

First Newfoundlands

By PATRICK HAMILTON

WHEN, in 1809, Admiral Holloway, then Governor of Newfoundland, established the first official post office in the island, he gave the appointment of Postmaster to a St. John's watchmaker, whose son was destined to succeed him in that office, and later as the first Postmaster General of Newfoundland, be instrumental in the introduction of adhesive postage stamps.

The first post office, under the control of the local watchmaker, a Mr. Solomon, existed mainly to act as a receiving office for incoming letters at St. John's, and the Postmaster was authorised to pay the sum of one penny to ship's masters or other responsible persons, for each letter delivered to him. In his turn, he delivered the letters to addressees, and made a charge of twopence on each letter so handled.

Though certain inland services were operated from time to time, these were the irregular efforts of common carriers; and the Post Office had no part in their organisation or running, and did not accept mail for transmission by such services. As a branch office of the British Post Office, and coming under the jurisdiction of the Postmaster General of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland all the St. John's office was concerned with was the receipt and despatch of mails by the Packets which plied between Newfoundland and Great Britain.

Mr. Solomon continued in his dual capacity of watchmaker and postmaster until 1826, when he gave up his former trade and devoted himself entirely to the execution of his postal duties. He retired in 1839 and was succeeded as Postmaster by his son William Solomon, about whom we shall hear more later.

By virtue of an Act passed in the Imperial Parliament sitting at Westminster on July 28th, 1849, the colony of Newfoundland, in common with the other colonies known collectively as British North America, assumed control of its own postal service, and William Solomon was appointed to be the first Postmaster General of Newfoundland.

At first, the Colonial Post Office restricted its activities to the receipt and despatch of Packet letters, but on May 31st, 1851, an Act was passed by the Newfoundland House of Assembly establishing an Inland Postal Service. No mention of stamps is found in this Bill, but in the first amendment to it, passed on June 14th, 1852, we find the following passage which gives the necessary authority for their introduction:—

"Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, in legislative assembly convened, that it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council to give orders for the preparing and distributing of Colonial stamps for the prepayment of all letters and packages, which stamps shall be evidence of the Prepayment of Postage to the amount mentioned on such stamps; for making, authorising, sanctioning, or giving effect to any arrangements that may require to be made with the postal authorities of the United Kingdom, or any British possession, or of the United States, or any foreign country, with regard to the collecting and accounting of postage."

But though this gave the Governor power to issue postage stamps, it was not until five years afterwards, and following repeated recommendations by Mr. Solomon, who in his annual reports consistently advocated the introduction of postal adhesives and drew attention to the many advantages which would accrue from their employment, that anything was done. At last, in 1856, the final step was taken, and the Governor gave instructions to the Colonial Agent in London, Mr. Edward Stanford, the well-known publisher of Charing Cross, to attend to the business of getting postage stamps designed and printed.

The year 1856 was also remarkable for another event in the postal history of Newfoundland, the enactment of a Bill, passed



in the House of Assembly on May 12th of that year, "to regulate the Post of this Colony". From this we are able to learn the various rates of postage which were in force at this time, and to see the need for the different denomination of postage stamps ordered.

The three sections of the Act which concern us most are those numbered VIII, XVII and XVIII which are set out below:—

"VIII. In conformity with the agreements made between the Local Governments of British North America, the Colonial postage on Letters and Packets, not being newspapers or Printed Pamphlets, magazines or books, entitled to pass at the lower rate hereinafter referred to shall be at the rate of three-pence currency per half-ounce, for any distance within the Colony, and the increase of charge on letters weighing over half an ounce shall be regulated according to the British rule and scale of weights.

XVII. Printed Books, Magazines, Periodical Publications, and Pamphlets may be transmitted by Post, within this Colony, at the rate of twopence per ounce, up to six ounces in weight, and threepence for each additional ounce up to sixteen ounces, beyond which weight no Printed Book, Publication or Pamphlet shall be transmitted by post, but the Governor may, by order, alter, modify and reduce the rates of postage on said Printed Books, Periodical Publications, or Pamphlets.

XVIII. The Packet Postage for letters shall be sixpence sterling the half-ounce, fivepence of which shall belong to the English Post-office, and one penny to the Newfoundland."

Other rates in force at this time were: for Newspapers, one penny; for letters from St. John's to the United States, the British North American Colonies, British West Indies, and Bermuda, per half ounce, five pence; and for letters from other parts of Newfoundland to the same destinations, sixpence half-penny per half ounce.

Of these rates, only the one penny charged on newspapers, which was an "Imperial" rate, and the sixpence required on half-ounce letters to the United Kingdom, as noted in Section XVIII of the Act of 1856, were payable in sterling; all other rates were in "Currency".

