The Collectors Club

Philatelist

A Magazine devoted to Philatelic Study & Research

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The Collectors Club
Philatelist

JULY 1952. VOL. XXXI, No. 4

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Editorials

Good Judges; Poor Losers

In baseball, the fans yell, "Kill the umpire." They who idolize the players blame everything upon the men "who call them as they see them." Most sports writers closely associated with baseball will tell you that the umpires, both in character and intelligence, are far superior to the players and coaches.

As we see it, this parallels stamp exhibitions. After most every stamp show, the jury is unmercifully taken to task. In very few instances is such criticism justified. It cannot be denied that very occasionally some jurors are incompetent or biased. One or both of these factors warrant criticism. But by and large, especially in the more important stamp exhibitions, the quality of judging is good. This does not mean perfection, nor can the finest jury ever assembled please everybody. Very few exhibitors know or appreciate what goes on in a jury room. The marvelous philatelic knowledge collectively assembled can never be measured nor appreciated. The hours of hard, physical labor can never be made known to the rank and file.

Those who are wont to criticize a jury manifest a most common human failing. They harp on the errors, real or imagined. It is that fault which reasons thus: Do 100 things, of which 99 were right; make one mistake and you will never live that down.

Perhaps it is about time that the critics were put in their place. As we see it, most all of the criticisms stem from disappointed exhibitors, the malcontents who overrate their collections. These are the poor losers who, unless they receive the top award, attack the ability of the jury. These malcontents show no philatelic knowledge. If they did, they would understand the rating of their collection in competition. They bandy about the term "philatelic research" without the slightest conception of its meaning.

In our eyes, the quality of judging at most important stamp exhibitions is good. If there is criticism, that is caused by the poor losers. We do not refer to those "minor league" exhibitions, where a local club wants to see everyone, including the meeting hall janitor, receive some award. No jury of good philatelists is needed for that type of stamp show. Reference is rather to the larger national or international stamp exhibitions. There are yet many improvements to be accomplished. This applies to everything about an exhibition, including the selection of the jurors. But we find most offensive the dissatisfied howls of the poor losers who falsely attack the competence of a fine group of philatelists serving as judges.

H. M. G.

Read All About It ! !

More about stamp collecting now appears in public print than ever before. Philatelists of past generations would be astounded to find our hobby making the front page of the leading newspapers and feature articles in the popular magazines. This definitely manifests the public recognition of stamp collecting as a popular part of our lives.

But all elation among collectors ceases upon reading. The mistakes committed and the distortions of facts about philately by the press is beyond belief. This critical statement is not provoked by an isolated instance or a few wrong passages. It stems from the continual output of garbled stories written about stamp collecting in public print. In our eyes, we still seek the first reasonably accurate philatelic article.

For instance, a most insignificant philatelic story recently made the front pages of many leading newspapers across the country. This was the discovery of a sheet or so of a United Nations stamp with the center shifted to make it appear as if the flag were flying at half mast. This trivial printing slip was stupidly compared to the 1918 find of our first mail stamp with the inverted center.

How could such a boner be printed? Had the editors consulted any run-of-the-mill philatelist, they could have been properly informed that this was much ado about nothing. Yet the newspapers featured this more than any philatelic story ever published in our memory.

Mistakes will occur and this one might have been pardoned if a correction had followed. We know that collectors all over wrote to their newspapers calling the editor's attention to the mistake. It was important to the public to read the facts because with the story as printed, many uninformed could be deceived into buying a philatelic rarity. Instead our press did nothing. Were they trying to emulate the orientals by saving face? It looks that way to us. We saw only one paper which ran a correction. But it buried it inconspicuously in their regular stamp column where the fewest number of regular readers were apt to see it.

The philatelic press with one exception sat on their hands rather than headline this bad newspaper boner. In our view, here was an opportunity for the stamp papers to get some favorable publicity for stamp collecting. Was David scared of Goliath?

This blunder adds to the sorry record of mistakes about stamp collecting appearing all the time in our newspapers and magazines. We can inquire with some logic that if philately is so garbled in public print, what makes what is written about medicine, science, education or anything else but spot news any more accurate?

The right way of writing about stamp collecting in the public print presents no complex problem. Many good philatelic sources are available for consultation. It is sad to note the press continuing its ways of mistakes when the solution is ever so simple. All that is needed is good accurate reporting and less sensational claptrap.

H. M. G.

Walter R. McCoy 1880-1952

WALTER R. McCOY passed away at the Lenox Hill Hospital, N. Y., on Friday, June 20th, 1952. "Mac," as he was affectionately known to his many friends in philately, was born on January 12th, 1880, at Burlington, New Jersey and was graduated from Yale University in 1905. He had engaged in the manufacture of electrical fixtures, until his retirement in 1930. In 1941 he married Ethel B. Stewart, one of the leading lady stamp collectors in this country, also a member of long standing in the Collectors Club.

Mr. McCoy became interested in the collecting of imprint and plate number strips of the early United States Bureau issues. Because this phase of philately was still unpopular in the old days, he was enabled to almost complete every known example of the early plates used by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing at Washington, D. C. In later days when "Plate Blocks" became the vogue, he began to collect these varieties and his collection is considered to be the most complete in the world in this specialty.

His membership in the Collectors Club dates back to 1937. He served the Club as librarian and also as Editor of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST from 1939 to 1942, and in 1940 produced the first Cumulative Index of Volumes I to XVIII, covering the period 1922 to 1939.

MARTINIQUE

The Manuscript Postmarks and Obliterations*

By ROBERT G. STONE and RALPH HOLTSIZER**

The prejudice of collectors against pen-cancelled stamps is deep and widespread. It presumably originated from experience with stamps of certain countries. Such are those of British Colonies on which the pen cancel usually signifies revenue use; or of early Colombia on which the handstamped postmarks are much scarcer and more attractive than the pen cancels.

The History of a Discovery

When the authors first encountered the pen-marked copies of the General Issues of French Colonies, we passed them by with a full measure of the conventional disdain for stamps in such condition. The folly in this was ultimately revealed to us by a chain of circumstances, starting with the fact that we both happened also to be interested in the stamps and postal history of Martinique.

All the French colonies were using the General Issues of stamps from 1859 to about 1891, though some colonies began to issue their own stamps as early as 1881. The specialists in any particular colony usually attempt to collect used General Issues cancelled in that colony, on or off cover. As eager Martinique specialists, the writers soon discovered that on the General Issues in use up to about 1878 or 1879 the diamond-shaped "killer" of dots inscribed "MQE" (for Martinique) was peculiarly monotonous. Dated postmarks of Martinique were singularly uncommon: of these only St.-Pierre and Fort-de-France were noted. We wondered: Did not the people in the many smaller settlements ever write any letters? (In other colonies postmarks of lesser offices were much in evidence. Could it be that the Martiniquais of the back country had to go to St.-Pierre or Fort-de-France to mail a letter?

One day, one of us, in rummaging through a stamp dealer's shoe-box of odds and ends, came upon a pretty little cover with a superb pair of the 10c bistre on rose Ceres-type of French Colonies 1876 issue, neatly pen marked with a flourish but not tied. (Fig. 12). What a shame that such a beauty had to be defaced with a pen! But otherwise this cover appeared to be perfectly proper postal usage: the rate was correct; the letter was addressed to St.-Pierre, postmarked on the face "Gros-Morne/Martinique/30/Juil/76" and backstamped "Fort-de-France/Martinique" the same day and "St.-Pierre" 31 July; also on the face, was a manuscript endorsement, in writing other than the sender's, reading "Ste Marie, le 29 Juillet 1876" and above it "Voie du Sud."

The manuscript notations aroused our curiosity; as the dealer made a very reasonable price in view of the pen cancel, we took the chance that those stamps originated on that cover. Now it happened that we had some early maps of the island; they showed a road running from the village of Gros-Morne through Sainte-Marie and labelled "voie du sud"—the southern route! (Fig. 1).

The next year, a collector friend bought one of those auction lots made up from the odds and ends of an otherwise very fine collection of covers of the French Colonies General Issues that was being broken up in the "sale." In it were the dirty, dog-eared,

* Revised version of a paper read before the Collector's Club "Study-Group Night" meeting, September 15, 1948.

** A Contribution from the France and Colonies Group.



Fig. 1. Map of Martinique, as of about 1920 (?). Towns, hamlets and roads are shown. In the 1850-80 period there were fewer roads over the central and northern mountain backbone, and the coastal road around the north end of the island was open all the way (—later closed by the Pelee eruption, 1902).

damaged, and woe-begone specimens one expects in such a balance-of-the-collection lot. Our friend gave us the opportunity to buy anything out of it he did not want. The cleanest item from Martinique was chosen—nothing wrong with it, just pen cancelled—he would not have it in his collection. This cover bore two pairs of the 5c Ceres of 1872, each stamp centrally pen marked with the same neat style of signature but not tied (Fig. 13). The front was postmarked in handstamp "Ajoupa-Bouillon/Martinique/3/Oct/76" and carried a manuscript endorsement reading "Ste Marie, 2 8bre 76," i.e. one day earlier than the postmark; on the back was handstamped "St.-Pierre/Martinique/3/Oct/76," the place to which the letter was addressed (—oddly enough, it was

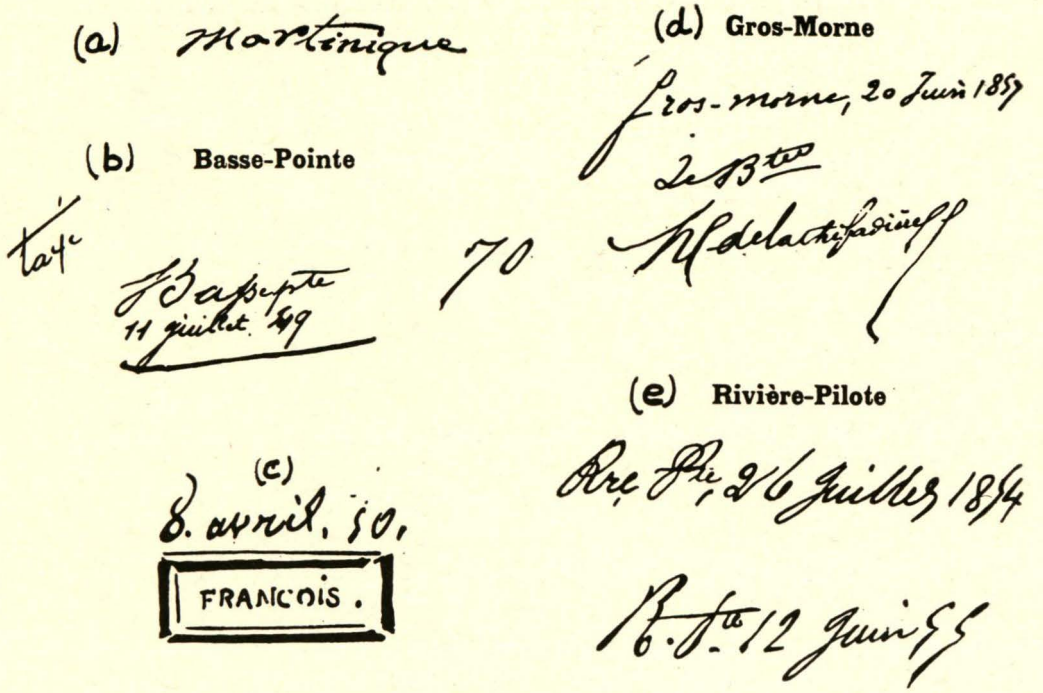


Fig. 2. Examples of Manuscript Markings from the Stampless Period, 1763-1859 (after Fregnac): (a) "Martinique," as seen on a letter of 1764. (b) "Basse pte 11 juillet 49," with "Taxe 70" (centimes) for postage due. (c) Handstamp postmark of Francois, dated in manuscript "8 avril. 50." (d) "Gros-morne, 20 Juin 1857," with signature of post agent (or courier?) below. (e) "Rre. Pte, 26 Juillet 1854"; and "R. Pte. 12 Juin 55," for Riviere-Pilote (—these seem to be in the same handwriting, though a year apart).

addressed to the same firm as the letter described above found previously). Referring again to our old maps, we noted a road connecting Sainte-Marie with Ajoupa-Bouillon and marked "le voie du nord"—the northern route (see Fig. 1). The stamps on this letter were also obliterated with the "MQE"-in-dots, which was not the case with the previous letter. We surmised that the "MQE" had been added at Ajoupa-Bouillon or St.-Pierre.

From these two covers, which seemed to outline a pattern, we drew the hypothesis that pen cancelling of the stamps was a regular procedure at the small places in the colony, during the 1870's at least. Of course proof would only come from many covers, or better, from official documents.

The late Mr. Alfred F. Lichtenstein, who collected 19th Century covers from Martinique, chanced to see the pen cancelled covers mentioned. He remarked that he had some like them. He too had come to the conclusion that the small places regularly cancelled the stamps in manuscript.

Shortly thereafter, Dr. Pierre Bouvet's profound study of the General Issues of the Colonies came to our attention. In the chapter on Martinique (*L'Echo de la Timbrologie,* May, 1939) he established more definitely the likelihood of what we had independently surmised about the pen cancelling. He had the good fortune to analyze the remarkable Fregnac correspondence, in which there were many letters from the small settlements. This material indicated that the mail picked up from St.-Esprit, Ste.-Marie and Trinité on the "northern route" was postmarked at Ajoupa-Bouillon; mail from Trinité and Ste.-Marie could also go via the "southern route" to be postmarked at Gros-Morne. Mail from places in the southern end of the island was deposited in the post office at Petit-Bourg. Dr. Bouvet's studies

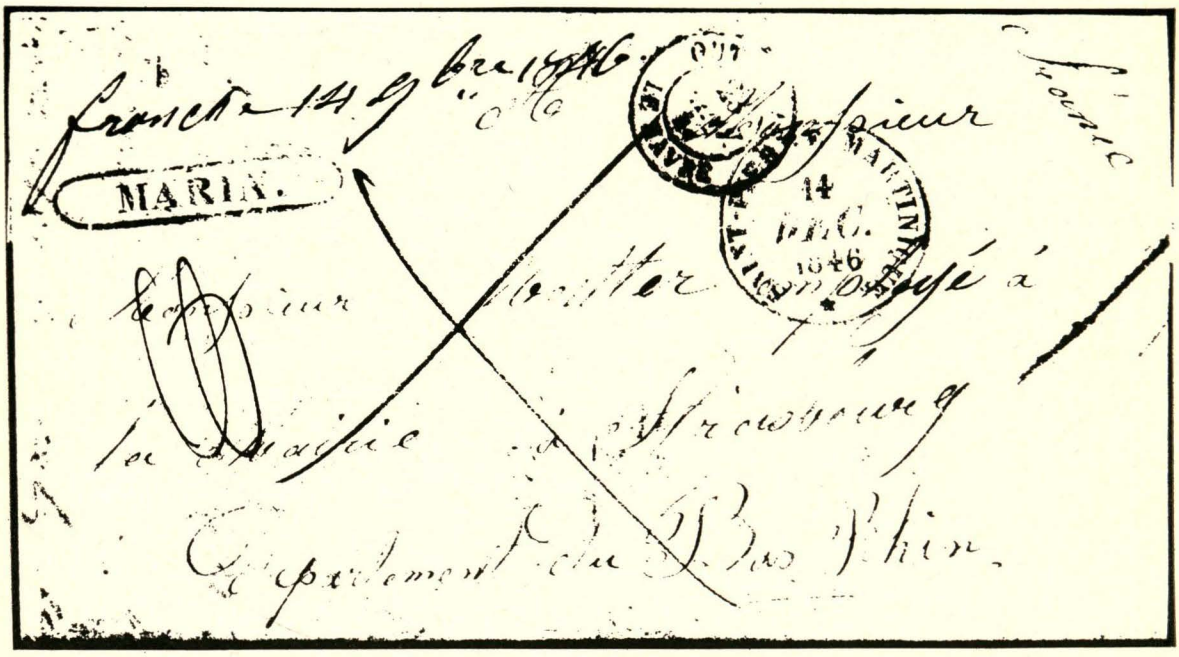


Fig. 3. Entire letter of 1846 from Marin to Strasbourg (France), with the rare boxed handstamp postmark of "MARIN" in blue. This was an officially-franked letter (free or prepaid?) dealing with legal matters; the franking privilege is indicated by manuscript endorsement: "franche 19 9 bre 1846," with a PARAPHE (below the Marin postmark) and a large pen cross. The St.-Pierre handstamp was added in transit. Marin was one of a few interior postoffices existing from early times to 1849. (Stone coll.)

revealed no evidence for regular pen cancelling in any other colonies, except for fiscal purposes in Indo China during the 1880's. Hence nearly all of the many pen-cancelled General Issue stamps spurned and still resting in dealer's stocks surely came from Martinique. We proceeded to buy them at every opportunity. More covers turned up.

As soon as a considerable quantity of material had been examined we noticed that some of the pen marks or flourishes (much like the *paraphes* on early French official-franked mail) appeared to be almost identical on many stamps. The pen-mark styles seen on the covers were found on many stamps off cover. Could this mean that each postal agent tended to adopt a particular style for his manuscript obliterations? Occasionally the name of the town and date was found written out in full on a strip of stamps.

Later, an illustrated article by Mr. Fregnac, published in *Cahiers Philatéliques No. 6* (Nov. 1946), confirmed many of the observations we have made on this subject and added some further information.

It seems worthwhile to record a composite summary of all this information which will call the attention of English-speaking philatelists to the origin and true significance of the pen cancelled General Issues of French Colonies. The following report represents the quarry of an intriguing ten-year chase.

In The Stampless Era, 1740-1859

From pre-Revolutionary times, we note rare covers with manuscript postal markings, such as "MARTINIQUE" (Fig. 2a) written on a letter of 1764 (Fregnac). In the 1840's and 1850's they become somewhat more common. During this period letters from interior places such as Gros-Morne, Rivière-Pilote and Basse-Pointe are known with the name (sometimes abbreviated), the

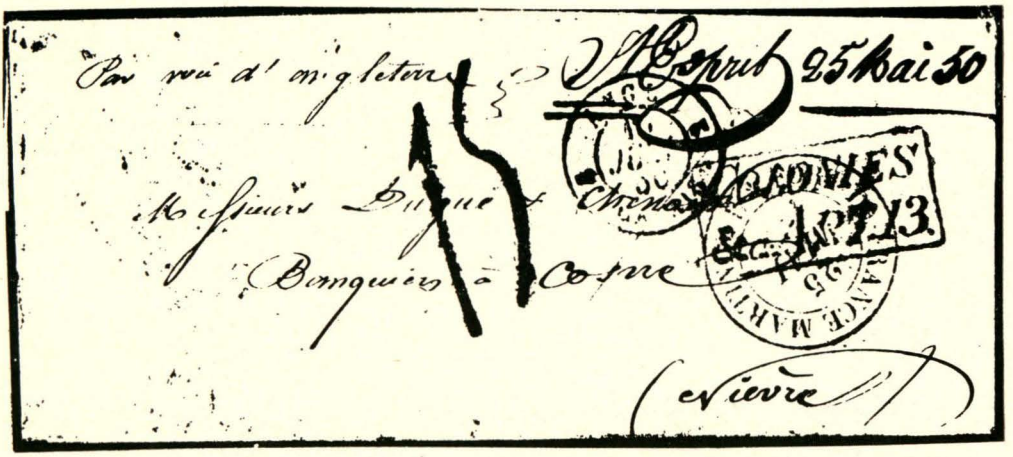


Fig. 4. Entire letter from St. Esprit to France, postmarked in manuscript (brown ink): "St. Esprit 25 Mai 50," and handstamp postmark of Fort-de-France, 25 Mai 1850, added in transit. The other markings were put on at Calais upon arrival in France. (Holtsizer coll.)

date and the amount of postage due, all written on the face by the postal agent. (Figs. 2-5.) Officially-franked letters were usually penned with "Franche" (free) in addition to the postmark (whether handstamp or manuscript) (Fig. 3). The practice of manuscript postmarking at these places is understandable when we consider that most of them lacked handstamp postmark devices. Only St.-Pierre and Fort-de-France used handstamps regularly, though Marin (Fig. 3) and Francois also had them for several years in the 1840's. As far as we can ascertain, manuscript postmarking was not practiced in the other colonies in the stampless era, except for adding the date to handstamps.

