The Collectors Club

Philatelist

A Magazine devoted to Philatelic Study & Research

Volume XXIX No. 5 September, 1950

CONTENTS

EDITORIALS 267

MONTENEGRO 271
The Establishment of the Postal Service and The First Issue of Postage Stamps
By Edwin Mueller

COSTA RICA 289
Mystery of First Surcharged Stamps
By Alex A. Cohen

THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 293
May 6th to 13th, 1950
By Winthrop S. Boggs

BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS POST 295
Chapter VII—Civil War Years 1861-1865
By Henry E. Abt

SECRETARY'S PAGE 314

FRANCE 315
The "Sower" Issues
By Carl Stephenson

BOOK REVIEWS 319

THE PRINCIPALITY OF TRINIDAD 323
Its Philatelic Phantoms
By Harrison D. S. Haverbeck

The Collectors Club Philatelist is published six times a year by The Collectors Club, Inc., 22 East 35th Street, New York 16, N. Y. Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1927, at the Post Office at Federalsburg, Maryland, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Copyright, 1950, by The Collectors Club, Inc.

DR. LEWIS L. REFORD COLLECTION OF

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

PART II CANADA ONLY

To be Offered at Auction

OCTOBER 3, 4, 5, 6, 1950

The famous Dr. Lewis L. Reford Collection of British North America Stamps will be sold in a series of auction sales to be held by Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc., of 560 Fifth Avenue, New York 19, N. Y. This collection is known to every collector of British North America stamps, as it is undoubtedly one of the largest and most valuable to come on the market within recent years.

Much of the material included in the Second Sale is of a type seldom offered at auction. It includes a large quantity of PENCE and CENTS issues, large and small Heads also the rare ½c on watermarked and the extremely rare 2c green (1868) on laid paper, Essays and Proofs, Presentation Booklets, Essays and Proofs of Revenues, Revenue Stamps and large Collections of Revenues.

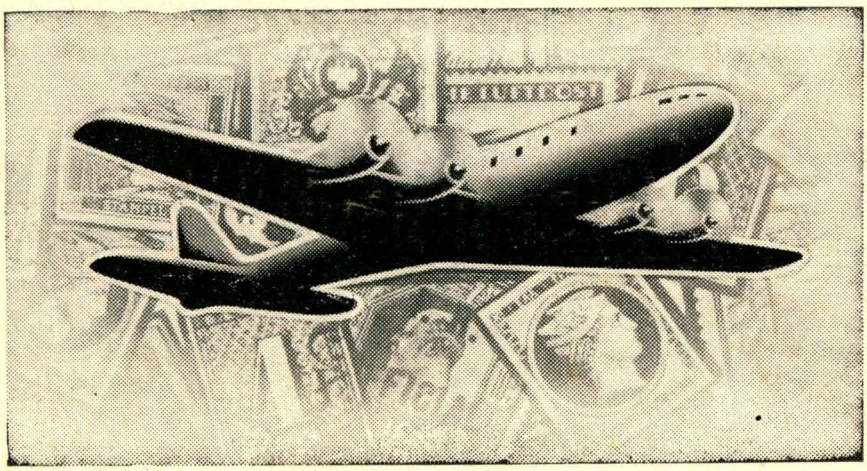
The Lavishly Illustrated Catalogue of the Second Sale Is Now in Preparation

If your name is not on our Mailing list, write for Free Catalogue to

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., Inc.

International Stamp Auctioners

560 FIFTH AVENUE **NEW YORK 19, N. Y.**



38. AUCTION – SALE in ZURICH

November 24 to December 2, 1950

Important properties are sold without any reserve prices including:

A big **GENERAL** collection ..... (also airstamps)

Specialized collection **HELIGOLAND** .. (covers only)

Specialized collection **HAMBURG** ..... (Roland Baecker)

Specialized collection **DANZIG** ..... (Kassner—first award Daposta 1937)

Specialized collection **COLOMBIA** ..... (Consul Hermann Span)

Illustrated catalogue postfree on request through:

CORINPHILA Bahnhofstrasse
76 ZURICH (Switzerland)

Great News In Three Chapters

1. SEREBRAKIAN MOVES TO LARGER QUARTERS

The wonderful response you have accorded our auctions has necessitated this move which gives us larger working space, additional offices and additional personnel.

2. 1st PART OF GREAT SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO. STOCK OFFERED AT AUCTION

So huge, so variegated and so absorbingly interesting is this material that it becomes the most significant offering ever presented by the Serebrakian Organization. United States material includes over 1,000 lots ranging from the rare and scarce to singles, wholesale, in thousand quantities. There are hundreds of lots offering plate and position blocks; rare pioneer and flight covers; autographed FD covers signed by U. S. Presidents, Statesmen, etc. Besides, as in previous sales, this event includes thousands of other lots consisting of RARE singles, Airmails, packets, and collections, etc. Sale takes place in October.

3. HOW TO GET THIS UNUSUAL CATALOGUE

The demand for the Catalogue of this Great Sale is expected to be very big. Unless you have already actively participated in a Serebrakian Auction Sale, please hurry your request for your copy of the catalogue by using the coupon. Better do it **now.**

S. SEREBRAKIAN
220 WEST 87th Street
New York 24, New York

Gentlemen:

Please hurry a copy of your auction catalogue offering the Great Scott Stock.

☐ I have been receiving your catalogues in the past.

☐ This is my first request for one of your catalogues.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... Zone .....

State .....

The Collectors Club
Philatelist

SEPTEMBER, 1950. VOL. XXIX, NO. 5

HENRY M. GOODKIND, **Editor**
Editorial Committee
WINTHROP S. BOGGS
HARRISON D. S. HAVERBECK
EDWIN MUELLER
STEPHEN G. RICH

Editorials

Television and Stamp Collecting

Television is the current rage in our way of life. We cannot imagine anyone not accepting this as a fact. Many in the ranks of philately seem to think that this is in direct competition to our hobby. We have no gauge to substantiate or disprove this idea. Rather it is our purpose to spotlight the question and discuss some of its ramifications.

Television is different from radio in that one must concentrate upon it. We are among those who often work with stamps while our radio is turned on. We cannot do this with television. Furthermore, some tell us that the youngsters, approaching the age when the "stamp collecting bug bites," now instead devote all their attention to Hopalong Cassidy and the other popular melodramatic Westerns.

For our part, we like to think that stamp collecting has its individual fascinations to which Milton Berle and the like can offer no permanent opposition. It is our thought that a stamp collector can have a television set, which he uses in moderation, choosing an occasional program to watch. Other times, nothing can deter him from mounting some newly acquired stamps. And the young boy, who allows television to monopolize all of his spare time is probably the type who, before its advent, would never have taken to stamps. Sports or something else were his preference.