This is a point upon which there seems to be a great deal of confusion. At this period in the history of the Colony, there was no such thing as Newfoundland Currency; it was not until well into the next decade of the nineteenth century that local coinage was introduced. Apart from sterling, practically any coins were accepted in payment in the island, though the money most in use was that of the adjacent North American Colonies and the United States. It is to the coinage of the British North American Colonies that the word "Currency" in the various Acts and Post Office notices of this time refer. The "Currency" was considerably debased, and was equated at twelve pence "Currency" to ten pence "Sterling".

This somewhat complicated monetary system was, very shortly, to involve the Post Office in considerable financial loss, and to accelerate the introduction of standard colonial currency, but as far as the first issue of Newfoundland stamps is concerned, we have only to consider the dual system of "Sterling" and "Currency".

(To be continued.)

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Acting on the instructions he had received from Newfoundland, Mr. Stanford set about the business of obtaining adhesive postage stamps for the colony, and with this end in view, approached Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., of Fleet Street,

London, the well-known firm of stamp printers who, even at that time had made their mark in this particular field; they had not only produced the first stamps ever to be issued, by Great Britain in 1840, but also those in use in the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, Mauritius, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Trinidad, to name but a few of the postal administrations using stamps printed by them. This noted firm were therefore selected as being the most suitable to perform the work required, and they received instructions to prepare designs, engrave dies, lay down steel plates, and produce by recess printing nine different denominations of adhesive postage stamps for the colony of Newfoundland; these were to be of the following values: 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 6½d., 8d. and 1s.

We will deal with the individual designs when we come to examine the stamps in the series separately, it is sufficient here to note that they are all somewhat conventional in design, and incorporate the Heraldic Flowers of the United Kingdom, the Rose, Thistle and Shamrock. What is rather unusual is that all the stamps in the series were inscribed with the name of the capital as well as that of the colony, viz.:—ST. JOHN'S NEWFOUNDLAND. The reason for this is not known, but presumably it was included in the instructions handed on by Mr. Stanford to the printers; they would hardly be likely to do such a thing on their own initiative. Another rather unusual feature of this issue is that of the nine different denominations of stamps ordered, six were printed in exactly the same colour. The backgrounds of all values were engine turned, and for this, the celebrated Rose Machine, which had been brought to perfection by the head and founder of the firm, Mr. Jacob Perkins, was employed.

The first order for stamps was received by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. during the summer of 1856, and the dies were completed by them in the September of the same year. After Die Proofs had been submitted for inspection and approval, plates were laid down and the work of printing commenced. Only three colours were needed for this series, red, green and brown. The shades actually employed for this first printing were carmine vermilion, brown purple and green. The red shade is usually referred to in the standard catalogues as scarlet vermilion, but this is incorrect. All denominations were printed on hand-worked presses on stout hand-made unwatermarked white wove paper made by Mr. Stacey Wise at Rush Mill, Hardington, near Northampton. This gentleman was the maker of the paper used by Perkins, Bacon & Co. for the stamps of Great Britain printed by them since 1840, and also for most of the early Colonial stamps produced by that firm. After printing, the sheets were hand-gummed with pure gum arabic.

The order, consisting of 70,000 1d., 3,000 2d., 16,000 3d., 5,000 4d., 11,000 5d., 5,000 6d., 2,000 6½d., 8,000 8d. and 2,000

1s. stamps, was completed early in the following month, and was shipped to Newfoundland on October 3rd, 1856. The vessel upon which this consignment was sent, the S.S. *Livingstone*, encountered very heavy weather on her voyage, and after having spent several weeks at sea, was compelled to return to London for repairs, so that it was not until some time in December that the stamps were received in Newfoundland. They were all placed on sale at St. John's on January 1st, 1857.

Prepayment of postage was, however, still optional, and for the first two years the sale of postage stamps was limited. By 1859 though their use seems to have become more general, for in 1860 a further consignment of six values, the 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 1s. denominations, was ordered from London.

These were printed as before, from the original steel plates, and on paper supplied by Mr. Stacey Wise. The shades employed varied from those used in 1856, the red stamps being now printed in a distinctive shade of orange, while the brown purple of the first fivepenny stamp became modified to a chocolate brown. The threepence in green remained the same, the shade varying from medium to deep, as in the first printing. The paper used differs from that employed for the first issue. It is still a hand-made wove, but instead of being stout and thick, is medium in texture and less opaque. This paper, too, bore a watermark in the sheet, of the papermaker's name and the date of manufacture, viz.:—^{STACEYWISE,}
1858 parts of which are to be found in

stamps printed in 1860. An important point which must not be overlooked is that this watermark does not appear once in each sheet of stamps. It occurs once on each "mill sheet", that is, on each sheet of paper as made by Mr. Wise. These sheets were considerably larger than those required for the relatively small sheets of stamps, and were cut to the required size by Perkins, Bacon & Co. before printing. Therefore while it is quite possible to find stamps bearing portions of this watermark, it is equally possible to come across complete sheets of some values without the slightest trace of watermark.

