



THE
POSTAGE STAMPS
OF THE
SEYCHELLES

BY
BERTRAM W. H. POOLE,

*(Author of "The South African Provisional
War Stamps," Etc.)*

ILLUSTRATED BY PERMISSION OF THE
BOARD OF INLAND REVENUE.

ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL

PRICE 1/- NETT.

PUBLISHED BY
OSWALD MARSH,
BELVEDERE ROAD, NORWOOD, LONDON, S.E.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

I have paid special attention to the postal issues of the Somaliland Protectorate, and consequently I have a very fine and varied stock of these interesting stamps.

Most of the ordinary varieties I can supply used or unused and in singles, pairs, and blocks.

I have also a good selection of the errors such as "BRIT SH" for "BRITISH" and shall be pleased to quote prices for them on application.

2 annas, 1st issue, with double surcharge.

Exceedingly rare.

Price on application.

Approval selections of this or any other country sent with pleasure. Prices will be found most reasonable.

OSWALD MARSH,

Belvedere Road, Norwood, London, S.E.

THE
POSTAGE STAMPS
OF THE
SEYCHELLES

BY

BERTRAM W. H. POOLE.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY,

EDITOR OF "THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN."

EDITOR OF "THE WEST-END PHILATELIST."

AUTHOR OF "THE SOUTH AFRICAN PROVISIONAL WAR
STAMPS," ETC., ETC.

Fully Illustrated.

PUBLISHED BY

OSWALD MARSHALL,
UTRECHT.

BELVEDERE ROAD, KENSINGTON, LONDON, S.E.

PHILATELIC UTRECHT
MAY, 1906.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR
THE
**South African Provisional
War Stamps.** —

The standard work on the famous "VRI" provisionals of the Orange River Colony and Transvaal, the Mafeking Siege Stamps, and the other War issues caused by the exigencies of the recent War between Briton and Boer in South Africa.

Paper Covers, 56 Pages. Profusely Illustrated.

PRICE 1s. NETT.

**OSWALD MARSH, BELVEDERE ROAD, NORWOOD,
LONDON, S.E.**

THE
Postage Stamps of the Seychelles.

BY BERTRAM W. H. POOLE.

CHAPTER I.—INTRODUCTION.

The adhesive postage stamps of the Seychelles Islands form an ideal series for the collector of moderate means who has a taste for specialism, while the general collector will find little difficulty in filling the spaces allotted to this small Colony in the pages of his album. The total number of stamps issued is not large, there are several surcharged provisionals to add zest to the pursuit of the minor variety, and the most expensive errors can be obtained for a few pounds apiece. A fine range of shades may be found and the classification of these into printings together with a study of the settings of the different surcharges give plenty of scope for that philatelic research without which specialism would not appeal to the true philatelist.

The Seychelles is a group of islands situated



DIE I.



DIE II.

rugged chain of hills which passes through its centre is about 400 feet above the level of the sea ; but the highest peak, christened Mont Blanc, rises to 2000 feet. The chief town on this island, named Port Victoria, is situated on the East coast and contains a good harbour. As the name suggests Mahé was originally a French Colony though the islands have now been in the possession of Great Britain for 94 years.

The history of the islands may be briefly stated as follows :

They were originally discovered by the Portuguese who named them the Islas de Mascareahas. In 1743 they were partially explored by Lazarus Picault, who renamed them Iles La Bourdonnais, and about 1768 the French formed a Colony on the island of Mahé, and bestowed the name of Seychelles upon the group in honour of Count Herault de Seychelles.

They capitulated to the English in 1794, but were not taken possession of. On the capture of Mauritius, however, in 1810, they were occupied, and after Napoleon's power had been broken at the battle of Waterloo in 1815 they were formally ceded to England by the peace of Paris. At the same time Mauritius

was made a British Colony and the Seychelles became a dependency of that island.

On November 10th, 1903, the Seychelles was proclaimed a separate Colony and Mr. Sweet-Escott was appointed its first Governor.

The population, which was in 1871 estimated at 11,082 consists largely of liberated slaves from East Africa and their descendants. About one-tenth of the total number are of European extraction and, owing doubtless to the fact that many of these descended from the early French settlers, French is still the language in most general use. A small garrison of about 100 men is stationed at Port Victoria, and on the Island of Curieuse there is a leper hospital maintaining over 600 patients.

One little known fact regarding this group is that on the island of Mahé the British Government has, in comfortable confinement, a number of captive African kings, who have been deposed and deported for their countries' good. These exiled Royalties include King Prempeh, of Ashanti; Kabbaregga, ex-king of Unyoro; and Mwanga, ex-king of Uganda. These political prisoners have their own special houses, a comfortable allowance and perfect freedom only they must not leave the island.

Doubtless they find their present peaceful existence vastly preferable to their former somewhat unstable, if exciting, kingly positions.

Before concluding this chapter, I should perhaps state that a good deal of the information given in this small volume has been gathered from previous articles on the subject which I have contributed at various times to the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* and to *Poole's Monthly Philatelist*, and a good deal more has been gleaned by a careful study of the stamps in a specialist collection which I commenced in 1903.



CHAPTER II.—THE TWO DIES.

Stamps were first issued in the Seychelles in 1890, the set consisting of eight different denominations. Several new values have been added since, there have been a few colour changes, and a number of surcharges have made their appearance, but, until the King's head series appeared 3 years ago, the same design was in use throughout.

This design consists of a profile portrait of Queen Victoria, as she appeared in 1837, in a small circle, with the word "POSTAGE" in a rectangular tablet at each side and the name of the Colony at the top in another tablet. Under the head is a rectangle containing a spray of leaves at each end and with a space of hexagonal shape in the centre for the insertion of the value tablet. This design, which is a "general" type, was first used for Seychelles, but since its introduction Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., the well-known stamp manufacturers, have used it in producing some of the postal emissions of various other Colonies, *i.e.*, British Honduras, Cayman Is., Gambia, St. Helena, Straits Settlements, and Turks Is.

It came as a surprise to most stamp collectors to learn, in 1903, that there were two distinct types of this design, but the surprising thing seems to be that with so many specialists about the discovery was not made public sooner. The differences between the two types, or dies, are fairly apparent even to a casual observer, and, as they are more easily seen than the differences between dies I. and II. of the early 1d. reds of Great Britain or the two dies of the Queen's head design employed for the issues of Cyprus &c., they are sufficiently important to be taken notice of by the general collector.

