delivery of the new lithographed issue in 1876. The design and die were the same as in the other three issues but the stamp is considerally larger, being roughly square, nearly 1¼ inches each way (30 by 30 mm.). The writer's copy measures 31½ mm. transversely and 31 mm. vertically. The vertical dimension has been given as from 23 to 30 mm. but the lower dimension seems to be doubtful as the pointed oval is 20 mm. in height itself. This measurement would make the stamp anything but square.

The embossing was done on hard, thin surface-colored paper (magenta to carmine and deep rich carmine, according to Napier) with white back. The gum cracked readily. These were perforated only at the top and the bottom as they were printed in vertical strips about 17 inches long and not over 13 or 14 stamps to the strip. The perforations are 11 (10¾, Bellamy) and rough and small. Both unused and used copies are exceedingly scarce, recent (1939) copies bringing over £6. Probably the largest pieces to be found would be Bellamy's strip of three, and a pair.

This issue was used only one term as the students complained of the large size, and the short use and small number printed as a stop-gap, may account for their scarcity.

This large square crimson stamp of the fourth issue was no doubt supplied by Emberlin and Son, as they had possession of the die and used it for cards from 1875 onward, according to Bellamy.

Some believe that the first issue was used during the fall of 1870 though the earliest known used copy (second issue) bears the date Nov. 29, 1871; issues 2 and 3 followed shortly after 1 as canceled specimens are of these issues. It would seem that No. 4 was used only during the fall term of 1876, the very term in which the first supply of the blue lithographed stamps were received from Spiers and Son.

VARIETIES

In the first two issues the sheets were not perforated around the outside so that all marginal stamps have one straight edge or imperforate side. These are *part perforate* varieties and Bellamy considered all of these as collectable varieties. Imperforate right, left, top, bottom; four corner stamps, besides the two pairs of tête-bêche, ten different part perforate and then a pair of tête-bêche and one ordinary stamp perforated all around.

TYPE II

LITHOGRAPHED

The method of printing was changed to lithography. The design consists of the College arms, as before, with the inscribed and pointed oval slightly out of center, with Gothic ornamentation in the outer border of the stamp, an ornate checkered background around the oval, and zigzag in the border. The color was changed to blue (or light ultramarine) and the paper was white wove and the perforations 11½ full and rough. These were mere pinpricks done by a single line machine.

A single engraving was made on a copper plate by Spiers and Son's, London engraver, and was the source of all; this was laid down singly on the stone. They were printed in sheets of 48, eight rows of six each, divided into two panes of 24 stamps each; these panes were separated from each other into upper and lower by a quarter-inch gutter.

The gum is thick, glossy, yellowish and evenly applied.

The original plate was without the firm's name. After the stamp transfers had been laid upon the stone the firm's imprint was prepared and laid upon the stone in like manner, each one separately beneath each stamp. This is indicated by the fact that, while they were carefully applied, their relations to the various stamps varied to the right, to the left, too close, or sometimes so far away as to appear at the top of the stamp below. This imprint, doubtless was applied for advertising purposes and it was skillfully accomplished. Perforated 11½ full.

5 a. The first lot consisted of 15,000, delivered by Spiers and Son in October, 1876. At the bottom of each stamp, and outside of the design, "SPIERS AND SON, HIGH STREET, OXFORD," appears in small print. There must have been a slight change in the ink used as some of the stamps are ultramarine while others are of bright cobalt blue, light and dark shades. These did not, in all probability, come out into general use until the spring of 1877.

5 b. A second supply of 15,000 was ordered and delivered in June, 1879. They were like the preceding but with the name of the firm omitted. Apparently a copper replica of the die without the firm's name was used and a darker shade of ink employed.

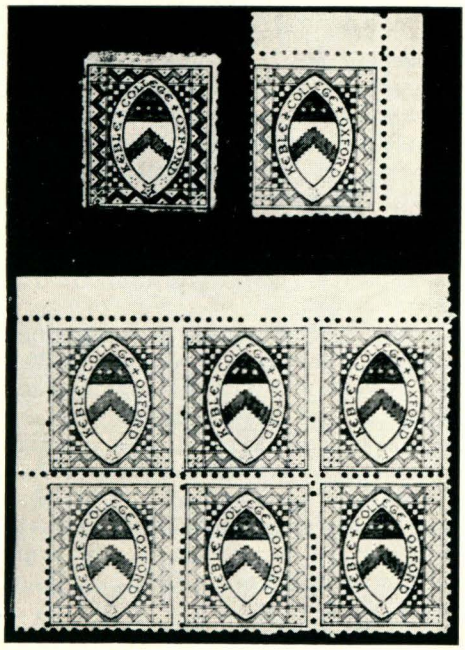


Fig. 2. A. Fifth issue. Spiers print. B. Seventh issue. Upper right corner copy of the Emberlin print. C. Upper left corner block of six of the Emberlin print. Scarce.

The description just given of Nos. 5 a and 5 b are by Rev. Cummings. Bellamy does not mention this number with the firm's name omitted. Rev. Cummings' statement must be erroneous in the light of the preceding explanation of the use of a replica as the original die did not have the firm's name engraved upon it; so that if there was a 5 b issue it is readily explained by the use of the original die without the following impression of the imprint. Bellamy does not mention this 5 b issue in his notes and claims that no sheets were ever printed or supplied without the Spiers imprint. He mentions, however, another issue, by Spiers and Son, which he describes as issue VI.

6. This issue consisted of 15,000 and was lithographed in London by the order of Spiers and Son of Oxford. The sheets differed from the preceding issue in one important but not readily noted point, in that the printer's imprint had been engraved upon the copper plate so that its position with relation to the stamp never varied. Other differences between *imprints* on Nos. 5 and 6 are:

1. Large and open S.
2. The ampersand leaning.
3. The G of HIGH.
4. Sloping of "T" in Street.
5. Small "o" in Oxford.
6. Chevron blunt at apex.

The arrangement of the stamps was the same as in No. 5: eight rows of six, two panes with the quarter inch gutter between. Quarter inch sheet margins.

The soft, thick woolly paper makes the perforations blunt and the holes plugged. A single line machine was used.

The yellowish gum is thick, glossy and evenly applied.

Color dark and light ultramarine. Copies of both issues are scarce.

TYPE III

7. A new design was chosen and engraved by the London engraver of Emberlin and Son as the other plate had the name of Spiers and Son. It was a close imitation of the previous Spiers plate. The blunt chevron and the correctly placed oval are the chief differences. The stamps were lithographed in a different blue (ultramarine of various shades) on cream-colored or white papers. The central part of the design is an upright, double-line, pointed oval containing the arms of the College. It differs from the others in that the stars in the corners are smaller, the lettering larger, the chevron 2 mm. wide, and the printer's name does not appear. The perforations are 12 and clean, and made by a single line machine.

The wove paper is slightly cream-tinted, probably due to the yellowish gum.

The sheets were printed as before in two panes of 24 stamps each, for rows of six each in each pane. Bellamy thinks these stamps so closely resembled the Spiers output in appearance and arrangement that a sample sheet of the Spiers stamps must have been sent to London as a guide. On April 1, 1000 sheets (48,000 stamps) were delivered to the College. Although delivered in the spring the stamps were not brought into use until October of that year. Most of these were used by the spring of 1886, so that there were no large remainders, probably not over ten sheets. In fact both unused and used copies are scarce and blocks are extremely rare (1895).

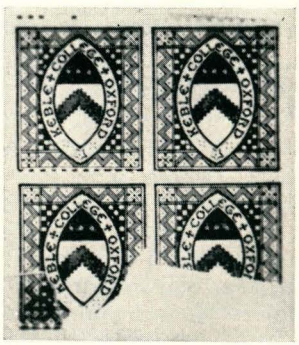


Fig. 3. Lower left corner block of the Emberlin print showing fault in printing due to paper fold.

An upper left corner block of six and a lower left corner block of four with a defect in printing and a paper fold are illustrated. (Fig. 3).

Bellamy states that there are fifteen collectable varieties according to marginal paper and perforation.

The adhesives of all issues show no value but were sold at ½d. each. An immediate answer to a letter could be prepaid by affixing an extra stamp.

The original plates of all of these issues were defaced in 1898.

ENVELOPES, 1875-1885

Although envelopes and cards are said to have been ordered and brought into use with the first adhesives, they were apparently not brought into use until several years later (1875). There is no record of the number prepared and delivered, but both used and unused ones seem very scarce.

There were two types of envelopes issued by Keble: type I with red embossure issued and used while the stamps were in use, and Type II, an uncolored embossure on the flap of envelopes issued and used after the suppression of all stamps (1886 to 1893-4).

TYPE I

There are several varieties of this type. The embossure was in the upper right corner and in various shades of red (as carmine or even vermilion). The envelopes measure 4¾ by 3¾ inches (121 by 95 mm.). The design is the double-line pointed oval containing the inscription "KEBLE COLLEGE." It was the same die as used for the adhesives. The envelopes were supplied by Emberlin and Son. They sold for 1s. 3d. per dozen.

Varieties

a. The rarest and earliest. This is made of laid paper with the lines extending diagonally from the top left corner to the bottom right corner. The embossure is of a bright carmine color.

b. In this variety the lines extend from the top right corner to the bottom left corner. The color of the embossing is a dark carmine.

c. This is made of gray laid paper embossed in bright vermilion.

d. This is made of thin cream wove paper of ordinary quality and the impression is light red. The printer's verdict is that this is a trial impression and is apparently the only one known.

Bellamy classes these envelopes as follows:

The size he gives as before and calls them "large square." The paper is white smooth and laid.

Thin paper.	Flaps very high and blunt.
Laid	lines left to right and up.
	Flaps very high and blunt.
	Flaps much lower one flap rounded.
Medium paper	to thick
Laid	lines left to right and down.
	Right flap rounded.
Thick paper	
	Right flap rounded.

Another envelope appeared during the Hiliary term and was described by J. R. Turner, in the *Phil. Supp. Bazaar* of February, 1895, as a "provisional." This consisted of greenish paper with the *College crest* embossed in blue on the flap. Prof. Napier, however, as early as 1893, in the *Monthly Journal*, expressed doubt as to its authenticity. The story goes that the supply of envelopes and cards had run short and such envelopes as above mentioned were used for a short time. Such cards and envelopes could be bought by anyone at the stationers at the price of ordinary stationery and it is very doubtful that the College authorities would have given such stationery franking power. Therefore this envelope and card (to be mentioned later) cannot be considered a College issue.

TYPE II

In 1886, immediately after the suppression of the College issues, Keble brought out a new type of envelope. Although the postal authorities had suppressed the College stamps, this new envelope was used from 1886 to 1893 or 1894, in the same manner as the former College issues, without molestation by the Government. How many of these envelopes were prepared and how many were used is unknown. They were available to the members of the College at 6d. per dozen. The impression was without color and was that of Type I impressed sidewise on the flap near the point. In fact such envelopes have been used after 1895. At that time College stationery had been of white and cream papers

both laid and wove, and envelopes made of both kinds with the die of Type I embossed on the flap, "right way up," have been used, the franking power remaining as before.

There were several colors and sizes of these envelopes:

a. Purplish gray with diagonal flaps (in use 1893).
b. Dark gray with rounded flaps.
c. Gray, with rounded flaps (in use in 1895).

The purplish envelopes seem to be what is called *granite paper* in philatelic parlance. Bellamy calls them "Silurian envelopes."

Two unused ones in the writer's collection measure 4¾ by 3¾ inches (120 by 93 mm.). These have pointed flaps.

Another used envelope measures 4⅛ by 3¼ inches (114 by 83 mm.) and has a pointed flap; there is also an unused one of the same size. The used one is addressed to

R. J. Turner
The Delegacy of Local Exams.
Clarendon Buildings
Broad St.

There is no cancellation or obliteration.

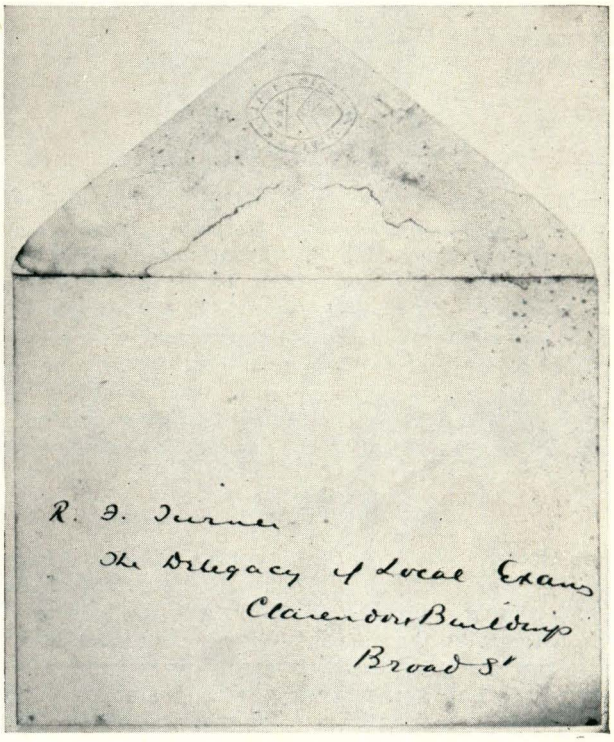


Fig. 4. Type II envelope used after the suppression in 1885 and until 1895.

PROOFS

1. Proofs in color form the original steel die were struck by Emberlin and Son in the upper right corner on cream-tinted envelopes. The impression shows through all of the folds so that they were struck on complete envelopes. The color is in vermilion relief, the reverse of cameo. Large square business envelope.

2. Proofs in white from the same die were struck, probably as samples or essays on cream-tinted paper.

In 1893 Prof. Napier found about a half dozen impressions in Emberlin and Son's stock and pattern book.

POST CARDS, 1875

There are said to be five different varieties of post cards; although they were supposed to have been ordered at the time of the first issue of adhesives they did not make their appearance until 1875. There is no record of the time of delivery nor of the quantity delivered. There were probably several issued.

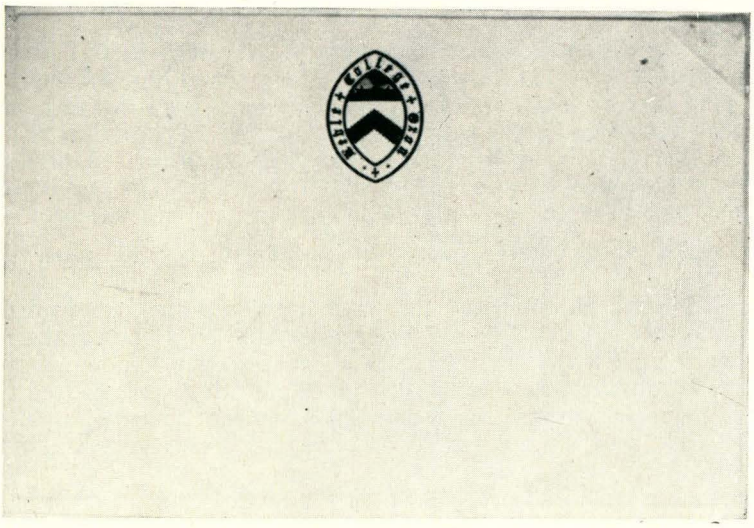


Fig. 5. Keble post card. Rare.