At the same time as the above stamps were printed, at least one sheet of the 6½d. denomination was also produced on medium white wove paper in orange. Supplies of this value in this colour were not however included in any consignment of stamps sent to the colony, and this variety must be regarded as being in the status of "Prepared for use but not issued".

Another rarity dating from this period is the 1s. orange on laid paper. At least one sheet is known to have been printed on vertically laid, and another on horizontally laid paper. Apart from the fact of their existence, nothing is known of the circumstances of their production.

(Continued on page 87.)

FINE SELECTION of the RARE STAMPS
of all countries sent on approval at 8d.
in the 1/- discount from catalogue prices.
—B. G. WAITT, The Outspan, Whitstable,
Kent.

First Newfoundlands. (Continued from page 83.)

The second consignment of stamps for Newfoundland was despatched from London on June 15th, 1860, and consisted of the following:—5,000 2d., 6,000 3d., 5,000 4d., 20,000 5d., 10,000 6d. and 1,000 1s.

A further order for stamps was placed with Perkins, Bacon & Co. in the following year, and on May 11th, 1861, the following stamps were sent to Newfoundland:—5,000 2d., 20,000 3d., 15,000 4d., 20,000 6d. and 5,000 6½d. The threepence stamps were printed on medium white wove paper as before, but that employed for the other denominations was a thin hard semi-transparent greyish wove, which also exists with the paper-maker's watermark **STACEYWISE** 1858 in the mill sheet as before.

The colour in which the 2d., 4d., 6d. and 6½d. stamps underwent further modification, the shade used on this occasion being rose.

Later in the same year, on November 30th, 1861, another, the final consignment of postage stamps in the "Pence" type, was sent out to the colony. This consisted of 10,080 1d., 5,000 2d., 50,000 3d., 20,000 4d., 10,000 5d., 50,000 6d., 10,000 6½d., 10,000 8d. and 15,000 of the 1s. value. (To be continued.)

Papua: Confusion of dates unfortunately led to a repetition of Messrs. W. T. Wilson's announcement of April 2nd in the following issue of April 9th. Our regrets to the firm and to the many collectors who were disappointed to hear that the supply was quickly sold out.

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(Continued from page 87.)



The paper used for the stamps sent out in 1861 varies considerably. Most of the stamps printed in rose were on the thin hard semi-transparent greyish wove mentioned above, but included in the consignment were sheets of all six values printed on the

thick unwatermarked opaque wove originally employed in 1856. The 3d. stamp was again printed on the medium white wove of 1860, while the 1d. and 5d. denominations were entirely printed on the thin hard greyish paper.

The shades of the rose stamps and the 3d. green showed little if any variation, but the 5d. is to be found in two distinct shades, chocolate brown and red-brown. These are about equal in value, with a slight preference in favour of the red-brown. The 1d. stamp on thin paper was also printed in chocolate brown and red-brown, but in this case the latter is a great rarity, as only one sheet was printed in red-brown.

Although not officially authorised, the bisection of stamps to prepay half the expressed duty was frequently resorted to in the absence of stamps of the correct denomination.

The one penny value is known so divided and used, after the "Pence" stamps had been superseded, with another 1d. stamp, and a 10 cents stamp to make up a 13 cents rate on a letter addressed to the United States of America.

The fourpence stamp was the most frequently bisected, examples are known in all three shades split to make the 2d. rate, while the 6d. was often similarly treated and used as a threepence stamp. Other denominations met with bisected are the 8d. used as a 4d. stamp, and the 1s. as a 6d. value. An interesting cover noted by Jarrett bears half a 4d. and half an 8d. on the same cover.

The most commonly seen cancellation found on the "Pence" issue is an oval "killer" of ten bars applied at St. John's. After 1862 we find another oval killer but with thicker bars than before, and one or two cork cancellations. Copies bearing dated Newfoundland postmarks are hard to find, while a scarce cancellation sometimes found is a diamond of dots used in the neighbouring French island of St. Pierre.

Both die and plate proofs of all denominations are known in a variety of colours, both those made at the time of manufacture, and later. The last sets of proofs were taken in the present century, after which the dies were defaced and a further series of proofs taken from the defaced dies.