The 1859-1864 Period

As we have seen, by the time the Eagle stamps of the General Issues became available in November or December 1859, the precedent for manuscript postmarking was already well established in Martinique, even though not the rule. Nevertheless one would suppose that at the same time the stamps were issued, devices would have been provided to obliterate them, as at all post offices in other colonies. But not so in Martinique. There were, according to official announcements, only five post offices in the colony in 1860. Only two of them, St.-Pierre and Fort-de-France received obliterators (blind "killers" of dots in the shape of a diamond (Fig. 7) or "lozenges" as the French collectors call them) in late 1859 or early 1860. The other three post offices, Gros-Morne, Petit-Bourg and Ajoupa-Bouillon, were supplied with adhesive stamps in 1860 but not with obliterators nor postmarks.

In addition, in 1860 a large number of "post agents" (*facteurs*) were licensed in the other small towns or villages to sell stamps —they were merchants, minor officials, army paymasters, pharmacists, sextons, choirmasters, etc. It is not officially recorded whether they had any other postal functions. Accordingly it would not be surprising that obliterators were not provided to them. However, the evidence of the letters indicates without a doubt that the post agents also collected and distributed mails. In other colonies, Guadeloupe for example, the post agents collected, postmarked and distributed mail. Moreover, mail couriers running the main roads not only collected and delivered the mail bags or packets at each post agent's, but probably also collected and distributed letters of individuals living along the route, in the manner of the American rural free delivery and as done for the last century in France (note Fig. 7).

The letters from the 1859-64 period present us a rather complex picture of the postal system. All the letters (both manuscript and handstamp postmarked) seen so far will fall into one of the following categories, though other variations may yet be discovered:—

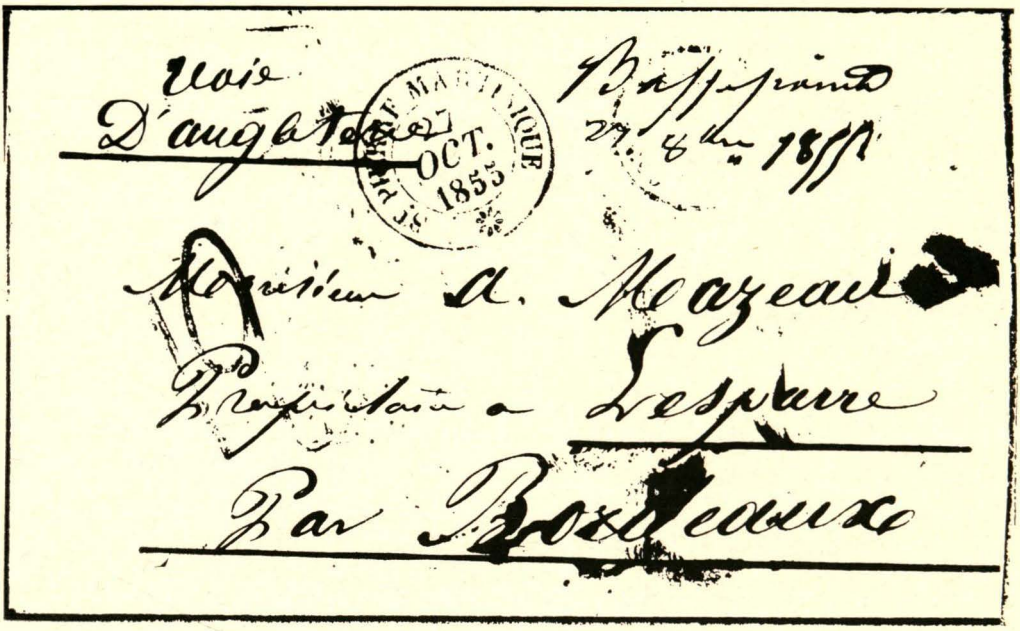


Fig. 5. Entire letter from Basse Pointe to Bordeaux, postmarked in manuscript: "Basse pointe/ 27. 8 bre 1855.", and with handstamp of St.-Pierre, 27 Oct 1855, added in transit. (Holtsizer coll.)

1. Stampless Letters:

   a. From St.-Pierre or Fort-de-France, postmarked on the face with a circular-dated device (two styles). (Letters prepaid in cash were marked with "PD" in a box, in addition.)
   b. From interior points (including post offices, post agencies and rural collections) addressed to St.-Pierre or Fort-de-France or to destinations requiring passage through one or both of those offices. These letters bear on the face a manuscript dated postmark of the place of origin (or nearest place) and sometimes also a notice of the route taken; and on the back a handstamp postmark of St.-Pierre or Fort-de-France (or both). Letters prepaid in cash were further endorsed in manuscript with "Franche" and the postage and sometimes also with diagonal pen strokes, across the face. (Fig. 6).

2. Letters stamped with adhesives: (stamps were required on prepaid letters from April 1862 on, but prepayment on internal mail was not mandatory before the end of 1864):—

   a. From St.-Pierre or Fort-de-France, postmarked on the face with a circular dated handstamp, the stamps obliterated with either the blind lozenge of 8 x 8 points or (after May 1864 only) the "MQE"-in-dots lozenge.
   b. From the interior post offices: Ajoupa-Bouillon, Gros-Morne and Petit-Bourg:

      (1) Before September 1864: face of letter postmarked in manuscript:

         (a) Stamps pen cancelled only. (Usually letters to other interior points.)
         (b) Stamps pen cancelled and also obliterated upon receipt or transit at St.-Pierre or Fort-de-France with the lozenge ("MQE," or blind 8 x 8 points). (Fig. 7)

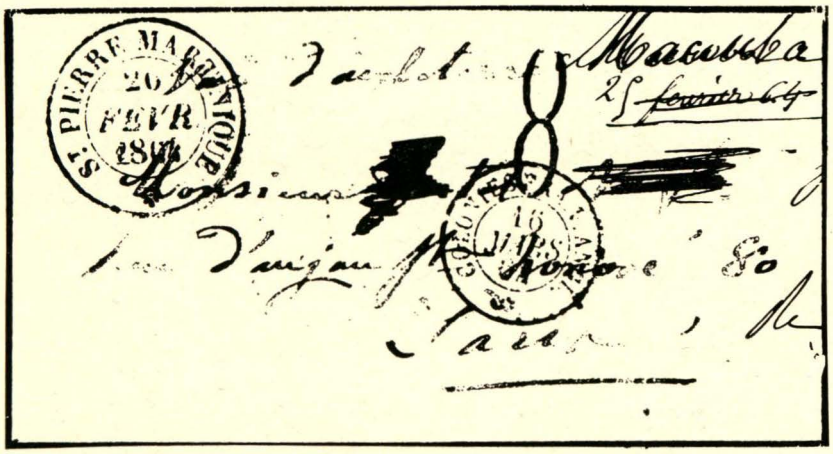


Fig. 6. Entire letter from Macouba to Paris, postmarked in manuscript: "Macouba/ 25 febrier 64" (written over by some vandal at a later time), and with handstamped St.-Pierre Martinique/ 26 Fevr. 1864, in transit. The broken-topped "8" is a scarce DECIME charge mark used at St. Pierre 1864-70. (Holtsizer coll.)



Fig. 7. Entire letter from Tracee, a large plantation several kilometers east of Gros-Morne, to Bordeaux. There is a manuscript postmark: "Gros Morne 24 8.bre 1862" at top which seems to be in the sender's writing, however. The letter was prepaid (note the "PD" in box) with 5 10c Eagles to make the 50c rate to France via British packet. Three of the stamps are obliterated by pen signature "GM" (for Gros-Morne). The 8 x 8 blind lozenge was applied to the stamps at Fort-de-France in transit, as also the handstamp postmark of that office (25 Oct. 1862). The pen marks on the stamps are in the same ink and style of writing as the address and therefore were probably written on by the sender of the letter instead of the post courier or postmaster. This is the only letter seen by us on which the sender apparently did the postmarking and obliteration.

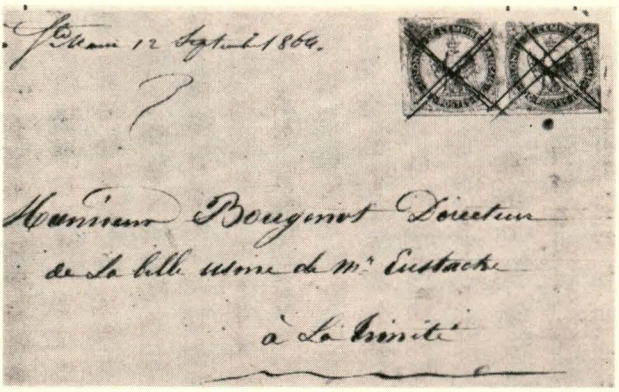


Fig. 8. Letter from Sainte-Marie to Trinite, prepaid with pair of 10c Eagles (regular 20c internal rate); manuscript postmark: Ste Marie 12 September 1864." Stamps pencancelled with "crossroads" by agent at Sainte-Marie; no handstamp of any postoffice as the letter went direct from one postagent's to another. (From Fregnac).

(2) September-November 1864: face of letter postmarked with new-type handstamp postmarker of one of these offices:

(a) Stamps pen cancelled only. (Usually letters to other interior points.)

(b) Stamps pen cancelled and also obliterated upon receipt or transit at St.-Pierre or Fort-de-France with the lozenge ("MQE").

c. From the post agencies and couriers in the interior, postmarked on the face in manuscript:

(1) Stamps pen cancelled only. (Letters to other interior points but not requiring transit through any post office.) (Fig. 8).

(2) Stamps pen cancelled only, and face of cover postmarked with handstamp of nearest post office (in transit). If destination is also a post office, its handstamp postmark is struck on back.

The subdivisions (1) and (2) under section 2b above result from the fact that the postmarkers were issued to the three interior post offices in September, 1864 whereas the obliterators were not furnished them until

The 1864-1878 Period

In late 1864 a slight measure of improvement in this unusual postal system was made, to the extent that the remaining three post offices received their handstamp obliterators ("MQE" type only) and postmarkers. From then on we find these offices treating the mails received from non-postoffice places and couriers in the same fashion as did St.-Pierre and Fort-de-France, by adding their diamond obliterators to the already pen-cancelled stamps (Figs. 10, 11, 13, 14). However, there were occasional returns to pen cancelling at these post offices in later years, probably because the obliterator was temporarily lost or mislaid. In addition, stampless letters were still frequently passed within the colony (Figs. 9, 15), though charged a stiff penalty of 50% extra. If extensive use of pen cancelling as late as 1864 seems surprising, its continuation at all but five places until 1879 and the failure to create any new post offices during that time can only be regarded as downright remarkable. Moreover, in July 1876, when in view of their joining the U. P. U., all colonies were directed to cease using obliterators to cancel the stamps and thereafter to cancel them with dated postmarkers, Martinique ignored the directive and continued to use the lozenges until January, 1879. Unless it is assumed that the order had been lost, this can be

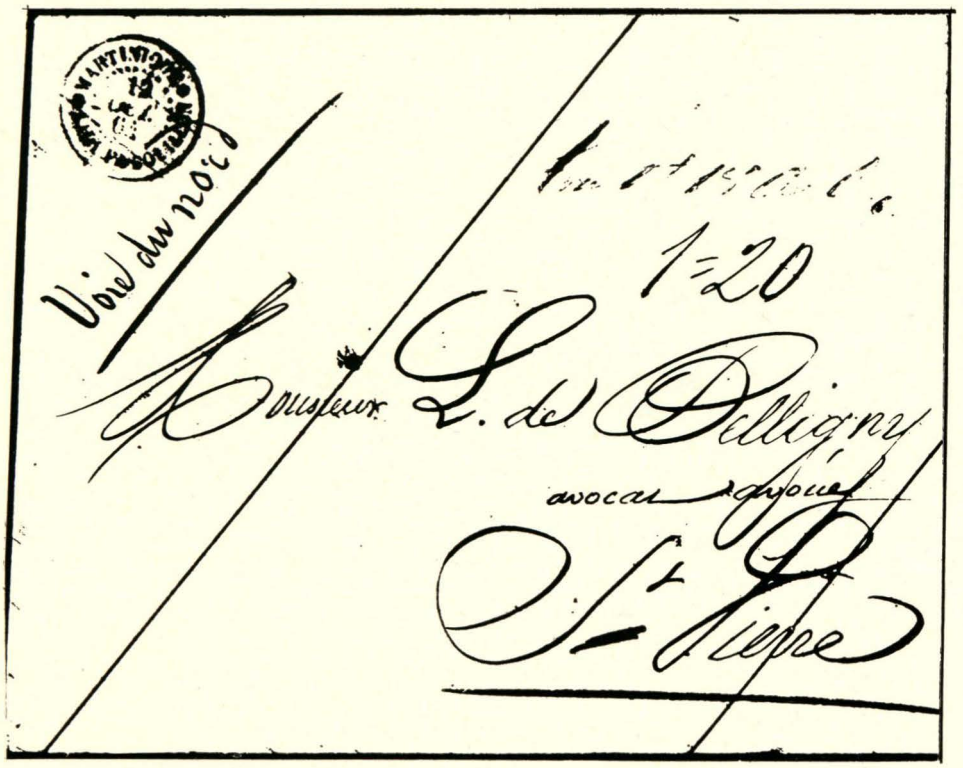


Fig. 9. A stampless cover that went from Trinite to St.-Pierre via the northern route. Postmarked in manuscript: "Trinite 18 Ocbre 64"; the handstamp of the postoffice at Ajoupa-Bouillon was added in transit (19 Oct.). The rate of postage "1:20" (1 fr 20c) and "Voie du nord" are written in a different ink and style from both the sender's and the Trinite post agent's. On arrival at St.-Pierre the postoffice there backstamped the letter 19 Oct. 64. The envelope is homemade from ruled ledger paper, and the two diagonal pen lines on the face continued around the back, apparently having been drawn on the paper before it was folded. (Holtsizer coll.)

charged only to pure stubbornness, since the five post offices already had postmarkers and, therefore, no cost or trouble would have been involved in giving up the obliterators.

As the number of letters and stamps available for study is much greater from this period than before 1865, we can now attempt to draw certain generalizations about the styles of pen obliterations and their significance. A number of the pen marks recorded from a given place have a striking similarity in style. We note that single-stroked ("St. Andrews") crosses and double-stroked crosses ("crossroads"), loops and certain initials predominate. Similar crosses come from various places, whereas the loops and initials appear to be distinctive for particular places (or routes?).

The 1879-1881 Period

These quaint practices disappeared almost suddenly in early 1879, when 27 new post offices were opened and furnished with dated postmarkers to cancel the stamps. However, one or two of these offices occasionally forgot to use their new postmarkers; they were pen cancelling and obliterating some stamps and letters as late as 1881. Old habits are hard to break, especially in post offices! Around 1880-81 letters are known on the face of which the word "Franche" and sometimes the postage amount had been written before the adhesive stamp was applied—no very plausible explanation for these has been suggested except that the office of origin was out of stamps. (Also stampless letters



Fig. 10. Cover from Riviere-Blanche to Fort-de-France, prepaid with 20c Eagle stamp. The manuscript postmark is "Rre Blanche 26 aout/70," and the stamp is pencancelled with a St. Andrews cross in the same ink as the postmark. The stamp was also obliterated upon arrival at Fort-de-France with the "MQE" -in- dots lozenge; the Fort-de-France handstamp postmark appears on back (26 Aug. 70). (Holtsizer coll.)



Fig. 11. Cover from Riviere-Pilote to Paris, prepaid with 40c Ceres (first printing) and 30c Napoleon of French Colonies 1871 issue, to make the regular 70c rate to France via British packet. The manuscript postmark reads: "Rivre Pte 26 avril/72"; the manuscript obliteration of the stamps is in the "cross-roads" style characteristic of many postagents (and couriers?), and is in the same ink as the manuscript postmark. At Petit Bourg the postoffice applied its handstamp postmark (26 Aout 72) and obliterated the stamps again with the "MQE" lozenge. There is a Fort-de-France postmark on back and on front the "PD" of the Fort-de-France postoffice, put on in transit. (Holtsizer coll.)



Fig. 12. Entire letter from Sainte-Marie to St.-Pierre, with manuscript postmark: "Voie du Sud./Ste Marie, le 29 Juillet 1876." The letter was carried by the southern route to Gros-Morne postoffice where it was postmarked with the handstamp dated 30 Juil 76. The pair of 10c thick-numeral-type Ceres of French Colonies is obliterated by an identical pen flourish on each stamp, which looks like the initial "H," presumably done by the agent at Sainte-Marie. The letter was backstamped at St.-Pierre on arrival, 31 July. (Stone coll.)



Fig. 13. Entire letter from Sainte-Marie to St.-Pierre, with manuscript postmark: "Ste Marie, 2 8be 76." The letter went via the northern route to the postoffice at Ajoupa-Bouillon where it was endorsed with the handstamp postmark (faint), 3 Oct., and the stamps obliterated again with the "MQE" lozenge. The pen cancel centered on each stamp looks like the Greek letter SIGMA in script and was presumably done by the agent at Sainte-Marie as the ink is the same as that of the manuscript postmark. Backstamped at St.-Pierre on arrival, 3 Oct. (Stone coll.)

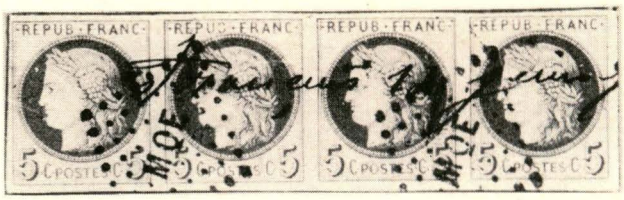


Fig. 14. Strip of four of the 5c Ceres French Colonies pencancelled "Francois 12 Juin 7-" (final digit off the stamp), and also obliterated with the "MQE" lozenge. This piece undoubtedly came from a cover originating at Francois during the 1870s and addressed to some other Martinique place, the "MQE" being added at Gros-Morne or Petit-Bourg en route. (Stone coll.)

are known as late as 1881.) In some cases, however, it seems the senders in rural sections lacked stamps and paid the courier in cash, who bought and affixed the stamps at the next post office.

Epilogue

We do not need to speculate on the reasons for postmarking letters and obliterating stamps at the posting or origin point; obviously it would be a temptation to postal agents and couriers to remove the stamps for reuse if they had not been obliterated in the sender's view at the time and place of posting. The basic mystery about these manuscript markings really lies therefore not in why they were applied, but in why the government failed to supply all the post offices and agents with handstamps for this purpose. That was done in thoroughgoing fashion in all the other colonies either at the time the adhesive stamps were first introduced, or in any case not later than 1864. We are inclined to explain it as a continuation of the conservative postal tradition in the colony evidenced already as early as 1849, when the number of post offices was actually decreased. This coincided with the advent of the 2nd Republic (1848) when many administrative changes were made; it was possibly an aftermath of the economic depression due to the abolition of slavery (1848). However, Guadeloupe steadily increased the number of its post offices after 1837 and by 1858 had three times as many as Martinique. The use of manuscript postmarks instead of handstamps during the 1840's and 1850's could not have saved very much money. It must be attributed more to backwardness. By 1864 the population and amount of mail had so increased that the delay and clumsiness of pen cancelling must have become obvious, not to mention the more progressive example set by the other colonies and the mother country.