Perhaps the fallacy behind the reasoning that T. V. is drawing people away from our hobby is the belief that every one is or should be a stamp collector. We happen to agree with those, who hold that many considering themselves stamp collectors, are not. When we meet some one who mentions he has a kindred interest in stamps with us, we always inquire as to what he collects.

Too often the answer is:—

"Oh! I put away a sheet of every new U. S. stamp as it comes out."

We do not, in any sense, consider that such a person is a collector. He is simply one of those misled by the wrong advice that his sheets in storage are an investment portfolio. He foolishly thinks that stamps will be better able to pay for Junior's college education than an account in the Savings Bank or an insurance policy.

But we do not wish to become sidetracked from our topic of television. We do not view its growth as at the expense of philately nor are we attempting to minimize

television's mass appeal. We wish to cite one illustration, which we believe is quite typical.

An old philatelic friend has been away from us for the past year. This was attributed to his ownership of a television set. Recently, he reappeared. We asked him if it were true that his absence from the Club's meetings and activities was due to his T. V. set. His reply was substantially as this:—

"Yes, that is right. Or rather it was for the few first months after I got my set. Now I only watch it a few hours each week. The novelty has worn off. Of course, when I came home and turned on my set, I could do nothing else."

"But" he continued, "Ever since I took up stamp collecting some years back, I knew that it was with me to stay. There have been and perhaps will be interruptions. But the older I grow the more I become convinced that philately is the most enjoyable and useful employment of my leisure time. I think of how pathetic my father was after he retired from business because he had no other interests. Dad's life for years had been his business and week-end golf. When his advanced age forced him to relinquish both, his life seemed to ebb away quickly. And he was not what we generally consider old when he retired. If and when this will happen to me, I expect my stamp interest to prevent this. And I have no illusions that television or something similar can act as a substitute."

Therefore, it strikes us that perhaps for some, television may serve as a temporary distraction from stamp collecting. But the true stamp lover will never forsake the hobby in order to sit in his home night after night watching his television. Perhaps we gave this the wrong title. We might have more aptly phrased it, "STAMP COLLECTING AND TELEVISION."

H. M. G.

Should We Give Russia Money? . . . An Answer

The Editorial under the above heading in the May C. C. P. was of particular interest to me as Editor of a British weekly stamp paper, because I have fought that battle with my readers. Therefore, perhaps, my experience may be of value in the United States of America.

Firstly, for the benefit of those who are not editors nor on the editorial staff of philatelic publications, the custom among many of the Governments of the World is to circulate to editors of papers who desire it notices of new issues, often attaching actual specimens of the stamps. Some of them send in addition first day covers of the issues.

Of course, it is not only Russian controlled countries that perform this philatelic service: in one form or another almost every country in the World finds it pays to do this small service to philatelists. I need only instance the U. S. A., Great Britain and Canada to make my point clear. But it is true that certain "Iron Curtain" countries have brought their philatelic propaganda services to a fine art.

Russia is the best example. At irregular intervals "Mezhdunarednaja Kniga," one of Moscow's official stores sends out a list, accompanied by specimens, of anything up to 100 stamps that have appeared in the period of a few weeks—up to a couple of months—that has just elapsed. Details in literal and picturesque English (?) accompany the sets, and prices in U. S. dollars are subjoined.

I do not need to give examples of the phraseology; it is only too easily recognised from the pro-Russian section of our papers. Of the other "Iron-Curtain" countries, I need only instance Hungary and Czechoslovakia. (Indeed I *can* only instance Hungary and Czechoslovakia: my paper has achieved the by-no-means unique distinction of being banned in Rumania and Bulgaria for "revolting Fascist filth" and "Neo-fascist and capitalist propaganda" (respectively), whilst Poland has never seen fit to send us anything, for which relief, much thanks! Whilst Jugoslavia—but that is another story, (and not yet to be told.)

Hungary sends not only advance notes of all new issues, but advance illustrations as well, and first day covers both from the Philatelic Agency and from the Hungarian Congress. Perhaps that is because the President of that body was an old friend of our late Editor, and for many years our local correspondent. Czechoslovakia is a country about

which I can hardly trust myself to speak. I had many friends both before, during and after the recent War, and the majority of them have disappeared. Our circulation before the recent coup was many hundreds of copies each week, but now we send *one* by a roundabout route, which we know is copied and circulated all round the unhappy country. But—the Czech Post Office runs a very efficient service, both of advance information and of first day covers (beautifully produced, as is everything Czech) with mint sets inside.

Thus, as you will see, most Iron Curtain countries maintain a very efficient Philatelic Agency (the prices being in anything but their own currencies). But in that they are not unique: so do San Marino, Spain, and other countries that could be named.

The offence, as far as I can see, is that they offer for sale stamps, the money received being used to continue the present state of undeclared war against the free peoples of the World. *But so do they offer for sale other goods,* which if we are to be logical, *should equally be boycotted.* Czechoslovakia, Russia, Poland, Hungary all export luxury goods, such as — but I had better not advertise their products by naming them.

But maybe I have misread the C. C. P. editorial? Perhaps the writer has had my experience without achieving the same result? I too felt that it was unfair to those who were fighting actively in Korea, in Indo-China, in Malaya, in Indonesia, and inactively (physically only) in every other country of the World to advertise the beautiful stamps put out by their enemies.

Accordingly, in an Editorial I announced that I would cease to publish details of such issues. The response was immediate and surprising. Letters poured in by the hundred from readers who said they would never collect "Iron Curtain" issues, but reminded me that it is the duty of a newspaper to record the news, and if I omitted the new issues from countries I disliked politically I was opening the gate for other editors to do likewise, but from the other slant. "Thus," wrote one reader, "Must I find out which stamp paper is Left Wing or Right Wing before I buy it? Heaven forbid!"

Another dozen or so readers reminded me that only by giving full information—officially inspired—could I help them to decide what was official and what was not. They instanced the flood of mainly bogus issues from the Far East after the War, which imposed on collectors because nobody knew anything about them. They might have equally well instanced the flood of muck that is pouring from Communist China, nine tenths of which I am convinced sees the inside of no Post Office, but is printed to sell to collectors.

These many letters (there were of course a goodly company who approved my action wholeheartedly, but editors never like agreement: they thrive on opposition) made me think, and I decided that a new angle could be used, whereby this postal paper was chronicled but my conscience was salved. All Iron Curtain stamps are chronicled in the pages of my paper, but I reserve to myself the right to make what description I like of their subject and the quality of their printing.