Numerous forgeries of these stamps are known, produced by both the recess method and by lithography, but all are crude and cannot be regarded as dangerous. Fakes however do exist consisting of genuine stamps printed in rose painted to resemble the scarcest carmine vermilion stamps; these may be checked by the paper, and also by the fact that the paint used for making these fakes is soluble in water.

The One Penny Stamp

This denomination, required to prepay the "Imperial" rate on newspapers, was printed in sheets of 120, the impressions being arranged in ten horizontal rows of twelve subjects each.

The design bears a close resemblance to the stamps of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, produced by Perkins, Bacon & Co. in 1851, being square in shape and having as the central motif the Royal Crown contained in an octangle surrounded by the Heraldic Flowers of the United Kingdom, the Rose at NW and SE, the Thistle at SW, and the Shamrock at the NE corner. In each of the four corners of the square are tablets containing the figure 1 in colour, while between these, framing the design comes the inscription ST. JOHN'S, reading upwards at the left; NEWFOUNDLAND across the top, LAND, reading downwards at the right and ONE PENNY across the bottom all in colourless capitals. The word POSTAGE in coloured capitals placed on a label centred above ONE PENNY at the base completes the design.

The first consignment consisted of 70,000 stamps in brown-purple. Few were used in the first two years, as according to the Post Office reports for the years 1857 and 1858, by December 31st of the latter year only 3,321 had been sold. Sales of this value must have increased considerably, for in 1861 a further order for the 1d. stamp was given to the printers, and in the consignment sent by them to the Colony on November 30th, 1861, 10,080 copies of the one penny stamp were included. These were printed on thin hard semi-transparent greyish wove paper in a shade of chocolate brown. One sheet, however, was printed in red-brown; this shade is comparatively common in the 5d. value (q.v.) but in the 1d. denomination it is very scarce indeed.

A nice re-entry is to be found on stamps from both printings. This takes the form of a doubling of the word LAND and the numeral of value at upper right.

(To be continued.)

St. Vincents

We now illustrate the new St. Vincent cents and dollars currency issued locally on March 26th, and take the opportunity of checking the colours by those of the most recent reprintings of the pence and pounds stamps. They have been made to approximate very closely to the previous colours. The perforation is again 12 line, and the printers Bradbury Wilkinson's.

(Illustrations by courtesy of I. Goodstein, W.C.2.)



- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1c. green and blue. (Design as ½d.) | 12c. lake and black. (6d.) |
| 2c. brown and blue. (1d.) | 24c. green and purple. (1/-) |
| 3c. scarlet and green. (1½d.) | 48c. purple and blue. (2/-) |
| 4c. black and green. (2d.) | 60c. indigo and brown. (2/6) |
| 5c. brown and green. (2½d.) | \$1.20 deep green and carmine. (5/-) |
| 6c. purple and orange. (3d.) | \$2.40 purp.-brown and violet. (10/-) |
| 7c. greenish blue and bluish black. (3½d.) | \$4.80 black and mauve. (£1.) |

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of all countries sent on approval at 8d
in the 1/- discount from catalogue prices
—B. G. WAITT, The Outspan, Whitstable.
Kent.

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(Continued from page 131.)



The Four Pence Stamp

A stamp of this denomination was included among those ordered to be prepared to prepay the rate on printed matter weighing between one and two ounces passing by post within the Colony.



The Six Pence Stamp

This denomination required for prepaying the rate on half-ounce letters to the United Kingdom was similar in design to the fourpence value, except that the Rose, Thistle and Shamrock are contained in an oval, the word POSTAGE across the top of the design is in larger letters, and the figures in the four corners are enclosed in circular tablets. The denominational inscriptions are of course altered, and the details of the ornaments in the spandrels are also unique to this value.

Printed in sheets of twenty containing four horizontal rows of five subjects each, the first consignment sent out in 1856 consisted of 250 sheets, 5,000 stamps, in carmine vermilion on thick opaque white wove hand-made paper. During the first two years that they were on sale more of this value were used than of any other denomination, no less than 4,403 being employed between January 1st, 1857, and December 31st, 1858.

It would seem that the system of prepayment in cash for letters addressed to the United Kingdom must have been reverted too soon afterwards, as the next consignment of 6d. stamps, 10,000, printed in orange on medium semi-opaque white wove paper, was not despatched from London till June 15th, 1860.

A further 70,000 stamps were ordered in 1861, these being sent out in two shipments, 20,000 on July 11th, and 50,000 on November 30th. These were printed in rose on thin hard semi-transparent greyish wove for the most part, but included in the 1861 deliveries were a certain number of sheets in rose on the thick opaque paper of 1856. The 6d. value in orange on medium white and in rose on thin greyish wove, are both found with the papermaker's watermark ^{STACEYWISE} 1858 in the mill sheet.

