

THE BUTTERFLY ORNAMENT - by Alan J. Hanks

In 1890, a 2c stamp appeared in Hawaii with an engraving of Queen Liliuokalani. This was among a group overprinted 'Provisional GOVT. 1893' and this stamp is illustrated here. In the Queen's hair is an ornament clearly portraying a butterfly, thought to be *Vanessa tameama*, an extinct species. Shown below is a photograph which may be the source used for the engraving of the stamp.



This photo was found by Toyoho Nishida of Japan, who had searched in Hawaii for anything which may have been used as a source for the stamp. He discovered the photo in a Hawaiian jewellery shop in Machida City in Japan, which is where he lives! It would be interesting if it proves to be so!