Thus if it is funnier to print the exact transcription of the Russian "handout" I do so. "Democratic anti-fascist hero-poet" means just that much more than:—"Born 1850, died 1924. Imprisoned for his Anti-Czarist views and produced "three books of poetry entitled "Down with Czar," "Up with Czarina," and "I revolt!"

Thus Hungarian workers in a "Workers Unite" set issued on May 1st are described as "Waving fists in an uniting manner," or Czech workers "avert their faces from a colossal red flag."

Childish? Maybe! But it is aimed at raising the one thing that no fanatic can stand; healthy laughter. If you can laugh at a thing, you cannot fear it, and at present the World is far too much afraid of the Russian bogey to see the fumbling peasant behind him, and laugh at his pretensions to be an all powerful Nation.

My colours are nailed to the mast: I am already proscribed by the "Daily Worker," and no doubt am "on the list" of intellectuals "whose minds cannot be re-oriented along Communist lines." But I do not mind, and I recommend to Editors who want to chronicle everything that comes, but do not want their pages to be the means of buying for Russia the loyalties of some more venal politicians or dockers, to adopt the "Walker Plan" (Everyone has plans these days; why may not I?)

Chronicle the Iron Curtain stamps by all means, even illustrate them, but do so with a healthy grin on your face, and leave it to the good taste of your readers whether they buy it or not. They won't! If you suppress information a whispering campaign which the Communists do so well will start among collectors that "So and so will be good: only fifty thousand sold: let you in on the ground floor," and so on and so forth.

May I end with an anecdote that has nothing to do with stamps, but has the merit of being completely true? (The Editor will cut this if he is short of space).* In 1942 the Artillery world was convulsed by the news of the new Russian tactical handling of the artillery, which was fast proving the answer to the Panzer attack. At the urgent request of the Allied Chiefs of Staff a senior Russian artillery officer was invited to lecture to the assembled "Brass" in England on the Russian tactical handling of the artillery. He delivered an impressive lecture, illustrated by many slides and much use of the blackboard, which was interpreted into English by a young and highly efficient young Colonel whose English had a strong Glasgow accent (Scottish). Everyone was duly impressed.

The General was then invited to watch a shoot by the first (highly experimental) "Army Group Royal Artillery," which was a collection of regiments of artillery from field to heavies, which worked under one command. Our shoot was quite effective, but the old boy did not seem at all interested until the evening when I produced some vodka in the mess (I was Mess Secretary, and wines and spirits came in my province: how I got this vodka was nobody's business except my own). He set out (well prompted) to get drunk as fast as he could, and when he was very drunk—and his interpreter was dead to the world—one of our officers who had been in Russia, and was a fluent Russian speaker, set out to get some sense out of him. It transpired that all his lecture was so much poppy-cock. When a Russion Artillery Army went into action all they did was to point the muzzles of the guns on a compass bearing and set the same range on their pieces. *They then went on firing until they ran out of ammunition or the enemy were out of range.* That was all there was to it. Our fumbling technique was four centuries later than the Russian, yet the "Brass" at the top believed that the Russians had the answer. We sent in a report, but undoubtedly it got pigeon-holed, though we did notice that the General was recalled very suddenly a day or so later.

Nothing to do with stamps? Well, don't say I didn't warn you!

Antony Walker

* Too good to be omitted. (Editor).

ANTONY WALKER, D. S. O., F. R. P. S. L., and a member of the Collectors Club, was the youngest Editor of a serious philatelic publication when he took over "Stamp Collecting" in 1949. He had worked before as Assistant under D. B. Armstrong. His page of comment under the motto of "Ubique" (Latin for "Everywhere," and the motto of the Royal Artillery in which he served for seven years 1939-1946) is a popular feature in British stamp journalism. He acts as philatelic correspondent for a British daily paper, and is very proud of the fact that he has "made" the front page regularly in six months since he started. He believes in stamp-collectors being aggressive towards their detractors, and lives up to his professions.

A collector of the stamps of Greece, among other countries, he gets little time for stamps nowadays, since he is President of two Societies and a Federation (of 19 Societies), and talks about stamps twice or three times a week to Societies all over Britain during the Season (September to May).

Lives in London (England) and wishes he lived in the country. Has never been in the U. S. A., though served with the Americans in 1945 in the Far East. Hopes to remedy this gap in his education soon, perhaps next year after CAPEX.

MONTENEGRO

The Establishment of the Postal Service and the First Issue of Postage Stamps

By EDWIN MUELLER

Introduction

There seem to be two reasons for the unpopularity of a country; too many or too few rare stamps. *Montenegro* belongs obviously in the second category. There is only one main catalog number which can be considered a rarity, as it is priced higher than a hundred dollars. All the other 126 main catalog numbers, added together, catalog less than ten dollars, and the whole country except the one rare stamp may be available for less than $5.00, an amount even a schoolboy could manage to amass. Nevertheless, or just for that reason, Montenegro belongs among the unpopular countries. Greatly contributing to this fact is the lack of philatelic literature dealing with the country. No monograph was ever written, no suitable specialized catalog ever published. When we search through the thousands of volumes of philatelic magazines, published during the seventy-five years since the first postage stamps of Montenegro were issued, we find that very little has been written about Montenegro. The last articles of any importance were published more than forty years ago and contain many erroneous and misleading statements.(1) A small brochure, published almost twenty years ago(2), adds nothing new to the meager knowledge about postal history, stamps and postmarks of Montenegro. The authors of these articles and also all catalogs are in disagreement concerning fundamental data, even in regard to the printing method and the paper used, the so-called "secret marks," the year of issue of the various printings, the opening of the post offices and many minor details. A collector who starts specializing Montenegro will usually get confused by the conflicting statements and will soon give up. Only real students will find that Montenegro is just the field in which highly satisfying philatelic research can be pursued. The task is not an easy one as almost no documentary evidence has ever been published. Material from the early years of the use of stamps is scarce and covers from the first five years are rarities.

Montenegro had close relations with Austria-Hungary and, in the early years of its postal service, was entirely dependent upon its great neighbor. All stamps this little country ever issued were printed at the *Austrian State Printing Works* at Vienna and postal rules and regulations were modeled according to those of *Austria*. During our search in the archives of the Austrian Postal Administration and other governmental archives in Vienna we were lucky to find a number of documents which shed new light on the establishment of the postal service in Montenegro and the history and manufacture of the first stamps of that country. Some of these documents were published by us in German more than twenty years ago(3), but the importance of the new data contained in that publication was not realized due to the lack of American interest in Montenegro and it resulted in no echo in the English-language philatelic literature. These documents, enriched by a great number of others yet unpublished, as well as hitherto unrecorded material on proofs and a study made of the stamps themselves are used in the following article which should form the basis of a

[1] Charles J. Phillips ("Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal," 1907), A. Reinheimer ("Der Philatelist," 1908) and Hugo Hartmann ("Der Philatelist," 1909).