(To be continued.)

The plate from which this value was printed contained twenty impressions arranged in four horizontal rows of five subjects each, the design chosen being very similar to that used for the twopence stamp with the necessary denominational alterations, and the word POSTAGE moved from the base of the design to a place between the figures 4 at the top; these figures in the corners were smaller than those found on the twopence stamp.

Included in the first consignment sent out to the Colony in 1856 were 5,000 copies of this denomination printed in carmine vermilion on thick opaque white wove hand-made paper. Of these, 3,560 were used in the first two years, and when a second order for postage stamps was given to the printers in 1860, a further 5,000 of the fourpence value were included. These were printed from the same plate as before, but in orange on medium semi-opaque white wove watermarked ^{STACEYWISE} 1858 in the mill sheet.

In 1861 yet another order for stamps of this denomination was placed, and a further 35,000 copies were printed and sent out to Newfoundland; these were shipped in two consignments, 15,000 on July 11th, and 20,000 on November 30th. Stamps from the 1861 printings may be distinguished by the shade, which is rose, and also from the fact that the majority of the stamps are printed on a thin hard semi-transparent greyish wove paper watermarked in the mill sheet with the maker's device as in the medium paper used in 1860. A part however of the 1861 printings was on the thick opaque white wove employed in 1856; these are comparatively scarce.

The Five Pence Stamp

In order to prepay the rate on half ounce letters sent from St. John's to addresses in the United States, British North America, the British West Indies and Bermuda, a fivepenny stamp was provided for in the original order given to Perkins, Bacon & Co. in 1856. In a similar design to the one penny stamp, with altered denominational inscriptions, the fivepence stamp was printed from a plate containing 40 impressions arranged in five horizontal rows of eight subjects each. 11,000 copies were printed in 1856 on thick opaque white wove hand-made paper in a shade of purple-brown and sent to the Colony on October 3rd. Although only 84 copies were sold in the period January 1st, 1857, to December 31st, 1858, only four were sold in all during 1858: they must have been used more extensively in 1859, for in the following year a further 20,000 were ordered from London.

The stamps printed in 1860 were in chocolate brown on medium semi-opaque white wove paper watermarked ^{STACEYWISE} 1858 in the mill sheet. Later, in 1861, more of this de-

nomination were ordered, and on November 30th of that year a final consignment of 10,000 copies were despatched from London. These were printed on thin hard semi-transparent greyish wove paper watermarked in the mill sheet as before. The supply on this paper came from two printings, one in the chocolate brown shade used in 1860, and the other in a distinctive red-brown. The quantities of each are not known, but they must have been very much the same as the red-brown stamp is only slightly less common than the chocolate brown shade.

Varieties Uncatalogued

France.—A constant variety on the 6f. "Marianne de Gandon" (which has appeared on all colour changes, blue, rose-red and 5f. on 6f. carmine) is reported by the "France & Colonies Stamp Club" in their "News Letter". It is on stamp 15 in the left-hand panel and also on stamp 65 of the r.h. panel, and takes the form of *three* hair strains instead of the normal *two* in the last curl of Marianne's locks. Something to look for in a very common little stamp.

St. Helena.—We have been shown an interesting variety discovered on the 3d. "Silver Wedding" stamp of this Colony. It is a distinct double print, caused perhaps by a drag on the paper, or an air bubble causing a "kiss print". The doubling is pronounced if slight, and worth a notice. (Thanks to N. J. Mills of Eastbourne.)

Netherlands. A further variety (which may not be constant) is brought to our notice by Mr. A. Wilkins (of the Taunton P.S.). He shows us a distinct white spot on the top right of the first "D" of "NEDERLAND" of the 20c. Queen Juliana stamp. We have not seen it before and should be interested to learn if it is constant.

H.M.S.O. A new form of punctuation has been adopted by H.M. Stationery Office. In place of the former "S (Crown) O", we now have the letters "H.M. S.O." in two rows. (Shown us by Mr. Emil Gotz, Muswell Hill.)

Nyasaland. A philatelic discovery that might be of considerable importance is reported from Blantyre (Nvasa), where an official of the Standard Bank is reported by the *East Africa Gazette* to have discovered a copy of the current 3d. stamp complete except for the figure of value. The stamp is said to have been sent to England for classification, and further developments may be expected.

First Newfoundlands

By PATRICK HAMILTON

(Continued from page 155.)



The Six Pence Halfpenny Stamp

The postage rate on half-ounce letters to the United States of America, British North America, the British West Indies and Bermuda from all parts of Newfoundland except St. John's was

sixpence halfpenny, and to provide means for prepaying a stamp of this denomination was included among those ordered in 1856.

