

A few months since the stamps of 2½ c. de peso were surcharged to form other values, and now other values are surcharged to make this value. Besides which a considerable number of the 2½ c. de peso have lately been surcharged with HABILITADO PARA GIRO, with 20 c. and 40 c. for use as bill stamps. Is all this absurdity merely for the purpose of giving employment to the officials? or is it a speculation on collectors not only connived at, but aided by *L'Excellentissime*? or is it to increase the sale of the stamps—a “trick of the trade”?

**Queensland.**—Our latest advices inform us that the designs of the new post cards for Great Britain of 2d. by the long route and 3d. *viâ* Brindisi had been approved of by the Hon. John Donaldson, the Postmaster-General, and would come into use on the first of this month. Next month, therefore, we may expect these and similar ones from other Australian colonies.

**Russian Locals.**—*Bogorodsk.*—The *Timbre-Poste* chronicles a wrapper 222 × 86 mm. with stamp of the type of 1871.

*Wrapper.* 1 kopeck, red on white.

*Griazovetz.*—The 4 kopecks stamp of 1837 is now on white *bâtonné* paper.

*Adhesive.* 4 kopecs, blue on white *bâtonné*.

*Lebedjan.*—We annex an engraving of a stamp recently issued for this local post. The swan sailing to the right may be supposed to be on his way to visit his Antipodean kinsfolk. The impression is on orange-yellow paper.

*Adhesive.* 4 kopecs, red on orange-yellow.

**Sarawak.**—Mr. Campbell has sent us a fresh portrait of the Raja, Sir C. J. Brooke, *à la* De La Rue and Co. It is a three-quarter portrait to the right, on a ground of horizontal lines, and is within an oval band, inscribed POSTAGE SARAWAK & REVENUE. The classical style has very properly been done away with, and the Raja is represented in the dress of an ordinary mortal. Below his chin is a tablet, 10½ by 7 mm., printed in a different colour from the rest of the stamp, on which is the value in uncoloured numerals on a horizontally lined ground. The impression is on white wove paper, and the perforation 14. There is a “jubilee” line round the pane of the colour of the stamp. The design is the same for all the values, and the impression of the stamps, with the exception of the tablets, is in one or other of Messrs. De La Rue and Co.’s two doubly-fugitive colours.

<i>Adhesive.</i>	2 cents,	purple ;	tablet red.
	3	“	“
	4	“	“
	6	“	“
	8	“	“
	12	“	“



**Sierra Leone.**—The issue of the one shilling, red-brown, on paper watermarked *CA*, is reported. Perforation 14.

*Adhesive.* 1 shilling, red-brown ; *wmk.* *CA*.

**Sweden.**—A correspondent has forwarded us a series of essays prepared some years ago, but which we do not think have been chronicled, showing the head of the late king Carl XV. in profile to the left, on a solid ground within a pearled circle. Above is a cartouch, with scroll ends, inscribed SVERIGE on a solid ground, and a similar tablet below with the value FOUR (NIO, TOLF, TRETTIO, FEMTIO) ÖRE. On each side is FRIMÄRKE in minute letters. There is no exterior framing. These essays are printed in black, blue, yellow, light green, and orange-red, and perforated 13, and were, it is said, submitted to the king for approval, who however gave the preference to the series with numerals.

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**Tunis.**—We annex an engraving of the second type of these stamps as described in our last number. The *Timbre-Poste* expresses a doubt whether the reply post card of 10 + 10 centimes, and the letter card of 25 centimes, exist with stamps of the first type; but we are able to assure our contemporary of their existence, as our specimens were of the first type. We have since received specimens of the post cards, the envelope of 15 c., and the letter card of 25 c., all of the second type, which were purchased by our correspondent at the post-office in Tunis at the latter end of October.



The above-mentioned journal also states that the new type comes to hand with the ground dotted in form of a T, to serve as unpaid letter stamps.

<i>Envelope.</i>	15 centimes,	black on blue ;	second type.
<i>Post Card.</i>	10	“	“
<i>Reply Card.</i>	10 + 10	“	“
<i>Letter Card.</i>	25	“	“

## PHILATELIC GAINS OF 1888.

THE contents of the following list, not otherwise described, are to be taken as adhesives. Words in italics point to the particular change in the object in question, which constitutes it a new variety; and the page referred to is that of the tenth volume of the *Philatelic Record* on which the novelty is described. A note of interrogation indicates that the authenticity is doubtful.