So far as I have been able to trace, no one seems to have suspected any varieties of type until some ten years after the stamps had been issued, and then, in 1900, Mr. O. Firth noticed that there appeared to be differences. In June of that year he wrote to *Morley's Philatelic Journal* stating that after looking over a number of these stamps he "was struck by the apparent differences between the heads, both of different impressions of the same stamp and of the different values." He examined a large number of Seychelles 4 cents, and came to the conclusion that he was justified in assuming that there were two distinct types, in this value at any rate. Two enlarged reproductions are

given to illustrate his points, and Mr. Firth described the differences between each, as they appeared to him, with some minuteness. Later, in November of the same year, this gentleman contributed further notes to the same contemporary regarding this matter and described with much detail the differences between two copies of the 2 cents stamp of which enlarged illustrations accompanied his remarks. There is no doubt that these are dies I. and II. respectively though by some strange perversity of fate the writer seems to have quite missed the most striking point of distinction between the two stamps. Again, in May 1901, Mr. Firth contributed another note stating that there were two dies of each of the values 2, 8, 10, 13 and 16 cents, and two enlarged illustrations of each denomination were given, which the gentle reader was invited to compare and so note for himself the differences between each. But comparisons were ever odious, as sages have frequently remarked, and after a prolonged and close study of these illustrations I have to sorrowfully admit that, excepting the 2 cents, I could discover no differences sufficiently marked as to lead an unbiased observer to assume that they were the products of two different dies. Many of the

"differences" were such as might be found on almost any sheet of stamps, being probably caused by some of the lines of the engraving not printing properly, the ink running, or the plate being slightly worn in places. However, there is no doubt that Mr. Firth was on the right track, for two dies do exist in the values he named, and, at any rate, great credit is due to him for bringing the matter forward and thus inducing others to make a closer study of the subject. Nothing more seems to have been written on the matter until June 1903, when, after spending a few months in forming a small specialist collection of Seychelles stamps I had the pleasure of contributing an article to *Poole's Monthly Philatelist* describing the differences between the two dies, and at the same time, by a curious coincidence, Mr. Ehrenbach exploited them for the benefit of a larger public through the medium of the *Monthly Journal*.

As I stated before it is remarkable that the differences remained so long unnoticed, and I can only put it down to the fact that the majority of philatelists do not study their stamps as closely and carefully as they might. I was rather amused at the time I started my collection of Seychelles to be told by one of

our leading dealers that he had known of the two types for years, and that it was the easiest matter in the world for anyone of average intelligence to distinguish them at a glance. To lend colour to his remarks he forwarded his stock-book of this Colony, in which most of the stamps marked dies I. and II. were hopelessly mixed! It was fairly evident that he was on the wrong track. Another gentleman—a collector-dealer and prominent member of a well-known Society—solemnly assured me that he had known of the varieties for a very long time and that he firmly believed die II. to be the result of a "retouch" on the *plate*. In fact, he remembered having had an entire sheet of the 13 cents in which the stamps on the left-hand pane were die I., and those on the right-hand one, die II.! He must have had a very defective memory or a surprisingly rich imagination, for a very casual study of even a few of the stamps should have shewn him that the differences could not have been due to a retouched plate.

The two types are clearly shown in the enlarged illustrations forming the frontispiece to this volume, and it will be noted that the chief and most apparent difference is in the second jewel compartment on the band of the crown.

In type I. there is a fine line at the bottom to the left of the diamond and at the right-hand side of the upper part of the jewel there are three small lines, while in type II. all these lines are absent. There are many other differences that can be plainly seen on comparing the two types but which are somewhat difficult to describe in print. I may, however, mention that in die I. the thick line of shading under the neck in front is merged into the background, while in type II. it just touches the lowest line of the shading. Again, the fine line under the jewel in the first space on the band of the crown ends between two of the lines of the shading forming the background in type I., but in type II. it slants upwards and just touches the diamond. Speaking generally all the lines of the head are bolder and more clearly defined in type II. and this leads me to the conclusion that the second type is due not to an entirely new die, but to a retouch of the original die. Had there been two distinct dies made, it is probable that differences would have occurred in the other parts of the design as well as the portrait, and the fact that the framework in both types is absolutely identical strengthens the inference that the original die was retouched to produce die II.

Only one plate was prepared from the die in its original state and this was numbered "1." Apparently it had but a short life for only the early printings of the first issue of Seychelles and the 1½d. stamp of St. Helena were printed from it before, in 1892, it gave place to plate "2" produced from the retouched die.



CHAPTER III.—THE FIRST ISSUE.

The first issue of Seychelles stamps made its appearance in 1890, the set consisting of eight values—2, 4, 8, 10, 13, 16, 48, and 96 cents. The same design was employed for all the values and each was printed in two colours. These, and all the succeeding stamps for this Colony were engraved and printed in London by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd. They were issued in sheets of 120 stamps arranged in two panes of 60 (10 rows of 6) placed side by side. The plate number—an uncoloured figure on a solid circle of colour surrounded by a ring—



is shewn four times on the margin of each sheet,

above and below the second stamps from the extreme ends of the top and bottom rows, and there is a Jubilee line around each pane. The stamps are watermarked with a Crown over the letters "CA" and are perforated 14. Only one general "head plate" was required. From this the main portion of the stamps was printed and the name "SEYCHELLES" and the denomination were inserted in the spaces provided for the purpose at a second operation. The plate number is always in the colour of the body of the stamp. It is in this issue that the two dies described in the previous chapter occur. The first supplies of all values sent out to the Colony were the variety known as die I. printed from the plate numbered "1." This plate was apparently in use for only a very short time and about the beginning of 1892 a fresh one, numbered "2," was prepared, the stamps from this being die II. The 48c. and 96c. denominations only exist in the first type, while in the other six values both dies may be found. There seem to have been several printings of most of the values. The early ones shew all the lines of the design sharp and clear and the later ones shew some of the lines thicker and more or less blurred as the plate became gradually worn.

The specialist will find that it is possible to make some very fine ranges of shade of nearly all the values. It will be found that most of the stamps of die I. have a deep brown gum while those of die II. have either creamy or white gum. Some of the later printings from plate 1, however, may be found with white gum and some of the earlier impressions from plate 2 exist with brown gum. The colour of the gum, in unused specimens, sometimes has a marked influence on the shades but it is a very unreliable guide in identifying the printings. It is said that the brown gum is due to atmospheric influences though it is difficult to understand why the climate should affect the gum in some instances and not in others. I have had sheets of the same value which had, presumably, been in the Seychelles for precisely the same time and yet some of these had white gum and others brown. But even supposing that the manufacturers on occasions used a gum much browner in tone than at other times, its use seems to have been so haphazard that the gum can hardly be counted as being of any philatelic importance.

It will be found as a general rule that the stamps produced from plate 2 are much brighter in tint than those from plate 1.

In the list below and in all following ones the name and value are in the second colour mentioned.

The following is a list of the most striking varieties of shade but, of course, many intermediate ones may be found :—

DIE I.

- 2 cents, pale green and carmine.
- 2 " " deep green and carmine.
- 2 " " green and deep carmine.
- 4 " " pale carmine and green.
- 4 " " carmine and green.
- 8 " " purple brown and blue.
- 8 " " deep purple brown and blue.
- 8 " " bright purple brown and blue.
- 10 " " blue and brown.
- 10 " " deep blue and brown.
- 13 " " grey and black.
- 16 " " chestnut and blue.
- 16 " " deep chestnut and blue.
- 48 " " pale ochre and green.
- 48 " " deep ochre and green.
- 96 " " mauve and carmine.
- 96 " " deep mauve and carmine.