Printed in sheets of twenty subjects arranged in four horizontal rows of five subjects each, the design was broadly similar to the twopence value. The Heraldic Flowers of the United Kingdom appear in a central oval surrounded by another, engine-turned, oval in the upper part of which the words ST. JOHN'S NEWFOUNDLAND are inscribed. Above this larger oval, on a curved label, the words SIX PENCE appear, while below, on another curved label, we find the inscription HALFPENNY. These are all expressed in colourless capitals. To finish off the design, the figures 6½ in colour are placed in tablets situated in each of the four corners.

The first consignment of stamps sent out to Newfoundland in 1856 included one hundred sheets, 2,000 copies, of the 6½d. value printed in carmine vermilion on thick opaque white wove hand-made paper. Very few of these were used, in the first two years of issue only 325 being sold.

When fresh supplies of stamps were ordered in 1860, the sixpence halfpenny was not included. For all this at least one sheet was printed in the orange shade associated with the 1860 printings on the medium semi-opaque white wove paper introduced for Newfoundland stamps at this time. Apart from the fact that the stamps exist, nothing is known of the circumstances of their manufacture. Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. have no record of the variety, and it does not appear in any of the lists of shipments of stamps sent to Newfoundland; it must therefore be regarded as being in the category of "prepared for use but not issued".

In 1861, however, a further 15,000 sixpence halfpenny stamps were ordered, and these were despatched in two shipments, 5,000 on June 11th, and 10,000 on November 30th. These were printed in rose on thin hard semi-transparent greyish wove paper; although this is the paper known to contain the paper-maker's watermark ^{STACEYWISE} 1858 it has not been reported as existing on this denomination. A part of the 1861 printing was made on the thick opaque white wove of 1856.

The Eight Pence Stamp

This was another denomination which was in little demand, its chief use being to prepay inland printed matter weighing between two and four ounces.

8,000 copies of this value were included in the original order for stamps given to Perkins, Bacon & Co. in 1856, and these were printed from a plate containing twenty impressions arranged in four horizontal rows of five subjects each in carmine vermilion on thick opaque hand-made white wove paper. One hundred and seventy-nine copies only were sold during 1857, and in the

following year not a single eight pence stamp was used according to the Post Office Report for that year. While this denomination was not included in the order for further stamps given in 1860, in 1861 10,000 copies were printed and shipped to the Colony on November 30th. These were printed in rose, and for the most part were on thin hard semi-transparent greyish wove, though some of the stamps printed in rose at this time were on the thick opaque white wove of 1856. This value has not been reported as having been found with papermaker's watermark.

Mr. Donald King, the authority on the early issues of Newfoundland, states that the 8d. stamp in rose was never actually issued during the currency of the Pence type stamps, though a few passed through the post at a later date.

The One Shilling Stamp

This stamp, though denominated at one shilling, was sold and accounted for in the official Post Office accounts, at ten pence sterling. Together with the three pence value, already examined, it was denominated in "currency" for some unknown reason. Ten pence was the rate on letters weighing between half and one ounce sent from St. John's to addresses in the United States, British North America, the British West Indies and Bermuda. This value was, however, employed on letters sent to the United Kingdom, although the rate for these was one shilling sterling. It was also often employed in bisected state as a six pence postage stamp on half-ounce letters to England.

Two thousand copies were originally ordered in 1856, and these were printed in carmine vermilion on thick opaque hand-made white wove paper from a plate containing twenty impressions arranged in five horizontal rows of four subjects each. The design was similar to that employed for the two pence stamp except that the tablets of value were removed from the lower corners, and the words ONE SHILLING ran right across the lower edge of the design. The value tablets in the upper corners were circular and included the figures 1 to left and right, while below the central oval were triangular shaped spandrels containing foliate ornaments. This is the only denomination in the Newfoundland "Pence" series of which we have any record of trial impressions being made which differ from the stamp as finally issued. The late Sir E. D. Bacon mentions this in an article in the *London Philatelist* for November, 1894:—

"Mr. David Gill, of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., Ltd., possesses a proof impression in black of the original die of the 1s. This impression differs from the stamp as issued in the following particulars: the triangular-shaped blocks in the lower spandrel, instead of containing foliate ornaments, are divided

(Continued overleaf.)