The die is the same as used for previous issues and is embossed in bright red (vermilion according to Napier and Bellamy) in the middle near the upper margin of the card. The size is 4½ by 3 inches (112 by 76 mm.). Although Napier gives the size as 4¾ by 3¾ inches the above is the size of the card in the writer's collection. There is no value expressed but they sold for ½ d.

Varieties

a. Thin white cards.
b. Thin ivory cards.
c. Thick creamy cards.
d. Thick faced cards.

Bellamy mentions rose white, mauve-white and ivory-white cards.
The deliveries and orders were as follows:

Oct. 11, 1879, 2 lbs. of Waste cards (228).
Mar. 15, 1880, 2 lbs. of Waste cards (300).
Sept. 19, 1881, 2 lbs of Waste cards (302).

There must have been other supplies before and after these dates though the use of cards seems to have been slight, about 200 per year. Both unused and used copies of these cards are quite rare.

It is said that a "provisional issue" of post cards (previously mentioned) appeared. This had the college *crest* in the upper left corner in blue and the cards were of white paper. As previously stated in connection with the so-called "Provisional Envelope" this card was one that could be bought at any stationers and was not a College issue and had no franking power.

PARCEL STAMPS, 1876

They are said to have come into use in 1876. Their origin is somewhat clouded and questionable but they were not a College issue. Their origin is ascribed to the College Messenger. A "find" was made in one of the drawers of the porter's lodge at Keble, of a piece of gummed paper with eight embossed impressions of the die Type II in vermilion. They were obtained by a collector in Scotland in March, 1893. The College Messenger and Porter asserted that they remembered them and that they were used about 1876 for the purpose of franking parcels and books and sending oil cans to be replenished. The College

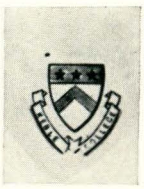


Fig. 6. Keble parcel stamp. Not issued by the College. Rare.

has no record of such an issue and they were used only one year probably. The franking value was 2 pence. There was, apparently, only one printing and this was handstruck at a local stationer's. The embossing was done so irregularly that the stamps could not have been cut square and must have caused the porter considerable trouble in separating them. This was a "Porter's Issue."

The die used was the one employed on current envelopes and note paper such as was sold by the local stationers.

The embossure was in vermilion on thin gummed paper that might show a cream tint due to the gum or age. How many were struck is unknown. Bellamy states "Mr. J. A. Shaw Stewart was the new bursar in 1876 and objected to heavy packets going for one (½d.) stamp."

In 1871 there were only 35 students in the College and there were 7 collections. In 1883-4 the number of students had increased to 134 but the messenger collections were still 7.

OBLITERATION

An obliterating stamp was provided early but just when is not known. It was made of metal and was used with an ordinary ink pad. It consisted of five dots 7 mm. apart and arranged like the five on a die. The dots were not evenly spaced, as the two lower dots were a little out of line with their fellows above, especially the right one. The porter was supposed to stamp the letters before the messenger took them; this obliterator was used only on the adhesives and not upon the envelopes or cards. It was used regularly at first but soon fell into disuse. It seems to have been used spasmodically up to 1875, as letters of that date are known with this cancellation. It is found on all of the embossed types (except No. 4 crimson) but on none of the later issues.

PROOFS

Few proofs exist. Printer's proofs and trial impressions of each issue seem to have been destroyed. A few genuine rouletted copies of proofs and trial impressions exist of Type I on thin, surface-colored paper in bright crimson, almost emerald green and Royal blue. One sheet each was struck by Emberlin and Son from the steel die of 1871 as a trial or sample of what they could do previous to the supply of the stamps of the fourth issue. The paper was similarly colored on the surface as that used for the first three issues, being white upon the back and ungummed.

The shape of these is irregular, rouletting 7½. Proofs in green, carmine and blue-violet, however, are offered of Type I (deep carmine on white paper) and die proof of No. 5 in blocks of the original plate and of the defaced plate; of the 1882 issue proofs in black of the original plate, of the defaced plate as well as proofs of the envelope and proofs of the die are offered. Bellamy questioned some of these latter proofs in color.

Hertford College, 1875

Hertford College passed through many vicissitudes and while it was built upon an older foundation its real beginning was in 1874. It arose from Hert Hall which was founded some time in the thirteenth century (1284) by Elias Hertford, by charter. In 1737 (1740 according to Bellamy) Dr. Richard Newton had Hert Hall incorporated as Hertford College, but it fell on evil days, was dissolved by Royal Letters Patent in 1775, was escheated to the Crown, turned over to the University (Magdalen College) in 1816 and became Magdalen Hall. In 1874, by Act of Parliament, it came to life again, was reconstituted and refounded as Hertford College and provided with an ample endowment by Mr. T. C. Baring, M.P. Buildings were added as late as 1925.

It was the second College to avail itself of the privilege of issuing messenger stamps in the October Term of 1875, not, however, without opposition from some of the Fellows. Although a small College it issued an adhesive, envelopes and a card.

At this time stamps, envelopes and cards were ordered from Spiers and Son and they were delivered in December of that year. Although ordered and delivered they were not brought into general use by all members of the College for several years.

Fifteen thousand stamps were ordered printed, thirty-five stamps to the sheet. Only 100 sheets were completed as to gumming and perforating and the balance remained as *proofs* (better *reserves)* until a further supply was needed by the College. The actual number delivered to the College was 99 sheets, or 3466 stamps, on December 24. Only a few stamps remained in 1893.

ADHESIVE, January 1876

The design, in color, for this adhesive was prepared by Mr. Spiers himself, engraved on copper and then carefully transferred to the lithographic stone singly and printed by their London firm. The alignment was good for single transfer work. There was a margin of nearly one-half inch outside the stamps. While Rev. Cummings states that 15,000 were delivered, Bellamy states, in his notes, that 99 sheets (35 stamps of seven rows of five stamps each) were delivered. In another place he states that 99 sheets were printed and only 90 sheets were delivered; the remaining 10 (?) sheets, or 350 stamps, were kept in reserve, ungummed and imperforate by Spiers and Son; these were said to have disappeared when Spiers and Son sold out at auction and left Oxford in 1889.

As a matter of fact it seems that the entire remainder of the 15,000 printed was kept in reserve by Spiers and Son, ungummed and imperforate. The imprint of Spiers and Son was engraved on the plate. There was only one printing sent to the Bursar on December 24, 1875, with the first specimen used as a sample to fasten the string to the package.

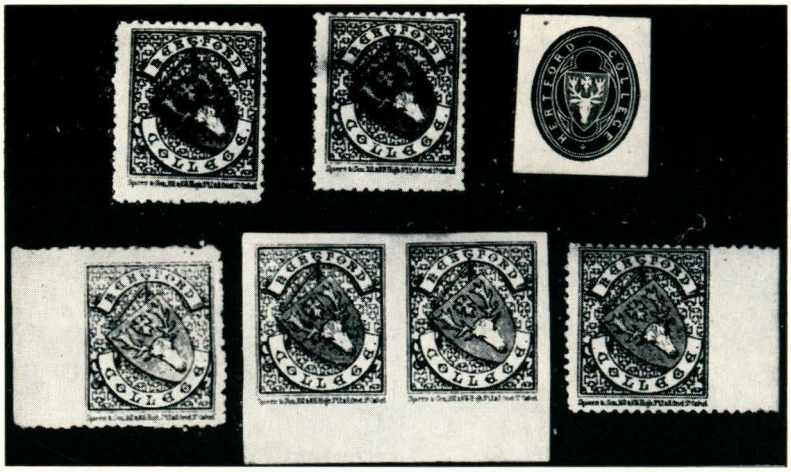


Fig. 7. A. Hertford stamp with hyphen and dots of color. B. Normal copy. C. Envelope cut square. D. Light shade with left side imperforate. E. Lower sheet margin imperforate pair. F. Dark shade with right side imperforate.

This only adhesive issued was of large size and of vertical rectangular format, bright mauve in color which fades into red mauve.

The paper is rather thin, white wove and slightly tinted by the thick, evenly applied glossy gum. Shades occur in the same sheet; the fourth vertical row is particularly dark as compared with the third row.

The stamps were perforated 11½ by a single line machine and they were usually clean; several sheets were perforated at one time apparently. The sheets were trimmed after perforating and gumming.

Bellamy states that a two-fold method was used in perforating the sheets, 4 x 6 and 6 x 8.

1. In the 4 x 6 method there were four vertical lines of perforations and six horizontal in the sheet; thus the outside stamps were imperforate peripherally giving rise to the part perforate stamps.

2. In the 6 x 8 method there were six rows of perforations vertically and eight horizontally, so that all stamps were perforated all around; there were no imperforate stamps and a sheet margin existed. In this method apparently several sheets were perforated at one time, resulting in many blind perforations as the paper had not been punched out. The sheets were fed into the machine half way and then turned and the perforating completed.

The design consists of the College arms (hart's head) upon a shield that is placed diagonally or suspended, with a semicircular band above and below; the upper band contains the word "HERTFORD" and the lower one the word "COLLEGE." The background consists of small crosses and the whole is bounded by a double-line rectangular frame. The stamps were lithographed on white paper with the imprint "SPIERS & SON, 102 and 103 HIGH St., 1, 2 and 3 ORIEL St., OXFORD," appears on each stamp. The paper was thin white wove and slightly tinted, possibly by the thick and glossy gum. The sheets were trimmed after gumming and perforating.

A few sheets are said to have escaped perforating; these are probably from the reserve sheets held by Spiers and Son. The design measures 20 by 22½ mm. and the entire stamp measures 23½ by 28½ mm. A recently acquired block of four, perforated all around, has a margin 8½ mm. wide.

Bellamy states that any imperforate stamp is genuine and is from the printing of 1875. Some imperforates had gum applied unofficially and by courtesy.

VARIETIES

A strip of three Hertford stamps appeared with an additional margin and a row of perforations appeared outside of the stamps. This strip was perforated 12½ while the originals were perforated 11½, as noted in full sheets.

It was found that a certain gentleman had acquired, prior to 1890, six imperforate sheets direct from Spiers and Son, the printers. They printed (reprinted?) or took them out of the reserves. If these were reprinted he must have thought that he was receiving originals.

Imperforates.—The College did not order imperforate stamps. It will be remembered that Bellamy stated that ten sheets were held in reserve and also the balance of the printing of 15,000 (over 11,000 stamps) were retained by Spiers and Son as proofs (?) ungummed and imperforate. What became of these no one seems to know. At any rate the sheets furnished the aforesaid

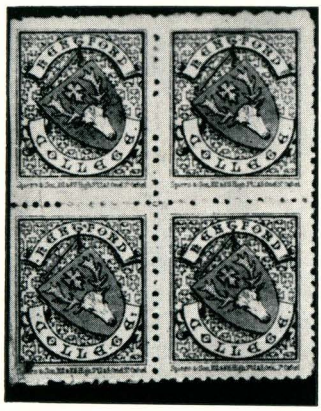


Fig. 8. Block of four with left margin imperforate. Upper right and lower left stamp hyphenated.

gentleman by Spiers and Son are no doubt the source of the imperforate stamps. The block of four illustrated (Fig. 8), and another block of four (both) in the writer's collection are gummed; another imperforate block of four is ungummed and it is to be assumed that it came from the reserves.

Part Perforate.—These are described as "imperforate on one side only." These stamps are from those sheets described by Bellamy as perforated by the 4 x 6 method. In these sheets there were four rows of vertical and six rows of horizontal perforations; by this method all of the outside stamps in a sheet were imperforate peripherally. The imperforate margin is 10 mm. wide. This imperforate margin is not always the same as the part perforate block of four illustrated shows the left side imperforate but the margin is less than 1 mm. wide.

Hyphenated variety.—In some of the stamps the word "HERT-FORD" is hyphenated by a dot or period of color. Bellamy states that the hyphen occurs on stamp No. 28 but it does not occur in that one stamp alone. The block of

four illustrated (Fig. 8), shows two such stamps; neither one is No. 28, as the upper right one is next to the left margin and the lower left one is at the left margin. The lower left stamp has two dots. One would need a whole sheet, or at least a lower half, in order to determine the exact positions of these two hyphenated stamps. Two of the single stamps in the collection (one is illustrated) are hyphenated, as well as one of the pair of imperforates.

Dot varieties.—The lower left stamp in the block of four shows, in addition to the hyphen, two dots of color before the "C" of "COLLEGE," one dot between the "E" and the "G" and two dots (in place of one) after the final "E" of "COLLEGE." The lower right stamp shows a dot of color between the "G" and "E" of "COLLEGE." How often these dots occur is impossible to say without a whole sheet to examine.

The sales were at first meager but increased gradually from 10s./4d., in 1879, to 6£/8s./3d. in 1883 and then dropped to 3£/13s./5d. in 1885. After the disuse of stamps, envelopes and cards by the various Colleges it appears that during alterations, the remainders were destroyed. This may partly account for their scarcity.

There have been conflicting statements made by various writers. Rev. Cummings states that 15,000 stamps were ordered in the autumn of 1875 but that they were not in use until 1882; yet the sales account shows that they were sold in 1879, 1880 and 1881, but the great sales were made in 1882 and 1883. He also states that it is known that that number was supplied and in addition 1400 envelopes (he omits 800 envelopes with COLLEGE NOTICE) and 1000 cards, of a face value of 122£/18s./4d. The value of those sold (and presumably used) totaled only 19£/10s./0d. If this were the case then there should have been considerable remainders.

Bellamy on the one hand states that 15,000 stamps were ordered but only 100 sheets were completed (gummed and perforated) and that 99 sheets (3466 stamps) were delivered to the College. (How one can get an even number of stamps from an odd number of sheets and an odd number of stamps to the sheets is a mystery. One stamp, however, was used to fasten the string to the package.). The remaining sheets of the order were retained by the printer ungummed and imperforate as *proofs* (better *reserves*, which seem never to have been called upon). Another statement, supposedly made by him, is that 100 sheets were printed, 90 sheets completed and the remaining 10 sheets retained by the printer. Napier also states that 15,000 stamps were delivered to the College. Under this condition then, according to the sales as reported by Rev. Cummings, a great many should have remained in the Bursar's possession. If, however, as Bellamy states, only 99 sheets or 3466 stamps (3465 to be correct) were supplied then that would account for the small remainders. In that case this issue would be among the smallest of the College stamps on record.

Although ordered in 1875 their use does not seem to have been general until in 1882; as there were few remainders this would argue in favor of a small initial supply.

