Revenue Review

NZ Beers

Collecting New Zealand revenues can be both a challenge and expensive. The boys across the ditch have done well in their research. Early students filled many a column with new finds and the like. In fact, I would say New Zealand has a greater revenue following than Australia. Mowbray's have recently put out a revenue catalogue entitled "Kiwi Catalogue of New Zealand Revenue and Railway Stamps" 2010. Upon checking their listings I found one such beer duty revenue, that I had reported in an earlier 'Revenue Review' August 2008, as not listed. I had also reported this to the authors prior to this publication, but it was dismissed by them as a colour trial or colour changeling, and they chose not to list it. It may also be that the central head of Queen Victoria shows a lot of damage to the outer circle. We would need to get into the minds of these kiwis, [not a mean feat, and not one I would choose to do] as to why this beer duty was not listed. They do list the common Orange-brown 13/- [fig 1] which ran from 1883-1912. The reported

colour from me, is seen in figure 2 the 13/- in claret. I am not sure how this could be mistaken for a colour changeling but there you go. Anyway figure 3 shows genuine use of the claret with a clear date of 19/3/1892. This genuine used copy may now go a long way to evidence the issue of this colour and further convince the NZ boys to finally give it catalogue status, for which it so greatly deserves. Of course you guessed it, the claret HAS been catalogued by me in my NZ online catalogue for several years now. Maybe we should further class this as the now 'famous Claret Beer' of New Zealand [2 copies reported one mint one used] giving it a catalogue value far in access of the Orange-brown which they catalogue at \$250.00 and bringing it more into line with the 26/6d Edward [3 copies reported, one of which I show in Revenue Review in April 2006] which they catalogue at a mere \$10,000.00. So in saying all that, I would once again like to place on record here in Revenue Review, this 13/- value as a genuine issued claret beer duty revenue from New Zealand.







Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Dave Elsmore

Massive Revenue Auction

I have been informed by Gary Watson of Prestige Philately that they are about to auction some rather nice revenues from some major collections around the world. Some of the gems are shown in figures 4-7. Of particular interest will be Nick Holness's reconstructed sheets of the high value series from Victoria. Francis Kiddle's Western Australia, Mike Blake's Tasmania and Derek Pocock's Western Australia railway fee revenues.

Perfin Corner

Yes, you guessed it, after all my waffle on perfins over the last 12 months and after much public demand I think it is time to have a perfin corner. Have I mentioned the free perfin web site for all to visit and learn about perfin's and Commercial Overprints? If for some reason you have been laid up in hospital on life support for the last 12 months here is the web address again: www.perfins.com.

au. Ok, let's talk perfins; This perfin corner is of course limited to perfin's found on revenues and Railway stamps. You may like to comment or add to it's content over time, well I hope so or I will have to shut this corner down before it starts! When some of us think of revenues we use the term 'Back of the book' when we think of perfin's on revenues we can class them as 'Back of the book, back of the book!'. It has a very small but passionate group of collectors. Some of these could be classed as philatelic nutters, others avoided at stamp days as far right extremists, even refered to as mavericks. All in all were not a bad bunch. We are just looking to get the correct information recorded, and along the way if we can correct the sometimes parroted research, we will. As we know early collectors looked at perfin's as damaged goods and classed the companies who took it upon themselves to 'destroy' their stamps as philatelic vandals. Much has chanced in the last 30 years and savvy collectors



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have saved all and sundry including any perfin's that may come their way. We now see perfin exhibits popping up at stamp shows. It would be good if the judging fraternity took this on board and polished up on their research prior to judging a perfin exhibit. Figures 8-12 are a few Western Australian Treasury cancelling devices to wet the appetite of 'straight' collectors who are looking for that illusive 'next generation' of collecting. WE have identified the use or 4 different 'Ledger Punches' [figs 8-11]. So if you are one of those 'straight' collectors who are getting tired of looking at plain stamps with no challenge or character then jump the fence and come on over. A guick footnote on the 'Private Revenue Perfins of Australia' book which has just been published it is great to report that sales so far have exceeded all expectations.

S A Cracker

Last but not least this month I would like to place on record an 1886 1/6d impressed duty from South Australia. To my knowledge this now brings the list to 6 different values in private hands ranging from 1d to 2/6d all appear rare except the 1d. Maybe you have a few tucked away, if so please have a butchers and pass on here for recording. While I am on South Australia I would also like to further place on record a used copy of the Postage & Revenue 1890 series wmk upright Twenty Pounds. This value is yet to be recorded used.

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