(All the above are Plate 1.)

DIE II.

- 2 cents, green and carmine.
- 2 " " deep green and carmine.
- 4 " " carmine and green.
- 4 " " deep carmine and green.
- 8 " " purple brown and blue.

8 cents, purple brown and ultramarine.
10 " ultramarine and brown.
10 " deep ultramarine and brown.
13 " grey and black.
16 " red brown and ultramarine.
16 " bright red-brown and ultramarine.
(All the above are Plate 2).



CHAPTER IV.—THE 1893 PROVISIONALS.

Early in 1893 alterations were made in the rates of postage, and, as has happened on similar occasions in many other British Colonies, it was deemed advisable to issue new values to correspond with the revised charges. The new denominations required were 3, 12, 15, 45, and 90 cents and as the revised rates of postage came into force directly they were decided on, recourse was made to surcharging to supply the demand for these values. The stamps over-printed were the 4 cents, die II; 16 cents, dies I. and II.; and 48 and 96 cents, die I. The new postal rates made the 16, 48, and 96 cents practically useless so that the authorities doubtless found that surcharging



was an excellent way of using up the remaining supplies. Evidently there was not much

demand for the 90c. value, for in the supply of the regular type ordered from Messrs. De La Rue and Co. only the 3, 12, 15, and 45 cents were requisitioned.

The overprinting was done locally, the surcharge consisting of figures about 5 mm. high, with "cents" in heavy type underneath. The actual work of composing the type was done by natives, and, as the type itself was by no means new or in perfect condition, it is, perhaps, not to be wondered at that minor varieties occur. Indeed, under the circumstances, it is surprising that the variations are not more numerous. These varieties are of two main kinds—(1) broken figures and letters, varying in number and position according to the different settings of the type; and (2) letters raised above the level of the others in the word "cents," and the position of the figures of value in relation to the letters underneath differing usually according to the various printings from the type. As these are all of equal importance, and to save confusion both kinds are listed as "settings" in the following notes. The varieties in the alignment of the word "cents" were caused, I fancy, by the type being slightly loose in the forme used for surcharging; but it should be clearly understood that they are quite constant

in their positions throughout the printings in which they occur. The broken types described, too, are all *constant* varieties, and I have taken considerable pains to exclude any variations that might possibly be due to defective inking or to dirt on the type. Most of the varieties of broken type may be found in all the values of this issue, though not always in the same position, for in changing the figures for each denomination the rest of the type was sometimes moved. The raised letter varieties probably do not exist on all the values, and in these notes I only list those I have actually seen. As they are evidently caused by the type not being screwed up tightly enough in the forme, it is extremely probable that some of the alignment was altered with each printing and, perhaps, also each time the figures were changed.

The stamps were surcharged thirty at a time, so that each sheet of 120 had to go under the printing press four times. This can be at once seen by examining a pane of sixty stamps, for the shifted and broken letter varieties occupy identical positions on the top and bottom blocks of thirty. To facilitate the work of overprinting, the margin was torn off many of the sheets, so that the panes then only had to be folded in two before being surcharged. In some cases,

too, the panes were torn in half before being surcharged, so that these stamps would be sent from the printers in blocks of thirty (five rows of six). This, I fancy, though only occurred in the case of the 15c. on 16 cents, Die II.

The "3 Cents" on 4 Cents.

This value, representing one-halfpenny, was in great demand and a good many printings were made. There is evidence of at least six distinct settings and future specialists may discover a few more. The arrangement I have followed is a purely arbitrary one, for, at present, at any rate, there is no means of determining with certainty the exact order in which they appeared. In one setting I have, the abnormal varieties are distributed as follows :—

Setting (a) :—

- 1st in 1st row the "c" is cut in two, and the back of the "e" is cut away.
- 4th in 1st row foot of "e" broken off.
- 6th in 1st row "nts" raised.
- 1st in 2nd row "ts" very slightly raised.
- 2nd in 2nd row "ts" raised and top of "3" broken.
- 6th in 2nd row "ts" slightly raised and back of "c" cut.
- 2nd in 3rd row "c" cut at the back.
- 6th in 3rd row "ts" raised.
- 1st in 4th row "ts" slightly raised.
- 2nd in 4th row "s" do.

3rd in 4th row "c" raised and foot of "e" broken.
 5th in 4th row first stroke of "n" broken in centre.
 6th in 4th row "ts" slightly raised.
 3rd in 5th row "s" raised and foot of "c" broken.
 4th in 5th row no foot to "t."
 6th in 5th row "3" and "nts" badly battered.

The "3" is above "nts" on the first and second stamps in the second row, sixth in third row, second in fourth row, and first, second, third, and sixth in the fifth row. On the fifth stamp in the second row, fifth in third row, and fourth and fifth in fourth row it is above "nt," and on the remaining eighteen stamps the "3" is above the letter "n."

All the stamps I have seen in this setting are printed in a fairly bright carmine, with value and name in pale green. The gum is quite white.

* * *

The second setting I have to describe is a curious one, rich in shifted letter varieties. It will be seen that only five out of the thirty stamps are normal. The others are as below :—

Setting (b):—

2nd in 1st row "s" slightly raised.
 3rd in 1st row "cs" slightly raised.
 4th in 1st row "s" raised.
 5th in 1st row "cs" slightly raised.
 6th in 1st row "s" raised.
 1st in 2nd row "s" raised.
 2nd in 2nd row "s" raised.
 3rd in 2nd row "s" raised.
 4th in 2nd row "ces" raised.

5th in 2nd row "ces" raised.
 6th in 2nd row "ce" raised.
 1st in 3rd row "s" slightly raised.
 2nd in 3rd row "ces" slightly raised.
 4th in 3rd row "ces" slightly raised.
 5th in 3rd row "ces" slightly raised.
 6th in 3rd row "ces" raised.
 2nd in 4th row "cs" raised.
 3rd in 4th row "cs" raised and foot of "e" broken.
 4th in 4th row "ces" raised.
 5th in 4th row "ces" slightly raised.
 6th in 4th row "ces" raised.
 1st in 5th row "c" raised.
 3rd in 5th row "s" raised.
 4th in 5th row "ces" raised.
 5th in 5th row "ces" raised.

The "3" is above "n" or "nt."

* * *

In the third setting only one stamp shows any of the letters raised—quite a contrast to the foregoing one. The varieties are as follows:—

Setting (c):—

1st in 1st row "ce" cut as in setting (a).
 4th in 1st row "s" battered.
 6th in 1st row "s" do.
 2nd in 2nd row top of "s" bent downward.
 6th in 2nd row do. do.
 2nd in 3rd row top of "n" battered.
 3rd in 4th row foot of "e" broken off.
 6th in 4th row the top part of the "3" divided.
 1st in 5th row top of "3" cut and foot of "t" broken.
 3rd in 5th row top of "3" cut and "ts" raised.
 4th in 5th row no foot to "t".