[2] George Brunel (1926).

[3] "Die Postmarke," 1929, page 10 et seq.

monograph of the interesting stamps of Montenegro. The facts as found in the documents and in the philatelic material are stated as such, without unnecessary polemical discussions about the wrong data published by previous authors. It rests with the interested collector, himself, to compare; and with the catalog editor to correct erroneous data.

It should be remembered that Montenegro used the *Julian calendar* which, compared with our Gregorian calendar, was twelve (since 1900 thirteen) days slow, which fact accounts for the differences in date on postmarks and documents.

Montenegro's History

The history of Montenegro is a very old one. Already in the Middle Ages, the chroniclers speak of the *"Land of the Black Mountains,"* the translation of the country's name, which is *Crna Gora* in the native Serbian tongue. It was called *Kara Dagh,* which means the same, by the Turkish rulers, who claimed sovereignty of the country. The little country, almost inaccessible in the mountains on the Adriatic coast, between Dalmatia and Albania, was inhabited by small farmers and shepherds with a great love for liberty. They were Christians, which fact made them hate even more the Turkish rulers, who were Mohammedans. First mentioned as a principality in 1389, when it was part of Serbia, it fell in 1515 under theocratic rule by a bishop, again to become a principality in 1699.

The house of *Njegush,* which from now on ruled the country, is first mentioned in 1696. The members of the Njegush family led the population of the country in numerous fights against the Turkish oppressors. *Prince Danilo I,* who reigned from 1851 to 1860, in which year he was assassinated, in 1852 waged a successful war against the Turks who claimed that Montenegro belonged to their empire. In 1858, Danilo obtained recognition of the borders of the country. He was followed in 1860 by his nephew *Nicholas I,* better known under his nickname "Nikita." He led an unsuccessful war against the Turks in 1862 and only the intervention of the great powers saved his country from complete annihilation. But in 1876, the Montenegrins again took up arms against the Turks and succeeded in capturing the important coastal strip with the ports of Antivari (Bar) and Dulcigno (Ulcinj). In the treaty of Berlin (1878), Montenegro received definitely this additional territory and the guaranty of its full independence with the great powers as protectors. In 1880, border corrections brought Montenegro additional territory which increased its size to 3,255 square miles. The population at that time was not much over 250,000, of which more than 80% were illiterate. The capital, *Cetinje,* founded in 1490, had less than 5000, the largest town, *Podgorica,* 8000 inhabitants.

Then followed 35 years of peaceful development, but the population remained on a primitive standard of living, depending on their goats and sheep to supply them with food and clothing. In 1910, Prince Nicholas proclaimed himself *King* and in 1912, the new Kingdom joined the other Balkan States in the victorious war against the Turkish Empire, increasing the territory of the country to 3,630 sq. mi. In 1914, Montenegro joined the alliance against Austria-Hungary and Germany. It was overrun in 1916 by Austro-Hungarian troops, and King Nicholas fled to Italy, never to return. In 1918, after the dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, Montenegro was incorporated into the newly created state of Jugoslavia, of which it is still a part.

The Establishment of the Postal Service

The conditions prevailing in Montenegro until the middle of the 19th century did not warrant the establishment of a postal service. The correspondence of the population, to a large percentage illiterate and on a primitive living standard, would not have sustained a domestic mail service. The infrequent messages exchanged among the population were usually forwarded by occasional travellers. The lack of commerce made also a foreign mail service unnecessary. The few letters to foreign countries, mostly sent by the princely family, members of the governing circles or foreigners, were brought by messengers to the next foreign post office and mailed there. Almost all mail of this kind went through the Austrian post office at the port of *Cattaro* (Dalmatia), where a moun-

tain road from Cetinje had its terminal. But some letters may also have been forwarded by way of the port of *Antivari,* at that time on Turkish territory, where a Turkish as well as an Austrian post office existed. The ships of the *Austrian Lloyd* stopped at Cattaro as well as at Antivari and took care of the mail from there.

The first steps to improve the communications in the little country seem to have started in *1869.* In that year, the private secretary of Prince Nicholas, *Johann Sundecic,* contacted the Austrian Provincial Postal Administration for Dalmatia at *Zara* and, after some negotiations, a kind of unofficial postal treaty was concluded. Letters addressed to Montenegro were charged with the domestic Austrian letter postage of 5kr. and brought from Cattaro by messengers to Cetinje, where private means were used for distribution, because a domestic postal service still did not exist. Austria, for political reasons, tried to promote the contacts with Montenegro. It was clamoring for the favor of this and other Balkan countries, competing with Russia, which to gain the favor of the little country, in 1870 installed the first telegraph communications in the principality. In 1871, an Austrian postal clerk was sent to *Cetinje* to supervise the acceptance and delivery of mail by way of Cattaro, and early in the same year formal steps were taken for the establishment of a national postal service. For this purpose, Prince Nicholas sent Secretary Sundecic to Vienna to confer with the Austrian government concerning help for the *establishment of a postal service* in the country and the conclusion of a *postal treaty* with Austria-Hungary. The Austrian Government promised the requested help and referred Sundecic to the Ministry of Commerce, to which the Austrian Postal Administration was subordinated. In agreement with the Hungarian Postal Administration, the necessary steps were to be taken to have the wishes of Prince Nicholas fulfilled, because Austria, for reasons of political expediency, wanted to gain more influence in the affairs of the little country on its southern-most border.