FINE SELECTION of the RARE STAMPS
of all countries sent on approval at 8d.
in the 1/- discount from catalogue prices.
—B. G. WAITT The Outspan, Whitstable,
Kent.

into two equal parts by a thin diagonal line, the upper portion of each block being filled in with fine vertical lines, and the lower with similar horizontal ones. The blocks in the two top corners have also similar fine lines on either side of the numeral of value. It was afterwards determined to substitute foliate ornaments instead of the straight lines in all four of the blocks. These alterations were made on the original die, which Mr. Gill tells me he has carefully examined, and it distinctly shows traces of re-engraving in these four places. The proof belonging to Mr. Gill, which is believed to be the only one now in existence, is interesting as it shows the design of the 1s. as it was first intended to be printed. The substitution of the foliate ornaments certainly added to the beauty of the stamp."

Only 284 copies of the one shilling stamp were sold in the first two years it was on issue, 200 in 1857, and 84 in 1858, but when further stamps were ordered in 1860 an additional 1,000 of this denomination were bespoken. Printed in orange on medium semi-opaque white wove paper, this stamp is the scarcest of the regularly issued "Pence" stamps of Newfoundland; it is not known with papermaker's watermark.

Included in the 1860 consignment were a minimum of two sheets of stamps which are exceedingly rare. These are the 1s. value printed on vertically laid and horizontally laid paper respectively; nothing is known of these stamps apart from the bare fact of their existence. As they have never been reported as having been found in postally used condition it is unlikely that they were ever issued to the public.

Later, in 1861, a further 15,000 one shilling stamps were ordered. These were printed in rose, for the most part on thin hard semi-transparent greyish wove paper, though a portion at least of the shipment, which was sent from London on November 30th, 1861, included stamps printed in rose on the thick opaque white wove of 1856.

Check List

January 1st, 1857, et seq. Engraved and printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co., on various types of hand made paper.

- 1d. Brown purple on thick white wove.
Chocolate brown on thin greyish wove.
Red brown on thin greyish wove.
- 2d. Carmine vermilion on thick white wove.
Orange on medium white wove.
Rose on thin greyish wove.
Rose on thick white wove.
- 3d. Green on thick white wove.
Dark green on thick white wove.
Green on medium white wove.
Dark green on medium white wove.
- 4d. Carmine vermilion on thick white wove.
Orange on medium white wove.
Rose on thin greyish wove.
Rose on thick white wove.
- 5d. Purple brown on thick white wove.
Chocolate brown on medium white wove.
Chocolate brown on thin greyish wove.
Red brown on thin greyish wove.
- 6d. Carmine vermilion on thick white wove.
Orange on medium white wove.
Rose on thin greyish wove.
Rose on thick white wove.
- 6½d. Carmine vermilion on thick white wove.
Orange on medium white wove.
Rose on thin greyish wove.
Rose on thick white wove.
- 8d. Carmine vermilion on thick white wove.
Rose on thin greyish wove.
Rose on thick white wove.
- 1/- Carmine vermilion on thick white wove.
Orange on medium white wove.
Orange on vertically laid.
Orange on horizontally laid.
Rose on thin greyish wove.
Rose on thick white wove.

The End

PETERBOROUGH'S monthly meeting was devoted to members' displays, and the following gave them: Messrs. I. Hamilton, Hutson, Osborne, Wilson, Maynard, King, Giles, Tozer and Powell. The displays were "Topical Topics, Local Postal History to 1840, Personal Experience of mail delivery on the Gold Coast, German Currency, Odds and Ends, Famous Americans, Interrupted Perfs., Printing of Stamps, and Canada 1898 issue."

World of Stamps

FROM YORKSHIRE we hear of the **Kingston-upon-Hull P.C.** whose A.G.M. resulted in the election of Mr. S. Carmichael as Chairman, and Mr. J. R. Hunecke as Vice-Chairman, while Mr. A. E. McInnes of 119 Bricknell Avenue, Hull, Yorks, remains Hon. Secretary. Other Yorkshire meetings reported are **Scarborough**, whose Chairman is now Mr. J. H. Wilson, with Mr. H. L. Yates as Vice-Chairman. The Secretary remains Mr. G. B. Walsh, of 22 Stepney Drive, Scarborough, and he reported a continual rise in attendance, membership and sales of stamps, which made last year the best in the history of the Society. Scarborough's recipe is a warm friendliness in their meetings, which is of course a "Yorkshire Speciality". **Halifax** also reported a fine year, with a membership of 65, an increase in the "kitty", and Mr. G. Whitworth was elected President, and Messrs. F. Haigh and J. F. Redman Vice-Presidents. Other officials remain the same (J. A. Eastwood, 7 Savile Park Gardens, Halifax, Hon. Secretary). **Leeds** had an "Initial Display" at which Messrs. R. C. Tyreman (Hon. Secretary) "Portraits", F. Crowther ("William Tell"), P. Ost ("American Commemoratives"), W. O. Morris ("Indian States"), and L. Moore ("Protective Papers and Peculiar Perfs.") provided an excellent evening's entertainment. **Sheffield** re-elected their officials, except that Mr. Norman became President for the next season. Otherwise the "sub" is up 2s. 6d., while plans include a "News Sheet" for members.