The "3" is above the letters "nt" on the fourth, fifth, and sixth stamps in the fifth row—on all the others it is above the "n."

Stamps from this setting are of a dull carmine shade, with name and value in dark green, while the gum is brown.

* * *

In the next setting the battered "ce" on No. 1 in the top row and the "t" without foot on the fourth stamp in the bottom row still keep their positions; but the broken "3" on the end stamp of the fourth row is now moved to the row above. The varieties are:—

Setting (d) :—

- 1st in 1st row "ce" cut as in setting (a) and the foot of "3" broken.
- 4th in 1st row the "s" is battered.
- 6th in 1st row do. do.
- 6th in 2nd row "c" is raised and top of "s" battered down.
- 2nd in 3rd row top of "n" battered.
- 4th in 3rd row raised "c."
- 5th in 3rd row raised "s."
- 6th in 3rd row the top part of the "3" is divided.
- 3rd in 4th row foot of "e" broken and raised "c."
- 4th in 4th row raised "s."
- 5th in 4th row raised "cs."
- 4th in 5th row foot of "t" broken.
- 5th in 5th row raised "s."
- 6th in 5th row top of "s" battered.

On the sixth stamp in the fifth row the "3" is above "nt"; on all the others it is above "n."

In the next setting the most striking varieties are the following :—

Setting (e) :—

- 1st in 4th row the top half of " 3 " broken.
- 3rd in 4th row raised " s."
- 2nd in 5th row upper ball of " 3 " broken.
- 5th in 5th row raised " s,"

This setting is specially characterised by having the " 3 " above the letter " e " on the first stamp in the third row.

* * *

In addition to the above there is at least one more setting, for the two bottom rows of a pane have been found in which the type is all very regular, none of the letters being raised. In the second stamp on the lower row the top of the " 3 " is broken, while on the fourth stamp on the same row the " t " is unbroken ; it will be found that the stamp in the corresponding position in all the other settings has the foot of the " t " cut right away.

This value may be found with inverted surcharge but as I have never possessed this error in blocks I cannot say in which setting it exists.

Specimens have also been found with distinct double surcharge, but unless a fairly large block is discovered (a somewhat unlikely con-

tingency) it will be impossible to say in which setting this error was made.

I have seen a copy surcharged with the figure "3" on the old value and with the word "cents" omitted. This was caused by the block of thirty stamps being placed too high in the printing press so that the top row of stamps only received the surcharge "3" and the others would shew the word "cents" above the figure "3."

Copies of this and some of the other values are said to exist with the word "cents" in error for "cents" but a careful examination of all I have seen proves the second "c" to be only a slightly defective "e."

An interesting variety is thus described in the *Monthly Journal* for January 1904:— "Our publishers have shown us a curious block of the '3 cents' on 4c.; it consists of the last two horizontal rows of a sheet (two panes), with the overprint of the right-hand pane so much out of position that the two right-hand stamps of the left pane have a double surcharge, the second impression falling partly on the space between the panes, while the right-hand pane has no surcharge. The overprint having been set up in blocks of 30, there must have

been three other rows similar to these, giving five stamps in all with a real double surcharge, and five horizontal pairs showing stamps with and without the surcharge *se tenant*."

The "12 Cents" on 16 Cents.

I have die I. of this value in a setting which corresponds with that of (c) in the 3c. on 4c. The battered and broken letters all appear on the corresponding stamps, but the "c" is raised on the third stamp in the fifth row instead of the "ts." A few additional broken letters appear, due, no doubt, to the type having become more battered as the work of surcharging proceeded. The figure "1" of "12" appears over the letters "en" on the fourth stamp in the first row, fourth in third row, third and fourth in fourth row, and fourth in fifth row, while on the fifth in the second row it is above the "n." On all the other stamps the "1" is above the letter "e."

In a block of twelve of the same die, the two top rows of a pane, I find evidence of another setting. The battered "ce" on the first stamp in the top row, which is such a prominent feature of the other setting, does not occur in this one, though the battered "s's" appear in the same positions. On the fifth and sixth

stamps in the second row the "I" is above "en," while on the others it is over the "e."

Another block of twelve (three rows of four) of the same die seems to point to yet another setting, for, in this, four of the stamps have the "I" over the letters "ce"—a position that does not occur in either of the others.

In die II. of this value I have not seen many large blocks, but all of those I have examined seem to point to the fact of there being only one setting—similar to (a) in the 3c. on 4c., but with only two of the raised letter varieties.

Die II. exists with the surcharge inverted and a pair has been found with a third surcharge between the two stamps. I have also seen a used copy of Die I. with two distinct impressions of the overprint. Varieties of die I. with the "12" below "cents" and with the word "cents" omitted altogether may be found, these being caused in exactly the same manner as the similar varieties described in the 3c. on 4c.

There are many so-called double surcharges of this, and the 3c. on 4c. and 15c. on 16c. values—some with the figures only and others with the whole of the overprint more or less distinct. As these are merely caused by the

wet ink of a freshly surcharged sheet adhering to the gum of the sheet placed on top, which on being moved and placed on the face of a third sheet, transfers the off-set to this one, I think they are of but little interest even to the most ardent specialists.

The "15 Cents" on 16 Cents.

In die I. of this value I have not seen sufficient blocks to give any definite information about the settings, but from a close examination of the few I have seen it appears probable that there was only one setting.

In die II, I have a block of thirty which apparently corresponds with setting (a) of the 3c. on 4c. but without any of the raised letters. The broken letters all occur on stamps in the same positions—No. 1 with its broken "ce" and No. 6 on the bottom row with its badly battered type being specially prominent. On the sixth stamps in the third and fifth rows the "1" of "15" is above the "ce" of "cents"; on the fifth in the second and third rows, fourth and-fifth in fourth, and second and fourth in fifth, the "1" is over the "en"; and on the others it is above the "e." This seems to be the only setting.

Die I. of this value may be found with inverted surcharge and I have seen a used pair of die II. with a distinct double impression of the overprint, one overlapping the other to a very considerable extent. Specimens of die I. may be found without the word "cents" and with the figures "15" below "cents" just as in the cases of the 3c. on 4c. and 12c. on 16c. previously mentioned.

The "45 Cents" on 48 Cents.

In this value I have seen a block of eighteen (the three lowest rows of a pane) which clearly points to the fact that it is the same setting as the 15c. on 16c., die II.—viz.: like (a) of the 3c. on 4c. but without the raised letter varieties. The badly battered "nts" on the last stamp in the bottom row is alone almost sufficient to identify it by; but the broken "c," "n" and "t" also appear in their correct positions. This block therefore forms rows 3, 4 and 5 of setting (a). The "4" of "45" is over the letters "ce" on the sixth stamp in the fifth row; above "n" on the fifth stamp in the fourth row; over "en" on the fifth stamp in the third, third and fourth in the fourth, and first second, third and fourth in the fifth rows; while on the remaining nine stamps it is over the "e."