The Austrian Postal Administration was wondering how to handle the matter. This was not, as in similar cases, simply the signing of a postal treaty with another postal administration. Neither a postal administration, nor a postal service, nor even post offices existed in Montenegro. To simplify matters it was thought best to delegate the Provincial Postal Administration at *Zara,* which had already previously dealt with matters concerning mail to and from Montenegro, to work out the agreement, leaving to the Ministry of Commerce only the final consent. The director of the Zara Postal Administration, *Adolf Ritter von Lama,* and also the Private Secretary of Prince Nicholas, *Johann Sundecic,* met shortly thereafter and in several conferences laid down a postal treaty, which was signed at Zara on *May 25, 1871* by von Lama as delegate of the Austro-Hungarian Government and by Sundecic as delegate of the Government of Montenegro. This treaty had 39 paragraphs, which dealt with almost all branches of the postal service. *Letters, newspapers, printed matter, samples, money orders, money letters, money packages, regular packages,* incl. *C. O. D. shipments,* were to be exchanged between the two countries. This was to be done by establishing a regular *mail route* from *Cetinje* to *Cattaro,* by which route all mail was to be exchanged. The maximum weight for letters, newspapers, printed matter and samples was 15 loth (7½ ounces), for parcels 10 pounds, the highest amount for money orders and money letters 100 gulden. *Registration* and *Special Delivery* were permitted and *Return Receipts* could be requested. The *rates* were identical to the Austrian domestic rates, except for letters, for which the rate was 7kr. instead of 5kr. for each loth (½ ounce). But for letters to or from the district of Cattaro (comprising the Post Offices at Budua, Castellastua, Castelnuovo, Cattaro, Kamenari, Perasto, Perzagno, Risano and Suttvara), the reduced rate of 5kr. was charged. Special paragraphs regulated official correspondence between the two countries for which no postage was charged, as well as the mail in transit through Austria-Hungary to and from Montenegro. Such mail was to be handled in the same way as if it were mailed to or from Austria or Hungary itself. There were intricate provisions as to how the postal fees should be divided between the two countries; for example, of the fee for letters five-sevenths were to go to Austria

and two-sevenths to Montenegro; of the fee for printed matter and samples, three-fifths to Austria and two-fifths to Montenegro, and similarly for the other fees.

It was agreed that this postal treaty should come into force on *September 1, 1871*. This was highly optimistic because the first actual steps for the establishment of a postal service in Montenegro were taken only after signing of the treaty. As the necessary *equipment and material,* including *postage stamps, postal forms* and *postmarks* could not be produced in the country—incidentally, the Government lacked the funds to pay for them—Prince Nicholas again approached the Austrian Government with the request that it provide all necessary material, at the same time asking that the effective date of the postal treaty be postponed. The Austrian Government, which had already taken the necessary steps for ratification of the treaty, cancelled all preparations and instructed the Minister of Commerce to conduct further negotiations. The *Zara Postal Administration* was again commissioned with this task and was requested on *June 8, 1872,* to produce a *list* of all equipment and material necessary for the establishment of the postal service in Montenegro. As early as *June 17, 1872,* the Zara Postal Administration forwarded an extensive list, containing everything from the *signs outside the post offices* to the *weighing scales, clocks, safes, postmarks* and *postage stamps,* needed for the postal service in Montenegro. In an accompanying letter, it was stated that Prince Nicholas hoped that all these items would be provided *free of charge,* to help the poor country of which he was the ruler. Although this indicated quite clearly that no payment could be expected—and as far as we could ascertain, Montenegro never paid for these and many other items provided by the Austrian Government—the political considerations were strong enough to overlook this point and, nevertheless, to proceed. On *July 1, 1872,* the preliminary orders for the *manufacture* of the needed *postage stamps, postmarks, forms, etc.* were given. It took six months before the Minister of Commerce could report that the manufacture of all material had been so far advanced that the opening of the postal service in Montenegro could be expected in the near future. On *January 29, 1873,* the Ministry of Foreign Affairs gave its approval to the treaty, but the necessary *ratification* by both houses of the Austrian Parliament met difficulties, which postponed ratification until *April 2, 1873*. The treaty was *signed* by the Austrian Government on *May 27, 1873* and *published* in the *Postal Bulletin* on *June 11, 1873*. No new effective date was set for the treaty, this to be announced later.

In the meantime all material and equipment which had been requested for the establishment of the postal service had been provided and was ready for shipment. On *May 23, 1873,* the Zara Postal Administration was so informed and was requested to ask the Montenegrin Government to set a *date* on which the *postal treaty* should *come into force*. But now Montenegro seemed to be in no hurry and although all material was delivered in *November 1873* to the newly established Montenegrin Postal Administration, only on *March 24, 1874* did it indicate that it was ready to open the postal service on April 15 or May 1, 1874, and to put the postal treaty in force at the same time. Consequently, the Austrian Ministry of Commerce set the *opening date* for *May 1, 1874,* and ordered the necessary publications. The postal service was actually opened on the given date; the first and only post office, in *Cetinje,* started to operate the same day, *issuing the first stamps,* and the *mail route* from *Cetinje* to *Cattaro* also *started to function*. It seems not entirely clear whether the May 1 date was computed by the Julian or the Gregorian calendar. In the former case, the actual opening would have been on May 12 by our calendar, in the latter case the "first day" on the postmarks, which were run by the Julian calendar, would have been April 19. In any case, Montenegro had now joined the family of nations which had their own postal service and their own postage stamps. It had been the last independent country in Europe without a postal service.

The newly established postal administration of Montenegro did not participate in the conferences which led to the establishment of the *Universal Postal Union,* which at that time was called General Postal Union. But after the general postal treaty was signed, *Montenegro* became the first country to apply for membership and was the

first country to be admitted to the Union, before the convention came into force on July 1, 1875.

The First Postage Stamps

Soon after the conclusion of the postal treaty in 1872, the Austrian Ministry of Commerce took the necessary steps to provide *postage stamps* for the postal service to be established in Montenegro. Secretary Sundecic had presented a *drawing* of the design for the proposed stamps and also a list of the *denominations* and *quantities* needed. Nothing is now known about this drawing, as it does not seem to have been preserved and the artist who made it is not mentioned in the files. But it is quite probable that the design eventually used for the stamps closely resembled this drawing. It had been decided to use the *Austrian currency* for payments in the postal service of Montenegro and therefore the Austrian *"Neukreuzer,"* in the native language called *"Novcica,"* was adopted and also used on the stamps. There were to be *seven values,* 2n, 3n, 5n, 7n, 10n, 15n and 25n. The *2n* was needed for printed matter and samples, as well as additional value (3n + 2n=5n, 5n + 2n=7n), *3n* for local letters, foreign printed matter and as additional value, *5n* for domestic letters and letters to the district of Cattaro, *7n* for letters to Austria-Hungary, *10n* for double-weight domestic letters, for registration and return receipt fees, *15n* for foreign letters and for the special delivery fee, and *25n* for registered foreign letters and heavy shipments. The requested *quantities* were 30,000 copies of 7n, 20,000 copies each of 2n and 5n, 10,000 copies each of 3n, 10n and 15n, and 5,000 copies of 25n, altogether *105,000 stamps.*

On *July 1, 1872,* the Ministry of Commerce asked the *Austrian State Printing Works,* which were the printers of all Austrian stamps and also had previously supplied, in 1866, stamps for the other Slavic neighbor in the South, Serbia; whether they could provide *postage stamps* in the design of the drawing and requested an *estimate* of the *printing costs* of the needed quantities. The State Printing Works answered on *July 7, 1872,* that the job could be done, but that it would take *three months* before delivery could be made. It was stated that the *engraving* of the *head of the Prince* as well as *manufacture* of the *printing plates* would take some time, making an earlier delivery impossible. About the *costs,* the amount of *280 gulden* was given for the preparations and the manufacture of the printing plates and *86 gulden* (incl. 17½ gulden for the paper) for the actual printing of the 105,000 stamps.