According to Bellamy's notes the College Butler, or manciple, kept account of the stamps. His first reckoning gave the number of sheets received as 99 and the number of stamps as 3366 (error, 3466). This last number is likewise apparently an error but do not forget the additional stamp used to fasten the string to the package. Upon the inside of the wrapper further (undated) notations give the sheets remaining as: 1st, 90 sheets or 3150 stamps; 2nd, 38 sheets or 1330 stamps.

Bellamy further remarks that "At the end of 1888 or early in 1889, a certain old absent member of the University and old customer of Spiers and Son, and a well known collector of 50 years ago, made repeated requests of Spiers and Son for Hertford College Stamps, any varieties of imperforate and perforated

sheets, also gummed sheets were desired. The firm not having any of these available and being desirous to oblige, had twelve sheets specially gummed and perforated from the ungummed and imperforate proofs they had in stock. Six of these original proofs were given a very poor wash with gum and six others were similarly treated and perforated 12½; they were sent to him, and it is known, by letter from him to me, that he used about half of these in exchange with societies and friends and also dealers. I then, in 1893-4, suggested to him that any that he had left had better be put on the fire. That is the source of most, if not all of the tampered stamps."

This still does not explain what became of the balance of the so-called proofs that Spiers and Son had in reserve (approximately 11,000).

Used copies with the obliterating mark are indeed rare.

Bellamy states that leaving out shades there are 17 collectable varieties in perforations.

The original copper plate of the adhesives was defaced in 1898.

ENVELOPES, January, 1876

The design consists of the College arms in an oval band containing the inscription "HERTFORD COLLEGE"; the ground work is of *patée fitchée* with scrolls above and below. The design measures 16 by 21 mm., vertical format. The hart's head and the shield in which it is contained are smaller than in the adhesive and vertically placed and the head is solid white. The shield is surrounded by fancy ornaments; the background of the shield is made up of fine vertical lines of mauve and white. The background of the remainder of the design is flat mauve. There is a small modified Maltese Cross ornament in the shield just over the hart's head; this is in white and was apparently utilized as a design for the *obliterator*. There were two issues of the envelopes, the first in mauve and the second in blue.

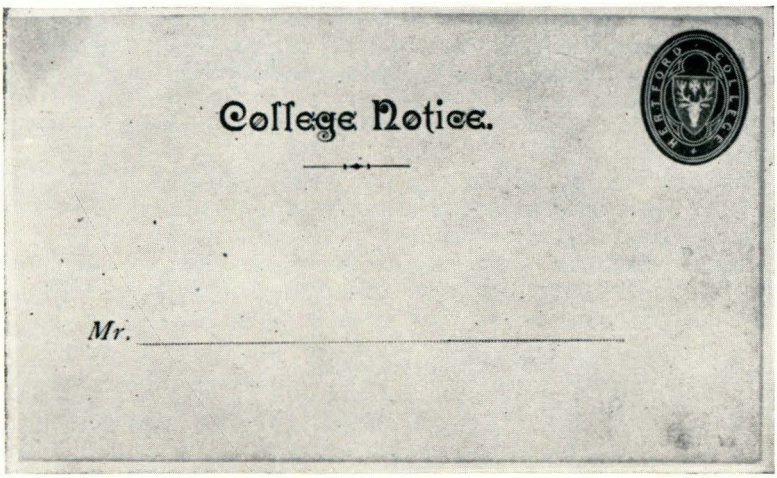


Fig. 9. The "College Notice" envelope.

1. Seven thousand and eight hundred envelopes were supplied by Spiers and Son on January 22, 1876, in four sizes; the design was embossed in the upper right corner in mauve:

		Mauve	Blue
a. Large square envelopes.	4⅝ by 3¾ inches.	1000	1000
b. Small square envelopes.	4¾ by 2¾ inches.	1000	1000
c. Large oblong envelopes.	4¼ by 2⅞ inches.	3000	3000
d. Small oblong envelopes.	3⅜ by 2⅜ inches.	2000	2000
e. College Notice.	4¾ by 2¾ inches.	800	

The square envelopes were creamy-white, or yellowish white, rough laid paper watermarked "ANTIENT LAID POST" and "A. P. & S." (Allen Pirie & Son).

The oblong envelopes are of smooth white laid paper and all have the maker's name under the flap.

Napier states that "for oblong sizes 'c' and 'd' a bluish white laid paper, much smoother than the other, was used." In all four sizes the name of Spiers and Son is embossed under the flap. The name is not found on the second (blue) issue.

The large oblong envelopes of size "c" are found with the words "COLLEGE NOTICE" printed in black across the upper middle part of the face and "Mr._____." along the lower part.

2. The second issue is like the preceding except the embossure is in blue of various shades, on rough laid paper. The paper is watermarked the same but the maker's name is omitted from under the flap. Seven thousand of these were supplied in the four sizes but none with "COLLEGE NOTICE."

Although the first lot of envelopes was ordered in 1875 they apparently did not come into use until 1879. Why a second lot should have been ordered is not explained. Napier believes that the first lot had become mislaid or forgotten and was found after the second lot had been delivered.

There are, therefore, nine varieties of envelopes according to size: four sizes in mauve, four sizes in blue, and one of the mauve type with the "COLLEGE NOTICE" imprint. The fact that this size was used for the NOTICE does not explain why so many of that size were ordered. In most of the envelopes the laid lines run down; only two with horizontal lines are known.

It is believed that a large number of envelopes leaked out of the College alterations. The *Philatelist's Supplement* of June 10, 1895, stated "that about 1891 or 1892, on the occasion of a college servants' ball, the invitations were sent out in blue embossed envelopes. A college servant who had acquired some used them in his ordinary correspondence but placed the postage stamp directly over the embossure."

The deliveries were as follows:

January 22, 1876. Five varieties, in mauve, at a cost of 5£/5s/0d., including the steel die; 7800 envelopes.

May 2, 1879. Four varieties, in blue cameo, at a cost of 4£/17s/6d; 7000 envelopes.

POST CARDS

The cards were of white "Waste Card" and the die used was the same as for the envelopes. The design was the College arms and it was embossed upon the upper right corner in blue cameo. The size of the cards was 4½ by 3 inches. They were supplied by Spiers and Son. This is the only recorded lot on the books of that firm.

The cards were delivered April 28, 1879, at a cost of 19s/6d.

Price ½d. Although this is given by Rev. Cummings the very high face value set upon the adhesives, envelopes and cards would make the price of the adhesives and envelopes 1d.

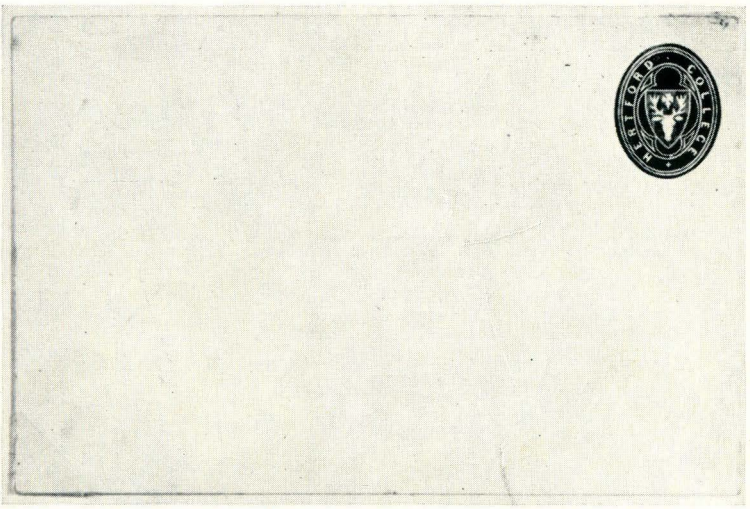


Fig. 10. Hertford College postcard.

OBLITERATION

A special metal obliterator was made and used; it consisted of an outlined (Maltese) cross *patée fitchée*. If one notices he will see that this is an exact reproduction of the small ornament on the shield of the College arms just over the hart's head of the die used for the envelopes and cards.

This was, apparently, used only on the adhesives and only one example thereof is known. This was said to be in the Bodlean Library official collection, according to the *Phil. Suppl.* of June, 1895, but this was denied by the Librarian. Its scarcity may be due to the fact that its use was discontinued after two years. The Earl of Crawford's collection contained a blue envelope with this obliteration. According to Rev. Cummings this is the one referred to above, as he recognized the name and address, having seen it when it was in the hands of a young friend who had found it among the records and correspondence of the proctors in the Vice-Chancellor's Court.

To be concluded.

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The Postmark Stamps and the Postal Cancellations of the Sardinian States

USED DURING THE PERIOD 1851-1863.

By Alberto Bolaffi

(Continued from Vol. XXII, No. 1, Section II, Page 43).

Translated by Dr. Dante S. Bolaffi.
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LIST OF THE LINE POSTMARKS

The following are the line postmark stamps which, I know, have been used to cancel stamps:



Fig. 31.

ACQUI (Fig. 31) L
ALBA L



Fig. 32.

ANNECY (Fig. 32) L



Fig. 33.

BIELLA (Fig. 33) L
P. P. BIELLA L



Fig. 34.

BORGOSESIA (Fig. 34) L



Fig. 35.

BOSCO (Fig. 35) L



Fig. 36.

BOSSOLASCO (Fig. 36) ..... *Lc.*
BRUSASCO L



Fig. 37.

P. P.—CAIRO (Fig. 37) L
CALUSO L



Fig. 38.

CANELLI (Fig. 38) L
CANOBBIO L
CARIGNANO L



Fig. 39.

CARRU' (Fig. 39) L



Fig. 40.

CASTEGGIO (Fig. 40) L
CHIAVARI L



Fig. 41.

CRESCENTINO (41) L

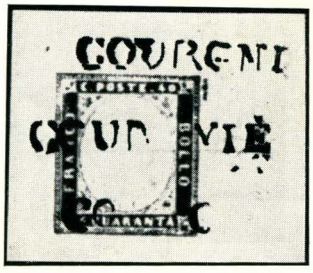


Fig. 42.

CUORGNE' (Fig. 42) L

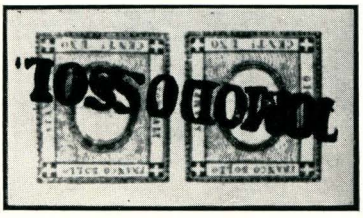


Fig. 43.

DOMODOSSOLA (Fig. 43) L



Fig. 44.

FAVRIA (Fig. 44) ..... *Lc.*



Fig. 45.

FORT LESSEILLON (Fig. 45) . *Lc.*



Fig. 46.

GALLIATE (Fig. 46) L



Fig. 47.

ISOLA DEL CANTONE (Fig. 47) *Lc.*



Fig. 48.

IVREA (Fig. 48) L



Fig. 49.

LESA (Fig. 49) L



Fig. 50.

LEVALDIGGI (Fig. 50) ..... *Lc.*

MARIGNIER L

MEDE L



Fig. 51.

MONCALIERI (Fig. 51) L



Fig. 52.

MONCENISIO (Fig. 52) ..... *Lc.*

MONDOVI' L

MONDOVI' BREO L

MONTEZEMOLO ..... *Lc.*

MOSSO S. MARIA L



Fig. 53.

NIZZA (Fig. 53) L

NIZZA MONFERRATO L



Fig. 54.

NOVARA (Fig. 54) L



Fig. 55.

NOVARA (Fig. 55) L



Fig. 56.

NOVI (Fig. 56) L
OCCIMIANO ..... *Lc.*



Fig. 57.

OTTONE (Fig. 57) ..... *Lc.*
OVADA L



Fig. 58.

PIANA (Fig. 58) ..... *Lc.*
PIEVE DEL CAIRO L
PINEROLO L



Fig. 59.

POLONGHERA (Fig. 59) ..... *Lc.*
PONT BEAUVOISIN L
PRAZZO ..... *Lc.*
QUAGLIUZZO L
ROMAGNANO .....

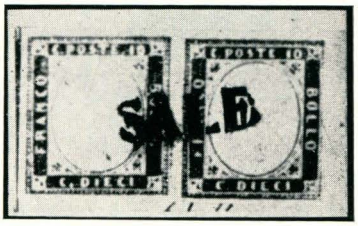


Fig. 60.

SALE (Fig. 60) L
SALUZZO L
SARDARA ..... *Lc.*

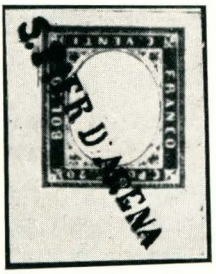


Fig. 61.

S. PIER D'ARENA (Fig. 61) L
S. AMBROGIO L
SCANU L
SORI ..... *Lc.*

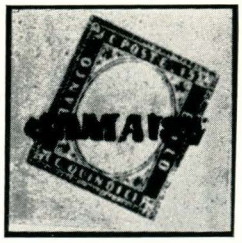


Fig. 62.

SOMMARIVA (Fig. 62) L
SOSPELLO L
S. STEFANO D'AVIETO L
STUPINIGI ..... *Lc.*



Fig. 63.

TORTONA (Fig. 63) L

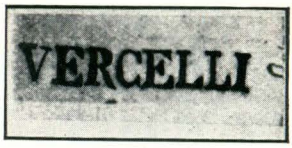


Fig. 64.

VERCELLI (Fig. 64) L



Fig. 65.

VERRES (Fig. 65) L
VILLAFRANCA PIEM. L
VILLENEUVE L
VINTIMILLE L
VIUZ EN SALLAZ ..... *Lc.*

The following line postmarks are known to exist on the Italian issue of December 1, 1863 (De La Rue), and they might possibly exist on the Sardinian stamps:

BELGIRATE ..... *L*
BORGOTICINO ..... *L*
CAVAGLIA' ..... *Lc.*
CARPENETO ..... *Lc.*
LOMBRIASCO ..... *L*
OLEGGIO ..... *L*
PONTEDECIMO ..... *L*
S. REMO ..... *L*
STRADELLA ..... *L*
TRECATE ..... *L*
VEROLENGO ..... *L*

PART II

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF THE POST OFFICES PIEDMONT AND LIGURIA (P.L.)—NICE (NI)—SAVOY (SV) ISLAND OF SARDINIA (SA).