I have two blocks of four which do not correspond with any of the above, and it is very probable they belong to another setting.

Copies may be found with "45" only and also with "cents" above "45." These owe their origin to the same cause as the similar varieties described for the 3c. on 4c. &c.

An interesting error of colour occurs in this stamp. It is in a distinct shade of greenish-yellow instead of the more usual ochre. I have only seen three copies altogether and apparently it does not exist in the unsurcharged stamps.

The "90 Cents" on 96 Cents.

I have seen no large blocks of this value so that I can say nothing definite about the settings. I have a corner pair which seems to correspond with setting (c) of the 3c. on 4c., and I have also a copy with raised "c" and another with raised "s" but what their positions on the half-pane are I haven't the slightest idea.

An interesting variety exists with a wide space between the letters "ts" in "cents."

* * *

The following is a list of the most important varieties:—

- " 3 cents" on 4c., carmine and green, die II.
- " 12 cents" on 16c., chestnut and blue, die I.
- " 12 cents" on 16c., chestnut and ultra, die II.
- " 15 cents" on 16c., chestnut and blue, die I.
- " 15 cents" on 16c., chestnut and ultra, die II.
- " 45 cents" on 48c., ochre and green, die I.
- " 45 cents" on 48c., greenish yellow and green, die I.
- " 90 cents" on 96c., mauve and carmine, die I.

(Many shades of all values exist).

Error, with surcharge inverted.

- " 3 cents" on 4c., carmine and green, die II.
- " 12 cents" on 16c., chestnut and ultra, die II.
- " 15 cents" on 16c., chestnut and blue, die I.

Error, with double surcharge.

- " 3 cents" on 4c., carmine and green, die II.
- " 12 cents" on 16c., chestnut and blue, die I.
- " 15 cents" on 16c., chestnut and ultra, die II.

Error, three surcharges on two stamps.

- " 12 cents" on 16c., chestnut and ultra, die II.

Error, pair one without surcharge.

- " 3 cents" on 4c., carmine and green, die II.

Variety, space between "ts" of "cents."

- " 90 cents" on 96c., mauve and carmine, die I.

Variety, with figures of value only.

- " 3 " on 4c., carmine and green, die II.
- " 12 " on 16c., chestnut and blue, die I.
- " 15 " on 16c., chestnut and blue, die I
- " 45 " on 48c., ochre and green, die I.

Variety, with "cents" above the value.

- "Cents 3" on 4c., carmine and green, die II.
- "Cents 12" on 16c., chestnut and blue, die I.
- "Cents 15" on 16c., chestnut and blue, die I.
- "Cents 45" on 48c., ochre and green, die I.

Variety, with letter "c" of "cents" raised.

- "3 cents" on 4c., carmine and green, die II.
- "12 cents" on 16c., chestnut and blue, die I.
- "12 cents" on 16c., chestnut and ultra, die II.
- "45 cents" on 48c., ochre and green, die I.
- "90 cents" on 96c., mauve and carmine, die I.

Varieties.

- Letters "ce" of "cents" raised.*
- Letters "ces" of "cents" raised.*
- Letters "cs" of "cents" raised.*
- Letters "nts" of "cents" raised.*
- Letters "ts" of "cents" raised.*
- "3 cents" on 4c., carmine and green, die II.

Variety, letter "s" of "cents" raised.

- "3 cents" on 4c., carmine and green, die II.
- "12 cents" on 16c., chestnut and ultra, die II.
- "45 cents" on 48c., ochre and green, die I.
- "90 cents" on 96c., mauve and carmine, die I.

CHAPTER V.—THE REGULAR ISSUE OF 1893.

Late in 1893 the supply of 3c., 12c., 15c., and 45c. stamps ordered from London came to hand and were put on sale in place of the provisionals dealt with in the last chapter. These four values were printed from plate 2 and the size of the sheets, watermark and perforation is exactly the same as in the case of the stamps previously issued.

The 3c., 12c., and 15c., were in use for many years—practically until the issue of the King's head set. The 3 cents may be found in a striking variety of shades and a supply despatched to the Colony in 1902 was printed from plate 3 which had come into use two years previously. Most of those printed from plate 2 are in deep shades of purple, while those from plate 3 are of a light reddish purple tint. The value and name of the Colony (in orange) do not vary much in shade. The 12 cents was only printed from plate 2 and there are not many varieties of tint. The 15 cents, also was only printed from plate 2 and, though a stamp of the same facial value, printed in the

Postal Union colour of blue, was issued in 1900, this first one seems to have been current until about 1902. A fine range of shades can be made and the colour of the gum in this value varies more than usual. I have copies with very deep brown gum (evidently early impressions), others with white gum, and almost every variation between. The 45 cents does not present any very striking differences of shade. The following is a list of the varieties.—

- 3 cents, purple and orange, plate 2.
- 3 cents, deep purple and orange, plate 2.
- 3 cents, reddish purple and orange, plate 3.
- 12 cents, sepia and green, plate 2
- 12 cents, deep sepia and green, plate 2.
- 15 cents, sage green and lilac, plate 2.
- 15 cents, sage green and deep lilac, plate 2.
- 15 cents, deep sage green and lilac, plate 2.
- 45 cents, brown and carmine, plate 2.



CHAPTER VI.—THE 1896 PROVISIONALS.

The 45 cents stamp issued in 1893 did not have a very long life nor was it found to be a particularly useful denomination. So, in 1896, when extensions and revisions of the postal service made stamps of 18c. and 36c. a necessity the remaining stock of the 45c. was utilised in manufacturing provisionals of these values.

The type employed consisted of thin capital letters and figures about 4 mm. high. Enough type was set to surcharge 30 stamps (5 rows of 6) at a time so that each pane had to go under the printing press twice before all the stamps were overprinted. Exactly the same type was employed in both values for the word "cents" though of course the figures had to be altered from "18" to "36" in producing the



highest denomination. There are two particularly interesting varieties in this type—

one having a short "T" and the other having the first upright stroke of the "N" short. The former is the third and the latter the fifth stamp on the the top row. These varieties are just as important as the similar ones in the 1889 issue of Gibraltar which are deemed worthy of catalogue rank. Another interesting variety, occurring on the third stamp in the bottom row, has all the limbs of the "E" too short making the letter look much smaller than the others.

The following are the positions of the most noticeable varieties in the word "cents":—

- 3rd in 1st row, short "T."
- 5th in 1st .. left down stroke of "N" is short.
- 6th in 1st .. bottom half of "S" battered.
- 3rd in 3rd .. "NT" prints badly, the letters being somewhat battered.
- 4th in 3rd .. narrow "E," due to defective type.
- 5th in 3rd .. narrow "E" and battered "C."
- 6th in 4th .. top portion of "S" is cut.
- 1st in 5th .. back of "C" broken.
- 3rd in 5th .. small "E."
- 4th in 5th .. top portion of "S" is cut.
- 5th in 5th .. the letters "NTS" are broken.