In the meantime, the inquiries about the costs of the other equipment and material which was needed had been concluded and on *August 17, 1872,* the result was communicated to the Zara Postal Administration, requesting them to get the definite *approval* of the Montenegrin authorities. It took a couple of months before this was accomplished and only on *November 14, 1872,* could the Ministry of Commerce proceed with the preparations for the printing of the postage stamps. On that date, the State Printing Works were instructed to start the work and submit *proofs* for the postage stamps as soon as possible. At the same time, the *denominations* and *quantities* were fixed, as had been requested by Secretary Sundecic. As to *colors,* the same ones were selected as for the corresponding Austrian stamps, with lilac for the additional 7n value.

The State Printing Works started operating immediately and delivered *proofs* for the stamps *late in 1872.* The Ministry of Commerce sent them to the Zara Postal Administration with instructions to forward them to Prince Nicholas with a request for his *approval.* This again took four months and only in *April, 1873* were the proofs returned, after the Prince had approved them. The State Printing Works were now ordered to proceed immediately with the *printing* and to deliver the ordered quantities as soon as possible. As early as *May 23, 1873,* the Ministry of Commerce informed the Zara Postal Administration that the State Printing Works had *delivered* the requested quantities of postage stamps. As all other equipment and material had been ready for delivery for some time, the Montenegrin Postal Administration was urged to put the postal treaty in force without further delay. There seems to have been further delay, possibly because the Austrian Government tried in vain to get payment of the costs (up to that time 579gld 15kr) before delivery. Finally,

in *November 1873,* all the *equipment and material* including the 105,*000 postage stamps* and *three postmarks,* were delivered to the Montenegrin authorities. It took half a year more before the *treaty* was *put into force* and the *postage stamps issued.* The *first day of issue* was *May 1, 1874,* but we do not know whether the Gregorian or the Julian calendar was used and, therefore, the *first day postmarks* were dated either "19/4 74" (April 19, 1874) or "1/5 74" (May 1, 1874), corresponding to May 1 and May 12 respectively of our calendar. Stamps with cancellations from the first months of use are rare. Therefore the fact that we have never seen a stamp dated in April 1874 does not seem sufficient grounds for establishing with certainty the exact date on which the stamps were issued.

Although the philatelic public had been informed that Montenegro was going to issue postage stamps, there seems to have been *no philatelic influence* in the creation, sale and use of these first stamps and the mercenary motive dominant for some later printings and issues, seems to have been entirely absent. In all the best sense of the word, the first issue of Montenegro can be considered *a classic issue.*

The Manufacture of the Postage Stamps

The few articles written about Montenegro and the catalogs based on this meager research contain so many questionable statements and unproven opinions about the *manufacture* of the first postage stamps of Montenegro that we have to begin from scratch to avoid the mistakes made by previous authors. The fact that the stamps had been printed by the Austrian State Printing Works proves helpful as the knowledge of the methods used there, acquired in studying Austrian stamps, can be applied quite properly to the stamps of Montenegro. From the execution of the original die to the manufacture of the printing plates and to the actual printing of the stamps, the same methods were used which the student of Austrian stamps knows from the official Austrian files and from the study of the stamps of Austria. In the case of the Montenegro stamps, we have especially good help and guidance from a contemporary Austrian issue, which was produced at about the same time as the first stamps of Montenegro, namely the *first Austrian Telegraph stamps* of *1873.* In many respects, there are similarities between the two issues. The findings we published fifteen years ago about the history and manufacture of the Austrian Telegraph stamps([4]) will in more ways than one help to answer the questions which arise when we try to solve the problems of the first Montenegro stamps.

It is known from the files that the *original die* for the Montenegro stamps had been *engraved for recess-printing,* from a drawing by an unknown artist. A few years ago, a *proof* from this die was sold in a New York auction and we are able to publish a picture of it. This recess-printed die proof, in dark violet on ivory card, 150 x 90 mm., shows the head of Prince Nicholas in a laurel wreath, the frame lines and corner ornaments as on the issued stamps, but it has blank spaces for the tablets on the four sides in which the inscriptions were to be inserted. The head of the Prince is a very fine engraving which is only partly revealed by the enlarged picture we have added. The similarity in the work leads us to the conclusion that the engraving was the work of *Prof. Louis Jacoby* of *Vienna,* who four years earlier had engraved a head of Emperor Franz Joseph I which was first used for Austrian Telegraph stamps (1873) and one year later for Austrian Revenue stamps. Prof. Jacoby was at that time constantly employed by the State Printing Works for work of this kind and it is therefore quite probable that he also engraved the head of Prince Nicholas for the stamps of Montenegro.

Several authors and even some catalogs maintain that the first issue of Montenegro had been *lithographed.* But references in the official files as well as checking of the stamps themselves leave no doubt that they were *typographed.* The first Austrian Telegraph Stamps of 1873 were also generally considered to be lithographed until we were able to prove fifteen years ago that they were typographed. Some catalogs and authors who base their "research" on old literature, still make the same wrong claim. It seems to be fostered by the coarse appearance of the stamps, which is very similar to that of the first Montenegrin stamps. The fact that in

[4] "Die Postmarke," 1935-36, page 73 et seq.



Fig. 1. * **Recess-printed Die Proof from the engraved original die.** (Courtesy of B. Homan, New York).

both cases the original die was engraved for recess-printing, while the actual printing plates were for typography, suggests that a similar method of manufacture was used for the printing plates. When we studied the Austrian Telegraph stamps, it was a most difficult problem to determine how, from an engraved die, printing material for typography could be produced. Several printing experts told us at that time that it could not be done, but eventually an old printer of the State Printing Works led us upon the right path. He described a process, called *"Gold Etching,"* which he remembered as having been used from time to time in the State Printing Works to convert a plate for recess-printing into a plate for typography. Later we found that *Dr. Stephan Koczynski* in his monumental monograph concerning the *Austrian Revenue Stamps*([5]) had mentioned



Fig. 3. Enlarged designs of the recess-printed and typographed die proofs.

the *"Gold Etching" process* and had described it as follows: "The Method of Gold Etching is used to convert a plate for recess-printing into a plate which can be used for typography. This is done by filling all recessed parts of the copper plate with gold and applying an etching process, which removes the copper but leaves the gold intact. The etching is continued until the gold shows sufficient relief, then by galvanoplasty the

* For illustration, this Die Proof was trimmed at the sides. The actual size is 150 mm. x 90 mm.