A List of Places Reported Having Used Manuscript Markings

(Dates are probably only approximate)

Post Offices:

Marin, 1846-49
Trinité, 1846-49
Ajoupa-Bouillon, 1859-64
Gros-Morne, 1857-64
Petit-Bourg, 1859-64

Post Agents:

Marin, 1849-79
Trinité, 1849-79
Basse-Pointe, 1849-79
Francois, 1850-79
Rivière-Pilote, 1850-79
Diamant, 1860-79
Lamentin, 1860-79
Robert, 1860-79
Saint-Esprit, 1849-79
Grand-Anse, 1860-79
Saint-Joseph, 1860-81
Macouba, 1860-79
Sainte-Marie, 1860-79
Marigot, 1860-79
Prêcheur, 1860-79
Rivière-Salée, 1860-79
Rivière-Blanche, 1860-79
Vauclin, 1860-79

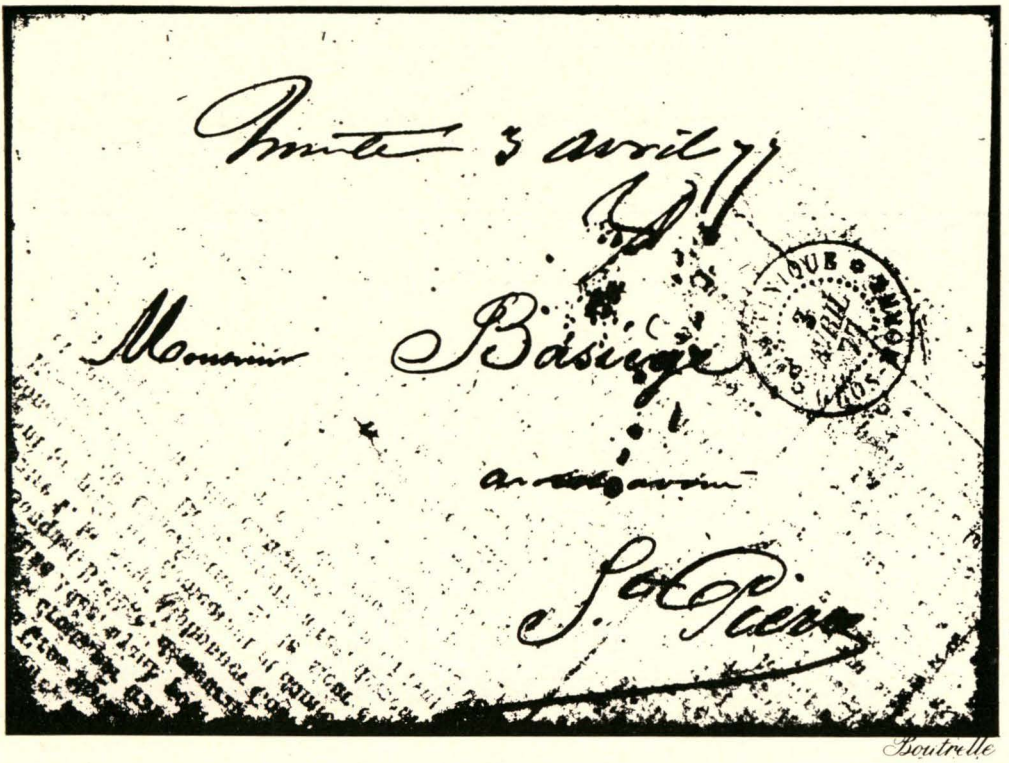


Fig. 15. Stampless cover from Trinite addressed to St.-Pierre. Manuscript postmark: "Trinite 3 avril 77" and "30" (the postage due, including 10c penalty for non-prepayment). This went via the southern route to the postoffice at Gros-Morne which postmarked the letter, 3 avril 77, with its handstamp. There is an arrival handstamp of St.-Pierre on back. (Holtsizer coll.)

It is probable that Carbet, Case-Pilote, Sainte-Luce, Anses-d'Arlets, Ducos, Grand-Bourg, Ste.-Philomène, Trois-Illets, Lorrain, and Morne-Rouge also used manuscript cancels as there were post agents in those places, 1860-79.

The Probable Post Routes: The Post Offices and Post Agents Tributary to Each, 1860-78

St.-Pierre — Ajoupa-Bouillon Route: — Ste.-Phil-omène, Prêcheur, Grand-Rivière, Macouba, Basse-Pointe.

St.-Pierre (local):—Morne-Rouge.

Ajoupa-Bouillon—Gros-Morne Route: (Voie du Nord and Voie du Sud, meeting at Ste. Marie) Grand-Anse, Lorrain, Marigot, Ste.-Marie, Trinité.

Gros-Morne—Fort-de-France Route:—Rivière-Blanche, St.-Joseph.

Fort-de-France—St.-Pierre Route (road or boat):—Case-Pilote, Carbet.

Fort-de-France — Petit-Bourg Route:—Lamentin, Ducos, St.-Esprit.

Gros-Morne — Petit-Bourg Route:—Robert, Francois, St.-Esprit.

Petit-Bourg, southern Loop:—Rivière-Salée (=Grand Bourg), Trois-Ilets, Anses-d'Arlets, Diamant, Ste.-Luce, Rivière-Pilote, Marin, St.-Anne, Vauclin. (Trois-Ilets may have been served by boat direct from Fort-de-France.)

REINATEX

The 1952 International Exhibition of Monaco

By WINTHROP S. BOGGS

REINATEX lived up to its name as Queen of Philatelic Exhibitions. The international show at Monte Carlo from April 26th to May 4th, 1952, was gem-like in its beauty, its quality and its charm.

While not the largest exhibition, as it consisted of only 581 frames, of which only 530 were in competition, it was literally an exhibition of champions for every display was by invitation.

The Jury had an adequate number of awards, but they did not scatter them, rather they maintained an extremely high standard so that any Reinatex award is significant.

It was essentially a show of classics, for with the exception of the section of Monaco, and Airmails, only a half dozen exhibits included 20th Century Stamps. There were 158 exhibitors, of which 136 were in competition. Of course, France and Monaco furnished most of the exhibitors, accounting for 56; Belgium was second, with 24 exhibitors; and the United States was third, with 12 exhibitors, one of which was The Collectors Club. Of the eleven remaining exhibitors from the United States, all but one were members of the Collectors Club; and in addition, two foreign members of the Collectors Club also exhibited.

Medals awarded to Collectors Club members were as follows:

A gold for Dr. C. W. Hennan of Chicago;
A silver-gilt to John Boker, Jr., of New York;
A silver with Objet d'Art to George A. Hagemann of Ystad, Sweden;
A silver with felicitations of the Jury to Herman Schloss of New York;
A silver-gilt to Van Dyk MacBride of Newark;
A silver-gilt to Eigel Rathje for his Postal History;
A silver-gilt to Richard Canman of Chicago;
A silver to Henry M. Goodkind of New York;
A silver to Frank Kohn of New York;
A silver to Eigel Rathje for his Danube Steamship Co.
A silver to Eigel Rathje for his Finland Postal Stationery;
A bronze to H. D. S. Haverbeck of Summit, N. J.;

In addition, the Collectors Club itself, Mr. John H. Hall, Mr. H. R. H. Holmes, Mr. H. L. Lindquist, and Sir John Wilson, exhibited Hors Concours.

Furthermore, in the periodicals, the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST was awarded a silver, and was the only American periodical represented at the exhibition.

Also in the Literature section Mr. H. D. S. Haverbeck received a bronze for the monograph on "The Stamps of Nepal," and Mr. Henry M. Goodkind a Diploma for the monograph on "The First United States Airmail Stamps," both of which were published originally in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST.

The Exhibition was unusual in that all 15 of the Jury invited were present, and it was interesting to observe that seven members of the Jury are members of the Collectors Club.

Returning for a moment to the awards, the "Oscar" was won by Dr. H. Leemann-Geymuller of Arlesheim, Switzerland, for his magnificent showing of Switzerland 1843-52, in every respect as nearly a perfect collection as it has been my good fortune to see.

(Continued on Page 221.)

A Census of the *HAWAIIAN MISSIONARIES*

By JOHN K. BASH

One hundred and one years ago the Hawaiian Government journal, *The Polynesian,* informed its readers that postage stamps in the denominations of 2c, 5c and 13c (Scott's Numbers 1, 2 and 3) had become available at the local post offices on October 1, 1851. One Henry M. Whitney had been appointed recently Postmaster of the Islands, and with true economy decided to produce the stamps with the rudimentary facilities available at the Government printing establishment. The result was a rather simple type-set production consisting of a numeral of value surrounded by an ornamental frame together with an appropriate text. All denominations were in an attractive light blue shade, and were printed on such a thin, fragile paper that few undamaged copies exist today.

The 2c denomination was used primarily to pay the unit Hawaiian postal rate for newspapers and other similar material to foreign ports. The 5c denomination paid the Hawaiian postage on a single rate ½ ounce letter addressed to a foreign country. The purpose of the 13c stamp remained a mystery for quite some years, but eventually it was determined that it represented the prepaid single rate for a ½ ounce letter from the Islands to the eastern part of the United States. The 13c collected by Mr. Whitney can be broken down into the local charge of 5c referred to above, 2c to the ship carrying the letter to a United States port (usually San Francisco), and 6c to pay the United States postage from the west coast to its final destination in the east. Mr. Whitney apparently had an arrangement with the San Francisco postmaster whereby the latter would pass such letters as prepaid, and receive the actual cash from Mr. Whitney at some subsequent settlement date.

This arrangement worked very well on the whole, but it soon appeared that certain local post offices in other sections of the United States would decline occasionally to recognize the 13c Hawaiian stamp as prepaying the United States postage, and in some instances collected postage due from the recipient. This resulted in complaints to Mr. Whitney as evidenced by certain "Letters to the Editor" which appeared in *The Polynesian.* Apparently, in an effort to remedy the situation a new 13c stamp (Scott's No. 4) was thereupon issued in which the major change was a replacement of the legend "Hawaiian Postage" at the top of the previous 13c stamp to one reading "H. I. & U. S. Postage." The date of issue of this new 13c stamp is reported in all available literature on the subject as November, 1852. However, examination of the few known covers bearing this stamp indicates a date of issue at least as early as April 26, 1852.

For those unfamiliar with these four early Hawaiian stamps, commonly called the "Missionaries," it might be remarked that two types exist of each stamp. In Type I, the "P" of "Postage" falls below and somewhat to the right of the "H" of "Hawaiian" or of "H. I. & U. S. Postage," as the case may be. In Type II the "P" of "Postage" falls directly below the "H." Apparently Mr. Whitney set up two clichés, differing as described above, and printed the stamps in horizontal pairs, probably several pairs to each horizontal row. In any event, one used horizontal strip of three is known of the 13c "Hawaiian Postage," the only multiple piece of any denomination yet recorded.

No record of the number of Missionaries printed has ever been located, if, indeed, any records had been ever maintained. However,

the prospective purchaser need but try to buy one to determine that as a group few survived. Quite a variety of opinions have been offered as to the relative scarcity of the various denominations. To begin with, the two major catalogues value them as follows:

Catalogue Number	Denomination	Scott		Stanley Gibbons	
		Unused	Used	Unused	Used
1	2c	$ —	$15,000	£5,500	£4,500
2	5c	7,000	3,000	1,800	850
3	13	3,500	2,000	875	600
4	13c	9,000	4,000	2,500	1,500

Curiously enough, it is not believed that any unused copies of the 2c Missionary exist today, although such are priced in the Gibbons catalogue. Possibly an explanation lies in the fact that two of the used copies are lightly cancelled and might by casual observation or imperfect photography appear to be unused.

Other published opinions as to the relative scarcity of the Missionaries follow a somewhat similar pattern, although some competent observers have thought that used examples of the 5c and 13c values (Scott's Nos. 2 and 3) are of about equal scarcity.

For some years the writer has been curious as to the proper basis for these conclusions. So he has assembled an extensive collection of photographs, illustrations and other material bearing on the subject. These data were derived partly from numerous auction catalogues dating back as much as forty years and partly from various Hawaiian philatelic literature. The not inconsiderable reference facilities of The Collectors Club and The Philatelic Foundation were employed, and further data was obtained from certain private collections. At any rate, the writer has to date seen or assembled reliable data on *147* Missionaries, probably representing a substantial majority of existing copies. Counterfeits, including the Grinnell productions, have been carefully avoided. However, since some of the earlier photographs were not of the best quality, it is possible that one or two forgeries, particularly in the unused category, may have been included. In any event, no significant distortion of the results can have occurred from this cause.

The number of Missionaries located can be summarized as follows:

Catalogue Number	Denomination	Unused	Used	Total
1	2c	0	14	14
2	5c	10	37	47
3	13c	11	34	45
4	13c	8	33	41

Thirteen of the 2c Missionaries are illustrated by the British writers, L. N. and M. Williams, in their book, *Stamps of Fame*. A fourteenth copy is shown with this article (Fig. 1). A fifteenth copy is believed to be in existence in the family papers of Ezra Cole; but as no description is available, it has not been included in the above table. It should be remembered that numerous attempts have already been made to trace all copies of the 2c value. The results of one of the earliest was published in 1910 by Henry J. Crocker who, at the time, succeeded in locating twelve copies. The number of the 2c value located is therefore probably more complete than for the three higher denominations, inasmuch as



Fig. 1. A 2c Missionary Stamp. Its history and present whereabouts are unknown

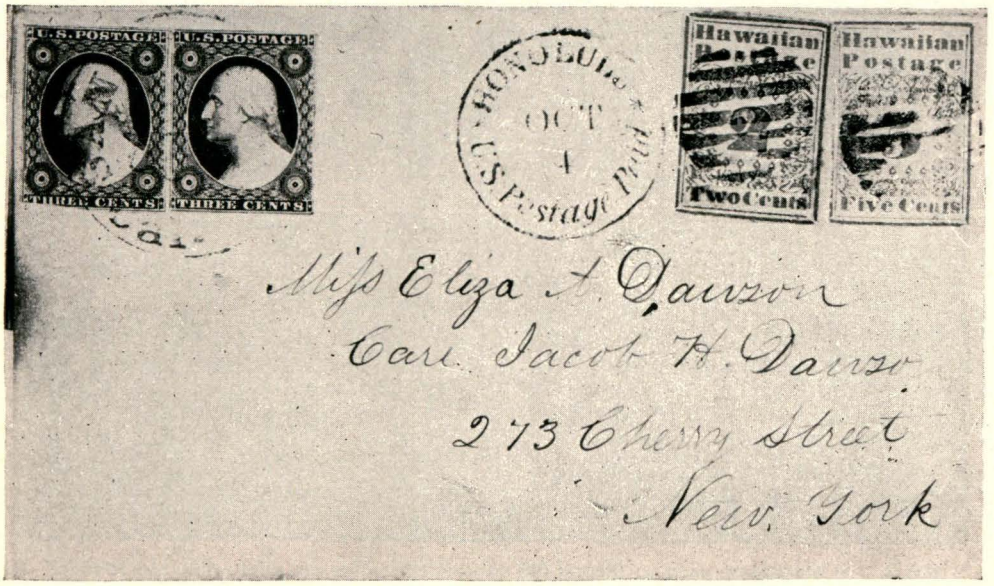


Fig. 2. The most remarkable item known to Hawaiian philately.

considerably more documentation exists with respect to the available copies of the former.

The relative number of unused specimens located agrees within reason with the catalogue quotations. Their existence is due largely to the carelessness of the early Hawaiian postal officials in the application of a cancellation. In fact, several unused copies are known on original cover or on pieces of envelope.

On the other hand, the data with respect to the used copies develops the surprising indication that the three higher denominations are of about equal scarcity, with the 5c value being perhaps a trifle commoner. These findings are not in accordance with most expert opinion as given in the literature of the past, but then it is doubtful whether an equally extensive examination of the subject previously has been undertaken.

In this connection, the writer would be most happy to examine any photographs or illlustrations of Missionaries any reader may care to submit. Perhaps they will be new to him and add further to the list of recorded copies. On the other hand, if the stamp is known, perhaps its previous history, if available, may be of interest to the present owner.

Possibly as much can be learned about a stamp from an examination of the available covers as from any other source. There follows below a list of the known Missionary covers with descriptive and historical material pertaining to each. To save space, it might be noted that all Honolulu postmarks are in red.

Covers Bearing a 2c Missionary

1-1. Only one such is known, a beautiful example bearing a 2c and a 5c Missionary and a pair of U. S. 3c 1851 issue—total rate 13c. Postmarked "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Oct 4" and "San Francisco, Cal., Oct (?)" and addressed to a Miss Eliza Dawson in New York. The year of use was in all probability 1854. This cover is undoubtedly the most remarkable item of Hawaiian philately and would probably rank among the ten most valuable philatelic items known. The early history of this cover is controversial, one source saying that it was found in New Bedford, Mass. in 1903 and another claiming that it was discovered in Newark, N. J. At any rate, in 1904, it appears to have been in the possession of the New England Stamp Company. This dealer shortly

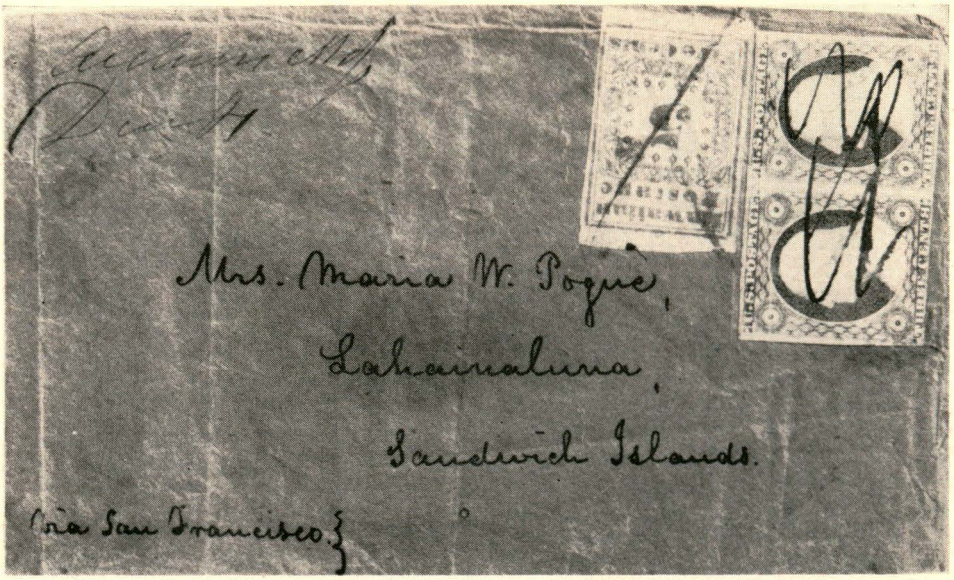


Fig. 3. A Missionary used to prepay the Hawaiian postage on a letter to the Islands.

thereafter disposed of it to George H. Worthington for $6,000. When parts of the Worthington collection were dispersed at auction in December, 1917 the piece realized $6,100. It is now in the collection of A. H. Caspary of New York. While the cover is well known to most Hawaiian collectors, no article on Missionaries would be complete without an illustration (Fig. 2). The reader may judge for himself.

Covers Bearing a 5c Missionary

2-1. Type I, cancelled with a circular grid of 7 bars. Addressed to Mr. J. W. Brittan, San Francisco. Postmarked "Honolulu*Hawaiian Islands, Jan. 18" (1853) and "San Francisco, Cal., Feb 18" and bears a ratemark "Ship 6". This cover was formerly in the collection of Henry J. Crocker and is illustrated in his book *Hawaiian Numerals* (published in 1909). The cover passed into the collection of Mr. F. C. Atherton in 1930 and was subsequently given by Mr. Atherton to the Honolulu Academy of Arts where it now reposes.