There are no broken letter varieties in the figures "36" but in those for the 18 cents the following may be found:

- 3rd in 2nd row, "1" is broken in the centre and the top circle of "8" is broken at both sides.

SEYCHELLES.

2nd in 3rd row, top portion of the upper half of the "8" is cut off.

3rd in 3rd row, top of the "1" is cut and the top left side of the "8" is cut away.

The 18 cents surcharge may often be found reading "18 cent." This is simply due to the sheets being placed a little too much to the right on the printing press so that the five end stamps on the left hand side are minus the "s" and all the others have the surcharge reading "s 18 cent." I have seen other off-centre varieties in which the overprint is "8 cents 1" and "8 cents" but these are purely freaks and of little or no philatelic importance.

The "18 cents" on 45c. is known with two distinct impressions of the overprint.

The following is a list of the varieties:—

"18 cents" on 45c., brown and carmine, plate 2.

"36 cents" on 45c., brown and carmine, plate 2.

Error, with double surcharge.

"18 cents" on 45c., brown and carmine.

Variety, short "t" in "cents."

"18 cents" on 45c., brown and carmine.

"36 cents" on 45c., brown and carmine.

Variety, first stroke of the "n" short.

"18 cents" on 45c., brown and carmine.

"36 cents" on 45c., brown and carmine.

Variety, small "e" in "cents."

"18 cents" on 45c., brown and carmine.

"36 cents" on 45c., brown and carmine.

CHAPTER VII.—THE 1897 ISSUE.

In the Diamond Jubilee year of 1897 a supply of 18c. and 36c. stamps in the ordinary type, replacing the two provisionals of 1896, was dispatched to the island, the 36c. being in the colours of the discarded 45c. At the same time the set was enriched by the addition of a high value stamp bearing the denomination of 1 rupee. The value is expressed by a figure "1," followed by a large capital "R," the tablet being plain instead of lined as in the case of the other stamps. All three values were printed from plate 2, and as none are found from plate 3 it is certain that no supply of these values was printed in or after 1902. There are not many shades of the 18c. and 36c. but in the 1r. a fine range of tints may be obtained. The following is a list of the most prominent shades:—

- 18 cents, ultramarine, plate 2.
- 18 cents, deep ultramarine, plate 2.
- 36 cents, brown and carmine, plate 2.
- 1 rupee, mauve and deep red, plate 2.
- 1 rupee, bright mauve and deep red, plate 2.
- 1 rupee, deep mauve and deep red, plate 2.

CHAPTER VIII.—THE 1900 ISSUE.

Early in 1900 the colour of the 15 cents was changed to ultramarine, the Postal Union colour for 2½d. stamps, and shortly after a 6 cents (1d.) stamp in red was issued. A few months later three high values appeared *i.e.*, 75c., 1r. 50c., 2r. 25c. all these having the tablet of value plain as in the case of the 1 rupee stamp. In April of the same year the colour of the 2c. stamp was changed from green and carmine to orange brown and green. All of these were printed from plate 2

A new plate numbered 3, seems to have been made towards the close of the year 1901 and in December the 3c. purple and orange was reported with this plate number. In January 1902 a fresh supply of the 6 cents was sent to



the Seychelles, these being printed from plate 3, and in the following April the 2c. printed from this plate was reported. These three low values are the only ones existing with the plate number 3.

Some fine shades may be found of most of the stamps of this issue and I have seen copies of the 75c. with the name and value greatly off-centre.

It is interesting to note that in 1900 there was quite an extensive set in stock, comprising the following values :—2c., 3c., 4c., 6c., 8c., 10c., 15c., (two) 16c., 18c., 36c., 75c., rr., rr. 50c. and 2r. 25c. It is quite probable, too, that the 13c., could also be obtained at the chief post offices then.

The following is a list of the varieties of the 1900 issue :—

- 2c., pale orange brown and green, plate 2.
- 2c., orange brown and green, plate 2.
- 2c., deep orange brown and green, plate 3.
- 6c., carmine, plate 2.
- 6c., deep carmine, plate 3.
- 15c., pale ultramarine, plate 2.
- 15c., deep ultramarine, plate 2.
- 75c., yellow and violet, plate 2.
- rr. 50c., grey and carmine, plate 2.
- rr. 50c., deep grey and carmine, plate 2.
- 2r. 25c., lilac and green, plate 2.
- 2r. 25c., deep lilac and green, plate 2.

CHAPTER IX.—THE 1901 PROVISIONALS.

During the last six months of the year 1901 there was quite an epidemic of surcharging, three different provisionals of the value of 3 cents and one of 6 cents appearing. The first one—the 36c. brown and carmine overprinted "3 cents"—was issued on June 21st. Practically the whole of the stock on hand of the 36c. stamps was surcharged making this value without the overprint quite a scarce stamp. Two months later, in August, another batch of 3 cents provisionals appeared, and this time the remaining stock of the 16c. die II. was appropriated for the purpose of surcharging.

In this month, too, all the 8 cents stamps on hand at the chief office had their value reduced to "6 cents" by means of an overprint—presumably to use them up as there was then little or no demand for the 8c. denomination. Later still, in September, all the 10 cents stamps—another value seldom asked for at that period—were used in the production of another "3 cents" provisional. On the 10, 16, and 36 stamps the overprint "3 cents" was in ordinary lower-case type and was

struck across the centre, the old values being



cancelled by means of two parallel lines. The "6 cents" surcharge was in larger and bolder type impressed over the original value "8 c." and without any bars. In all four instances the overprint was in black.

It has been suggested that these provisionals were issued by the Postal Authorities with the sole idea of raising revenue at the expense of stamp collectors, for, as the bulk of them were bought up by speculators within a short time of their issue, it is obvious that they could have been of no use to fill any legitimate postal demand that might have existed for these values. But, a close examination of the facts that led to their issue, seems to prove that the postal officials were not altogether to blame in the matter though they were, doubtless, not displeased at having the opportunity of work-

ing off old stock in this manner. These provisionals owe their existence chiefly to the machinations of a speculator; or, perhaps, it would be more correct to say a group of speculators. First of all, the whole of the stock of ordinary 3c. stamps was bought up by this group and to meet the demand for this value the first provisional appeared. The whole of these was soon bought up and so a second value had to be surcharged. The same tactics resulted in the appearance of the third 3c. provisional and doubtless the speculators would have continued this merry game until further orders but for the fact that they found extreme difficulty in unloading the stamps they had already cornered.