Over the **LANCASHIRE** border Mr. Harold Stroud delighted **Blackburn** members with his "Falkland Islands & Dependencies" show, and Mr. G. S. Kloet worried the **East Cheshire** members with dichotomous tables (an entomological classification into orders, sub-orders, etc.). It works with stamps as well as with bugs.

NORTHERN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND. We are pleased to have news of the **N.E.P.A.**, which held a "President's Night" at **Stockton**. The locals were hosts to members from **Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Newcastle, Sunderland and Berwick**. The President (Mr. Heslop of Darlington) was in the Chair, and the main items of the evening was a joint display of "Airmail Covers". A later meeting at **Stockton** was devoted to the "Scandinavia" collection of Mr. J. Colman. **Middlesbrough** gave a display by Mr. G. Bolekow, one of their members, of "G.B.-K.G.V. issues" with many unusual items. 30 members were present to enjoy the show and talk. **Arbroath** had a visitor from **Aberdeen**, Mr. J. D. Davidson, who originally founded the Society, and he gave a talk and show entitled "Odds and Ends". A Social meeting will wind up the Season, at which the Misses Chalmers (granddaughters of James Chalmers of Dundee) will be the guests of honour.

WESTERN VISIT. **Devizes** paid a visit to **Marlborough S.C.**, and we are pleased to record our first report from the latter, whose Secretary is Mr. J. E. Chandler, 1 London Road, Marlborough. The display of the evening was Mr. F. E. Chandler's "Afghanistan", and he succeeded in confounding everybody! On the way back, mechanical defects delayed the return of some members until an unseasonly hour, but it was voted "worth it". **Noath** had a visit from Mr. J. A. Barker of **Swansea P.S.** with a "Games with Stamps" programme, that put everyone in a good humour for the variegated display that followed. The A.G.M. of the Society was later, when the Officers were re-elected en bloc, with the addition of a Chairman (Mr. U. Williams) and a Vice-Chairman (Mr. S. I. Davies). The **South Wales** also had an A.G.M., when Mr. P. A. Wilde was elected President, Mr. J. H. C. Molyneux Vice-President and Mrs. E. M. Gould Secretary (but no address to write to?). The Competition which followed was won by Mr. J. A. V. Peters for a fine study of "S. Africa Inter-provisionals". (Sic.)

FROM THE COAST come **Herne Bay**, who enjoyed an auction sale at which all 112 lots offered were sold. Guests from **Canterbury and Whitstable** Societies joined the 29 local members present in making this possible. **Whitstable** had previously entertained Mr. B. S. H. Grant with part of his "Falkland Islands" collection, the Edwardian section. This fine show was the finest ever seen in Whitstable, and was duly appreciated. The **Cinque Ports** was another Society which enjoyed an auction and the Treasurer knocked down 110 lots for good prices. **Brighton & Hove** A.G.M. voted the "Sheraton Cup" to Mr. H. A. Norris for consistent support of Members' displays since he joined. The President for next year is Major L. V. J. Pogson, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer is Mr. A. Gill, 2 Harrington Villas, Brighton, 6, while Mr. A. J. Childs takes over the Exchange Packet. The **Medway Towns** society had a **Whitstable** visitor, Mr. F. Tomlinson, with a display of "Canada" from pre-stamp covers to 1911. They also had "a number of new members". Lucky people!

Review

Billig's Philatelic Handbook No. XI. F. Fritz Billig, Jamaica 3, N.Y., U.S.A., at \$4. 1949.

With the arrival of the eleventh volume, the tradition already built up, that "If it's unusual, it's in Billig" is amply maintained. The contents include more U.S. cancellations, more Airmail listings, including Sudan, early France, R.P.O.'s in the U.S.A., Canadian Postal Stationery, Fournier Forgeries, Great Barrier Island Pigeon Post stamps in sheets, and last, but by no means least, the first attempt at a classification in English of the first type of Greece. For this alone, the work of Messrs. Spink and Truman, the specialist should beg, borrow or steal the volume. Its comparative tables of the numberings of the World's experts, Kohl, Constantinides, Sefi-Pemberton, P. I. Pemberton, Gibbons, Michel, Yvert and Scott, is the most valuable thing yet done for Greek stamps, and it would be sheer ingratitude to cavil at other parts of it. Volume XII promised soon, is to contain a reprinting of Hurt's local stamp catalogue, and altogether, if you are not a fan of Billig, you should be! German scholars will realise that here is a case where the "billigst is the best"!

A.W.