ABBASANTA (SA)
ABONDANCE (SV)
ACQUI (P.L.)
AGGIUS (SA)
AGLIANO (P.L.)
AGLIE' (P.L.)
AIGUEBELLE (SV)
AIME (SV)
AIRASCA (P.L.)
AISONE (P.L.)
AIX-LES-BAINS (SV)
AJDOMAGGIORE (SA)

AISONE (P.L.)
ALAGNA (LOMELL.a) (P.L.)
ALASSIO (P.L.)
ALBA (P.L.)
ALBANO (P.L.)
ALBANO VERCELLESE (P.L.)
ALBENGA (P.L.)
ALBENS (SV)
ALBERTVILLE (SV)
ALBIANO (P.L.)
ALBIANO D'IVREA (P.L.)
ALBISSOLA (P.L.)
ALBY (SV)
ALES (P.L.)
ALLESSANDRIA (P.L.)
ALGHERO (SA)
ALICE SUPERIORE (P.L.)
ALMESE (P.L.)
ALPIGNANO (P.L.)
ALTARE (P.L.)
AMENO (P.L.)
ANDEZENO (P.L.)
ANDORA (P. L.)
ANDORNO (P.L.)
ANNECY (SV)
ANNEMASSE (SV)
ANNONE (P.L.)
*CASTELLO D'*ANNONE (P.L.)
ANTIGNANO (P.L.)
AOSTA (P.L.)
ARAMENGO (P.L.)
ARBORIO (P.L.)
ARCOLA (P.L.)
ARENA PO (P.L.)
ARENZANO (P.L.)
ARITZO (SA)
ARMA (P.L.)
ARMA DI TAGGIA (P.L.)
ARMUNGIA (SA)
ARONA (P.L.)
ARQUATA (P.L.)
ARQUATA SCRIVIA (P.L.)
ARVIER (P.L.)
ARZANA (SA)
ASIGLIANO (P.L.)
ASSEMINI (SA)
ASTI (P.L.)
AUSTIS (SA)
AVIGLIANA (P.L.)
AZEGLIO (P.L.)
AZZANO (P.L.)
BADALUCCO (P.L.)
BAGNARA (P.L.)
BAGNOLO (P.L.)
BAGNOLO PIEMONTESE (P.L.)
BAJRO (P.L.)
TORRE BAJRO (P.L.)
BALANGERO (P.L.)
BALDICHIERI (P.L.)
BALLAO (SA)
BALMUCCIA (P.L.)
BALZOLA (P.L.)
BARBANIA (P.L.)
BARBIANELLO (P.L.)
BARD (P.L.)
BARDONNECHE (P.L.)
BARDONECCHIA (P.L.)
BARGE (P.L.)
BARI (SA)
BARI SARDO (SA)
BARUMINI (SA)
BASALUZZO (P.L.)
BASSIGNANA (P.L.)
BAUNEI (SA)
BAVENO (P.L.)
BEAUFORT (SV)
BEINASCO (P.L.)
BEINETTE (P.L.)
BELGIRATE (P.L.)
BELLINZAGO (P.L.)
BELLINZAGO NOVARESE (P.L.)
BENE (P.L.)
BENETUTTI (SA)
BERCHIDDA (SA)
BERGAMASCO (P.L.)
BERGEGGI (P.L.)
BERTOLLA—TORINO (P.L.)
BESSUDE (SA)
BIANDRATE (P.L.)
BIANZE' (P.L.)
BIBIANA (P.L.)
BIELLA (P.L.)
BIOGLIO (P.L.)
BISTAGNO (P.L.)
BITTI (SA)
BOBBIO (P.L.)
BOEGE (SV)
BOGLIASCO (P.L.)
BOLLANO (P.L.)
BOLLENGO (P.L.)
BOLOTONA (SA)
BOLZANETO (P.L.)
BONO (SA)
BONNE (SV)
BONNEVILLE (SV)
BONORVA (SA)
BONS (SV)

BORDIGHERA (P.L.)
BORGARO (P.L.)
BORGHETTO (P.L.)
BORGHETTO DI BORBORA (P.L.)
BORGHETTO DI VARA (P.L.)
BORGHETTO S. SPIRITO (P.L.)
BORGOFRANCO (IVREA) (P.L.)
BORGOFRANCO (LOMELL.) (P.L.)
BORGO LAVEZZARO (P.L.)
BORGOMANERO (P.L.)
BORGOMARO (P.L.)
BORGOMASINO (P.L.)
BORGONE (P.L.)
BORGONUOVO (MEZZANEGO) (P.L.)
BORGORATTO (P.L.)
BORGO S. DALMAZZO (P.L.)
BORGO S. MARTINO (P.L.)
BORGO SESIA (P.L.)
BORGOTICINO (P.L.)
BORGOVERCELLI (P.L.)
BORTIGALI (SA)
BORZONASCA (P.L.)
BOSA (SA)
BOSCO (P.L.)
BOSCONEGRO (P.L.)
BOSSOLASCO (P.L.)
BOTTIDDA (SA)
BOURGH ST. MAURICE (SV)
BOURGET (SV)
BOVES (P. L.)
BOZEL (SV)
BRA' (P.L.)
BRACCO (P.L.)
BREGLIO (NI)
BRANDIZZO (P.L.)
BREME (P.L.)
BREO-MONDOVI' (P.L.)
BRESSANA D'ARGINE (P.L.)
BRICHERASIO (P.L.)
BRIDES-LES-BAINS (SV)
BRONI (P.L.)
BROZZOLO (P.L.)
BRUSASCO (P.L.)
BUBBIO (P.L.)
BUDDUSO' (SA)
BURGOS (SA)
BURIASCO (P.L.)
BUROLO (P.L.)
BURONZO (P.L.)
BUSACHI (SA)
BUSALLA (P.L.)
BUSANO (P.L.)
BUSCA (P.L.)
BUSSOLENO (P.L.)
BUTTIGLIERA (P.L.)
CABRAS (SA)
CAGLIARI (SA)
TERRAFERMA (SA)
CAIRO (P.L.)
CALANGIANUS (SA)
CALICE (P.L.)
CALIZZANO (P.L.)
GALLIANO (P.L.)
CALOSSO (P.L.)
CALUSO (P.L.)
CAMAGNA (P.L.)
CAMBIANO (P.L.)
CAMERANA (P.L.)
CAMERANO (P.L.)
CAMERI (P.L.)
CAMOGLI (P.L.)
CAMPERTOGNO (P.L.)
CAMPIGLIA (P.L.)
CAMPOFREDDO (P.L.)
CANALE (P.L.)
CANDELO (P.L.)
CANDIA (P.L.)
CANDIA CANAV. (P.L.)
CANDIOLO (P.L.)
CANELLI (P.L.)
CANNERO (P.L.)
CANOBBIO (P.L.)
CANTALUPO ALESSANDRIA (P.L.)
CANTOIRA (P.L.)
CAPRAJA (P.L.)
CAPRIATA (P.L.)
CARAGLIO (P.L.)
CARAMAGNA (P.L.)
CARAMAGNA PIEMONTE (P.L.)
CARASCO (P.L.)
CARASSONE (P.L.)
CARAVINO (P.L.)
CARBONARA (P.L.)
CARBONARA TICINO (P.L.)
CARCARE (P.L.)
CARIGNANO (P.L.)
CARLO FORTE (SA)
CARMAGNOLA (P.L.)
CARPENETTO (P.L.)
CARPIGNANO (P.L.)
CARRU' (P.L.)
CASALBORGONE (P.L.)

CASALE (P.L.)
CASALGRASSO (P.L.)
CASALNOCETTO (P.L.)
CASATISMA (P.L.)
CASEI (P.L.)
SASEI-GEROLA (P.L.)
CASELLE (P.L.)
SASELLE TORINESE (P.L.)
CASORZO (P.L.)
CASSINE (P.L.)
CASSOLNOVO (P.L.)
CASTAGNOLE (P.L.)
CASTAGNOLE (CASALE) (P.L.)
CASTAGNOLE MONFERR. (P.L.)
CASTAGNOLE DELLE LANZE (P.L.)
CASTEGGIO (P.L.)
CASTELDELFINO (P.L.)
CASTELLAMONTE (P.L.)
CASTELLAZZO (P.L.)
CASTELLAZZO BORMIDA (P.L.)
CASTELLETTO D'ORBA (P.L.)
CASTELLLETTO SCAZZOSO (P.L.)
CASTELLETTO TICINO (P.L.)
CASTELNOVETTO (P.L.)
CASTELNUOVO D'ASTI (P.L.)
CASTELNUOVO LEVANTE (P.L.)
CASTELNUOVO SCRIVIA (P.L.)
CASTEL-SARDO (SA)
CASTELSPINA (P.L.)
CASTIGLIONE (P.L.)
CASTIGLIONE CHIAVARESE (P.L.)
CASTIGLIONE (OSSOLA) (P.L.)
CASTINO (P.L.)
CAVA (P.L.)
CAVAGLIA' (P.L.)
CAVALLERMAGGIORE (P.L.)
CAVATORE (P.L.)
CAVOUR (P.L.)
CELLE (P.L.)
CELLE LIGURE (P.L.)
CENTALLO (P.L.)
CERANO (P.L.)
CERCENASCO (P.L.)
CERES (P.L.)
CERGNAO (P.L.)
CERIALE (P.L.)
CERIANA (P.L.)
CERRETO (P.L.)
CERRINA (P.L.)
CERVERE (P.L.)
CERVO (P.L.)
CESANNE (P.L.)
CESANA (P.L.)
CESANA TORINESE (P.L.)
CESIO (P.L.)
CESSOLE (P.L.)
CEVA (P.L.)
CEVINS (SV)
CHABLE (SV)
CHAMBERRY (SV)
CHAMONIX (SV)
CHAMOUX (SV)
CHAPELLE BLANCHE (SV)
CHATEAUNEUF (SV)
VIA DI PONT-BEAUVOISIN (SV)
CHATILLON(P.L.)
CHAUMONT (P.L.)
CHERASCO (P.L.)
CHIALAMBERTO (P.L.)
CHIARAMONTI (SA)
CHIAVARI (P.L.)
CHIAVAZZA (P.L.)
CHIERI (P.L.)
CHINDRIEUX (SV)
LA CHIUSA (P.L.)
CHIUSA DI PESIO (P.L.)
CHIUSA VECCHIA (P.L.)
CHIVASSO (P.L.)
CICAGNA (P.L.)
CIGLIANO (P.L.)
CIRIE (P.L.)
CLANZO (NI)
CLUSES (SV)
COAZZE (P.L.)
COCCONATO (P.L.)
CODRONGIANUS (SA)
COGNIN (SV)
COGOLETTO (P.L.)
COLLEGNO (P.L.)
CONDOVE (P.L.)
CONTAMINES (SV)
CONTES (NI)
CORIO (P.L.)
CORNEGLIANO (P.L.)
CORNEGLIANO D'ALBA (P.L.)

CORTEMIGLIA (P.L.)
COSSANO-BELBO (P.L.)
COSSATO (P.L.)
COSSILA (P.L.)
COSSOINE (SA)
COSTIGLIOLE
D'ASTI (P.L.)
COSTIGLIOLE-
SALUZZO (P.L.)
COURMAJEUR (P.L.)
COZZO (P.L.)
CRESCENTINO (P.L.)
CREVACUORE (P.L.)
CREVOLA (P.L.)
CROCEFIESCHI (P.L.)
LA CROCETTA
(TORINO) (P.L.)
CRODO (P.L.)
CRUSEILLES (SV)
CUGLIERI (SA)
CUMIANA (P.L.)
CUNEO (P.L.)
CUORGNE' (P.L.)
DECIMOMANNU (SA)
DEGO (P.L.)
DEMONTE (P.L.)
DESANA (P.L.)
DESULO (SA)
DIANO D'ALBA (P.L.)
DIANO MARINA (P.L.)
DOGLIANI (P.L.)
DOLCEACQUA (P.L.)
DOLCEDO (P.L.)
DOMODOSSOLA (P.L.)
DOMUSNOVAS (SA)
DONAS (P.L.)
DORGALI (SA)
DORNO (P.L.)
DOUVAINE (SV)
DOUING (SV)
DRAPPO (NI)
DRONERO (P.L.)
DRUENT (P.L.)
DUALCHI (SA)
ECOLE (SV)
ELMAS (SA)
ENTRAQUE (P.L.)
ENVIE (P.L.)
EPIERRE (SV)
ESPORLATU (SA)
ETROUBLES (P.L.)
EVIANS (SV)
EVIAN (SV)
EXILLES (P.L.)
EZA (NI)
FARA (P.L.)
FLUMINI MAGGIORE (SA)
FARIGLIANO (P.L.)
FAVERGES (SV)
FAVRIA (P.L.)
FELETTO (P.L.)
FELIZZANO (P.L.)
FENESTRELLE (P.L.)
FERRERA LOMELL. a (P.L.)
FIANO (P.L.)
FINALBORGO (P.L.)
FINALE MARINA (P.L.)
FLUMET (SV)
FOGLIZZO (P.L.)
FONNI (SA)
FONTANETTO-
NOVARA (P.L.)
FONTANETTO
D'AGOGNA (P.L.)
FONTANILE (P.L.)
FORDONGIANUS (SA)
FORT LESSEILLON (SV)
L' ESSEILLON (SV)
FOSSANO (P.L.)
FRABOSA (SOP.) (P.L.)
FRABOSA SOTTANA (P.L.)
FRANGY (SV)
FRASCAROLO (P.L.)
FRASSINETO (P.L.)
FRESONARA (P.L.)
FRONT (P.L.)
FRUGAROLO (P.L.)
GABIANO (P.L.)
GAIRO (SA)
GALLIATE (P.L.)
GALTELLI (SA)
GAMALERO (P.L.)
GAMBOLO (P.L.)
GARBAGNA (P.L.)
GARBAGNA NOV. se (P.L.)
GARESSIO (P.L.)
GARLASCO (P.L.)
GASSINO (P.L.)
GATTINARA (P.L.)
GAVI (P.L.)
GAVOI (SA)
GENOLA (P.L.)
GENOVA ASSIC. E
RACC. (P.L.)
STATZ. DI GENOVA (P.L.)
GENOVA FERROVIA (P.L.)
GENOVA-UFFIZIO
DEL PORTO (P.L.)
DA NIZZA (P.L.)
GENOVA-BORGO
PILA (P.L.)
SARDEGNA (P.L.)