2-2. Type I, a pencancelled copy on cover with a pair of the U. S. 3c 1851 issue. Addressed to Mrs. Maria Pogue, Lahainaluna, Sandwich Islands. The cover bears a manuscript notation "Auburn, Mass., Dec. 21," probably the postoffice of origin. The year of use is unknown. This cover represents an unusual instance of a Hawaiian stamp appearing on a letter originating in the United States. Probably Mrs. Pogue sent a few stamps to her correspondent in the United States to prepay the Hawaiian postage on return mail. The history and present whereabouts of this cover are unknown to the writer, but an illustration is presented herewith (Fig. 3).

2-3. Type I, cancelled with a circular grid of 7 bars. Cover addressed to a John Caminels, Portland, Maine. Postmarked "Honolulu*Hawaiian Islands, Oct 4" and "San Francisco, Cal., Nov 1" and the ratemark "12". Also bears a blue handstamp in a rectangular frame reading "Forwarded via San Francisco/ by G. D. Gilman/ Lahaina." This cover was in the Worthington Collection where it realized $910 when sold at auction in December, 1917. Some years later it passed into the hands of the English dealer, Frank Godden, and was illustrated in the March 1934 issue of *Godden's Gazette*. After another period of years in an unknown English collection, it passed in 1946 into the magnificent collection assembled by the late Admiral Frederic R. Harris.

2-4. Type I, cancelled with a circular grid composed of 4 rows of 6 segments each.

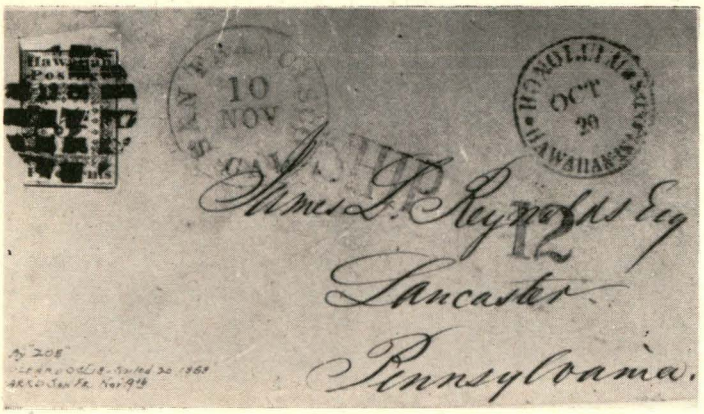


Fig. 4. A typical cover bearing a 5c Missionary.

Cover addressed to James Reynolds in Lancaster, Pa. Postmarked "Honolulu*Hawaiian Islands, Oct 20" (1853), "San Francisco, Cal., Nov 10" and the ratemark "Ship 12". It is reported that this cover was obtained in 1923 by the Economist Stamp Company from a man whose great-uncle was a naval officer stationed in Hawaii during the 1850's. It subsequently turned up in the Henry C. Gibson collection where it realized $1,050 at auction in March 1944, passing into the Harris collection. (Fig. 4)

2-5. Type I, tied to cover with the postmark "Honolulu*Hawaiian Islands, Jul 12". Cover also bears the postmark "San Francisco, Cal., Aug 16", the ratemark "Ship 12" and a manuscript notation of doubtful accuracy "1855". Addressed to Wm. R. Gay in Lebanon, New London Co., Conn. It is said at one time to have been in the Dutcher collection, but little else is known to the writer. (Fig. 5)

2-6. Type II, an unused example on cover with a pencancelled pair of the U. S. 3c 1851 issue. Addressed to Mrs. Maria Pogue, Lahainaluna, Sand. Islands. Cover bears an indistinguishable circular town-cancel of U. S. origin and a circular "New-York, (month ?) 5." This item is illustrated in the recently published book† *Hawaii—Its Stamps and Postal History,* where it is reported to be in the Atherton Collection, Honolulu Academy of Arts. This cover is similar to and from the same correspondence as cover No. *2-2* above. A third item of similar description and from the same correspondence, but only on piece of cover was sold in the Hind collection.

2-7. Type II, cancelled with a circular grid of 7 bars. Cover addressed to Dupuy Foulkes & Co., San Francisco, and bears the postmarks "Honolulu*Hawaiian Islands, Sep 11" (1852), "San Francisco, Cal., Oct 4" and a circular "Ship 6." Also bears an oval "Forwarded by/ Porter & Ogden/ Honolulu" and a manuscript notation "Per Zoe." This latter establishes the year of use as the Zoe sailed from Honolulu harbor on September 13, 1852, arriving at San Francisco on October 2, 1852. This cover was owned by Henry J. Crocker and was illustrated in his book *Hawaiian Numerals.* It passed into the Atherton Collection and is now in the Honolulu Academy of Arts.

2-8. Type II, cancelled with a circular grid of 7 bars. Cover addressed to J. F. Rogers, Esq., Lowell, Mass. Postmarked "Honolulu*Hawaiian Islands, Feb 16" and "San Francisco, Cal., (date illegible)" and bears the collect ratemark "12." The stamp has been cut from the cover and replaced. This cover was in the W. M. Potts collection and was sold at auction in Philadelphia in January 1944, passing into the Harris collection.

† "The Stamps of Hawaii" by Meyer, Harris, Davey, Bash and others. 1948. Published by the Philatelic Foundation, New York, N. Y.



Fig. 5. Another 5c cover, believed hitherto not illustrated. The 1855 manuscript notation is of doubtful accuracy.

Covers Bearing a 13c "Hawaiian Postage" Missionary

3-1. Horizontal strip of three- Type I, Type II, Type I- cancelled with a smudgy red cancel and also with a handstamped "Paid." Although damaged, enough of the cover remains to determine that it was addressed to one Dawson on Cherry Street in New York, the same family to which the aforementioned 2c Missionary cover, No. *1-1,* was addressed. It bears a postmark "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Feb 20", a San Francisco postmark and a manuscript "18". This cover was obviously a triple rate letter. As previously mentioned, this strip of three Missionaries is the only recorded multiple piece of any denomination, although a reconstructed pair of Cat. No. 4 was in the H. J. Crocker collection. This cover, like the 2c cover, passed into the hands of the New England Stamp Company in 1903 or 1904. It was purchased by Henry J. Crocker of San Francisco and was subsequently acquired by Mr. F. C. Atherton in 1930. It is now in the Honolulu Academy of Arts, a gift from Mr. Atherton. Illustrations of this cover, for those interested, can be found in Crocker's book *Hawaiian Numerals* or in the recently published book *Hawaii—Its Stamps and Postal History.*

3-2. Type I, cancelled by a circular grid of 7 bars. Addressed to the Hon. Simon Greenleaf, Cambridge, Mass. Postmarked "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Oct 16" and "San Francisco, Cal., Dec 1"—also a handstamp "Paid" with manuscript "14." Apparently this letter was rated as a double rate prepaid letter and passed as such, despite the fact that only one stamp was affixed. The history and present whereabouts of this cover are unknown to the writer.

3-3. Type I, cancelled by a circular grid of 7 bars. Addressed to Miss Ellinor Reynolds, Lancaster, Pa. Postmarked "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Oct 4" and "San Francisco, Cal., Nov 1". Cover bears the ratemark "Paid 8" and a manuscript notation indication that the year of use was 1852. The San Francisco postmark is described as being in red, instead of the usual black. Along with cover No. *2-4* this item was first described in the August 19, 1923 issue of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News,* who reported that the cover had been obtained by the Economist Stamp Company from a man whose

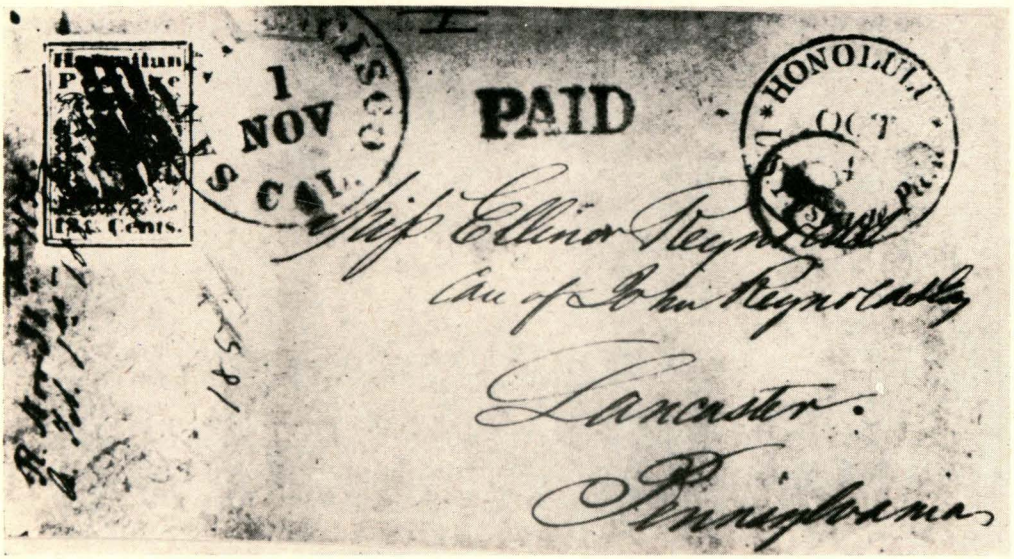


Fig. 6. A nice example of Catalog No. 3. The San Francisco cancel is said to be in red.

great-uncle was a naval officer stationed in Hawaii during the period Missionaries were current. Its subsequent history is unknown to the writer, but a photograph has survived (Fig. 6).

3-4. Type I, uncancelled on cover to Miss Elizabeth Turrill, Oswego, N. Y. It is postmarked "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Apr5" and has the usual ratemark "Paid 8." There is no San Francisco town-cancel, although the form of the ratemark indicates that the cover passed through this office. The history and whereabouts of the cover are unknown to the writer, but an illustration is available (Fig. 7).

3-5. Type I, cancelled with an oval containing the words "Postage Paid," probably a unique cancellation insofar as Missionaries are concerned. Addressed to Charles F. Gulick, Nashua, New Hampshire. Postmarked "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Apr 26" and "San Francisco, Cal., May 16," also the usual "Paid 8." This interesting cover was illustrated in the June, 1951 issue of *Covers* magazine. The accompanying text relates that the cover had been revealed recently by Mr. Floyd W. Fitzpatrick, a Honolulu dealer.

3-6. Type II, lightly cancelled with crayon or pencil. Cover addressed to Mrs. Eliza Johnson in Boston, Mass. Postmarked "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Nov 20" and "San Franciscso, Cal. Dec 16" and the usual ratemark "Paid 8." Cover bears a manuscript date "1852." This cover was in the W. H. Crocker collection which was sold in London in February, 1939, and again turned up in the Harmer, Rooke & Co. auction of May 22, 1940. It is now in the collection formed by the late Admiral Harris.

3-7. Type and destination not reported. Cancelled by a blue "Paid." Postmarked "San Francisco, Cal., Aug 16" and the usual "Paid 8." This also is in the collection formed by the late Admiral Harris.

3-8. Type not reported, but the cover bears a copy of the 13c engraved stamp of 1853 in addition to the Missionary. Addressed to Mrs. Ann B. Archer, Port Gibson, Mississippi. Stamps tied together by a black circular waffle type grid. Cover postmarked "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Sep 10" and "San Francisco, Cal., Oct (1?)", a "Paid," a manuscript "1 oz." and a manuscript "14." The history of this piece is related in the *Translations from Kohls Handbook (Hawaii)* which appeared in serial form in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, beginning in the October, 1941 issue. According to this source, the cover was discovered in Vicksburg and came into the possession of the New York dealer, J. M. Bartels, early in 1929. He sold it to Mr. C. J. Phillips for $800, who in turn disposed of it to Judge Emerson.

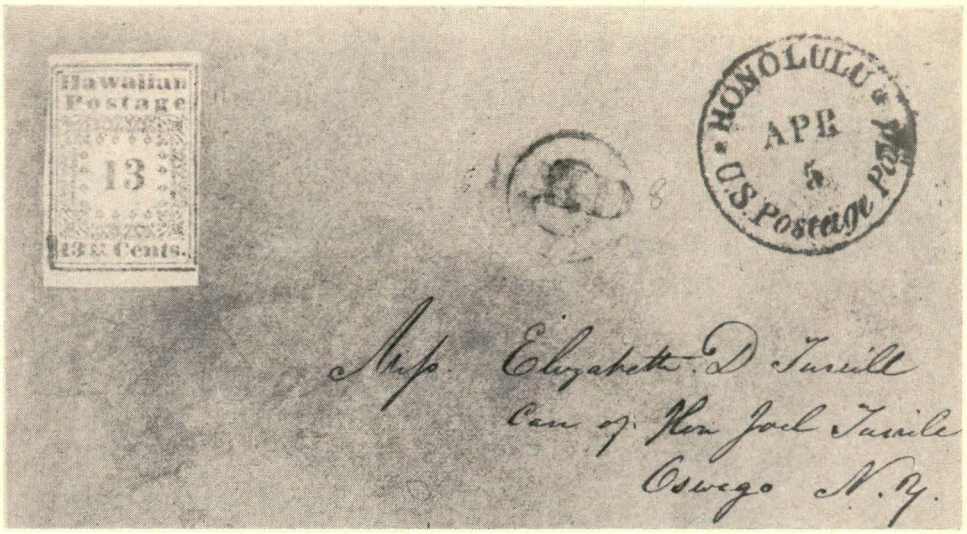


Fig. 7. An uncancelled Missionary on cover. Similar covers were probably the source of most of the unused Missionaries.

When the Emerson collection was sold at auction, the purchaser was Mr. John C. Juhring who kindly provided the detailed description of the cover presented herewith.

The *Translations from Kohl's Handbook* also made passing reference to a somewhat similar cover bearing the 13c Missionary No. 3 and the 13c engraved stamp No. 6, formerly in the collection of Senator Ackerman. However, since no further details have been located, no formal listing is given this cover.

3-9. Type I, the lower third of a pen-cancelled copy, the top two-thirds having somehow been destroyed. The cover is addressed to Daniel Tomlinson, Esq., Brookfield, Conn. It is postmarked with an orange "San Francisco, Cal., Feb 12," a black "Paid" and an orange "6," but there is no Honolulu postmark. Unlike most surviving covers, this item is a folded letter sheet which shows that it originated at "Kahului, Hawaii" on December 30, 1851. This is the earliest known Missionary cover, assuming that a cover bearing only a third of a Missionary stamp can be so defined. The absence of a Honolulu postmark raises the question as to whether any handstamped towncancel was in use in the Islands in late 1851 or early 1852. A straight line towncancel reading "Honolulu, Hawaiian Is./ date" was in use somewhat earlier with a range of dates between November 7, 1850 and June 4, 1851. This was replaced by the circular towncancels usually found on Missionary and later covers, but the writer has not been able to establish that these postmarks came into use before the spring of 1852.

Covers Bearing a 13c "H. I. & U. S. Postage" Missionary

4-1. Type I, cancelled with the postmark "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Jul 24". Also bears the postmarks "San Francisco, Cal., Sep. 1," "Paid 8" and a manuscript notation "1852". It is addressed to Miss Fidelia Fiske, care of a Boston address, for forwarding to Ooromiah, Persia. The cover was discovered in a sea chest in the basement of the library at Shelburne, Mass. in May, 1938. It was acquired by the New York dealer, Spencer Anderson. The writer has been told that Mr. Anderson sold the cover shortly thereafter to Theodore Champion of Paris, France.

4-2. Type I, cancelled with a black circular grid of 7 bars. It is postmarked "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Dec 3," "San Francisco, Cal., Jan 1" and has the usual ratemark "Paid 8". It bears the address Mrs. Ellsworth Luce, Holms Hole, Mass. The first reference to this cover was found

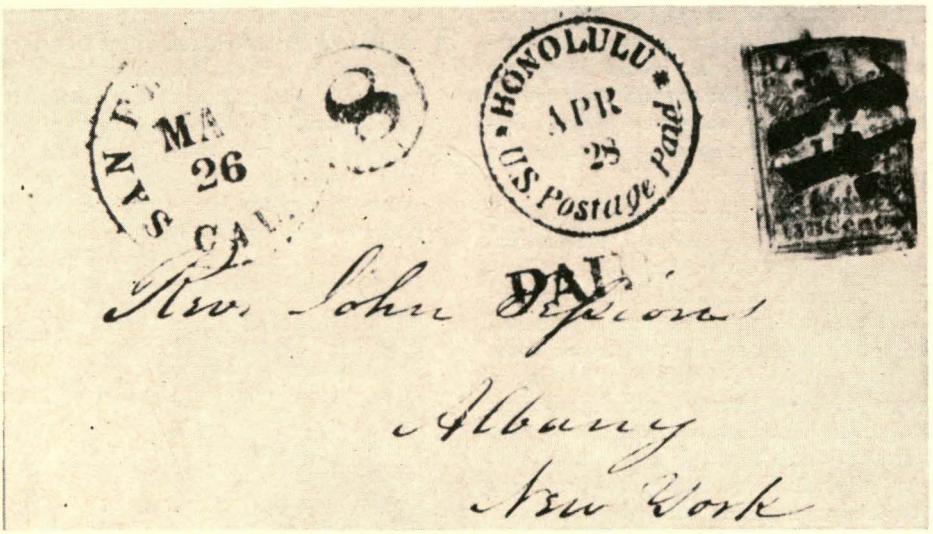


Fig. 8. Another "lost" cover. This illustration was copied from a photograph believed to be at least 50 years old.

in the March 1934 issue of *Godden's Gazette* where it was illustrated by the English dealer, Frank Godden. It passed into an English collection and in 1946 was acquired for the Harris collection.

4-3. Type II, cancelled with the town cancel "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Jul 24." Cover also postmarked "San Francisco, Cal., Sep 1" and "Paid 8." Used in 1852. Addressed to Mr. Warren Goodale, Marlboro, Mass. This cover was in the collection of Judge Emerson and was next acquired by Leland Powers. When the Powers collection of Hawaiian covers was sold in May, 1943 the cover passed into the Harris collection. An illustration can be found in the recently published book, *Hawaii—Its Stamps and Postal History.*

4-4. Type II, an uncancelled copy over which had been pasted a horizontal pair of the U. S. 3c 1851 issue, the latter bearing the postmark "San Francisco, Cal., Jan 1." The cover is also postmarked "Honolulu* U. S. Postage Paid, Nov 29" and bore a manuscript notation indicating use in 1854. It was addressed to Miss Fidelia Fisk, care of a Boston address for forwarding to Oroomiah, Persia. Since it is from the same correspondence as cover No. *4-1* above, it is presumed to have a somewhat similar history, except that upon acquisition by the late Spencer Anderson it passed into the Harris collection. It is illustrated in the book, *Hawaii—Its Stamps and Postal History.*

4-5. Type II, tied to cover by the postmark "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Apr 26." Cover also postmarked "San Francisco, Cal., May 16" and bears the usual ratemark "Paid 8" and the inscription "Pr Noble." The ship Noble sailed from Honolulu on April 27, 1852 arriving in San Francisco on May 15, 1852, thus adequately placing the cover with respect to year of use. It is addressed to Mr. C. A. Burrage, Boston, Mass. This cover was once in the Mirabaud collection which was sold at auction in 1909, but its subsequent history is unknown to the writer.

4-6. Type II, cancelled by a circular device of two parallel bars crossed at right angles by a third, rather like an "H." The cover is postmarked "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid, Apr 28," "San Francisco, Cal., May 26" and the usual "Paid 8." It is addressed to the Rev. John Sessions, Albany, N. Y. The cover was exhibited at a Paris Exhibition in 1889, and again turned up when the Duveen collection was sold in 1922, but its subsequent history is unknown to the writer. However, an illustration survives to be shown herewith (Fig. 8).

This concludes the listing of Missionary covers which have been traced by the writer.