[5] Dr. Stephan Koczynski: "Die Geschichte der Stempelmarken in Oesterreich," printed and published by the Austrian State Printing Works (1924).

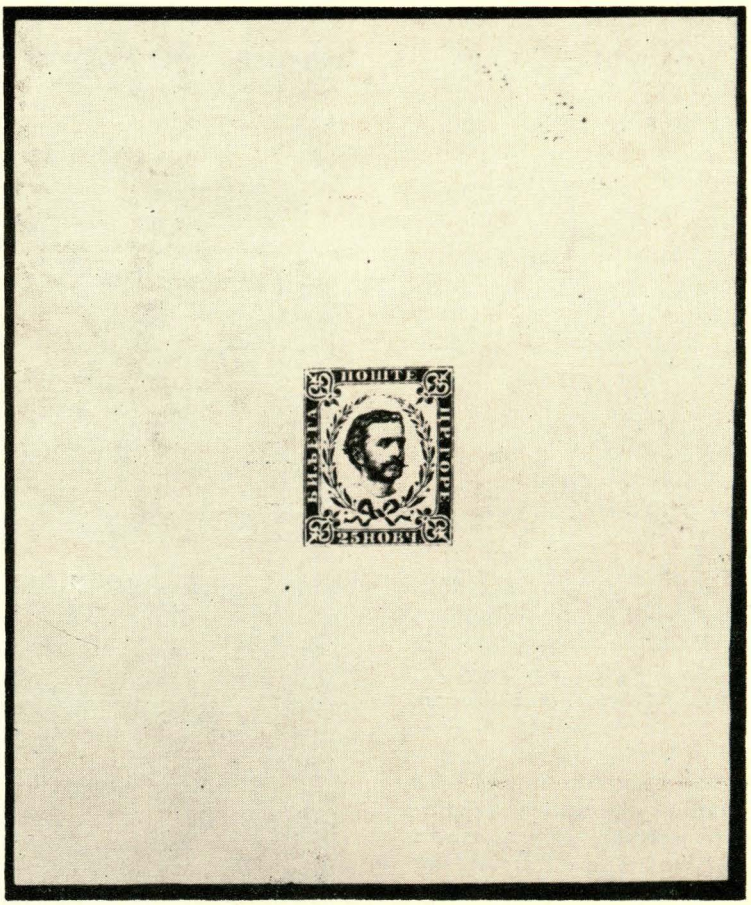


Fig. 2. **Typographed Die Proof from the secondary die** of the 25n value. (Courtesy of B. Homan, New York).

necessary printing plates can be produced." As can be seen, the "Gold Etching" process is a rather simple but unusual process for manufacturing printing plates and we doubt whether it was used by other printing establishments for the manufacture of stamp printing plates. Nevertheless we can be quite sure that the dies for the seven values of the first Montenegro issue were produced in this way. This also accounts for the rather coarse appearance of the printed stamps, as the process naturally tends to coarsen the fine lines and to eliminate those subtle differences in the engraving which usually make engravings superior to typographed prints.

Die proofs of the *seven values,* as mentioned in the files and presented late in 1872 to Prince Nicholas for his approval, seem to have soon come into private hands. In the description of the famous essay collection of *Martin Schroeder* (Leipzig), the die proofs of all seven values as well as an additional proof on colored paper are mentioned. A set of the seven die proofs was sold a few years ago in New York and we are able to picture the highest value. These die proofs are typographed on white to yellowish white pieces of paper, 95 x 115 mm., and are printed in almost the same colors in which the stamps themselves were later issued.

When we try to reconstruct the *manner* in which the *printing plates* were derived from the original die, we have to consider several possibilities; however, our knowledge of the

methods of the Austrian State Printing Works considerably reduces these possibilities, eventually leaving one probable sequence of working processes, which we can accept as quite definite. The first step was to obtain a matrix *(Matrix I)* from the original die. From this first matrix a working die *(Working Die I)* in copper was obtained and this die subjected to the *"Gold Etching" process,* converting it into a die for typography. Now a working matrix *(Matrix II)* was obtained and the *fully colored labels* on all four sides *inserted* in the design. A new working die *(Working Die II)* was now taken and the *inscriptions engraved* in the labels on both sides and at the top. From a further matrix *(Matrix III)* seven new working dies *(Working Dies III to IX)* were obtained and the *seven different value indications engraved* in the labels at the bottom. It also seems that some *retouching* of the other inscriptions took place at the same time, especially in the small dash on the first letter at the right which protrudes in the inner frame line; this characteristic feature of that Cyrillic letter had been omitted by error when the inscriptions were engraved in working die II and now was added in the working dies for each value separately. These seven dies were now used as *secondary dies* and by way of *matrices* produced the *printing cliches* for the seven *printing plates.*

Much has been written about *"secret marks"* which can be found on the first Montenegro issue. There is no foundation for such a claim. The Austrian State Printing Office never used such a device. The small particularities found on the different values derive either from accidental *impurities* or from *defects* in the design which either originated in the *first* or *second working dies* or in one of the *first three matrices* and then are more or less identical for *all values.* Or they occurred in the *secondary dies* and/or only in the *matrices* taken from them and then are characteristic for the *specific value only.* But they are certainly accidental characteristics, not purposely inserted "secret marks."

In giving the *pedigree of the printing plates* we have purposely neglected to deal with the *method* of how the working dies and matrices were obtained. From the methods used for the contemporary Austria issues we must conclude that the matrices were produced by *galvanoplasty,* while the working dies, at least in the later stages, were produced by *stereotypy.* There is little doubt that the *first printing plates* consisted of *single stereotyped cliches.* It can also be assumed as correct that the printing plates consisted only of *100 cliches,* not of 400, in four panes of 100, as used at the same time for Austrian stamps. The tendency to save expensive material even at the cost of more (at that time cheap) work accounts for the probability that no such large plates were manufactured for the small printings of Montenegro stamps, but that small plates of 100 were found sufficient. In these *stereotyped printing plates* the cliches were *spaced 2 mm to 2½ mm.* Early in the Nineties, the Austrian State Printing Works abandoned the use of stereotypes and generally changed to electrotypes. When in *1893* new plates for the Montenegro stamps became necessary, they were made up from *electrotypes,* not in single cliches, but in *horizontal blocks of ten.* The *spacing was now wider, 2¾ mm. to 3¼ mm.,* quite regular inside the cliche blocks but varying more where one block bordered another. It is quite probable that now, largely due to philatelic needs, bigger quantities of stamps were ordered. *Plates of 400 cliches* were manufactured and used for the printing of the Montenegro stamps, but no definite information is available about them. New *block matrices* were used for the electrotyped plates, which were obtained from *cleaned secondary dies* and *new matrices* and therefore no longer show most of the so-called *"secret marks"* of the earlier plates. The fact that the design now looks less coarse is also partly a result of the improved manufacturing method of the printing plates.