GERGEI (SA)
GESTORI (SA)
GHEMME (P.L.)
GHILARZA (SA)
GHISLARENGO (P.L.)
GIAROLE (P.L.)
GIAVENO (P.L.)
GILETTA (NI)
GODANO (P.L.)
GODIASCO (P.L.)
GOVONE (P.L.)
GOZZANO (P.L.)
GRAGLIA (P.L.)
GRAVELLONA (P.L.)
GRAVELLONA PALLANZA (P.L.)
GREGIO (P.L.)
GRESY (SV)
GRIGNASCO (P.L.)
GROPELLO (P.L.)
GROPPELLO (P.L.)
GRUGLIASCO (P.L.)
GUARENE (P.L.)
GUASILA (SA)
GUILLAUMES (NI)
GUSPINI (SA)
IGLESIAS (SA)
ILBONO (SA)
INCISA (P.L.)
INCISA BELBO (P.L.)
INTRA (P.L.)
INVORIO INFERIORE (P.L.)
IRGOLI (SA)
ISILI (SA)
ISOLA (NI)
ISOLA DEL CANTONE (P.L.)
ISOLA DI COSTIGLIOLE (P.L.)
ISOLA D'ASTI (P.L.)
ITTIRI (SA)
IVREA (P.L.)
JERSU (SA)
LA CHAMBRE (SV)
LACONI (SA)
LA CROIX-POGGETTO THEN. (NI)
LAERRU (SA)
LAGNASCO (P.L.)
LAIGUEGLIA (P.L.)
LA MORRA (P.L.)
LA MOTTE (SV)
LAMPORO (P.L.)
LANSLEBOURG (SV)
LANTOSCA (NI)
LANUSEI (SA)
LANZO (P.L.)
LANZO TORINESE (P.L.)
LA PIETRA (P.L.)
LA PIEVE (P.L.)
PIEVE DI TECO (P.L.)
LA ROCHE (SV)
LA ROCHETTE (SV)
LARVEGO (P.L.)
LA SALLE (P.L.)
LA TRINITA' (P.L.)
TRINITA' (P.L.)
LAVAGNA (P.L.)
LAVENZO (NI)
LAVRIANO (P.L.)
LE BIOT (SV)
LE CHATELARD (SV)
LE PLOT (SV)
LENTA (P.L.)
LERICI (P.L.)
LESA (P.L.)
LESA (P.L.)
LES ECHELLES (SV)
LESEGNO (P.L.)
LES MARCHES (SV)
LESSOLO (P.L.)
LEVALDIGGI (P.L.)
LEVANTO (P.L.)
LEVONE (P.L.)
LEYNI (P.L.)
LIMONE (P.L.)
LIMONE PIEMONTE (P.L.)
LIVORNO (P.L.)
LIVORNO VERCELLESE (P.L.)
LINGOTTO (TORINO) (P.L.)
LOANO (P.L.)
LOCANO (P.L.)
LOCERI (SA)
LOCULI (SA)
LOGGIA (P.L.)
LOMBARDORE (P.L.)
LOMBRIASCO (P.L.)
LU (P.L.)
LULA (SA)
LUMELLO (P.L.)
LUNAMATRONA (SA)
LUSERNA (P.L.)
MACELLO (P.L.)
MACOMER (SA)
LA MADDALENA (SA)
LE MADDALENE (Fossano) (P.L.)
M. DEL PILONE-TORINO (P.L.)
M. DI CAMPAGNA-TORINO (P.L.)

MAGGIORA (P.L.)
MAGLAND (SV)
MAGLIANO (P.L.)
MAGLIANO ALPI (P.L.)
MAGLIANO D'ALBA (P.L.)
MAISSANA (P.L.)
MALTAVERNE (SV)
MANDAS (SA)
MAMDIADA (SA)
MANGO (P.L.)
MANTA (P.L.)
MARENE (P.L.)
MARIGNIER (SV)
MARTIGNANA (P.L.)
MARTIGNANA PO (P.L.)
MASERA (P.L.)
MASONE (P.L.)
MASSERANO (P.L.)
MASULLAS (SA)
MATHI (P.L.)
MATTARANA (P.L.)
MAZZE' (P.L.)
MEANA (SA)
MEANA SARDO (SA)
MEDE (P.L.)
MEINA (P.L.)
MELAZZO (P.L.)
MELE (P.L.)
MELLE (P.L.)
MENTONE (NI)
MERCENASCO (P.L.)
MERGOZZO (P.L.)
MEZZANABIGLI (P.L.)
MIASINO (P.L.)
MILLESIMO (P.L.)
MILIS (SA)
MIRABELLO (P.L.)
MIRABELLO MONFERRATO (P.L.)
MODANE (SV)
MOGORO (SA)
MOJOLA (P.L.)
MOLINI DI TRIORA (P.L.)
MOLINO DEL CONTE (P.L.)
MOLLARE (P.L.)
MOLLIA (P.L.)
MOMBARUZZO (P.L.)
MOMBELLO (P.L.)
MOMBELLO MONFERRATO (P.L.)
MOMBERCELLI (P.L.)
MOMO (P.L.)
MONACO (NI)
MONASTERO (P.L.) D'ACQUI (P.L.)
MONASTERO BORMIDA (P.L.)
MONASTIR (SA)
MONCALIERI (P.L.)
MONCALVO (P.L.)
MONCENISIO (P.L.)
MONCESTINO (P.L.)
MONDOVI (P.L.)
MONEGLIA (P.L.)
MONESIGLIO (P.L.)
MONFORTE (P.L.)
MONFORTE D'ALBA (P.L.)
MONGRANDO (P.L.)
MONTMEILLAN (SV)
MONTAFIA (P.L.)
MONTALTO (P.L.)
MONTALTO LIGURE (P.L.)
MONTALTO DI VOGHERA (P.L.)
MONTALTO PAVESE (P.L.)
MONTANARO (P.L.)
MONTECHIARO (P.L.)
MONTEGROSSO (P.L.)
MONTEGROSSO (ASTI) (P.L.)
MONTEMAGNO (P.L.)
MONTEU DA PO (P.L.)
MONTEU ROERO (P.L.)
MONTEZEMOLO (P.L.)
MONTICELLI-ALBA (P.L.)
MONTIGLIO (P.L.)
MONTOGGIO (P.L.)
MONTU-BECCARIA (P.L.)
MORES (SA)
MORETTA (P.L.)
MORGEX (P.L.)
MOROZZO (P.L.)
MORTARA (P.L.)
MOSSO SA MARIA (P.L.)
MOUTIERS (SV)
MURAVERA (SA)
MURAZZANO (P.L.)
MURELLO (P.L.)
MURISENGO (P.L.)
NARCAO (SA)
NARZOLE (P.L.)
NEIVE (P.L.)
NEONELI (SA)
NERVI (P.L.)
NICHELINO (P.L.)
NIELLA-TANARO (P.L.)
NIZZA MARITT. A (NI)
NIZZA MAR. A (NI)
NIZZA MONF. O (P.L.)

NOLE (P.L.)
NOLI (P.L.)
NONE (P.L.)
NORAGUGUME (SA)
NORBELLO (SA)
NORGHIDDO (SA)
NOVALAISE (SV)
NOVARA (P.L.)
NOVELLO (P.L.)
NOVI (P.L.)
NUCETTO (P.L.)
NULE (SA)
NULVI (SA)
NUORO (SA)
NURAMINIS (SA)
NURRI (SA)
NUS (P.L.)
OCCHIEPPO INFERIORE (P.L.)
OCCIMIANO (P.L.)
OGGEBBIO (P.L.)
OLEGGIO (P.L.)
OLIENA (SA)
OLLOLAI (SA)
OLZAI (SA)
OMEGNA (P.L.)
ONANI (SA)
ONEGLIA (P.L.)
ONIFAI (SA)
ORANI (SA)
ORBASSANO (P.L.)
ORGOSOLO (SA)
ORISTANO (SA)
OROSEI (SA)
OROTELLI (SA)
ORMEA (P.L.)
ORNAVASSO (P.L.)
ORTA (P.L.)
ORTONUOVO (P.L.)
ORUNE (SA)
OSASCO (P.L.)
OSASIO (P.L.)
OSCHIRI (SA)
OSIDDA (SA)
OSIERI (SA)
OSILO (SA)
OSINI (SA)
OSSI (SA)
OTTANA (SA)
OTTIGLIO (P.L.)
OTTOBIANO (P.L.)
OTTONE (P.L.)
OULX (P.L.)
OVADA (P.L.)
OVIGLIO (P.L.)
OVODDA (SA)
OZIERI (SA)
OZZANO (P.L.)
OZZANO DI ROBIANO (P.L.)
PAESANA (P.L.)
PALAZZO (P.L.)
PALAZZO CANAVESE (P.L.)
PALESTRO (P.L.)
PALLANZA (P.L.)
PALLANZENO (OSSOLA) (P.L.)
PAMPARATO (P.L.)
PANCALIERI (P.L.)
PARCO (REALE) (P.L.)
PARELLA (P.L.)
PATTADA (SA)
PAULIGERREI (SA)
SAN NICOLO' GERREI (SA)
PAULILATINO (SA)
PAVONE (P.L.)
PAVONE CANAVESE (P.L.)
PEGLI (P.L.)
PELLA (P.L.)
PERDASDEFOGU (SA)
PERFUGAS (SA)
PEROSA (P.L.)
PEROSA ARGENTINA (P.L.)
PERRERO (P.L.)
PERTENGO (P.L.)
PESSINETTO (P.L.)
PETTINENGO (P.L.)
PEVERAGNO (P.L.)
PIANA (P.L.)
PIANA (ACQUI) (P.L.)
PIANEZZA (P.L.)
PIEDICAVALLO (P.L.)
PIEDIMULERA (P.L.)
PIEVE DEL CAIRO (P.L.)
PIEVE D'ONEGLIA (P.L.)
PIGNA (P.L.)
PINASCA (P.L.)
PINEROLO (P.L.)
PINO TORINESE (P.L.)
PIOBESI (P.L.)
PIOBESI TORINESE (P.L.)
PIOSSASCO (P.L.)
PISCINA (P.L.)
PIVERONE (P.L.)
PLOAGHE (SA)
POGGETTO (NI)
POIRINO (P.L.)
POLONGHERA (P.L.)
POMPU (SA)
PONT BEAUVOISIN (SV)

PONTE BEAUVOISIN (SN)
PONT CANAVESE (P.L.)
PONTECURONE (P.L.)
PONTEDASSIO (P.L.)
PONTEDECIMO (P.L.)
PONTE DEL VARO (NI)
PONTEGRANDE (P.L.)
PONTESTURA (P.L.)
PONTI (P.L.)
PONT S. MARTIN (P.L.)
PONZANA (P.L.)
PONZONE (P.L.)
PORNASSIO (P.L.)
PORTACOMARO (P.L.)
PORTE (P.L.)
PORTO MAURIZIO (P.L.)
PORTO TORRE (SA)
POZZOLO FORMIGARO (P.L.)
POZZOMAGGIORE (SA)
PRA (P.L.)
PRAZZO (P.L.)
PREDOSA (P.L.)
PRELA' (P.L.)
PREMOSELLO (P.L.)
PRE'ST. DIDIER (P.L.)
PRIERO (P.L.)
PRIOCCA (P.L.)
PRIOLA (P.L.)
PULA (SA)
QUAGLIUZZO (P.L.)
QUARONA (P.L.)
QUARTU (SA)
QUARTU S. ELENA (SA)
QUARTUCCIO (SA)
QUINTO (P.L.)
RACCONIGI (P.L.)
RAPALLO (P.L.)
RECCO (P.L.)
REIGNIER (SV)
REVELLO (P.L.)
RIVA DI CHIERI (P.L.)
RIVALTA (P.L.)
RIVALTA BORMIDA (P.L.)
RIVANAZZANO (P.L.)
RIVARA (P.L.)
RIVAROLO (P.L.)
RIVAROLO DI GENOVA (P.L.)
RIVOLI (P.L.)
ROBASSOMERO (P.L.)
ROBBIO (P.L.)
ROBELLA (P.L.)
ROBILANTE (P.L.)
ROCCA (P.L.)
ROCCABIGLIERA (NI)
ROCCA PIETRA (P.L.)
ROCCA D'ARAZZO (P.L.)
ROCCA DE' BALDI (P.L.)
ROCCA DI CORIO (P.L.)
ROCCAFORTE (P.L.)
ROCCAFORTE DI MONDOVI' (P.L.)
ROCCASTERONE (NI)
ROCCAVERANO (P.L.)
ROCCAVIONE (P.L.)
ROCCHETTA CAIRO (P.L.)
ROCCHETTA LIGURE (P.L.)
ROCCHETTA DI VARA (P.L.)
RODDI (P.L.)
ROMAGNANO (P.L.)
ROMANO (P.L.)
ROMANO CANAVESE (P.L.)
RONCO (P.L.)
RONCO BIELLESE (P.L.)
ROSASCO (P.L.)
ROSIGNANO (P.L.)
ROSIGNANO MONFERRATO (P.L.)
ROSSIGLIONE (P.L.)
ROSSIGLIONE (NI)
ROSTA (P.L.)
RUFFIEUX (SV)
RUMILLY (SV)
SAGLIANO (P.L.)
S. FELIX (SV)
S. GENIX (SV)
S. GERGUES (SV)
S. GERVAIS (SV)
S. GINGOLPH (SV)
S. JEAN DE MAUR (SV)
S. JEAN LE CHEVELU (SV)
S. JEOIRE (SAV. PR.) (SV)
S. JEOIRE (SV)
S. JULIEN (SV)
S. MICHEL (SV)
S. PIERRE D'ALBIGNY (SV)
SALA (P.L.)
SALICETTO (P.L.)
SALLANCHES (SV)
SALUGGIA (P.L.)
SALUSSOLA (P.L.)
SALUZZO (P.L.)
SAMOENS (SV)
SAMUGHEO (SA)
SAMPEYRE (P.L.)
SANTADI (SA)

S. ALBANO (P.L.)
S. ALBANO STURA (P.L.)
S. AMBROGIO (P.L.)
S. AMBROGIO DI TORINO (P.L.)
S. ANGELO DI LOMELLINA (P.L.)
S. ANTIOCO (SA)
S. ANTONINO (P.L.)
S. ANTONINO DI SUSA (P.L.)
S. BARTOLOMEO (di Chiusa) (P.L.)
S. BENIGNO (P.L.)
S. CRISTINA E BISSONE (P.L.)
S. DAMIANO (P.L.)
S. DAMIANO FERROVIA (P.L.)
S. DAMIANO D'ASTI (P.L.)
S. DAMIANO DI CUNEO (P.L.)
S. DAMIANO MACRA (P.L.)
S. FRANCESCO AL CAMPO (P.L.)
SAN FRONT (P.L.)
SAN GAVINO (SA)
S. GERMANO (P.L.)
S. GERMANO VERCELL. (P.L.)
S. GILLIO (P.L.)
S. GIORGIO (P.L.)
S. GIORGIO CANAVESE (P.L.)
S. GIORGIO DI LOMELL. A (P.L.)
S. GIOVANNI LUSERNA (P.L.)
S. GIOANNI PELLICE (P.L.)
S. GIULIANO-ALESSANDRIA (P.L.)
S. GIULIETTA (P.L.)
S. GIUSTO (P.L.)
S. LAZZARO (P.L.)
S. LUSSURGIU (SA)
S. MARGARITA (Rapallo) (P.L.)
S. MARIA MAGGIORE (P.L.)
S. MARTINO D'ALBARO (P.L.)
S. MARTINO DEL VARO (NI)
S. MARTINO LANTOSCA (NI)
S. MARTINO SICCOM. O (P.L.)
S. MAURIZIO CANAVESE (P.L.)
S. MARTINO TICINO (P.L.)
S. MAURO (P.L.)
S. MAURO TORINESE (P.L.)
S. MICHELE (P.L.)
S MORIZIO (P.L.)
SANNAZZARO (P.L.)
S. PANTALEO (SA)
S. PIER D'ARENA (P.L.)
S. PIERRE (P.L.)
S. PIERRE (P.L.)
S. PIETRO D'AOSTA (P.L.)
S. PIETRO MILIS (SA)
S. PIETRO PULA (SA)
S. QUIRICO (P.L.)
S. REMO (P.L.)
S. SALVATORE (P.L.)
S. SALVATORE (NI)
S. SALVATORE ALESSANDRINO (P.L.)
S. SEBASTIANO (P.L.)
S. SEBASTIANO DA PO (P.L.)
S. SECONDO (P.L.)
S. STEFANO BELBO (P.L.)
S. STEFANO D'AVETO (P.L.)
S. STEFANO MAR. (P.L.)
S. STEFANO MONT. (NI)
S. TERESA (SA)
S. TERESA GALLURA (SA)
SANTIA' (P.L.)
S. VERO MILIS (SA)
S. VITO (SA)
ST. VINCENT (P.L.)
SANLURI (SA)
SAORGIO (NI)
SARDARA (SA)
SARROCH (SA)
SARULE (SA)
SARTIRANA (P.L.)
SARZANA (P.L.)
SASSARI (SA)
SASSELLO (P.L.)
SAVIGLIANO (P.L.)
SAVIGNONE (P.L.)
SAVONA (P.L.)
SCALLENGHE (P.L.)
SCANU (SA)
SCANU DI MONTIFERRO (SA)
SCARENA (NI)
SCARNAFIGGI (P.L.)