He would welcome any new information with respect to the history or present whereabouts of any of them and would be equally grateful for information regarding or photographs of any covers not listed above. Address John K. Bash, 280 Hart Ave., Staten Island 10, N. Y.

One of the most interesting facts developed by a study of the covers is the concurrent usage of the two 13c Missionaries, Catalogue Nos. 3 and 4. While No. 3 was issued on October 1, 1851, we find copies used as late as September 10, 1853, since we know of at least one cover (No. *3-8*) bearing a 13c engraved in addition to the Missionary. Consistent use of the stamp throughout 1852 has also been established. On the other hand, the 13c "H. I. & U. S. Postage" Missionary was certainly issued as early as April 26, 1852 (see cover *4-5*) with subsequent appearances extending at least until November 29, 1854 (see cover *4-4*). One would expect that since the 13c stamp No. 4 was presumably a replacement for the 13c stamp No. 3, that examples of the latter used after April, 1852 would be rather unusual. However, since this is not the case, one can only conclude that stocks of No. 3 remained on hand after that date and were sold to the public concurrently with No. 4. It is, of course, not unlikely that the latest uses of both stamps came from copies remaining in the hands of individuals after sale had ceased at the post office. Considering the periods of time over which each of the 13c stamps apparently were used, it is not surprising that the number of stamps of each variety located were in approximately equal quantity.

Another curious feature of this period is the number of covers surviving which bear no stamps at all. The writer has located at least ten such covers mailed from the Islands in 1852 or 1853, each of which bears a Honolulu postmark. However, since the postal regulations of the time required all foreign bound mail to pass through the Honolulu post office, it is possible that these stampless covers originated at smaller towns or plantations at which no stamps were available. Since these smaller towns were not provided with postmarks, the accuracy of this hypothesis cannot be tested. It is perhaps equally likely that the postal clerks at Honolulu were rushed occasionally and did not bother with a stamp—particularly if the postal fee were paid in cash at the time of mailing the letter.

So much for the Missionaries. Considering the probability that not over two hundred individuals could ever own a single example at any one time, it is likely that the data presented will be of little practical interest to the reader. But like Rembrandts, crown jewels or Chippendale chairs, there is a certain vicarious pleasure to be obtained in just knowing about them. And after all, three new covers have turned up since 1938. Perhaps if you look in that old trunk up in Uncle Henry's attic, the number of possible owners may be increased to two hundred and one!

Before closing, the writer wishes to express his thanks to Mr. Henry A. Meyer without whose help and encouragement this probably would not have been attempted. He also expresses his gratitude to the Philatelic Foundation and the Collectors Club of New York for the use of their reference collections and libraries, both of great assistance in tracking down some of the stamps and covers presently in unknown collections.

JOHN K. BASH, an industrial engineer with the Ebasco Co. of New York, N. Y., is one of the younger generation of philatelic students in this country. In philately, however, he is a veteran having collected stamps for over 25 years. His chief specialties at present are 19th century Mexico, Hawaii, and the early issues of countries like Bolivia. The Editor of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST has frequently sought and received his advice and assistance upon articles pertaining to the above specialties. His knowledge in such fields is profound but little known to the philatelic world, because Mr. Bash is exceedingly modest about his abilities and shuns the limelight of publicity.

Mr. Bash was an important contributor to the book on "The Stamps of Hawaii," the chapter on the Hawaiian postmarks in this book was his authorship.

Almost since its inception, Mr. Bash has been a member of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation.

Mr. Bash's love for stamp collecting is at present hobbled by the task of rearing three children, all of whom are still of that very young age before any signs are indicated if one or more will follow into father's hobby.

LOMBARDY-VENETIA

Notes on the scarce shades of the 5 Centesimi and on the relative rarity of the corresponding values of the Centesimi and Kreuzer issues of 1850.

By EDWIN MUELLER

The specialists of the Austria and Lombardy-Venetia stamps who concentrate on the twin issue of 1850—in *Centesimi* currency for *Lombardy-Venetia* and in *Kreuzer* currency for the *other provinces of the Austrian Monarchy*—are aware of the fact that the corresponding values of the two issues generally come in the same shades of color. They know that considerably more printings were made of the values of the Kreuzer issue and, therefore, a number of shades which can be found in the Kreuzer stamps do not exist in the Centesimi stamps. But, with the exception of one value, practically all shades of the Centesimi stamps appear also in the corresponding values of the Kreuzer issue.

The one exception is the *5 Centesimi* stamp, which fact has puzzled many collectors and students in the field. They have sought the explanation why the 5 Centesimi stamp, which had the smallest printing of all ten values of the twin issue, comes in so many distinct shades; why certain scarce shades are characteristic of the 5 Centesimi only but are not duplicated in the 1 Kreuzer value.

The scarcest shade of the 5 Centesimi listed in the catalogs is the so-called *lemon yellow* variety. This shade has been recognized only after specializing in these stamps had become more active in Italy after the First World War. Although listed by the specialized catalogs shortly thereafter, it took quite some time before the general catalogs accepted it. The Scott Catalog has listed it for only a few years, while the Zumstein Catalog, otherwise quite accurate in such respect, still has not listed it. After the existence of the lemon yellow shade had been firmly established, specialists soon found out that there were also shades which resembled it, but which were not quite so distinct but tended rather to the much more common yellow shade. These intermediate shades which can be found in various gradations, are difficult to designate by a name. The last editions of the specialized catalogs of Old Italian States *—of which Lombardy-Venetia is considered a part by the Italian collectors—list beside *"giallo lemone"* which means "lemon yellow," another shade as the most distinct one, which has always a more or less pronounced greenish tint, and call it *"giallo lemone verdastro"* meaning "greenish lemon yellow," pricing it four to six times as high as the "giallo lemone" variety. We believe that it would be more correct to call the rarest shade simply *"lemon yellow"* and give the less rare varieties the name *"olive yellow"* as they are closely related to this shade.

All these scarce shades come from the *early printings* of the 5 Centesimi stamp, of which the great majority were in pure *yellow*. These early printings stand out from the later ones, in shades of ochre and orange, not only by their distinctive colors, but also by their fine appearance; the eagle of the coat of arms is clearly defined and separated from the dotted background, in contrast to the more or less blurred appearance of the later printings, with their rather worn prints, which never have the eagle standing out as it does on the fine early prints. When we use the early prints of the *1 Kreuzer* for comparison, we find that the earliest and scarcest printings—although not as scarce by far as the lemon yellow and olive yellow shades of the 5 Centesimi—were *brown orange,* with slight variations to lighter and darker hues, and the later, but still fine early prints were *yellow* with slight shades. The latter color is the same as was used for the great majority of the early prints of the 5 Centesimi. This confirms at least partly the theory of the analogy between the colors of the cor-

* Gugliemo Oliva " Il Francobolli d'Italia," Volume I (1950) and Giulio Landmans "Catalogo dei Francobolli d'Italia" (1952).

responding values of both issues, but it does not solve the problem of the scarce colors which exist only for the 5 Centesimi.

It was previously believed that the distinctive orange brown color of the earliest printings of the 1 Kreuzer which sometimes show a slight rosy tinge, does not exist for the 5 Centesimi value. We have known for quite a number of years that this is not correct as we have from time to time seen copies of the 5 Centesimi in the undoubtedly brown orange shade. It is without doubt the rarest shade of the 5 Centesimi stamps, although less spectacular than the lemon yellow shade, and therefore does not fetch similarly high prices. The Oliva Catalog still does not recognize it, and Dr. Emilio Diena also did not know of it when he wrote about the 1850 issue, but the Landmans Catalog now lists it among the early prints of the 5 Centesimi. The order for the first printing, given to the State Printing Works on February 5, 1850, called for 500,000 copies of the 1 Kreuzer and 100,000 copies of the 5 Centesimi. It can be assumed that the first color used for these quantities, which constituted the first printing, was *brown orange* and that it was used for a rather large part of the first printing of the 1 Kreuzer but only a small number of sheets of the 5 Centesimi. Then, without any intermediate shades, a rather pure *yellow* color was introduced and the first printing of both values was completed in this color.

This reconstructed history of the first printing of the 1 Kreuzer and 5 Centesimi stamps still does not take into consideration the scarce shades of the latter, *lemon yellow* and *olive yellow*. Were they printed with a special mixture of ink used only for a very small printing of the 5 Centesimi? We do not think so, mainly because there are not only intermediate shades between the two but also between olive yellow and the regular yellow. We have established for some time a special theory as to how these color varieties came into being. Since it seems that no better explanation can be given for the time being, we decided to publish it and invite comments.

When expertizing the rare shades of the 5 Centesimi, the expert relies partly on the checking of the stamps under *ultra-violet light*. It is remarkable that the rare shades always show a peculiar *violet fluorescence* of the paper which is strongest on the extreme greenish lemon yellow shade, becomes weaker as we go toward the olive yellow shades, and vanishes completely when we come to pure yellow shades. The late Dr. Emilio Diena knew of this test because once he told us that he considered only stamps which distinctly show the violet fluorescence to be the real lemon shade. Now, everybody who has worked for any time with stamps under ultraviolet light knows that very frequently chemically treated stamps, especially chlorinated ones, show a more or less distinct violet fluorescence of the paper, which sometimes reveals the fact that a stamp had been cleaned with chemicals or that the color was changed by such means. We first suspected that the scarce shades of the 5 Centesimi, which did not fit into the regular color scheme, were simply fraudulent color changelings attained by chemical treatment. But this suspicion could not be sustained. There are, as far as we know, no mint copies known of the rare shades, but copies on pieces and full covers exist which are in their original untouched state, thus practically excluding the possibility of a chemical changeling. The fact that the paper of the scarce shades shows the presence of chemical substances in it, which are missing in the paper of the other shades, provided the hint for the establishment of the theory of how the rare shades occurred. There are several possibilities how these chemical components became part of the paper. The most probable one is that a small number of sheets of the hand-made paper used for the early printings included a chemical substance, which the others did not contain. It is also probable that this chemical ingredient came into the paper substance by accident during the manufacture, or—which seems less likely—the paper was soaked by accident in a solution which included a chemical substance. If this was really so, then the printing could have been made with the same yellow ink as for the regular stamps, and only *after* the printing the chemical ingredients of the paper changed the color of the stamps into the scarce shades, from greenish lemon yellow to olive yellow, depending on the larger or smaller amount of chemical included in the paper. There is also the possibility that the change of color occurred only

after the gumming took place, and that the chemical which caused the color change of the stamps was part of the gum solution introduced into the paper when the gum was applied. But this seems less likely for several reasons. It is also probable that not only 5 Centesimi stamps but also other values—but no 1 Kreuzer—were printed on a similarly chemically active paper, but that the colors of these other stamps were not noticeably affected. This fact seems to be substantiated by copies of other values with paper fluorescing in violet, which show no signs that they were chemically cleaned or treated after having been used.

The collectors who read the foregoing explanations will suggest that, if our theory is correct, it may still be possible to produce the scarce shades from the regular shades by the same chemical substances which did the trick more than a hundred years ago. We thought about that and have tried to reconstruct the process. The contemporary handmade paper was bleached by chlorinating either the paper pulp or the finished paper. It seems most likely that some paper obtained an overdose of chlorine and that this chemical substance caused the color change. Treatment of 5 Centesimi stamps of the early printings in yellow with a solution of chlorine leads to a light yellow shade, sometimes even with a slight greenish tinge, which someone who has never seen the real thing may even believe to be one of the scarce shades, but which the expert will spot as a color changeling at first glance. It is obvious that the ink of the stamps, now more than a hundred years old, is no longer as sensitive to the influence of chemicals as when the sheets of stamps were newly printed. The varnish and the oily substances used as binders for the pigment of the ink have hardened in the meantime and even have changed their chemical structure, so it should not be surprising that they no longer react in the same manner as originally. Therefore failure to produce the rare shades artificially—gratifying to all collectors who possess them—does not contradict the theory that these rare varieties were the result of a chemical reaction of ink and paper occurring shortly after the stamps were printed. We believe this theory to be tenable until proved otherwise.

There is still another problem which puzzles philatelists. All official documents show that there were several times more stamps used in *Austria* than in *Lombardy-Venetia.* Nevertheless there is no conceivable difference in the *rarity* of the corresponding values of the Kreuzer and Centesimi sets, especially not for the three low values, while the 30c stamps are scarcer than the 6kr stamps and the 45c stamps considerably scarcer than the 9kr stamps. Scrutiny of collections and dealer stocks has shown that 5c, 10c and 15c stamps are represented there in similar or larger numbers than their 1kr, 2kr and 3kr counterparts, while pairs and strips of the Kreuzer values are even considerably scarcer than of the corresponding Centesimi values. This fact is reflected in the general catalogs. While Scott prices the three values of both sets about the same, Gibbons and Michel price the Centesimi values slightly higher and only Zumstein considerably higher, while Yvert-Tellier prices all Centesimi values except the 45c considerably lower than the corresponding Kreuzer values. The tendency of most catalogs to price the Centesimi values higher than the Kreuzer values seems to be a conservative one, as the Senf Catalog of 1915 proves, by pricing the first four Centesimi values about 40% higher than their Kreuzer counterparts and the 45c three and a half times the price of the 9kr. The experienced collector and dealer, nevertheless, will confirm that the three low Centesimi values are in no way rarer than the corresponding Kreuzer values and the higher pricing of the former in several catalogs can be credited to the fact that there seems to be fewer specialists of the stamps of Austria than of Lombardy-Venetia; the latter is also considered an Old Italian State and is therefore popular in Italy, resulting in a greater demand and, in turn in higher prices.

Going back to the statistics in an attempt to explain the facts which seem to contradict the documentary evidence, Austria had at that time a *population* of about 37 million while Lombardy-Venetia's was about 6.4 million, or a little more than *one-sixth.* When the first order for postage stamps was placed, it included 22,500,000 Kreuzer stamps and 4,700,000 Centesimi stamps, the latter figure being just a shade over *one-fifth* of the former. When we check on the actual *use* of the stamps, official statistics show that in

the first five months of use of the stamps (from June 1 to October 31, 1850) 12,726,-900 Kreuzer stamps with a face value of 1,103,936 Gulden were delivered to the post offices, while for the Centesimi values the figures were 3,183,900 stamps of 1,095,265 Lire face value equivalent to 219,053 Gulden. Therefore, there were *four* times as many stamps used in Austria as in Lombardy-Venetia, the average face value being 5½kr in Austria and 30c (equivalent to 6kr) in Lombardy-Venetia. It is known that of the Kreuzer stamps of the 1850 issue during the 8½ years of their use about 277 million stamps were used. Unfortunately, no official figure is known for the Centesimi stamps but we cannot go far wrong if we base an estimate on the stamps used during the first five months. Comparing it with the total number used of the Kreuzer values, we arrive in this way at a total of about 77 million for the Centesimi values, or about *one-fourth* of the Kreuzer values.

With these figures established, we are still not able to give a ready answer to the question why with so many more Kreuzer stamps used than Centesimi stamps, the former are not much more common than the latter. An indication lies in the fact that the population of Austria, although *six times* as great as that of Lombardy-Venetia, used only *four times* as many stamps. Austria's population was in a large part agricultural, and farmers, especially at that time, were not active letter writers. Contrariwise, Lombardy and Venetia were industrialized countries, in which handicraft and small factories played an important role, producing much more correspondence, which is shown by the fact that the average inhabitant of Lombardy-Venetia used *three* stamps for every *two* used by the people in the Austrian Monarchy. There is also another factor which explains why obviously a much larger percentage of the Centesimi stamps than of the Kreuzer stamps have survived. In Austria, a very large percentage of stamps were used on private letters which were thrown away. Only relatively few large business firms and industries kept their files for a considerable period, because the Austrians, known for their laxity in such matters, did not care too much about keeping private archives longer than necessary. The majority of the large archives which produced the most valuable material in Austrian stamps were found in the southern provinces, especially in Trieste, where the Italian influence predominated. In Lombardy-Venetia, there were many old-established, large business firms, which kept their records for many decades and smaller firms also took pride in well-tended files. The addresses of the senders of Lombardy-Venetia covers, therefore, read like a complete business directory of that period, while by far no such complete insight into the business life of the period can be gained from a review of Austrian covers. There must have been many times more archives philatelically exploited in Lombardy-Venetia than in Austria. Therefore it seems logical that a far larger percentage of Centesimi stamps than of Kreuzer stamps has eventually found its way into philatelic possession. That the 45c stamp and to some degree the 30c stamp are considerably rarer than the 9kr and 6kr stamps can be explained by the relative smallness of Lombardy-Venetia, which favored the use of 15c stamps but fewer 30c stamps and practically no 45c stamps on domestic mail. The business connections with the other Austrian provices were confined mostly to the Italian-speaking southern provinces and, therefore, also required 15c and 30c, but few 45c stamps. The rather large correspondence with foreign countries, especially the Italian States, until 1857 was mostly franked without stamps, postage being paid in cash. All this contributed to the much smaller use of 45c stamps than those of 9kr and also the 30c being used in relatively smaller quantities than the 6kr value.

We believe that we have presented rather cogent reasons why the Centesimi stamps are generally not rarer than the Kreuzer stamps although only one-quarter as many of the former were used as of the latter. This discussion seems also to be a good warning for those who try to base estimates of the value or prices of stamps solely upon the number of stamps printed. As can be seen, many factors affect the apparently simple relation between the printed or used quantity of a stamp, its relative rarity and its market value. It again proves the old rule, that there are still only two factors which influence the market value of a stamp, as of anything else, *supply* and *demand*.

The Postage Stamps and Postal History of

TIBET

By H. D. S. HAVERBECK

(Continued from Page 151.)

5. The Cancellations and Postal History

The most recently published account of the Tibetan postal service is that of F. Spencer Chapman, the distinguished traveller and explorer. In his book, "Lhasa, The Holy City," he mentions that, "The Lhasa postmaster also spoke English, as he was trained in telegraphy at Kalimpong. The postal and telegraph system is most efficient. The line was laid from Kalimpong over the Jelep La as far as Gyantse during the 1904 Mission. After Sir Charles Bell's visit to Lhasa in 1920, it was continued to the city. It is maintained by Nepalese line men, with occasional visits—usually no farther than Gyantse—from British engineers. The muleteers sometimes take the posts for firewood, and amuse themselves by throwing stones at the insulators, but during our visit we were always able to telegraph messages to India. The Potala is connected by phone to the post office. Stamps in five values and colours . . . are . . . current only within Tibet. Post runners carry the mails to Gangtok (our letters were restamped at Gyantse). Running from dawn to dusk in relays of about eight miles they covered the 330 miles from Lhasa to Gangtok in from eight to ten days. Our record time for getting an answer from Calcutta was seventeen days."

Tibet is not a member of the Universal Postal Union. For this reason any letters being sent out of the country must bear, in addition to the Tibetan stamps, the stamps of India. This extra postage is collected at the time of posting by the simple expedient of affixing Tibetan stamps of sufficient value to cover the Indian postage as well as the Tibetan. Letters destined for India or overseas are turned over to the Indian postal agency at Gyantse. There the Indian stamps are affixed and cancelled. Letters bound for Lhasa or other Tibetan cities, where there are no Indian postal agencies, receive the Tibetan franking and a cancellation at the town of Phari in the Chumbi valley.

The Indian postal agency at Gyantse also sends out two mails a week which are carried by mule train down to Siliguri. If the Tibetan mails arrive at Gyantse on the day that the Indian mails are leaving, the letters for India are usually carried by the Indian mail.



Figure 34. Views of the Post Office building at Lhasa.

The post office at Lhasa is housed in what remains of the Tengyeling Monastery, the main part of which was demolished by the Chinese during the 1912 war, and has not since been rebuilt. (Fig. 34)

Prior to the establishment of the Tibetan Government postal system letters were carried by private courier. The Dalai Lama and the high officials maintained their own private couriers. The large monasteries also maintained a staff of private couriers. In the outlying districts and small towns, part of the services demanded from farmers and traders was the carriage of the officials' letters over a portion of the route, never in excess of eight miles. Owners of horses, or pack yaks, were required to furnish transport upon demand. The letter couriers carried a document bearing official seals which entitled them to claim these services. There was no postal rate or fee and this courier service was not available to the general public.