AFGHANISTAN.—Type 1881. *New Colours.*

1	abasi,	black on magenta wove.	(Page 52.)
1	“	purple-brown on orange wove.	(“ 52.)
1	“	purple-brown on green laid <i>bâtonné</i> .	(“ 52.)
1	“	purple-black on lavender laid	(“ 52.)
1	“	pink laid	(“ 52.)
2	“	“	(“ 52.)

we give illustrations of the three we need not give any further description of them, except that the first is printed in black on plain white wove paper, and the two others in two colours on grey paper.

*Adhesives.* 3 kopecks, black on white.  
3 " blue and red on grey.  
3 " black " "

**Kolomna.**—This rural poste has had a fresh supply of stamps both for prepaid letters and for unpaid ones. The design is similar for all the stamps, except that the interior upright inscriptions differ in the case of the paid letters from those for the unpaid ones, the one signifying "paid," and the other "unpaid." The impression is on plain white paper, and the stamps are perforated 11½.



*Adhesives.* 1 kopeck, blue.  
2 kopecks "  
3 " "  
*Unpaid Letter Stamps.* 1 kopeck, red.  
3 " "

The *Timbre-Poste* states that the sheets of these stamps are composed of eight horizontal rows of sixteen stamps of divers values. In the sheets of the unpaid letter stamps (red) the first four horizontal rows are of 1 kopeck, and the other four of 3 kopecks. In those of the blue stamps the first five stamps in the horizontal row are of 1 kopeck, followed by six of 2 kopecks and six of 3 kopecks. We do not quite understand how these figures make sixteen, but suppose it is the calculation of *le diable de l'imprimeur*.

**Sarawak.**—Annexed is an engraving of the type of the new bicoloured series for this territory. We are informed that there is a value of 25 cents to come, which will, we suppose, be green, with either a yellow or red-brown tablet.



**Sirmoor.**—We have received the 3 pies printed in orange. The paper and perforation remain as before.

*Adhesive.* 3 pies, orange, perforated 14½.

**Switzerland.**—The 25 and 50 centimes come to hand perforated 9½.

*Adhesives.* 25 centimes, blue; perforated 9½.  
50 " green "

**Tasmania.**—We have the one penny, carmine (1880), surcharged in black with "Halfpenny" in ordinary type. Our last advices bring us the one penny post card in vermilion-red on white card.

*Adhesive.* ½ penny on 1d. (1880), surcharged in black.  
*Post Card.* One Penny, vermilion-red on white card.

**Telegraphs.**—*Austria.*—The provisional pneumatic envelope of 15 kr., made by surcharging that of 20 kr., has been replaced by a definitive one, having a stamp of 15 kr., in grey, of similar type, in the right upper angle, and bearing the inscription, BRIEF—\*—ZUR PNEUMATISCHEN EXPRESS BEFORDERUNG, followed by four dotted lines for the address, the first commencing with "An." The impression of the inscription is in black on plain wove pink paper. Size, 144 × 88 mm.

*Envelope.* 15 kr., grey and black on pink.

*Belgium.*—The stamp before us, we suppose, belongs to this country, or else to Congo, as it bears a likeness of King Leopold II. It is magnificent in point of size, being an upright rectangle of 34 × 24 mm., and its value is 25 francs, which is inserted at the foot, the numerals being in a circle, flanked on each side with the word "FRANCS" on a horizontal tablet. The head of the king is in an upright oval frame, with TELEGRAPHES at the top on a straight tablet. The ground is of red lines, and the impression in reseda. The paper is plain white wove, and the perforation 15.

*Adhesive.* 25 francs, reseda and red.

**Tunis.**—Our description of the mode in which the postage stamps are made to serve as unpaid letter stamps was somewhat hazy. We annex an illustration, which will better explain the somewhat ingenious mode that has been adopted; though were perforated stamps as common there as they are in England, the overprinting them with a T would, we think, have been preferable.



**Wadhwan State.**—These stamps now come to hand perforated 12½. Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. send us a sheet, of seven horizontal rows of four in a row, guillotine perforated. We see that a contemporary imagines that our doubts of their postal use are founded on the slender ground of the absence of any indication to that effect. Our inference was drawn from a letter of the Postmaster, and we only referred to the absence of indication as a negative proof. It may be a paper medal of a Wadhwan society, for all we know to the contrary.