SCIOLZE (P.L.)
SCOPA (P.L.)
SEDILO (SA)
SELARGIUS (SA)
SENEGHE (SA)
SENIS (SA)
SENORBI (SA)
SERRAMANNA (SA)
SERRAVALLE (P.L.)
SERRAVALLE SCRIVIA (P.L.)
SERRAVALLE DELLE LANGHE (P.L.)
SERRAVALLE D'ALBA (P.L.)
SERRENTI (SA)
SESTRI LEVANTE (P.L.)
SESTRI PONENTE (P.L.)
SETTIMO POTTARO (P.L.)
SETTIMO TOR.e (P.L.)
SETTIMO VITTONE (P.L.)
SEVI (SA)
SEZZE' (P.L.)
SEYSSEL (SV)
SILANUS (SA)
SILIQUA (SA)
SILIUS (SA)
SIMALA (SA)
SIMAXIS (SA)
SILVANO (P.L.)
SINDIA (SA)
SINISCOLA (SA)
SINNAI (SA)
SIURGIUS (SA)
SOLARUSSA (SA)
SIZZANO (P.L.)
SOLERO (P.L.)
SOMMARIVA (P.L.)
SOMMARIVA PERNO (P.L.)
SOMMO (P.L.)
SORDEVOLO (P.L.)
SORGONO (SA)
SORI (P.L.)
SORIASCO (P.L.)
SORRADILE (SA)
SORSO (SA)
SUNI (SA)
SOSPELLO (NI)
SPARONE (P.L.)
SPEZIA (P.L.)
SPEZIA VIA DI MARE (P.L.)
SPIGNO (P.L.)
SPIGNO MONFERRATO (P.L.)
SPINETTA (P.L.)
SPOTORNO (P.L.)
STAGLIENO (P.L.)
STELLA (P.L.)
STRADELLA (P.L.)
STRAMBINO (P.L.)
STRESA (P.L.)
STREVI (P.L.)
STROPPIANA (P.L.)
STROPPO (P.L.)
STUPINIGI (P.L.)
SUARDI (P.L.)
SUSA (P.L.)
TAGGIA (P.L.)
TANINGE (SV)
TARANTASCA (P.L.)
TEMIO (SA)
TENDA (P.L.)
TERNENGO (P.L.)
TERRALBA (SA)
TERRANOVA (SA)
TERRANOVA PAUSANIA (SA)
LA TESORIERA (P.L.)
TETI (SA)
TEULADA (SA)
THONES (SV)
THONON (SV)
THORENS-SALES (SV)
TICINETTO (P.L.)
TIESI (SA)
TOETTO-VARO (NI)
TONARA (SA)
TONCO (P.L.)
TORINO (P.L.)
TORINO CONSEGNE PERIODICI FRANCHI (P.L.)
TORINO SUCCURSALE (1) or N.1 (P.L.)
TORINO SUCCURSALE (2) (P.L.)
TORINO SUCCURSALE (3) (P.L.)
STAZIONE DI TORINO (P.L.)
STAZIONE DI TORINO—Vitt. Eman. (P.L.)
TORPE' (SA)
TORRALBA (SA)
TORREBERRETTI (P.L.)
TORRE LUSERNA (P.L.)
TORRE PELLICE (P.L.)
TORRE S. GIORGIO (P.L.)
TORRETTA (NI)
TORRIGLIA (P.L.)
TORTOLI (SA)

TORTONA (P.L.)
TRAMATZA (SA)
TRANA (P.L.)
TRATALIAS (SA)
TRECATE (P.L.)
TRESNURAGHES (SA)
TRICERRO (P.L.)
TRINITA'-VITTORIO (NI)
TRINO (P.L.)
TRIORA (P.L.)
TROBASO (P.L.)
TROMELLO (P.L.)
TRONZANO (P.L.)
TRONZANO VER CELL. (P.L.)
TRUFFARELLO (P.L.)
TURBIA (NI)
TULA (SA)
UGINE (SV)
ULASSAI (SA)
URAS (SA)
USSANA (SA)
UTELLE (NI)
VADO (P.L.)
VALDENGO (P.L.)
VALDIERI (P.L.)
VALENZA (P.L.)
VALGRANA (P.L.)
VALLE (P.L.)
VALPELLINE (P.L.)
VALPERGA (P.L.)
VARALLO (P.L.)
VARAZZE (P.L.)
VARESE (P.L.)
VARESE LIGURE (P.L.)
VARIGNANO (P.L.)
VARZI (P.L.)
VARZO (P.L.)
VAUDA DI FRONT (P.L.)
VAUDA S. MORIZIO (P.L.)
VENASCA (P.L.)
VENERIA R. E (P.L.)
VENTIMIGLIA (P.L.)
VERCELLI (P.L.)
VERNANTE (P.L.)
VEROLENGO (P.L.)
VERRES (P.L.)
VERRUA (P. L.)
VERRUA SAVOIA (P.L.)
VERZUOLO (P.L.)
VESIME (P.L.)
VESPOLATE (P.L.)
VESTIGNE' (P.L.)
VEZZANO (P.L.)
VIARIGGI (P.L.)
VICO CANAVESE (P.L.)
VICO-MONDOVI (P.L.)
VICOFORTE (P.L.)
VIGEVANO (P.L.)
VIGLIANO (P.L.)
VIGLIANO BIELLESE (P.L.)
VIGNALE (P.L.)
VIGONE (P.L.)
VIGUZZOLO (P.L.)
VILLACIDRO (SA)
VILLADEATI (P.L.)
VILLAFALLETTO (P.L.)
VILLAFRANCA MARA (NI)
VILLAFRANCA D'ASTI (P.L.)
VILLAFRANCA PIEM.te (P.L.)
VILLAGRANDE (SA)
VILLALVERNIA (P.L.)
VILLAMASSARGIA (SA)
VILLANOVA (P.L.)
VILLANOVA (CASALE) (P.L.)
VILLANUOVA D'ASTI (P.L.)
VILLANUOVA DI MOND. (P.L.)
VILLANUOVA MONTE (SA)
VILLANUOVA-SOLARO (P.L.)
VILLA (Ossola) (P.L.)
VILLAR DE BEAUFORT (SV)
VILLAR DEL VARO (NI)
VILLAR DEL VARO (NI)
VILLAR-FOCCHIARDO (P.L.)
VILLASALTO (SA)
VILLASOR (SA)
VILLASTELLONE (P.L.)
VILLENEUVE (P.L.)
VINADIO (P.L.)
VINOVO (P.L.)
VIRLE (P.L.)
VISCHE (P.L.)
VISONE (P.L.)
VISTRORIO (P.L.)
VIU' (P.L.)
VIUZ-EN-SALLAZ (SV)
VOGHERA (P.L.)
VOGLANS (SV)
VOGOGNA (P.L.)

VOLPEDO (P.L.)
VOLPIANO (P.L.)
VOLTAGGIO (P.L.)
VOLTRI (P.L.)
VOLVERA (P.L.)
YENNE (SV)
ZAVATARELLO (P.L.)
ZINASCO (P.L.)
ZOAGLI (P.L.)

(To be continued.)

Allen's City Dispatch

Richard McP. Cabeen

Although Edward R. Allen conducted a local post in Chicago only a little more than 50 years ago, little is known of the start of this enterprise. The final days are a matter of record, for Allen was arrested by the postal authorities and convicted of violating statute 3982, by establishing a private post route.

Allen's post perhaps was started in a quiet way as no publicity has been found at about the date it is claimed he began to compete with the government in carrying letters. The Chicago Tribune on Feb. 6, 1883, under the heading "Allens Post-Office Shut Up" states in part "Edward Allen whose opposition post-office has been referred to by The Tribune several times, was arrested yesterday by Chief Inspector Stuart, —. Inspector Stuart called his attention to the law two months ago and told him he would arrest him if he carried any more mail matter."

On Feb. 15, 1883, under Court news, The Tribune states, "Allen's City Despatch meets a sudden death" and mentions that the post was started last November. The Court records of the case consist of several documents, including the complaint of Inspector Stuart, which mentions the date, Nov. 1, 1882, as the approximate time when the post was started. There is also a warrant for the arrest of Allen with an endorsement showing that he had been apprehended; a commitment to jail and the jailer's receipt for his body. The criminal information was filed Feb. 14, 1883, and conviction followed on the same date.

The mere fact that the date Nov. 1, 1882, was used in the complaint and in other documents and news items relating to the case does not prove that the post started at that time, but rather that it was in existence on that date. It is hoped that an actual announcement of the start may be located in local papers. The "several times mentioned" in The Tribune, referred to above have so far eluded search.

Covers bearing this stamp are not plentiful and all seen so far bear dates between Nov. 3, 1882, and Feb. 5, 1883. All stamps are either red on white, or red on yellow. The former show dates up to Jan. 23, 1883, the latter are all dated in February. The Feb. 5, letter was the property of the late Henry C. Needham, and came to him from John K. Tiffany, and when seen was accompanied by a note from Inspector Stuart who sent it to Mr. Tiffany, on May 5, 1883, in response to the latter's inquiry. These covers were from a quantity seized by the inspector as evidence. No covers have been noted which have the black or deep purple stamps mentioned in the United States Stamp Catalog.

The writer will appreciate information about any covers bearing Allen stamps, and will reimburse correspondents for postage used in this matter.

Address—333 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

U. S. 1861
The "Shakedown" Printings

By Stephen G. Rich, Ph.D.

During the past year and a half the information in print about the U. S. 1861 issue has increased markedly. Together with what has previously been published, it is now sufficient for us to establish certain relationships not hitherto recognized. The detailed first-hand investigators as to dies, proofs, stamp usages, dates of events, etc., have done a very fine job. The time is now ripe for someone interested in the problem but not too far immersed in the discovery of detailed facts, to integrate the evidence at hand. To this task, at least in its more evident phases, my efforts in this article are directed.

The fundamentals of the problem are well known, and there is much on which all workers agree. Let us clear the field of extraneous considerations by mention of the agreed-upon facts and interpretations.

All students agree, all investigators conclude, that except for the 10 cent and 24 cent pieces, the "Premieres Gravures" of 1861 did not serve for postal duty. They all agree that such of the 10 cent and 24 cent items as did serve as postage stamps, cannot be distinguished by any characteristics from at least some which clearly did not. Brazer, Ashbrook and Perry, to name the three most conspicuous contributors to our information, agree that the "Premieres" are *not stamps* in any real sense, and that they properly should be eliminated from the list of stamps of this country.

The real question is: "What shall we call the 'Premieres' and where shall we place them amid the many items ranging from stamps through proofs of various sorts and trial printings to essays, which we know of from various periods?"

The facts bearing on the situation are neither complicated nor obscure. Unfortunately, they are scattered in various places, and have not hitherto been assembled to show their bearing on the problem.

The new stamp contract, advertised for in March of 1861, was won by the National Bank Note Co., a firm newly founded in November 1859. This firm, at 1 Wall St., New York, N. Y., was composed of members of former firms that had previously been consolidated into the American Bank Note Co. These men stayed out, and set up their own new and competing company. Between beginning business and securing the stamp contract, the National Bank Note Co. had organized its engraving and siderographic divisions, had turned out bank notes and other securities of the finest workmanship, and had become able to handle large-quantity work. (Brazer, *C. C. Phil.*, April 1940, pp. 117-124).

The terms of announcement of the contract to be placed, required the submission of not mere drawings or designs, but of actual engraved essays, which would be samples of the character of workmanship of the proposed stamps. The evidence available indicates that single stamp designs sufficed at this time. There is an entire lack of evidence that, either then or at any later time, samples of entire sheets with gum and perforation were required. Brazer and Ashbrook both state that such were submitted, but neither gives us the slightest evidence to back such an assertion. The wording of the advertisement does not indicate that more than single copies of the stamps were required to be submitted. (Brazer, *C. C. Phil.*, July 1941, pp. 171-173; Ashbrook, *Stamp Specialist*, Yellow Book, 1942, pp. 98-102; Perry, *Am. Phil.*, Dec. 1942, p. 160).

We lack evidence of any sort as to the reasons for the subsequent alterations of the dies. We have opinions and hypotheses, but no evidence in sup-

port of any save one of them has been presented in print. The first opinion, long uncontested, was that of John N. Luff *(The Postage Stamps of the United States,* 1902, p. 85; also *Am. Journ. of Philately,* 1896, pp. 252-256). Says he, at the 1902 place cited:

> "The first designs did not give satisfaction and improvements were ordered."

What evidence Mr. Luff had for this statement does not appear to have been recorded. Certainly, nothing has thus far appeared to show that the "Board of Experts" or artists either suggested or ordered any changes; nor have we anything to indicate that the Post Office Department, or any official of it, ordered them. This is a matter upon which future research is clearly needed.

We equally lack evidence to back up any possible claim that the National Bank Note Co. people made the changes on their own initiative. But there are contributory or accessory points which indicate that such may well have been the case.

Brazer *(C. C. Phil.,* July 1941, pp. 176-179) suggests that the changes of design were completions of "hurriedly prepared" dies, made by the designers and engravers. This has the merit of being the most reasonable suggestion thus far made. It brings into the discussion no assumption of any sort; it is consonant with the known disposition of fine craftsmen. In slightly expanded form, and without making any assumptions, it may find place in our understanding of the Premieres.

Let us phrase and explain it thus:

The original engraved samples were made from incomplete dies, quite possibly from dies known to be incomplete, and quite possibly in each case in the stage of development reached by the dead-line date at which the specimen material had to be sent to Washington with the bids. The unfinished state was more marked in the case of the 3 cent, 12 cent and 5 cent values than elsewhere. Indeed, in the 1 cent, 10 cent, and others, only details of shading and of strengthening lines for emphasis, needed to be done to complete the dies. The changes in the 24 cent die were so slight that the company did not deem it needful to make a new plate from the completed die.