It is customary throughout all oriental countries for a man to have a personal seal. This seal is always used on any document or paper that requires a signature. The impression of the seal in wax or in ink is necessary to make the document binding. It is, in fact, the "signature." These seals are usually carved from semi-precious stones and worn on the person at all times. In addition to the personal seal, each official has a seal of office which is used only in the performance of his official duties. It is apparent from this usage that any letter, written by any person of importance enough to possess a seal, would have this affixed both to the letter and the envelope or wrapper. It is this custom that has caused a serious misunderstanding about the Tibetan posts. These seals have been misconstrued to be "franks" or indications of postage paid. Careful inquiry has determined that such is not the case, but rather that the seals observed on Tibetan letters are merely marks of identification and authentication.

In later years it has become the custom among wealthy Tibetans and officials to have an engraved crest impressed upon the flap of the envelopes used by them. These crests are very finely engraved and are found printed in more than one color, even with a fancy border around the flap of the envelope. These crests do not indicate the existence of postal stationery or impressed postage stamps, but are merely the crest or identification of the sender. They serve a purpose similar to the personal or official seal and are not an



Figure 35. Engraved crest of Dzasa Thubten Samphel, a high government official.

indication of prepayment of postage. We illustrate one such in Figure 35.

Official mail is carried free of all fees. But officials using the mails for their private correspondence do not have any free franking privilege. Even private letters of the Dalai Lama are required to pay postage. It is interesting to note that the Tibetan officials are most punctilious about not abusing the free franking privilege.

The cancellations used by the Tibetan Government postal system are numerous and varied. With two important exceptions, they each have the name of the town in English. These two exceptions are the fretwork postmarks used at Shigatse and Phari, found on the first issue only; and the somewhat similar marks used at Gyamtha and Medagongkar, found on the third and fourth issues only. It is believed by the author that the illustrations which accompany this article are sufficient. Therefore there is no lengthy description of the types need be given in the text. The name of the town of origin is given in the English spelling used on the postmark, although other forms of English spelling are found in literature and travel volumes. Following the list of post offices whose postmarks are known is given a list of towns where the Tibetan officials have stated that a post office exists, but which, up to the present writing, no postmark has been seen by philatelists. There are also a few small post offices from which only one cover or cancellation is reported. These will be listed separately with an acknowledgement of the source. It is impossible to illustrate these, as the owners are either unknown to us or have not supplied photographs of the postmark. These marks will be identified by reference to one of the other marks that is illustrated. The following are the major post offices from which postmarks are known and illustrated.

GYANTSE. The most important town and fort along the main route Lhasa-India. It is the headquarters of the Indian Trade Mission. A garrison of Indian troops is maintained here to guard the telegraph line. It is the transfer point for mails leaving Tibet. Type VIII is found struck in black, violet and brown. Type IX is known in black only. Fig. 37.



Figure 37. Postmarks of Gyantse.



Figure 36. Postmarks of Lhasa.

LHASA: The capital city and seat of Government. Fig. 36. Type VII is known struck in blue and black as is type VIII. The Lhasa type VII postmark has been forged and applied to genuine stamps. The genuine postmark measures 30½ mm. in diameter, while the forgery measures 35½ mm. Another point of difference is the outer circle, which is much thicker in the forgery than in the genuine. The forged post mark is found struck in a variety of colors unknown to the genuine, violet, purple, red brown and red. All other types are struck in black only.



Figure 1. The Potala and the city of Lhasa.

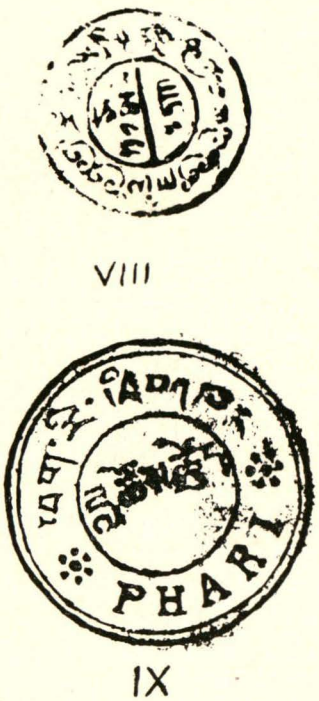


Figure 38. Postmarks of Phari.

PHARI. Also known as Pharijong. Travelers call this "the dirtiest town on earth." It is located in the Chumbi Valley and is the transfer point for mails entering Tibet. All postmarks are known in black only. Fig. 38.

SHIGATSE. A good sized city situated near the famous Tashi-Lhunpo Monastery which is the religious center of Tibet and the seat of the Panchen Lama. All postmarks are known in black only. Fig. 39.

PELTI. Also known as Pai-Li, Palti. Situated on the northwest corner of the Yam-drok Tso, or Turquoise Lake. This town is near the Yam-Ding Monastery which is headed by the only female re-incarnation. Her title is Dorje Phagmo, "The Diamond Sow." All postmarks are known in black only. Fig. 40.

NANGARTSE. Also known as Nagartse or Nagarche. This town lies about 100 miles south of Lhasa on the shores of the Yam-drok Tso. It is south of Pelti. Postmarks of Type I exist in black, violet and cerise. The black is always in watercolor. Type II is known in black only. Fig. 41.



Figure J. Tibetan Mail Runner.



III



IV

Figure 39. Postmarks of Shigatse.



I



II

Figure 40. Postmarks of Pelti.

CHUSHU. Also known as Chushur, Chushul or Chitsut. A small town on the banks of the Tsang-po river 50 miles southwest of Lhasa. The postmark is known only in black watercolor. Fig. 42.

GYAMTHA. Also known as Gyan-Die, Gyamda or Ghamtha. Another small town. It lies on the route to China and is about 120 miles east of Lhasa. It is the capital of Rong-Po Province. The only recorded postmark is known in black. Fig. 43.

MEDAGONGKAR. Also known as Metogungka. This town lies 38 miles northeast of Lhasa. The only recorded postmark is in black. Fig. 44.

GONGKUR. Also known as Gongka Jong and should not be confused with Medagongkar. It lies on the right bank of the Tsangpo opposite Chushu. The cancellation is known in blue and in lilac watercolor. (Fig. 45.)

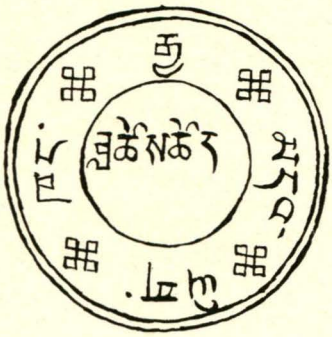


I



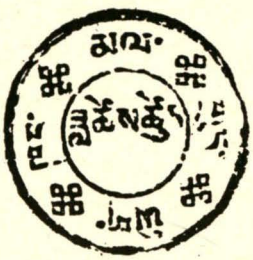
II

Figure 41. Postmarks of Nangartse.



I

Figure 43. Postmark of Gyamtha.



I

Figure 44. Postmark of Medagongkar.



I

Figure 42. Postmark of Chushu.

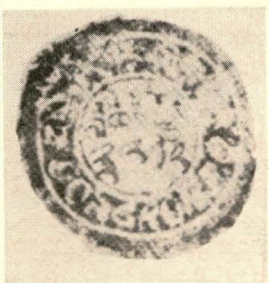


Figure 45. Postmark of Gongkur.

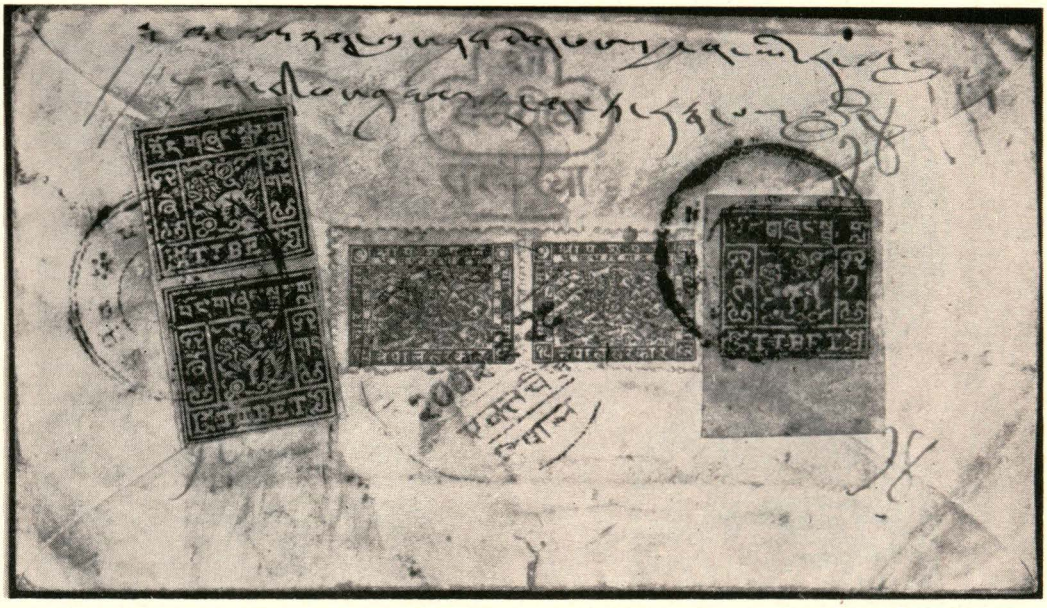


Figure 46. A combination cover of Nepal and Tibet. Mailed in Kathmandu, Nepal, and addressed to a member of the Nepalese Mission in Lhasa.

The officials of the Tibet Trade Mission in 1948 also supplied the names of the following towns where they stated post offices exist: Pan-am, Ralung, and Tsomora. Mr. George S. Russell reports that one specimen of the Pan-am post mark is known in a type similar to Type VIII of Phari and Shigatse, Type III. No postmarks have been reported as yet from the other two towns. Mr. Russell also reports a postmark from the town of Shetang, 80 miles southwest of Lhasa on the Brahmaputra River. We regret that we can not illustrate these.

In the course of the research necessary to prepare this work, the following towns are mentioned as having had post offices: Gna-Shi, Ta-Chan, Tingri, Gartok (In Eastern Tibet, not to be confused with Gartok in Western Tibet, where an Indian postal agency was established), Naktsong, Sam-Ye and Dongtse. No postal markings of any kind have been reliably reported from these localities. Mr. Russell states that Ta-Chan is not a place name but rather refers to a "Horse Postal Relay," but he has not been able to locate any marking to substantiate this. Tingri lies on the main route into Nepal. The author has been reliably informed that couriers travel over this route to and from Lhasa. His informant also stated that private letters, not entrusted to the Nepalese postal System, are carried by these couriers. All correspondence between the Nepalese merchants in Lhasa and Nepal, however, are carried over the established postal route from



Figure 47. Upper. Registry mark used at Shigatse. Lower. Registry mark of Lhasa.

Kalimpong through the Chumbi Valley. Several covers are known bearing combinations of Nepal and Tibet stamps which substantiate this statement. (Fig. 46)

In addition to the regular mail service, the Tibetan Government also maintains a registered letter service. Special chops were supplied at least two of the regular post offices to be applied to letters that were registered. These are known from Shigatse and Lhasa as illustrated in figure 47. Other covers are known with the registration mark drawn in ink on them. The covers bearing the registry chops are of great rarity.

There is, of course, much more to be learned about the postal history of Tibet. This study tries to give as clearly and concisely as possible all that is known at the present time. Other students will follow in our footsteps, as we have followed others, to add to our knowledge and correct any of our mistakes.



Figure K. Mail Carriers hut at the top of the Karo La pass, 16,600 ft. elevation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In any work of this kind, it goes without saying that there are persons other than the author whose assistance and ideas have contributed greatly to its success and completion. Without these kind people it would not have been possible at all to produce this work.

The author would like to thank those who have contributed of their time, energy and material towards making it possible for me to fully accomplish the writing of this article:

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs, for his guidance, philatelic knowledge and editorial comment.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

The Tibetan Radio Telegraph Stamps

Since the start of this work, there has come to light the fact that the Tibetan Government has issued telegraph stamps, or more correctly stamps for the payment of wireless fees. Three of these stamps are illustrated in Fig. 48. It is believed that a series of five stamps was issued for that purpose in 1949 or 1950. They were used by the Tibetan Government wireless service to represent the payment of the fees required for the transmission of a message. The denominations of the three stamps illustrated are given as 25 Sangs, 5 Sangs and ½ sang. We are further informed that there are stations at Lhasa, Shigatse, Gyamda, Gartok, Chamdo and Nakchu Kha. The latter town has never been mentioned previously and it cannot be otherwise identified.

The copies seen by the author are uniformly cancelled with a series of seven wavy lines struck in violet. The stamps themselves are printed on native paper similar to that used for the postage stamps. They appear to be printed from brass plates containing four subjects. The inscription at the top reads, "TIBET GOVERNMENT," with the denomination given in the upper corners. At the bottom of each stamp the word "TIBET" appears in English letters. So far we can only report the following:

½ sang, yellow	10 sang, blue
1 sang, violet	25 sang, red
5 sang, green	

We earnestly solicit further information regarding these stamps. It is possible that these stamps may be a new postal issue, but until there is sufficient information available, we do not think it advisable to do more than present the meagre information given above, which was obtained from sources considered reliable.



Figure 48. The Radio Telegraph stamps.

APPENDIX B

The Tibetan Monetary System

The Tibetan monetary system is based upon a unit called a "SANG." At the present time the stated value of the sang is equal to 1/3 Indian Rupee. In the period from 1912 through 1945, the Sang was equal to 2½ Rupees.

Paper currency is issued in the following denominations: 100, 25, 10, 5 and 2½ Sangs. Silver coins are minted in the following denominations: 10, 5, 2½ Sangs and 1 Trangka. Copper coins are minted in the following denominations: 5, 3, 1 Shokang, 1 Karmanga, 1 Tschaky and 1 Kakang.

The currency equivalents are as follows: 6 Kakang = 3 Karmanga = 2 Tschaky = 1½ Shokang = 1 Trangka. 6 2/3 Trangka = 1 Sang. Consequently the minor coins have the following relationship to the Sang:

1 Trangka = .15 Sang
1 Shokang = .10 Sang
1 Tschaky = .075 Sang
1 Karmanga = .05 Sang
1 Kakang = .025 Sang

The Indian Rupee has a stated value in U. S. dollars of approximately 20 cents. Therefore 20 Trangka = 3 Sang = 1 Rupee = 20 cents U. S.

APPENDIX C

The Tibetan Alphabet and its Pronunciation

For a guide to students who wish to attempt to see for themselves whether the translations are correct, we reproduce here part of the first six pages from the "English-Tibetan Colloquial Dictionary" by C. A. Bell, C. M. G., C. I. E., published in Calcutta, 1920, by the Bengal Secretariat Book Depot.

The Alphabet

1. The Tibetan Alphabet was originally taken from the Sanskrit Devanagari in the 7th century A.D., but many of the letters, especially in Central Tibet, now represent sounds different from their prototypes. Both the Sanskrit and the Tibetan pronunciations have changed considerably during this period.

Surds.		Aspirates.	Sonants.	Nasals.
Gutturals	ཀ *ka*	ཁ *kha*	ག *ka*	ང *nga*
Palatals	ཅ *cha*	ཆ *chha*	ཇ *cha*	ཉ *nya*
Dentals	ཏ *ta*	ཐ *tha*	ད *ta*	ན *na*
Labials	པ *pa*	ཕ *pha*	བ *pa*	མ *ma*
Sibilants	ཙ *tsa*	ཚ *tsha*	ཛ *tsa*	
Semi-vowels	ཝ *wa*	ཞ *sha*	ཟ *sa*	འ (not romanized)
	ཡ *ya*	ར *ra*	ལ *la*	
	ཤ *sha*	ས *sa*	ཧ *ha*	ཨ *a*

2. The Tibetan letters are as above. Consonants and their romanized equivalents.

ཀི་ *ki.*	ཁུ་ *khu.*	ཀེ་ *ke.*	ངོམས། *ngom.*
ཅི་ *chi.*	ཆུ་ *chhu.*	ཇེ་ *cke.*	ཉོན། *nyön.*
ཏི་ *ti.*	ཐུ་ *thu.*	དེ་ *te.*	ནོར། *nor.*
པི་ *pi.*	ཕུ་ *phu.*	པེ་ *pe.*	མོས། *mö.*
ཙི་ *tsi.*	ཚུ་ *tshu.*	རྩེ་ *tse.*	ལྤོལ། *wöl.*
ཞི་ *zhi.*	ཟུ་ *zu.*	ཨེ་ *e.*	ཡོད། *yö.*
རི་ *ri.*	ལུ་ *lu.*	ཤེ་ *she.*	སོང་། *song.*
	ཧེ་ *he.*	ཨོཾ། *Om.*	(The *o* is named "*le-*

***kor,*" and represents the letter** མ་**).**

The Tibetan letters with the four vowel-signs are as above. The examples given are those ordinarily used in Tibetan schools and monasteries.

APPENDIX D

The Mount Everest Expedition Label, 1924

Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, is named after Sir George Everest (1790-1866), the eminent British surveyor and Geographer of the nineteenth century. According to the most recent and reliable surveys, it rises to a height of approximately 29,002 feet above sea level. It is situated within the territory of Nepal, but the easiest approach, from a mountaineering standpoint, is from Tibet by way of the Rongbuk Valley. Several attempts have been made to scale the peak, but none has been successful, though the climbers of the 1924 expedition got to within 1,000 feet of the summit.

The Mount Everest Expedition of 1924 was under the command of Brigadier General the Hon. C. G. Bruce, but owing to ill-health he had to retire, and the command devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel E. F. Norton.

For this expedition a label was prepared. It was placed on all letters carried by runners to the nearest Indian Post Office. At the end of the expedition it appeared on a souvenir post card. The label shows a view of the base camp at Rongbuk Glacier with

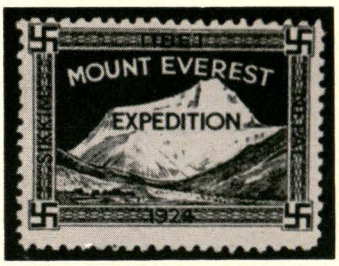
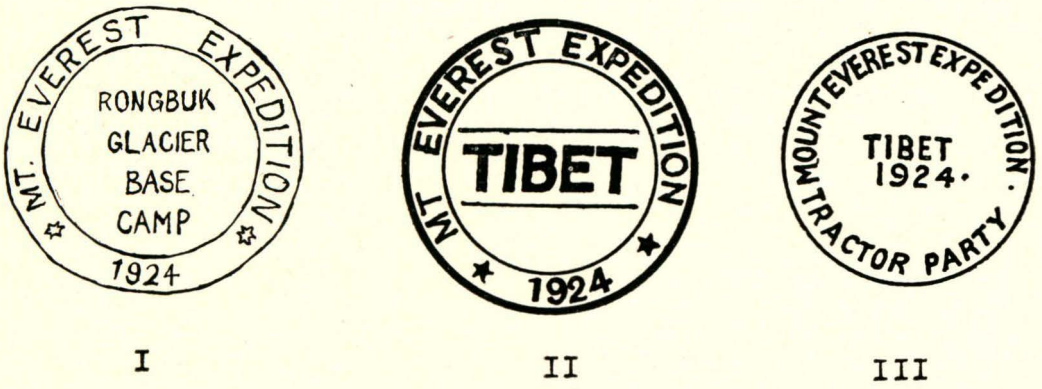


Figure 49. The Mount Everest Expedition label.