Taking them on the whole this little batch of provisionals seems to have been turned out very well for with the exception of one or two badly broken "e's" there are no minor varieties. The type was set up in a forme large enough to surcharge 30 stamps (5 rows of 6) at a time so that each sheet would have to go under the printing press four times. The same type was used in printing all three of the "3 cents" surcharges for the broken letters occur in exactly the same positions on each. In producing the "3 cents" on 16c. the printer

seems to have been very sparing with the ink for several half-panes were issued on which many of the stamps had the "3 cents" missing altogether though the bars are clearly shown. On the lower half of a pane in my possession the two first stamps in the second row have only a few faint dots to indicate what should have been "3 cents," while on eight other specimens only the extreme lowest portion of the letters forming the word is visible. Some of these badly printed blocks were detected and run through the printing press a second time to rectify matters. The result is that those stamps shewing a clear impression on the first occasion show distinct double surcharges after the second printing.

The 3c. on 16c., and 6c. on 8c. are both known with inverted surcharge. In the former case the bars are at the top of the stamp and in the 6c. on 8c. the inscription "6 cents" is inverted at the top of the stamp, the old value being uncancelled.

The following is a list of the varieties:—

- "3 cents" on 10c., ultramarine and bistre.
- "3 cents" on 16c., chestnut and ultramarine.
- "3 cents" on 36c., brown and carmine.
- "6 cents" on 8c., purple brown and blue.

Error, surcharge inverted.

" 3 cents " on 16c., chestnut and ultramarine.

" 6 cents " on 8c., purple brown and blue.

Error, double surcharge.

" 3 cents " on 16c., chestnut and ultramarine.

Error, surcharged with bars only.

" = " on 16c., chestnut and ultramarine.

Variety, badly broken " e " in " cents."

" 3 cents " on 10c., ultramarine and bistre.

" 3 cents " on 16c., chestnut and ultramarine.

" 3 cents " on 36c., brown and carmine.



CHAPTER X.—THE 1902 PROVISIONALS.

There was another outbreak of surcharging in 1902. Those responsible for the administration of the postal affairs of the Seychelles discovered that the 45 cents value, which had been abandoned some years previously, was again wanted and at the same time it was found that a 30c. stamp would be a useful value to have on hand. Provision had been made for these two values in the new King's head set, which was then on order, and to meet temporary demands a quantity of 75c. and 1r. stamps were surcharged "30 cents" and some of the 1r. and 2r. 25c. denominations were over printed "45 cents." It would seem, too, that the supply of ordinary 2c. stamps had run



out of stock and as the King's head ones were

momentarily expected the remaining stock of 4c. stamps was surcharged for use as "2 cents."

It is evident that the type used for overprinting had seen its best days. The surcharging was badly done, the type being defective and the ink often very carelessly applied, so that badly smudged impressions are by no means uncommon. The type used for the "2 cents" surcharge was the same as that employed for the 3c. provisionals described in the last chapter, the old value "4c." being cancelled by two short bars. The other surcharges were in slightly larger type and the lines cancelling the original values extend right across the row of six stamps. As is usually the case with Seychelles surcharges all these overprints were applied to half-panes of 30 stamps (5 rows of 6) at a time.

The "2 cents" on 4c. is the most clearly printed of the batch and there is evidence to shew that the same type was used as that employed in surcharging the 10, 16, and 36c. values with "3 cents" in 1901. The figures "3" were, of course, replaced by "2's" but otherwise the overprints are identical as can be proved by the positions of the broken letter varieties. The broken "e" on the second stamp in the first row is especially prominent.

In making up the "30 cents" surcharge to apply to the 75c. and 1r. stamps the powers of the printing establishment were severely taxed to find sufficient "O's." Only 26 could be found and for the other four stamps an "O" of a different fount had to be used. This figure is much taller and narrower than the normal one and can easily be distinguished. It occurs on the sixth stamp on the third row, and on the second, third, and fourth ones on the fifth row.

There appear to have been two settings of the type for the "45 cents" surcharge. The first of these was applied to the 1 rupee value and contains no varieties except a few broken letters of such a trivial nature as to be hardly worthy of record.

One of the figures "5" seems to have got damaged in the process of printing or to have dropped from the forme, for in the overprint on the 2r. 25c. value one of the stamps in the block of thirty (the first in the fourth row), has a "5" much narrower and slightly smaller than on the other specimens. The variety is a scarce one and is not so easily identified as the wrong-fount "O" in the "30 cents." Mr. Oswald Marsh has shown me an interesting variety of the "30 cents" on 1r. with distinct double impression of the surcharge.

The following is a list of the varieties:—

- “ 2 cents ” on 4c., carmine and green.
- “ 30 cents ” on 75c., yellow and violet.
- “ 30 cents ” on 1r., mauve and carmine.
- “ 45 cents ” on 1r., mauve and carmine.
- “ 45 cents ” on 2r. 25c., lilac and green.

Error, double surcharge.

- “ 30 cents ” on 1r., mauve and carmine.

Error, tall narrow “ O ” in “ 30.”

- “ 30 cents ” on 75c., yellow and violet.
- “ 30 cents ” on 1r., mauve and carmine.

Error, narrow “ 5 ” in “ 45.”

- “ 45 cents ” on 2r. 25c., lilac and green.

Variety, broken “ e ” in “ cents. ”

- “ 2 cents ” on 4c., carmine and green.



CHAPTER XI.—THE KING'S HEAD STAMPS.

Towards the end of May 1903 the set of King's head stamps made its appearance. The set comprised eleven values *i.e.*, 2c., 3c., 6c., 12c., 15c., 18c., 30c., 45c., 75c., 1r. 50c., and 2r. 25c. It will be noted that no provision is made for a 1r. stamp while the values 30c. and 45c. are now represented. The stamps are all printed from Messrs. De La Rue & Co's. general "Postage" type for the Colonies, the value and name being inserted by a second printing. The design, as will be observed from the accompanying illustrations, consists of a profile portrait of King Edward VII. looking to



left on a solid background. In a tablet on the

left is the word "POSTAGE" reading upwards and in a similar tablet on the opposite side "POSTAGE" reads downwards. Above the head is a small crown and at the base is a rectangle in which, on each side of the value tablet, sprays of leaves are shown. In the values from 2c. to 45c. the denomination is shown in a lined tablet, while in the case of the higher values the tablet is plain. It is curious to note that in the 30c. the "c" in the value touches the shading of the "O" while in the 18c. the shading of the small "c" completely fills the middle portion of that letter. The stamps are printed in sheets of 120, arranged in two panes of 60 (10 rows of 6) side by side. There is a Jubilee line around each pane and four plate numbers are shewn on the margin as in the case of the Queen's head stamps. Only one plate has been brought into use so far. The perforation is 14 and the watermark a Crown over the letters "CA."

The following is a list of the values and colours :—

- 2c., chestnut and green.
- 3c., deep green.
- 6c., carmine.
- 12c., grey brown and green.
- 15c., ultramarine.

18c., sage green and carmine.
30c., violet and green.
45c., brown and carmine.
75c., yellow and violet.
1r. 50c., grey black and carmine.
2r. 25c., lilac and green.



CHAPTER XII.—THE 1903 PROVISIONALS.