After the decision had been made, to award the contract to the National Bank Note Co., the engravers completed the dies. Instead of working on the original dies, which had been hardened for reasons that will appear, laydowns from these dies were utilized. (See Brazer, *C. C. Phil.,* July 1941, p. 174, for factual basis of this paragraph).

Clearly, the decision to award the stamp contract to the National Bank Note Co. had been made by about June 1, 1861, and possibly several weeks earlier. Thus far, official memoranda on this point have not been reported as known, nor published. The evidence does consist of known and recorded actions by the company, involving expenditures of considerable sums of money for equipment and salaries. These would seem most unreasonable and most unbusinesslike in the absence of a guarantee that they would get the contract to manufacture the stamps.

Charles F. Steel was employed about June 1, 1861, to set up the new factory of the National Bank Note Co., apparently at 53 Broadway, New York, N. Y., to manufacture stamps. We have no published information as to what new machinery had to be acquired; but in view of the existence of the engraving and siderographic (transfer and plate making) divisions at 1 Wall St., previously, we may safely consider that stamp printing, gumming and perforating equipment had to be acquired and prepared for use. We have thus an entirely new stamp-manufacturing plant, to which the plates were brought from 1 Wall Street, diagonally opposite, as needed. (Brazer, *C. C. Phil.,* June 1940, p. 175).

Anyone familiar with machinery, and especially precision machinery, knows that such a plant cannot start operations the day the last machine is installed, the last belt for power slipped onto its pulleys, etc., and turn out a perfect product forthwith. It must also be evident that the siderographers at 1 Wall Street were not familiar with the specific requirements of making stamp plates, nor with the special difficulties involved in making a plate with 200 small transfers to be entered. Furthermore, the personnel at the stamp factory needed some practice in the coordination of their duties.

We might therefore expect that an experimental running, or what would be the factory equivalent of the "shakedown cruise" of battleships, cruisers and destroyers in our navy, would be the normal procedure. In view of the superior work turned out when the definitive 1861 issue stamps were produced, the evidence for a shakedown run or printing would seem satisfactory.

From the original and incomplete dies, which had been hardened for that purpose (presumably), plates for the shakedown printing were made. It is not clear that this shakedown run required plates for all denominations; but that point can be touched later. The plates for the shakedown run afforded practice with each of the dies, and, as has been shown by Brazer, furnished valuable information of use in making more readily usable plates for the actual stamp printing of six values (Brazer, *C. C. Phil.*, July 1941, p. 175). The shakedown run itself further served to try out the various paper qualities appropriate for the stamps, and, as suggested to me by Mr. F. Pfeifer of Verona, N. J., a practical printer of the old school, such points as tack, color, and flow of ink in full-size sheet production.

We have no reason to believe that the making of the plates for the shakedown printings was completed ere those for the actual stamps were begun. There is no evidence of a conclusive sort for this; but the irregularities in plate numbering would coincide with some such procedure as making some of the final ones before the last of the shakedown or experimental plates.

Brazer *(C. C. Phil.*, July 1941, p. 175) points out that the shakedown plates were all spaced alike between subjects. He further mentions that the difference in width on the various values made six of them come too close together for successful perforation without "bleeding" too frequently to be acceptable. It may well be that this situation was the cause for making shakedown plates of all values, so that actual trial might determine on which ones there existed need to make new plates of wider spacing. Meanwhile, the dies were apparently being finished.

We approach now the problem of why this shakedown printing material was preserved at all, and how it came to be in philatelic hands. That very little of it was kept, is clear from the great rarity of the 1861 "Premieres." As far as can be determined, only single copies exist, except in the case of the 3c, the 10c and the 24c. These printings clearly did not ever do postal duty, although in the case of the 10c and the 24c we have postally used later printings from the same plates.

The three major authorities seem thoroughly agreed that previous to the actual issue of the 1861 stamps, "sets of the new stamps" were sent to various postal officials abroad, to familiarize them with the forthcoming new designs. The implication is that the U. S. government did not want mail franked with the 1857 issue stock still in Confederate hands, to be recognized as paid letters. The belief seems general that practically all the extant copies of the "Premieres" were picked up in Europe, and that they were discarded in one way or another by the foreign officials in later years.

This account is very probable, but should still be taken with reservations. We lack positive evidence that any such sending of specimen sets was done at this time. It seems to be assumed as a practice, in view of its being adopted as a directed and standard procedure when the U. P. U. was formed some 14 years

later. There is an entire lack of any evidence, even that of old-time gossip among stamp men, to connect the "Premieres" with any occasion or method by which stamps escaped (or were filched) from government or producing company archives.

Little or nothing has been made in recent published discussions of the "Premieres," of the origin of the copies in philatelic hands. A valuable contribution could be made, and one that would help as much as any of the pieces of the history of the making of the stamps of the 1861 issue, by some student who will give us detailed dates, places, and persons involved in the process by which the "Premieres" came into philatelic hands. It is not outside of possibility that this may upset our present understanding of this aspect.

Likewise, there has been no comment upon the absence of canceled copies or of covers, among the "Premieres" other than the 10 and 24 cent values. Apparently such absence has been taken as generally known, and as generally understood in showing their non-stamp nature. (It is on the latter trial runs of the 3-cent stamps, from the regular plate, but in unusual colors, that the question of existence of canceled copies or covers needs to be taken up. On these items, there is real work to be done by this approach.)

The hypothesis of a "shakedown printing," together with the currently accepted idea that the "Premieres" were sent out in advance of the issue of the actual stamps, to postal officials abroad, may quite well bring order into our understanding of the matter. The evidence for "a shakedown printing" would seem sufficient. That for sending abroad is yet to be furnished; but the assumption of such a procedure is not unreasonable.

At the time that the specimen sets were sent abroad, it would seem very likely that no other forms of the stamps could be had. We have no positive evidence of the date of sending; we presume that normally they should have been sent early enough so that as soon as the new stamps were in use, letters franked with the 1857's would be recognized as not prepaid, when they reached other countries. The infrequent and slow transatlantic steamer service of those days would require sending of specimen sets not later than mid-July 1861, for them to serve the purpose mentioned. Everything points to this being before any printings from the definitive plates had been made.

Much discussion has taken place, obscuring other and more relevant questions, since Ashbrook *(Stamp Specialist,* Yellow Book, 1942) introduced a distinction between plates made and stamps printed "under government supervision" and those not so made. Though asked repeatedly by others as well as myself, Mr. Ashbrook has not supplied even one bit of evidence in favor of that distinction or of the existence of the assumed government supervision. A reading of the actual contract, as executed Nov. 5, 1861, retroactive to Aug. 15, 1861 (Brazer, *C. C. Phil.*, July 1941, pp. 184-185), shows that the only government agent mentioned or involved was to be the one at the stamp factory to receive, check in, and ship out to post offices the stamps as delivered by the manufacturer. It is singularly unfortunate that our attention has been sidetracked to this point as a basis for considering what is or is not a stamp. This is the more so because the question of "government supervision" is entirely without bearing on whether a piece was or was not made (or used) for postal service. The entire matter had better be dismissed from any further consideration, unless Mr. Ashbrook will publish very soon some definite evidence for his idea.

The evidence definitely shows that the original, experimental or shakedown plate for the 10 cent value was used for at least one printing of stamps. This material, it is also clear, was not among that ready for sending out when the new issue was first shipped on Aug. 15 or 16; but was finished and shipped out not more than two to three weeks later. There was an obvious reason: the 10-cent rate between most parts of the country and California, in both direc-

tions, called for a larger supply of this value than could be made when first needed, using one plate only. The appearance of the *stamps* from the 10 cent shakedown plate, with October 1861 as month of first and chief use, and according to information available, largely on mail from California, would agree with this systematizing of the other known facts.

As has been mentioned earlier, the shakedown plates for the 24 and 30 cent values became the definitive or regular plates. Only color of product, and variation in paper, enable us to separate the shakedown printings from the stamps actually issued. The 24-cent die was finished, but that and any use of it do not come into this period.

The hypothesis herein presented, of the "shakedown run" and of the use of its products for informing postal officials abroad of the impending new issue, which alone was to be held valid, should be subjected to as close and searching scrutiny as any other hitherto brought forward. It may well be that the second part, as to the manner of escape of this shakedown material into philatelic hands, may have to be much modified if further facts on that aspect can be found and recorded. That will not necessarily involve the first portion, the "shakedown run" idea. The proposed new orientation is the direct product of the cross-fertilization of ideas due to bringing into this subject a new background. Hitherto those who have approached the subject have been long-time specialists in United States stamps, and on dies, engraving, and proofs. I bring a point of view derived from the study of other stamp fields, especially from study of the stamps of the southern countries of Africa, plus ten years of contact with the printing business as consumer and "print shop fan." Such cross-fertilization of philatelic ideas is probably a valuable method of investigation, that may well be applied to great advantage elsewhere.

The solution of the problems of the 1861 "Premieres" has been retarded by giving undue attention to unsuccessful earlier efforts to bring order into this field. The bulk of the comments on the older set-up as, first an "August 1861 issue" then as "First Issue" and "First Types," have served merely to recall past mistakes. On the basis of the information then to be had, such a placement was not unreasonable, and no blame attaches to John N. Luff for having advanced it *(Am. Jour. of Philately,* 1896). To find fault with such work, in recent years, is as unscholarly as it would be for a chemist of 1933 or 1943 to lambaste Scheele today for calling chlorine "dephlogisticated muriatic acid" when he discovered that substance in 1774.

The 1861 "Premieres" fall into order and are understandable, on the hypothesis of the experimental or factory shakedown run, with plates made from dies as yet not completed, as the occasion of their production. Such a scheme is supported by the known facts. Their appearance in philatelic hands, as far as now known, was in such times and ways and places, as to support the hypothesis that some of this material was preserved by having been used for informing postal officials abroad of the impending new issue.

Finally, the question of appropriate catalogue listing of the "Premieres" must be raised. It is clear, whether on the basis of the present article or those by the three main authorities, that listing as stamps, in the main body of the catalogue, is an error that needs to be abandoned as soon as possible. Whether a special section for "Trial Printings Not Used for Postage" should be inserted in the U. S. Catalogue to cover these and several other items, or whether the "Color Trial Proofs" section of that catalogue could be expanded to include such material, is necessarily to be decided by the catalogue editors. With a more comprehensive name for the section, the last plan may well offer the advantage of not multiplying the number of different sections in that catalogue, and perhaps some other advantages in ready use. To go beyond placing these suggestions on record is, however, beyond the chosen scope and limitations of this article.

"Odd Colors" on U. S. 1861-63 Stamps

By Stephen G. Rich, Ph.D.

In the heat of the discussion of the 1861 issue, attention has gone far afield from what seem to me a few really significant matters on the printings in various colors. To bring these aspects into general attention is the purpose of this article. The arrangement is purposely not in the order of stamp denominations, nor yet chronological, so that first notice may go to those items of most interest.

In the 24-cent value, the range of colors used was startlingly large. Unless my eyes are deceiving me, there is no abrupt break in the series of colors, but completely intergrading sets of stamps can be assembled, showing that the changes were made by degrees, perhaps at successive printings, or perhaps in some cases as attempts to provide a more satisfactory color during the course of one printing. Thus we find that the range runs from a starting point in violet, a color definitely bluer than any purple. This occurs with a black component, catalogued as "blackish violet." Then we find gradations through a dull or brownish purple, into several sorts of lilac, and from lilac into several grays. The grays range from a "gray lilac" through a clear gray and thence in two directions.

One of these ranges is in the direction of a noticeably blue tinge, an out-and-out blue gray. The extreme of this has been listed in the past as "steel blue" and is still so-called in Gibbons' catalogue published in England. This term "steel blue" seems to have been derived from the term in use either at the time or prior to 1900, for a particular blue pigment as then sold by color-makers. The term has unfortunately been retained in use by collectors and by recent writers on this issue. It is a scarce shade; a very scarce one.

However, the term is so misleading that it ought to be dropped entirely. The same term is applied to an entirely different color on a well known variety of Cape of Good Hope No. 13 (Gibbons' No. 19c). It is applied to still a different color on Netherlands No. 1a: in fact, on that stamp, it seems to mean any bright deep blue, not even one specific color.

But the stamp colors called "steel blue" do not ANY OF THEM even remotely resemble that of any piece of blued steel hardware that I have seen. The term is a misnomer, and should be quietly but permanently dropped. On the 1861 24 cent stamp, "blue gray" is quite sufficient, and fully accurate in its stead.

The gray 24 cent stamps also intergrade into greenish grays. This color has not hitherto been recognized as one that should be listed for this stamp. Not even the most recent writers include it in any lists they may have published. It has been spoken of, casually but with every sign of "settling the question," as "a color changeling of the steel blue." However, such a name for it has simply been repeated by each owner or buyer of such copies, on the strength of what the previous owner said about the stamp. We lack all evidence that it is any such thing.

A full, beautiful greenish gray copy of the 24 cent on cover is owned by Mr. C. S. Thompson, and was shown me by him at St. Louis in November 1941. The cover shows not the slightest trace of fading or discoloration, such as might be expected if some gas or liquid had altered the stamp while on the cover. The paper of my own two greenish-grays, one much greener than the other, does not show any signs of having been subjected to chemical action.

It is to be hoped that the authorities on the 1861 issue and the catalogue editors, may see Mr. Thompson's cover and other copies, so that this variety may be recognized and listed.

The 3 cent stamp is listed, and has been for many years, in a scarce printing of some sort, not issued for postage, and called by the color-name "lake." This is in a deep terra cotta or deep indian red, but is very far from the red colors called "lake" on the U. S. 2 cents 1890 (No. 219d) or the color varieties of U. S. 2 cent stamps from 1908 to 1915. Furthermore, it seems most unlikely that in this period any of the red pigments used for stamps were of the chemical group known as *lakes*. These are aluminum salts, derived from animal or vegetable sources plus aluminum hydroxide. The first of them was derived from an animal product, "lac," and was called "crimson lake." Stamp people have used the word "lake" alone to mean any dark red, as a sequel to this; but meanwhile we find that the actual lake pigments come in all colors of the rainbow.

The "lake" listing of this stamp, No. 66, is clearly a misnomer, and should be changed by all interested persons. Actually, the stamp shows appearance of having finely divided hematite, an iron oxide, as its pigment. This is the same material known among opticians as "rouge" and used for polishing lenses. The term to be used in describing this color might well be "dark indian red" or "dark dull red."

The color called "scarlet" for the printing, not issued for postage, of the 3 cent stamp, listed at Scott No. 74, is called "vermilion" on Uruguay No. 60, the 2 centimos of 1884. Can it be that the designation for U. S. No. 74 is incorrect? I merely comment that "vermilion" as used for cataloguing other U. S. stamps is not at all the same as this color.