Mount Everest in the background, and is inscribed, "MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION 1924." At the top and the two sides are the names of the three states in whose territory the expedition travelled: Sikkim, Tibet, Nepal. It is dark blue in color, and lithographed on unwatermarked, white, wove paper and perforated 11. (Fig. 49) There is no indication of denomination. The sheet consisted of two panes of 36 (6 x 6).

The label was cancelled at the camp of dispatch by large double circle postmarks with the name of the expedition between the circles. The mark used at the base camp was



I II III

Figure 50. Cancellations of the Mount Everest Expedition.

further inscribed across the center, "RONGBUK GLACIER BASE CAMP" (Fig. 50, Type I). It is usually struck in red. The mark used at the camp near Pharijong was struck in grey and bears the inscription, "TIBET" across the center (Fig. 50, Type II.) A third mark is known consisting of a single-lined circle bearing the inscription, "MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION TRACTOR PARTY." In the center of this mark appears the legend "TIBET 1924" in two lines (Fig. 50, Type III.)

Whether this is stamp that actually served a real postal need, or was primarily a money raising device is open to discussion. At best, it can be considered primarily a local stamp of very limited circulation, but beyond question an interesting philatelic souvenir of a notable achievement by two brave men.

On the third day of June, 1924, Col. Norton and Dr. T. H. Somervell climbed to 28,126 feet, only 876 feet from the summit, the highest point ever reached. There they pitched camp, then later descended. Three days later another attempt to conquer the mountain was made, this time by G. L. Mallory and A. C. Irvine. They left camp at 25,000 feet, then commenced their ascent. On the morning of June 8th, N. E. Odell, who had climbed to 27,000 feet to watch the progress of his two comrades, caught a glimpse of them high up the mountain, then mists blew across, and he saw them no more. Mallory and Irvine never did return. Did they reach the summit? Everest holds this secret which lies buried with Mallory and Irvine, deep in the Himalayan snows.

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

Since the publication of the first two installments of this work sufficient new information has been brought forward to warrant the addition of it in this form.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Robson Lowe of London, England and to Mr. Chas. W. Dougan of Glendale, California for the following additions and corrections to Table 2 on page 68:

Field P. O. No. 25 Add Gyantse to locations, Insert 6/21/04 under last date.

F. P. O. 31. Erase question marks and Gyantse.

Field P. O. No. 32. Insert 5/8/04 as earliest date.

F. P. O. 81. Insert 6/18/04 as last date.

Field P. O. No. 83. Erase question marks and Yatung.

The following addenda to Table 2 should be made in addition to the above corrections:

Field P. O. No. 23	Location unknown.	Earliest date 4/21/04	Not Illustrated
F. P. O. No. 82.	Location unknown.	Earliest date 8/—/04	Not Illustrated

In the section devoted to the Chinese postmarks, the following notation should be made in Table 3, following "Shigatse (Type I not illustrated)":
"The name of the town is spelled 'Szigatse.'"
Under Pharijong in the same table insert *Type III*. The recent discovery of a large double circle cancellation from Pharijong makes it necessary to add Figure 13A illustrating this mark. The serial type number VIIa is assigned to this marking which is illustrated below.

The author has recently acquired an impression of what seems to be a Revenue stamp of Tibet. (Figure 51) It is printed on native paper in an oily brownish green ink. The size of the sheet is not known. The only English inscription which appears is the word "Stamp." The impression is not clear enough to permit the Tibetan inscription to be deciphered. As can be seen from the illustration, the central design is the type of "White Lion" that appears on the first issue of the Tibetan government postage stamps. One authority consulted has made the suggestion that this impression may be an essay for early postal paper. More information is earnestly desired. If any of our readers can throw any light upon this stamp, the author would be pleased to hear from them.

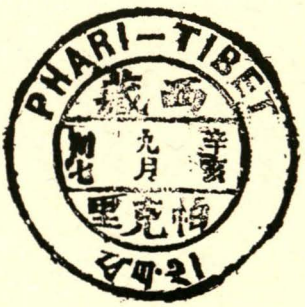


Fig. 13A



Fig. 51

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In addition to the works mentioned in the text, reference was made to the following publications:

"Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps," Vol. III, by Robson Lowe.

"The Philatelist," Vol. VIII, pages 218 and 250.

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"The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," Vol. L.

"The Stamp Magazine," January, 1951.

"Natural History," Vol. XXXVII.

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"Asia," March, 1939.

"Stamps," October 14, 1939.

"Gibbons Monthly Circular," June, 1923, No. 46.

"The New York Times." Complete file.

—The END—

Because of many requests from collectors all over the country, the complete series of articles on TIBET is planned as a HANDBOOK. Details to be announced in the next issue.

COLOMBIA

The First Issues of Tolima

By F. G. LARSEN

The catalogue valuations of Tolima's first issue (Scott's No. 1-8) have, over the course of years, attracted the attention of a number of counterfeiters. Certain forgeries were produced by the prolific Fournier. Others are referred to by Scott and Stanley-Gibbons as "official imitations of 1886," but are forgeries none the less. More dangerous are the photo-lithographic reproductions by Schroeder, although the paper used for these is quite different from that used in the originals.

In any event, the separation of the originals from the imitations is made considerably easier by an examination of the plate positions of the former.

The stamps were type-set in small sheets consisting of two vertical rows of five stamps each. For convenience in designation the author has numbered the individual positions as follows:

1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8
9	10

Four different plates were used in the production of the stamps, although apparently at least two minor setting varieties occurred in the printings from the first plate.

Before proceeding with a more detailed description of the individual plate positions, it might be remarked that the stamps from Plates 1 and 2 contain a small "c" in the top line of printing, whereas the stamps from Plates 3 and 4 show a capital "C" except for position No. 7 on the plate.

First Plate: This setting was printed upon a fairly large variety of papers, both as to color and texture. The more important types are:

light blue-gray—wove paper
blue-gray—wove paper
blue-gray—horizontally laid paper

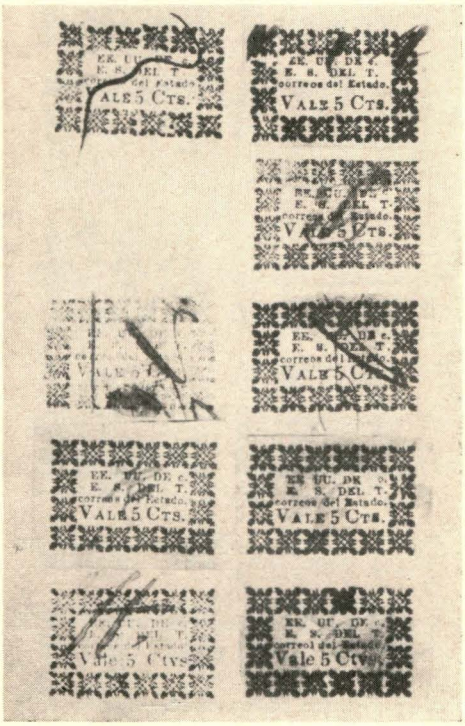


Fig. 1. Plate I. The normal setting of 10 positions.
Photos by Boutrelle

light gray-blue—wove, horizontal blue batonné
blue —wove paper
blue-gray—quadrille.—

Setting Varieties: A remarkable variety exists of the first plate. Positions No. 9 and 10 are at the top of sheet, with the remaining eight positions following in normal order.

Another setting, of which a strip of three is known, is the following: types No. 3 - 4- 3, showing the frame of a fourth stamp to the left of the first type 3.—

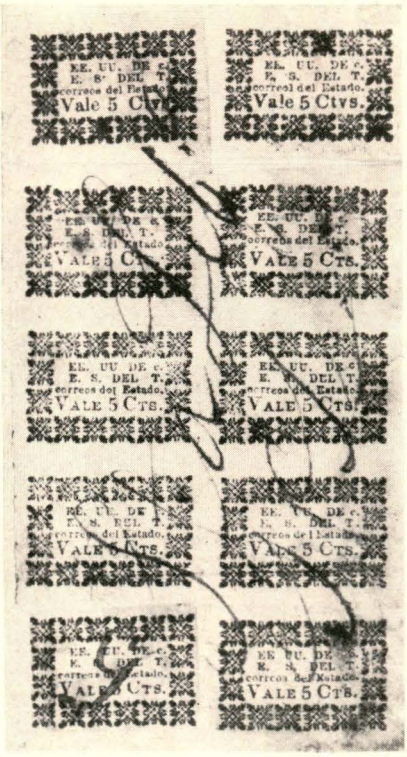


Fig. 2. Plate I. The abnormal setting.

Both setting varieties are printed on blue-gray-horizontally laid paper.

Multiple printings: clear double prints, on blue-gray wove paper exist.—

Types of the First Plate:

1) 2nd "U" in first line lower than 1st "U." "del" in second line slightly lower than rest of words in same line.
After "Cts" in 3rd line two periods, second period at height of top of the "s".

2) First word in the 3rd line spelled "oorreos" instead of "correos" and "eo" in the same word is lower than the rest of letters.

3) Second word in the 3rd line spelled "do" with "o" and an inverted "1" instead of "del".
No stop after "UU" in the 1st line.

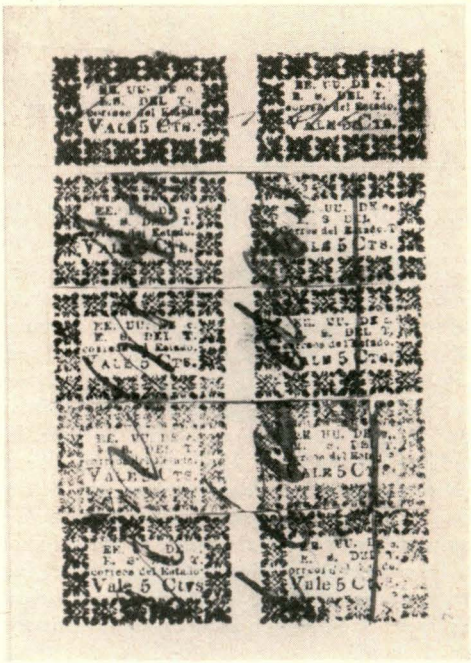


Fig. 5. Plate IA.

4) Period after "c" in the 1st line at height of top of the "c".
"reo" of "correos" in the 3rd line lower than the rest of letters in that line.

5) Period after "S" in second line, directly below center of first "U" in the 1st line.

6) The "1" of "del" in the 3rd line ½ mm. from the "e" instead of close together.

7) The last word in the 3rd line spelled "Eetado" instead of "Estado".—

8) No period after "EE" in the 1st line. Last "c" in the 1st line inverted and 2¼ mm. distant from "E" of "DE".—

9) Periods after "S" in 2nd line and "Estado" in the 3rd raised to top part of the "S" and "o".

"Ctvs" instead of "Cvs" in the 4th line.

10) The first word in the 3rd line spelled "correo*l*" instead of "correo*s*".—

"Ctvs" again instead of "Cvs" in 4th line.—

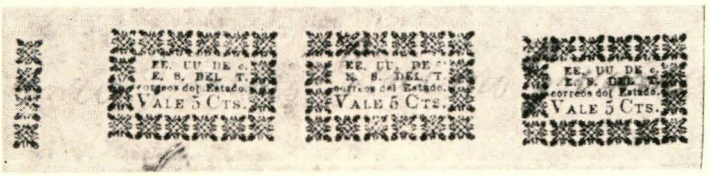


Fig. 3. A strip of three showing the abnormal setting. The pane usually has only two stamps in horizontal rows.

Second Plate: The writer has seen printings of the second plate on the following papers:

light gray-blue—vertically laid paper
blue-gray—wove paper
gray-bluish—wove paper
blue-gray—quadrille.

No setting varieties for this plate have been noted.

The printing, compared with that made from the 1st plate is always rather smudgy, lacking the neatness of that of prints from plate 1.

Types of the Second plate:

1) Second "U" in the 1st line higher than first "U".

2) First word in the 3rd line is spelled "*o*orreos" but only the "e" is lower than the rest of the letters in that word.

3) Same as for the 1st plate, but the period after "c" in the first line is also missing.

4) First word in 3rd line spelled "Corr*es*" instead of "Corr*eos*", the dropped "O" shows up in the 1st line after the "c."—

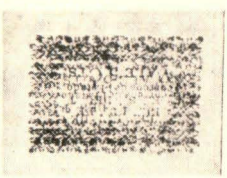


Fig. 4. Blurred impression. Type I.

The "T" of the 2nd line dropped into the third line, after the word "Estado T".—

5) Same as type 5, first plate

6) Same as type 6, first plate

7) Same as type 7, first plate

8) No period after "EE" in the 1st line, period shows up in the same line after the "c " and that letter is only 1½ mm. from the "E" of "DE".—

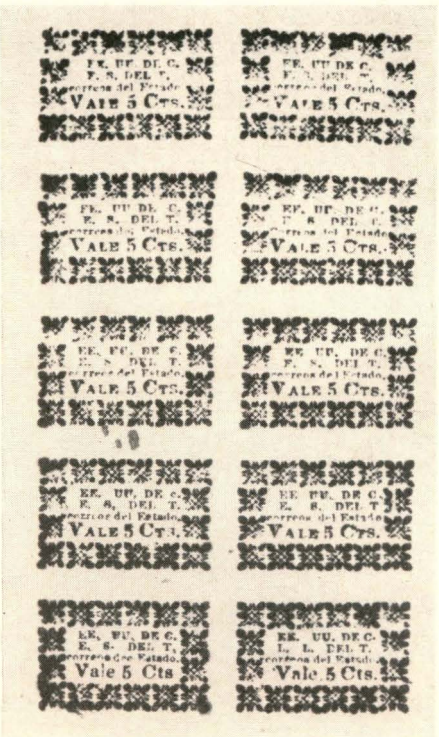


Fig. 6. Plate II. Complete sheet of unused stamps.

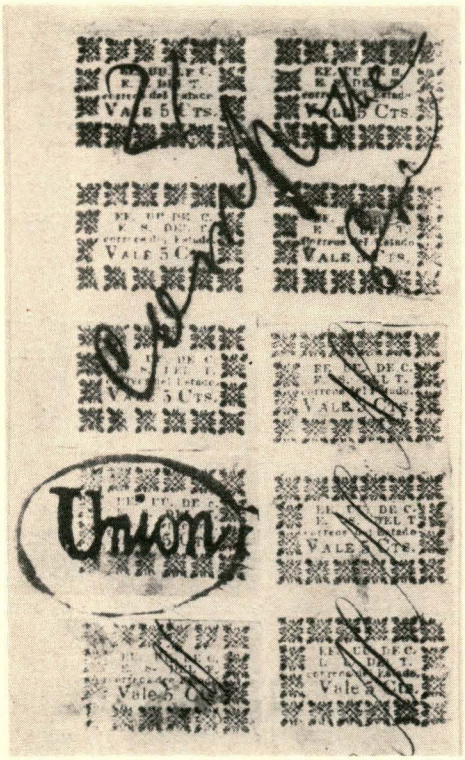


Fig. 7. Plate II reconstructed. The Buff paper. Copy with the "Union" in oval is one of the few known with a killer.

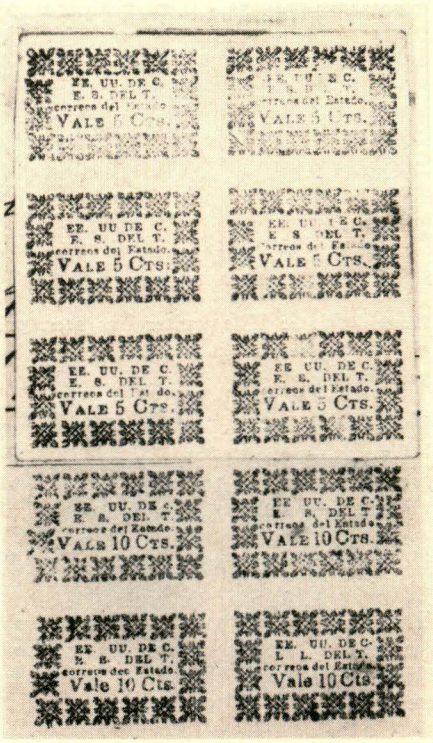


Fig. 8. Plate IIA with six of the 5c and four of the 10c stamps.

9) Same as type 9, first plate, but period after "UU" in 1st line missing.

10) Same as type 10, first plate.—
"S" in 2nd line raised.
First word in the 3rd line spelled "orreo*l*" instead of "correos".—

Third Plate: Paper in two distinct colors was used. The first paper, in blue shades, can be found in the following colors and textures:

blue-gray—wove paper
gray—wove paper
gray-bluish—wove paper
gray-bluish—quadrille.

The second color is buff, in only one shade and on wove paper.

No setting varieties have been seen for the third plate.—

Types of the Third Plate:

1) First "E" in the 1st line slightly higher than the second "E".—
Second "r" in "correos" in the 3rd line, higher than the rest of letter in that word.—

2) No period after "UU" in the 1st line. "Correos" in the 3rd line is spelled "*e*orreos".

3) No period after "UU" in the 1st line.

4) "D" of "DE" in the 1st line lower than than the "E".— No periods after "E" and "S" in the 2nd line. Two periods after "Cts". in the 4th line.

5) Normal.

6) No period after "EE" in the 1st line. The "1" of "del" in 3rd line is 1½ mm. from "e" of same word.—

7) "c" in the 1st line is a small "c."
"Estado" in the 3rd line is spelled "Eetado."— The "1" in "del" in the 3rd line inverted and lower than the two first letters.—

8) No periods after "EE" in the 1st line and after the "T" in 2nd.—

9) Period after the "S" in the 2nd line raised and oval shaped.—
"del" in the 3rd line is spelled "dec".
small "ts" in "CTS" in the 4th line.

10) "L.L." in the 2nd line instead of the correct letters "E.S."—
"correos in the 3rd line is spelled "correo*a*".—
The period after "C" in the 1st line is raised.—

Fourth Plate: The fourth plate contains the 4 types of the 10 centavos value in positions No. 7, 8, 9 and 10. It was printed on white paper, of which two distinct varieties can be found:

white-wove, rather porous paper.
white-wove, smooth paper of a creamish tint.
White-wove, blue batonné (RRR)
No setting varieties have been noted.

Types of the Fourth Plate:

Types 1 to 6 are the same as those printed from the 3rd plate, having the same varieties.

Types 7 to 10, show also the same varieties as mentioned for plate 3, but the denominations have been changed to read 10 CTS.—

The
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22 East 35th St., New York 16, N. Y.

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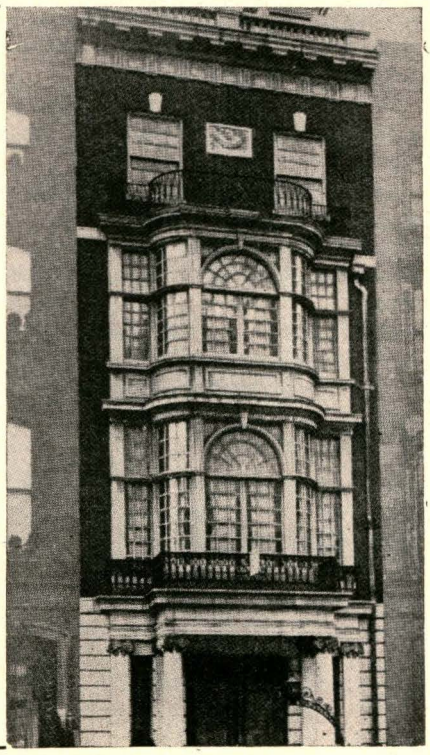
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THE CLUBHOUSE

Meeting of April 2nd, 1952

Ladies' Night

This meeting was devoted to exhibitions by the ladies of the Collectors Club, and was well attended. Through the efforts of *Mrs. Rae Ehrenberg,* ten diversified exhibits were represented and presented in this order:

Miss Agnes Burlingame displayed a nice lot of France, Jeanne D'Arc type of the first issues.