The King's head stamps had not been in use long before a provisional made its appearance. This was the 15 cents surcharged "3 cents," with two bars below, similar to the overprint of 1901 only in this case the inscription is quite close to the bars. This stamp made its appearance on July 3rd, 1903, and the whole supply was bought up in a few days—long before the ordinary 3 cents stamps ordered from England could arrive. Another 3 cents provisional had therefore to be issued and this time the 45 cents value was surcharged "3 cents" with the same type as was employed in



overprinting the 15c. This variety was issued on July 21st and apparently the supply lasted out pretty well though the whole lot was sold

before the stamps ordered reached Mahé. This led to the issue, on September 2nd, of still another provisional—the 18c. being the victim of the surcharge on this occasion.

It appears that all these provisionals were due to the wiles of a speculator who bought up all the ordinary 3c. stamps. The Postal authorities tried to spoil his tricks by ordering that no more than 50 of the 3c. on 15c. should be sold to any one person. But the speculator got over this difficulty by employing a small army of niggers to go and buy 50 stamps each, and by this means he was able to corner a third of the supply. The postal officials are, however, greatly to blame in the matter for, finding the 3 cents stamps were all bought up with the avowed intention of making them issue a provisional, they could have accepted payment in cash for all $\frac{1}{2}$ d. packages and stamped them "paid" in some way or other.

I have not seen sheets of any of these surcharged stamps but it is highly probable that they were overprinted in blocks of 30 as in the case of all the other provisional stamps of the Seychelles. It will be noticed that the lower portion of the letter "c" in "cents" reaches more to the right than the upper part of the

letter. A variety with smaller and rounder "c" in "cents" is reported in all values and I have found the 3c. on 45c. with the foot of the "t" broken off just where it turns up and thus making it an "antique t." As all three stamps were surcharged from the same type the variety must also exist on the 3c. on 15c. and 3c. on 18c. The following is a list of the varieties.

- " 3 cents " on 15c., ultramarine.
- " 3 cents " on 18c., sage green and carmine. !
- " 3 cents " on 45c., brown and carmine.

Variety, smaller and rounder "c" in "cents."

- " 3 cents " on 15c., ultramarine.
- " 3 cents " on 18c., sage-green and carmine.
- " 3 cents " on 45c., brown and carmine.

Variety, antique "t" in "cents."

- " 3 cents " on 15c., ultramarine.
- " 3 cents " on 18c., sage-green and carmine.
- " 3 cents " on 45c., brown and carmine.

CHAPTER XIII.—THE "MULTIPLE WATERMARK" ISSUE.

Early in May of the present year the entire set of King's Head Stamps arrived on Messrs. De La Rue & Co's new paper with multiple Crown and CA watermark. This new watermark consists of a Crown over the letters "CA" repeated close together over the whole of the sheet so that each stamp shews several portions of the watermark instead of one clear Crown and CA as formerly. The stamps are printed from plate 1 as before, and the colours and perforation are exactly the same as the first King's Head issue.

The values and colours are as follows :—

- 2c. chestnut and green
- 3c. deep green
- 6c. carmine
- 12c. grey-brown and green
- 15c. ultramarine
- 18c. sage green and carmine
- 30c. violet and green
- 45c. brown and carmine
- 75c. yellow and violet
- 1r. 50c. grey black and carmine
- 2r. 25c. lilac and green

APPENDIX.—NUMBERS OF THE
PROVISIONALS.

The following list of the numbers issued of the various Seychelles provisionals I have culled from different sources and they can only be taken as approximately reliable.

1893.	3c. on 4c.	90480
	12c. on 16c. (both dies)	23760
	15c. on 16c. (both dies)	24000
	45c. on 48c.	13200
	90c. on 96c.	8160
1896.	18c. on 45c.	25000
	36c. on 45c.	12000
1901.	3c. on 10c.	42000
	3c. on 16c.	31200
	3c. on 36c.	60000
	6c. on 8c.	40000
1902.	2c. on 4c.	18000
	30c. on 75c.	9000
	30c. on 1r.	9000
	45c. on 1r.	6000
	45c. on 2r. 25c.	6000
1903.	3c. on 15c.	32000
	3c. on 18c.	12000
	3c. on 45c.	24000

The number of the 2c. on 4c. of 1902 is obviously incorrect for this variety is much

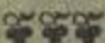
scarcer than either of the 30c. provisionals of the same issue. The 45c. on 2r. 45c. of the same set, too, is much rarer than the 45c. on 1r. and yet it is said that 6000 of each were issued.



APPENDIX.
INDEX TO ILLUSTRATIONS.

	PAGE
ENLARGED REPRODUCTIONS OF THE TWO DIES ..	4
1890. 13c. GREY AND BLACK, DIE I. ..	17
4c. CARMINE AND GREEN, DIE I. ..	17
1893. " 12 CENTS" ON 16c. CHESTNUT AND BLUE ..	22
1896. " 36 CENTS" ON 45c. BROWN AND CARMINE ..	40
1900. 1r. 50c. GREY AND CARMINE, PLATE 2 ..	44
2c. ORANGE BROWN AND GREEN, PLATE 3 ..	44
1901. " 3 CENTS" ON 16c. CHESTNUT AND ULTRAMARINE	47
" 6 CENTS" ON 8c. PURPLE BROWN AND BLUE	47
1902. " 2 CENTS" ON 4c. CARMINE AND GREEN ..	51
" 30 CENTS" ON 1r. MAUVE AND CARMINE ..	51
" 45 CENTS" ON 1r. MAUVE AND CARMINE ..	51
1903. 3 CENTS, DEEP GREEN	55
2r. 25c. LILAC AND GREEN	55
" 3 CENTS" ON 45c. BROWN AND CARMINE ..	58

Are you interested
in the Stamps of the
SEYCHELLES ?



IHAVE a very fine variety of the Postage Stamps of this Colony, including most of those mentioned in this book.

Approval selections will be sent to any reader asking for them, but clients with whom I have not previously done business should kindly furnish me with the usual business references.

Seychelles, "30 cents" on 1 rupee, mauve and carmine, with double surcharge. Extremely rare; only a very few copies known. Price on application.

OSWALD MARSH,
BELVEDERE ROAD, NORWOOD, LONDON, S.E.

King's Heads.

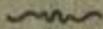
ARE there any King's Head Stamps you want to complete your collection? If so, send me a list of your wants, for, having a very fine stock of 20th Century Stamps, I can most probably supply the varieties you need.

I have issued a special list of the King's Head Stamps, comprising all the varieties with single and multiple watermarks, and on chalk-surfaced paper issued to date.

Prices will be found very low.

Every collector of King's Head Stamps should obtain a copy of this list.

It is published at 3d., but will be sent gratis to any purchaser of this volume sending 1d. to cover cost of postage.



Note the only Address :

OSWALD MARSH,

BELVEDERE ROAD, NORWOOD, LONDON, S.E.