(The End.)

Controversial Subjects

By E. F. Hurt, (A. P. S., B. P. A.)

There are some philatelic controversies which crop up from time to time and which ought to be settled. The "Glossary of Philatelic Terms" was drawn up in order to prevent controversy and to form a universal basis for philatelic research.

I propose to deal with certain subjects about which there is still a certain amount of muddled thinking and, in some quarters at least, a faulty outlook. The fundamental error which most usually leads to wrong deductions is the attempt to make facts fit theories instead of using the scientific approach.

1. POSTAGE DUES

The term "Postage Due" is a very loose one because its meaning, like the use of indications of "postage due" themselves, has changed with conditions. In the last century, and in fact earlier, it was not only permissible but customary to send a large proportion of correspondence "unpaid," the postage to be paid by the ultimate addressee. Before the introduction of adhesive stamps this proceeding came about largely on account of the extraordinary fluctuations of rates of postage, particularly between one country and another, which, coupled with the many ways by which a letter could be carried, such as private service, paquebot or merchant ship, made it impossible to calculate the through rate at the place of dispatch. Such unpaid letters were marked with

the amount of postage to be paid on receipt, such amount being the total of the sums paid out in transit or due to the various 'handlers' during transit. Strictly speaking we are quite in order to refer to this amount as "postage due"—the amount due for carriage or postage of the mail.

But there was a fundamental difference between such postage due and the usage to which adhesive postage due stamps are usually put to-day. For example it was possible in some cases for the sender to exercise the option of prepaying the postage to destination, of prepaying it in part, say, to a certain frontier or seaboard, or of leaving the whole amount to be paid by the sender. In each of these cases, however, the total sum paid by either sender or receiver was the same. There was in fact no fine for non-payment of postage in advance.

It was only when it became compulsory to prepay postage that a system of fines was introduced. This was still called "Postage Due" but in this case the amount payable was not the basic amount unpaid but, usually, double the shortage. The compulsory prepayment system came into being largely with the introduction of adhesive stamps, though, as we know the system was gradual in most countries and, even after adhesive stamps were available, compulsory prepayment was not universal, being still, for various causes, in some cases optional and in some cases even forbidden. It is concerning these causes that we need some more clear understanding.

Until the conclusion of certain international postal agreements made between various countries and groups—I am speaking before the Universal Postal Union—the stamps of many countries did not pay postage outside their own frontiers and therefore the utmost prepayment that could be made compulsory was payment to the frontier. There are many examples that could be given but one will serve.

During the adhesive period, at the era with which we are for the moment concerned, the adhesive stamps of Egypt only prepaid postage (a) within Egypt itself (b) to Egyptian offices in the Levant. No foreign postal administration or mail boat service would accept Egyptian stamps as evidence that their charges had been paid because there was no agreement with the Egyptian Government whereby these foreign administrations could obtain payment from the latter. It therefore followed that a letter from Egypt had to be pre-franked either with Egyptian plus foreign stamps of the other administrations through whose hands the letter had to pass or Egyptian stamps only, in which case the extra-Egyptian postage was charged on arrival.

There were several ways in which the extra-Egyptian Postage was collected as is shown by covers:—

(1) The sender affixed Egyptian stamps for internal postage and purchased and affixed also foreign stamps, from one of the extra-territorial P. O.'s in Egypt, to pay the overseas charges plus delivery charges in the country of destination.

(2) The sender affixed Egyptian stamps of sufficient value to cover both the internal rate plus the foreign administration rate, in which case the Egyptian P. O. paid the necessary sum to the foreign P. O., which then affixed its stamps before the letter left Egypt.

(3) The sender affixed Egyptian stamps only for the internal rate in which case the Foreign P. O. either affixed its stamps or impressed a mark indicating the amount of overseas postage which would be collected from the addressee. In this latter case no further stamps were usually affixed except in the case of letters to Greece. In this case, if the Greek P. O. in Alexandria had not already affixed Greek stamps, these were affixed on arrival in Greece, generally at Syra. Letters bearing the stamps of two countries are known as Combination Covers to philatelists.

Many years ago someone unknown told philatelists that covers from Egypt bearing Egyptian stamps plus Greek stamps, but with the latter canceled in Greece, were not pure combination covers because the "Greek stamps represented "postage due," "and it has generally been agreed that letters with the

adhesive "postage" stamps of one country and the adhesive "postage due" stamps of another are not collectible as "combinations" in the philatelic sense.

This is where confusion of thought took place due to a mistaken announcement in the first case and a wrong conception—or perhaps entire lack of thought—in the second.

If we consider the matter we shall realise that it was impossible, at the period of which we are speaking, to prepay in Egyptian stamps the postage on a letter from, say, Cairo to Athens and therefore compulsory prepayment could not be exacted.

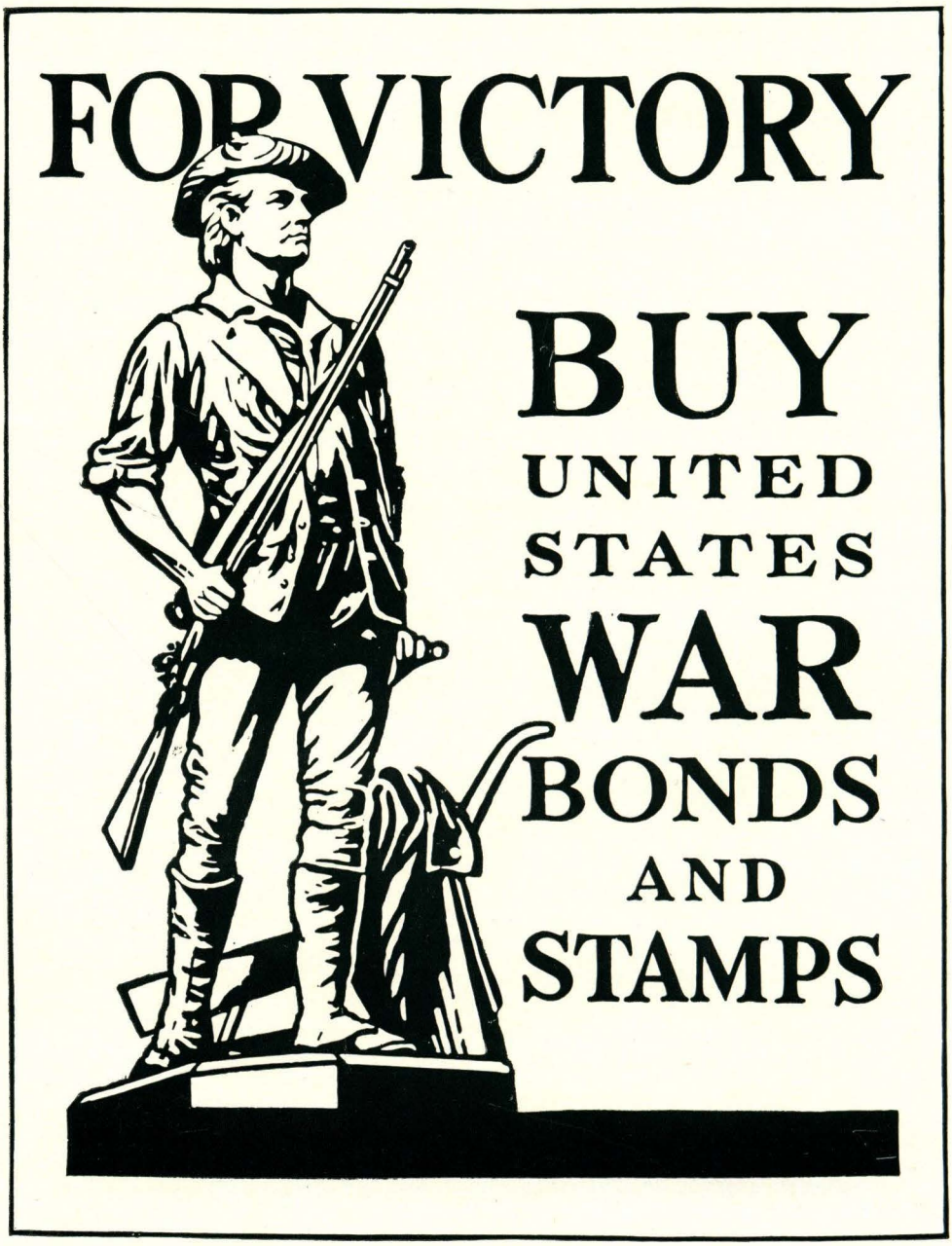
Now the reason for the issuance of what we today know as "postage due" adhesives was in order to collect not only underpaid or unpaid portions of postage but also to impose a fine for such shortage, which was against the regulations under the compulsory pre-payment which came into use at a later period.

But in the earlier period, since there was neither compulsion nor possibility of complete prepayment there could be no cause for a fine, and therefore the use of other stamps to pay the extra territorial postage (whether affixed by the sender or affixed by another postal administration and the amount collected thereafter from the addressee) was only a means of collecting the unpaid part of the total postage. That the Greek authorities chose to affix postage stamps to indicate the amount still to be paid by the addressee instead of marking the amount due by pen, pencil or handstamp, as in the case of so many other countries, was really a very wise piece of accountancy and a much easier check on receipts or misappropriations by delivering postmen. In fact were not adhesive postage stamps themselves brought into use in the first case as a means of simplified accountancy?

If we examine covers addressed from Egypt to Greece we shall find that those which bear only Greek stamps canceled in the Greek P. O. in Alexandria, having been handed to the Greek administration by the sender, show exactly the same rate of postage as that called for by the stamps of Greece affixed or, at least, canceled in Greece, which were affixed to letters which had previously been handed to the Egyptian Post Office and had had Egyptian stamps affixed as already explained. Therefore the Greek stamps canceled in Greece were still only the actual amount of postage payable to the Greek P. O. for transit from Egypt by Greek Mail Boat plus internal delivery charges. There was no fine and therefore these stamps were not used, as are most of today's adhesive postage dues, to collect a fine. They are purely and simply postage stamps for a fixed rate, whether paid in advance or collected, and covers bearing these stamps cancelled in Greece are therefore 'Simon Pure' Combination covers. In every case it will be found that the Greek P. O. in Alexandria indicated, usually in blue crayon, the amount due for postage and for which Greek stamps were to be affixed for collection from the addressee whereas, in the case of letters franked with Greek stamps cancelled in Alexandria, no such indication is added to the cover.

A philatelic writer recently perpetuated the old fable that such covers were not combination covers since "the Greek stamps canceled in Greece were 'postage dues.' " A noted Greek specialist has, however, upheld my deduction by agreeing that, during the period under review, which he has represented by many covers addressed to Greece, bearing Greek stamps canceled on arrival, he has never yet seen a cover so addressed which did not bear Greek adhesives. Had these stamps been, like our postage dues, a matter of fine, it is inconceivable to believe that either every sender of a letter to Greece failed to fully prepay his letter or that every letter received in Greece was subject to a fine!

(The End.)


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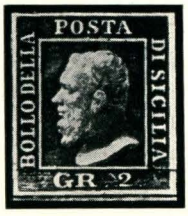
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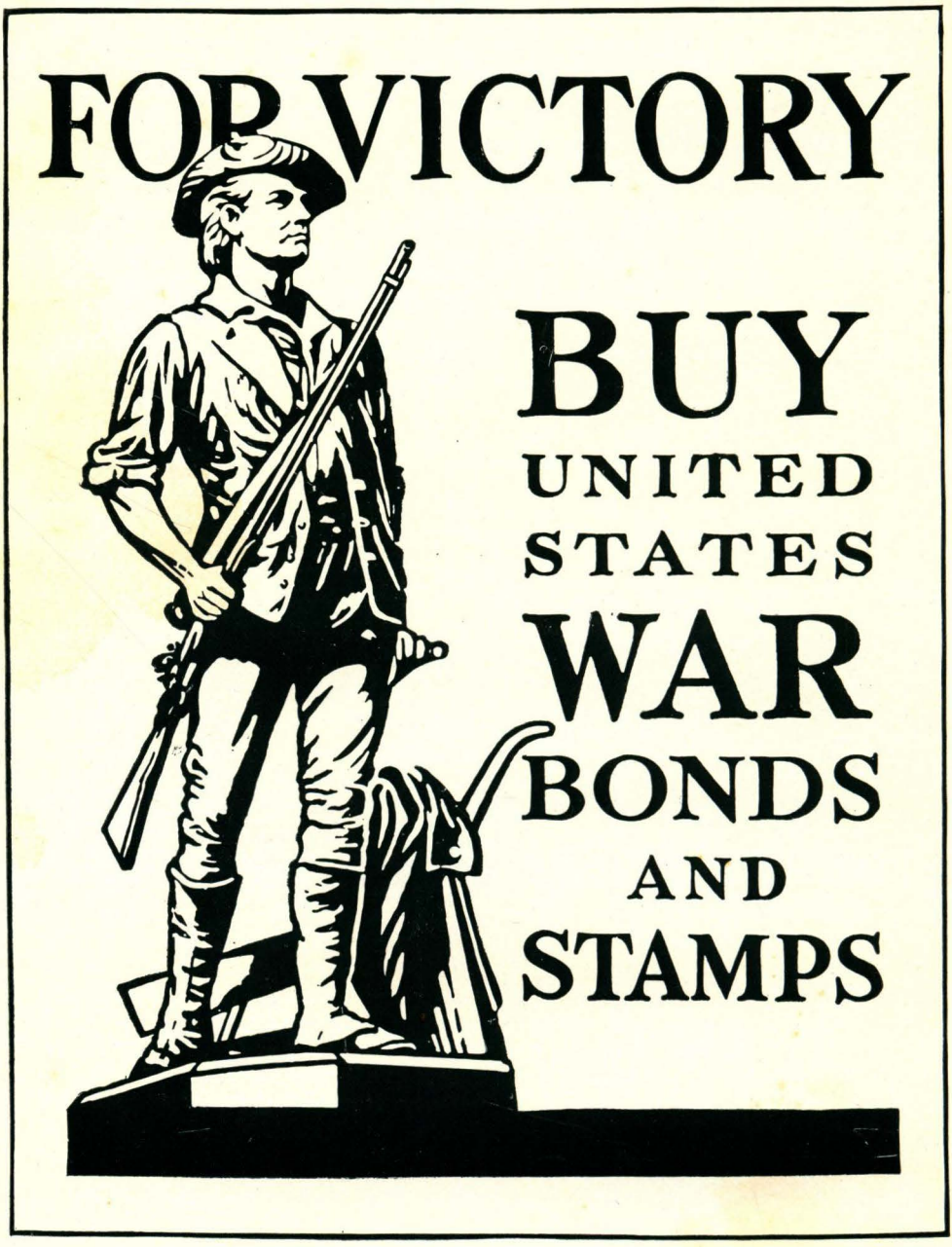
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