Mrs. Sophie Buser showed plate flaws on "the standing Helvetia" type of Switzerland.

Mrs. Edward C. Chickering showed postal labels of World War I.

A joint collection of *Mrs. Edna Deutsch* and *Mrs. Rae Ehrenberg* comprised a display of U. S. Departmentals, proofs, specimens mint and used.

Mrs. Anna Elkins graced the occasion by exhibiting some of her Semi-postals of the world.

Mrs. Louise Hoffman showed French Rouen Semi-Official Air Mails, Zeppelin Crash Covers, and Dr. Hugo Eckener's presentation book of the United States Zeppelin stamps.

Mrs. Helen Lee displayed autographed First Day Covers.

Mrs. Ethel McCoy exhibited some of her well-known pages of the U. S. Louisiana Exposition Issue.

Mrs. Rose Reiner showed early valentines, and *Mrs. Irma Serphos* presented U. S. Commemoratives with autographs of persons connected with the stamps.

Elliot G. Corin

Meeting of April 16, 1952

United Nations Night

This meeting was devoted to an address to the Club by the *Chief of the Postal Administration of the United Nations, Bertil A. Renborg.* After an introduction by Lt. Gen. C. W. Wickersham, Mr. Renborg told those present about the new United Nations postal issues.

He described these as the "first international postage stamps," stressing that there were sixty free and independent states behind these stamps.

The reasons given by Mr. Renborg for the issuance of postage stamps by the United Nations were in this order:

1. Postage stamps are a means of identification.

2. Postage stamps are one of the best available advertising mediums for spreading knowledge.

3. A special stamp makes United Nations mail distinctive and recognizable.

4. A secondary reason is the aid in raising funds through the sale of these issues to philatelists.

The stamps of the United Nations were authorized by the Universal Postal Union as early as 1948, but due to difficulties in working out ideas for designs, the stamps were not ready for sale until 1951. The designs selected had to be not only universally recognized, but also such that no offense would be given to any race, religion or nation. Thus they utilized the five official languages of the U. N., namely, English, French, Spanish, Chinese and Russian.

Mr. Renborg described the difficulties encountered with the sale of the first stamps, especially from the Philatelic side. He admitted to many mistakes which were due mostly to inexperience and understaffing.

In all there were eleven regular postage and four air mail stamps in the first set. More are planned, starting with a five-cent commemorative stamp for United Nations Day next October. Present plans will call for about two commemoratives a year while the current set of 15 might be replaced in two years or so.

The fifty-three members and guests present enjoyed hearing first hand the story behind these stamps.

Elliot G. Corin

Meeting of May 7, 1952

"Stamps of the Orient"

At this meeting, we had the pleasure of welcoming back President Jacob S. Glaser, who appeared hale and hearty after his recent illness. President Glaser took the occasion to publicly thank his many well-wishers.

Mr. Haverbeck introduced *Mr. Richard F. Lawrence* who obliged by showing five frames of his specialty, Early Siam. From this we learned that this rather unpopular country has little known about it. Essays exist, but there is no real background available concerning them. So-called proofs are probably only samples. The first stamp was never placed in use, except in surcharge form. The surcharges are a study in themselves, as are the cancellations, most of which are bad, or at the very least misapplied. Covers of these are almost completely unknown.

The second speaker of the evening was *Mr. Paul Lindenberg,* who displayed three frames of the Waterlow printings of Labuan, the 1902 issue. There were at least two plates of this issue, and there have been discovered by Mr. Lindenberg at least fifteen different perforation varieties. Blocks are scarce.

Mr. Haverbeck then took over the balance of the meeting, giving of his knowledge of the Far and Near East by means of exhibits of Indore and Saudi Arabia.

The Indore first issues are a fine example of Waterlow & Co.'s lithography. The second issue was line-engraved by Perkins, Bacon & Co. A native provisional issue, the so-called "spool-top," were made locally, printed in water color. Reprints exist, but they are all in oil color. With the 1905 issue of Perkins Bacon, the local postal system was given up, except for official stamps, until 1928. These later issues were engraved and later printed locally by typography.

The forerunners of Saudi Arabian stamps were Turkish issues cancelled in the Arabian towns of Mecca and Jeddah. The Kingdom of Hejaz was formed as a result of the T. E. Lawrence-inspired-Arab-revolt against Turkish Rule. Hejaz established an independent Post Office in August of 1916 and had stamps printed in Cairo. These stamps appeared in various perforation and roulette varieties.

In 1922 there were overprints.

Later there were issued "Coat of Arms" stamps, locally typographed in sheets of 36.

In 1924 due to a local "holy" civil war, Hejaz was greatly reduced in territory, and Ibn Saud formed a country known as Nejd, which first issued stamps in March of 1925, using old Turkish stamps, still available, and overprinting them locally.

Mr. Haverbeck finished his discussion of these by showing a few Air Mail and Charity Tax Stamps of the Near Eastern Country under discussion.

All of the forty-eight members and visitors present enjoyed these glimpses of far-away romantic places.

Elliot G. Corin

At the meetings of the Board of Governors held April 23rd and May 28th, the following new members were elected:

NO.

3007 Harold K. Raisler, New York, N. Y. Collects South America.

3008 Mrs. Leona E. Pecha, Richmond Hill, N. Y. Collects Hawaii, U. S., Airmail, British North America.

3009 Laurance L. Mac Kallor, Arlington, Va. Collects Pacific Islands, British Africa, Congo—used only; Cancellations.

3010 Arthur Korzyn, Baltimore, Md. Collects Far East, British Colonies.

3011 William Bacon, Wellsville, N. Y., Collects Latin America.

3012 John J. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa., Collects Air Mails.

3013 Hugh Bosdin Leech, Mill Valley, Calif., Collects China.

3014 Charles J. Bretagne, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Collects France.

3015 Howard Hershleder, Madison, Wisc., Collects U. S. 20th Century, also "specimen" Overprints; World U P U's.

3016 Warner H. Kiefaber, Dayton, Ohio, Collects U. S. & British, mainly B.N.A.

3017 Sam W. Hubbard, Bremen, Ga.

3018 Sam W. Hubbard, Jr., Bremen, Ga., Collects General and U. S. Mint.

3019 Ernest Henry Hunt, Johannesburg, S. A., Collects Brazil, Transvaal, World Collection.

3020 Lauren L. Reager, Santa Monica, Calif., Collects United States.

3021 Leon Gedaly, New York, Collects Western Europe, Latin West Indies.

3022 Philip Spalding, Locust, N. J., Collects Guatemala.

3023 M. Charles Hoffman, New York, Collects Air Letter Sheets.

3024 Mario Colaiezzi, Elmhurst, N. Y., Collects Italy and Colonies.

3025 Domenico Facci, New York, Collects Italy, Colonies, Italian Areas, Italian States.

3026 Albert Philip Cohen, New York, Collects Air Mail and U. S.

3027 Lewis N. Ross, Great Neck, L. I., Collects Geo. VI; Geo. V Br. Amer.; U. S. 1909 Issue.

3028 Henry M. Spellman III, Vero Beach, Fla., Collects Hawaii, United States.

3029 Charles D. Sneller, M.D., Peoria, Ill., Collects U. S. 19th Century Confederate States, Scandinavia.

3030 John W. Graves, Wichita, Kans., Collects United States; United States Stamped Envelopes.

3031 James Woodrow Shaver, Richmond, Ind., Collects Danzig, Luxemburg, Chile, Modena, Czechoslovakia.

3032 Irving P. Wolfe, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

3033 R. H. Richardson, Martins Ferry, Ohio, Collects U. S. No. 1, (5c 1847), 19th Century U. S.

3034 Richard E. Miller, PFC US-52, c/o Postmaster, Collects U. S. A., Great Britain, Austria, Germany, Canada.

3035 Richard G. MacIver, Jr., Trenton, N. J., Collects Philatelic Literature.

3036 Albert Anton Kronenberg-Sommer, Switzerland, Collects Ukraine Tridents, Philatelic Literature.

3037 Major George Harrison, Surrey, Eng., Collects Greece, Uruguay, Transvaal, Great Britain.

3038 Soichi Ichida (Dr.) Kobe, Japan, Collects Early Japan, U. S. A. & British Colonies.

3039 Leon Miro, Paris, France, Collects Rare Stamps.

3040 William August Rodriguez, Barcelona, Venezuela, S. A. Collects Used Latin-American Airmail Stamps.

3041 Edward Raner, Zagreb, Yugoslavia, Collects General, no specialties, but favoring Yugoslavia, Serbia and Croatia, Italy, Germany, Austria, Hungary and Great Britain.

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

"Estudio de las falsificaciones de los sellos del Uruguay," by Robert Hoffman. 1948 Montevideo. Donor William Jacobs.

"Handbook/Catalogue. Union of South Africa Stamps" (Van Riebeck Tercentenary Edition). The Philatelic Federation of South Africa.

"A Century of Stamp Production" by L. N. & M. Williams. Publishers—Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, England.

"20th Century United States Fancy Cancellations" by Foster W. Loso and Heyliger de Windt. Somerset Press 1952.

"Deutsche Flughafen, Luftpostausgabe—und LuftpostBestätigungsstempel," by Kurt Dahmann. In German. Donor Aero Philatelists.

"The Milton J. Harris Collection of Rare Airmail Stamps and Philatelic Material" F. W. Kessler Auction, December 1, 1947. Donor P. P. Lindenberg.

"1952 Supplement to 1951 Edition. The American Air Mail Catalogue of Air Letter Sheets." Published by The American Air Mail Society.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, 1952

September 17th—**Guatemala,** by the Guatemala Society—Mr. Joseph Mandos in charge.

October 1st—**Boer War Issues and Usages**—Stephen G. Rich **United States 1851 to 1857 Issues,** by Abe Rubel, Jr.

October 15th—**Sanitary Fair Stamps,** by George Wray. **Plate Numbers of De La Rue Printings for Great Britain,** by Paul P. Lindenberg.

BOOK REVIEWS

"A Century of Stamp Production, 1852-1952." The Story of Waterlow & Sons, Ltd. of London, England. Paper cover, 44 pages. (Not known if on public sale).

This attractive booklet was presented to The Collectors Club by the world-famous British printing house of Waterlow & Sons. We found it fascinating for the philatelist in many respects. First of all, it is historical because it summarizes briefly the history of this firm, well-known to every stamp collector. Secondly, it is of high philatelic interest because it lucidly describes and illustrates examples of various printing methods. Waterlow has printed stamps by line-engraving, lithography, photogravure and typography. Thirdly, it is colorful because the printing, make-up and illustrations are outstanding, as could be expected from a source such as this. And finally, it is educational because it stresses what planning goes into a stamp before we collect it. Some so eager to criticize a stamp's design have no concept of the problems to be solved. Facts in this booklet about the reason for the selection of a specific design, the great importance of security against imitation, all will teach the collector why the manufacturer prints the stamps as he does.

At the end of the book is the 100-year list of the many stamps printed by Waterlow & Sons. A neat collecting idea for someone seeking new fields would be the assemblage of all of this British firm's products. One would have to seek some valuable 19th and 20th Century stamps, starting with the 1852 British Guianas down to the 1948 Silver Weddings of the British Colonies and Uruguay's scarce "Pegasus" air mail issues. This is quite a philatelic cavalcade on a world-wide basis, which some enterprising collector might attempt. It will require patience, fortitude and more than a few dollars.

H. M. G.

Royal Mail. By F. George Kay, Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, London, 1951, Rockliff Publishing Corporation Ltd., x plus 198 pp., 21s.

Our good friend, Major Adrian Hopkins, has done a real benefit to the Collectors Club library by presenting us with this "Souvenir of our visit October 10/11 1951." Much that has hitherto been scattered through various works, much that has been hidden away, and some that is hitherto not on printed record, has been assembled by Mr. Kay into a very compact, well-written work.

The development of the postal service in Britain, from its earliest traces such as the royal carriers of "pacquets" under Edward IV to its present extensive ranges of service, has been made into a coherent, even a dramatic story. Rather striking is the repeated occurrence of private competition, at many stages in this story—not merely that of Dockwra, but many other services.

Factually, Mr. Kay has been exceedingly careful. Barring one or two misdatings of one day only, of no real significance, he cannot be found fault with on accuracy. His choice of what matters to mention, what details to omit, may not fit the needs of every student nor make the book perfect as a reference work . . . . but he has completed his chosen task with consistence and fidelity. The real position and significance of the postage stamp has been neither exaggerated nor minimized; nor has he taken partisan stand on such matters as the Hill-Chalmers controversy.

Except that his taste, colored by tradition, seems to overestimate the artistic merits and the extent that it has served as a general stamp pattern elsewhere, in the case of the Penny Black, the judgments are sound. We could wish that the merits of the Edward VII stamps were more appreciated, and the reversion to primitive ornamentation in their successors had not been glossed over.

The bibliography is not extensive, but except for Dendy Marshall's book, seems to contain every work of any extensive value. The presence of an adequate index is most welcome. Actual test of the index for this reviewer's own questions shows that it is fully equal to almost any need.

The estimates of the contributions of various persons to the developments at various periods is particularly equitable. Thus, Post-

master-General Henry Fawcett, the great blind man, almost unknown to most philatelic and postal history students, is given his proper place.

A final chapter about stamps, the aesthetic limitations of the comment in which has been mentioned, is an excellent summary, with a condensed but adequate description of the rotogravure method of production now in use for British stamps.

Railway mail, foreign mail, parcel post, registration, etc. are all given interesting and compact chapters. The illustrations are very ably chosen for their bearing on the text; the few post-route maps are properly drafted for their purpose. In short, this is a properly planned and adequately completed book.

S. G. R.

"Everybody's Guide to Stamp Investment," by Joseph E. Granville. Published by Hermitage House. Price $2.95.

This book was placed on our desk with the idea that this magazine might wish to comment on it. We decline to review it because it is not a philatelic work.

Up to this time, this book has not been sent to the Club Library. Its place upon our library shelves is of little consequence. Without it, our Library's outstanding reputation is in no way affected.

H. M. G.

Handbook/Catalogue Union of South Africa Stamps. Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Edition. Edited by Dr. Alex Kaplan, Sam Legator and William N. Sheffield. Johannesburg, The Philatelic Federation of South Africa, 1952. Fabrikoid, 326 pp.

This reviewer is in an unenviable position in writing on this book. Invited to participate in its production, he was delinquent in attending to the matter, only to find that the book was already in press when he realized his own lapse. Therefore, any flaws in listing, pricing, etc., which he may note can fairly be the basis for saying: "Why didn't you take hold and remove or forestall this mistake?"

The book itself is a first-rate job. The able and informed men who made it have done the job of a specialized catalog for the Union of South Africa with skill and care. Measured by the difficulty of the material, they have attained a result considerably superior to that in our current U. S. specialized catalog or the pre-war Yvert specialized catalog of France. For the first time we have a South African catalog which has been completely rid of confusions in method or content inherited from the pioneer work of Simenhoff, published back in 1930. The pioneer work, plus the improvements in the Natal Society's book of 1946, have been fully utilized with all due credit.

The conspicuous features of this new book are the very definite explanations of varieties and the excellent illustrations. The arrangement of issues and material, once learned for one portion, is remarkably consistent throughout.

For the American user, the color-naming may be confusing in spots. However, this book is intended primarily for South African use, so that in this respect as others it follows the terminology there normally adopted.

A careful hunt, for one whole evening, to find errors of factual statement, was almost barren. The lone example found was on page 187, whereas booklet No. B1 is dated 1919. This reviewer bought the booklet B1 at Durban, Adams M. S., and other Natal offices in February, 1916 and from then on, till it was replaced by B2 first seen November, 1920 by him at Berea Road station of Durban post office.

The pricing comes considerably closer to an actual market report than has been the case in all previous South African catalogs. In this respect the improvement is more than conspicuous: it is striking and welcome. This reviewer would maintain that the Interprovincials (correctly spelled without hyphen) are priced rather high, but the South African market may have jumped on these in recent months. Interprovincials of Natal stamps used in Transvaal seem rather high, and Natal stamps in Orange Free State still rather low, for their actual relative scarcity. 25% off the former and doubling the latter would seem more accurate—but it is quite probable that this, based on relative scarcity,

may not agree with the actual market. In considering prices, due allowance has been made for the current value of the South African pound in terms of dollars. On that basis the No. 2Va, the ½d King's head double print, is within 10% of the actual price of the copy that last changed hands.

Why the 6d double print is called a "double strike" and priced at only 20s mint, 10s used, is not clear. Actually, it is still just as scarce as the ½d double print.

Typography is clean, properly done, with excellent choice of type faces and adequate leading for easy use.

S. G. R.

"1952 Supplement to the 1951 Edition of The American Air Mail Catalogue of Air Letter Sheets." Edited by the American Air Mail Society Catalogue Committee, L. B. Gatchell, Chairman. 30 pp. Paper cover. Price $1.00.

The collecting of postal stationery, popular throughout the 19th century but afterwards almost totally neglected except by a small group of ardent specialists, is showing signs of revival in popularity. In our opinion, the biggest individual boost given to postal stationery collecting is by the air mail specialists, who have manifested a keen interest in Air Letter Sheets.

Of all the recent methods of mailing, the Air Letter Sheet has caught on all over the world. A lightweight, single sheet of correspondence carries messages speedily and economically to all parts of the globe. For instance, an air mail letter from the United States to parts of Africa or Asia costs 25c a half ounce. One can use an Air Letter Sheet, if only a message is to be written, for 10c, sometimes more than a 50% saving. Practically every country has issued Air Letters by now.

A comprehensive catalog was issued by the above group in 1951. This supplement brings that catalog up to date, stimulating and maintaining the interest. The method of listing the many different forms of Air Letter is done by symbols which the editors consider the most satisfactory. A full-page statement for the user's guidance is given on page 8 of this supplement.

This booklet has ample illustrations and although many are not too well produced, the user will be able to follow them. The prices listed have been carefully checked by prior consultation with commercial dealers in this specialty. Most every person in this country, who collects Air Letter Sheets, informs us that he finds this catalogue useful.

H. M. G.

Specialized Catalogue of the Stamps of Palestine, by Paul P. Lindenberg. Published by Paul P. Lindenberg. New York, N. Y. 16 pages. Stapled. Price 75 cents.

This useful catalogue is one of the first attempts to systematize the stamps issued for the British Mandated Territory of Palestine. It is a very detailed listing of these stamps. All the minor varieties are carefully described and the papers of the second definitive issue of 1927 are listed in great detail. The pricing is realistic.

This catalogue is the work of a careful student which we recommend to all specialists of these stamps.

H. D. S. H.

REINATEX

(Continued from Page 182.)

The show was conducted on a very high plane. There were no dealers booths and no special stamp was issued; but there was an Exhibition post office using a Reinatex cancellation. Admission was free, and the Exhibition Hall was gaily decorated with flags and flowers, while in the center of a number of the salons was a beautiful water fountain.

The social program was overwhelming, and it was impossible to get to all the events. The show was opened daily from 10:00 A. M. to 7:00 P. M. and the attendance was most satisfactory.

Great credit should go to the organizers, Ladislas and Alex Varga, and L. Boscus. The details of organization were most ably handled by Miss Therese Reiter and her staff, without whose unfailing good nature many of the problems might not have been so easily solved.

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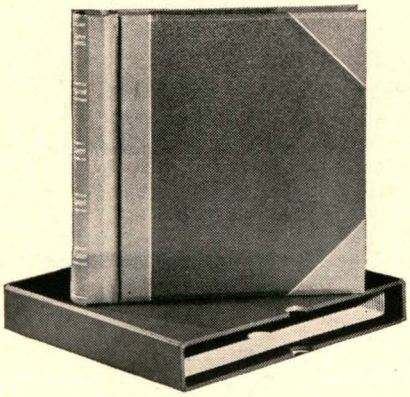
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