In the *printing methods,* there are also quite some analogies to the contemporary Austrian issue 1867, which just at the time of the printing of the first Montenegrin stamps started to change from the rather coarse *"soft" printing,* with felt-covered cylinder, to the finer *"hard" printing,* for which adequate make-ready replaced the felt. There is no evidence that the "soft" printing method was used for the first Montenegro issue; the rather coarse appearance of the stamps is mainly due to the process of manufacture of the printing plates rather than to the print-

ing methods, which seem to have undergone no principal changes during the use of the first design of Montenegro stamps.

In regard to the *paper,* again the contemporary Austrian stamps furnish important leads, as the same kind of paper was also used for the Montenegrin stamps. As the *watermarked paper,* on which the Austrian stamps were printed, was controlled by a special agency of the Ministry of Finance, special permission had to be obtained for every printing of the Montenegrin stamps. The State Printing Works always received only the number of sheets necessary for the printing of the ordered stamps, with a 10% surplus allowed for printer's waste. It has previously been believed—and several authors and most catalogs claim it as a fact—that all stamps of Montenegro were printed on paper with the *sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN."* as used for the Austrian Newspaper and Newspaper Tax Stamps regularly from 1864 to 1899. But the official files indicate that the first Montenegro issue was printed on paper with the *sheet watermark "BRIEF-MARKEN.",* as used for the Austrian postage stamps from 1864 to 1890. Checking of the available material of the first printing revealed no indication that paper other than watermarked "BRIEF-MARKEN." was used at all for its printing. Only in later printings can we find stamps which undoubtedly show parts of the sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS - MARKEN." Therefore we can conclude that *until 1890* the Montenegro stamps, exactly as the contemporary Austrian postage stamps, were printed on paper with the *sheet watermark "BRIEF-MARKEN."* and, only after the use of this paper for Austrian stamps was abolished in *1890,* on paper with *sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN."* It can be concluded furthermore that, as this latter watermark paper was also abandoned in 1899 —the remainders of this paper were used for the first printing of the Austrian postage due issue of 1899—Montenegrin stamps, manufactured after 1899, would have to have been printed on *paper without any watermark.* But as no unwatermarked sheets are known, it can be supposed that the last stamps in the first design were printed not later than 1899 and this supply lasted until the new issue of 1902 was introduced. Of the *sheet watermark "BRIEF-MARKEN.", a new type,* with broader and otherwise different lettering, was introduced in *1883* and since then was also used for the printing of the Montenegro stamps.

As the printing was done, at least from the plates with narrow spacing, in sheets of 100, the printing paper had to be quartered before use. Therefore every such quarter sheet contained a half of the watermark, horizontally in the center of the sheet. All particularities, which can be found in the paper of the contemporary Austrian stamps can be also found here. Since *1876* a *thinner, more transparent* and *smoother paper* was used, distinguishing the later printings from the early ones. The sheets of the old-type watermark "BRIEF-MARKEN." paper show a *vertical sheet dividing watermark line* between the watermarks. The sheets of the paper with the new-type watermark "BRIEF-MARKEN." as well as all with the watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN." (of which only the new type was used for Montenegro stamps) show a *T-shaped margin watermark* on top or bottom. This can only be found on margin copies when the watermark itself is strongly shifted vertically and falls either on the fourth or seventh horizontal row (instead of regularly on the 5th and 6th row). *Stitch watermarks* can also be found occasionally.

The *gum* used for the Montenegro stamps was also identical to that of the contemporary Austria stamps and was a rather thick *animal glue,* applied with a *brush.* From *1883, glycerin* was added to this glue to make the gum less subject to cracking. But this new type of gum penetrated the paper making it somewhat transparent and brittle. From *1892* a *vegetable glue, Arabic gum,* was used to overcome this unsatisfactory performance. *Gumming machines* were introduced at the same time and the manual gumming abolished soon afterwards.

In regard to the *colors,* six of the seven values were printed in the same colors as the corresponding values of the contemporary Austrian postage stamps, the 1867 issue. The shades were always the same as on the Austrian stamps printed in the same period. For the 7n value, which had no equivalent in the Austrian postage stamps, a violet color was used quite similar to the typographed Aus-

trian 2gld Telegraph stamps printed at the same time. This 7n value underwent quite distinct but unintentional color changes during its various printings. The reason seems to be that no such ink was used after 1873 for Austrian stamps. Therefore, another ink, otherwise not used for stamps, was haphazardly taken for every printing. For the other values, the continuity of the corresponding Austrian values prevailed and some of the characteristic shades which the Austrian stamps show during that period can also be found in the Montenegro stamps.

During the first five years of the use of the stamps no distinct *shades,* except for the 3n value, can be found; proof of the fact, that the first printing—and one additional printing of the three lower values—was sufficient for the needs. Only for the 3n value, the original printing and the additional printing seem to have differed slightly. The shade of the additional printing was a yellowish green compared with the original plain green. The following printings showed quite distinct color differences compared with the original printing, but except for the 7n, and partly the 25n—corresponding to the equally unstable color of the Austrian 25kr stamps—the shades within the printings themselves are not too obvious. The last printings (with wider spacing) again showed somewhat different, brighter colors, also with slight shadings within these colors.

In regard to the *perforation,* the same variety can be found as on all other stamps manufactured during the same period by the Austrian State Printing Works. The Austria issues 1867, 1883 and 1890, the Bosnia-Herzegovina issue of 1879, the Persia issues of 1876 to 1886 give some clues concerning the Montenegro stamps, printed during the same period, especially in ascertaining the period during which the various perforations were used for postage stamps. It seems evident that the three harrow perforating devices (9½), which the State Printing Works used since 1863-64, were only sufficient to cover the requirements for Austrian stamps and they were never used for the stamps of the other countries. For all stamps of Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as Persia manufactured before 1898, only *line perforating devices* were used, and the same is the fact for the contemporary stamps of Montenegro. The size of the design of the Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as of the Montenegro stamps, was almost exactly the same as that of the Austria 1867 issue. Therefore the use of the harrow machines would have presented no great difficulties. The failure to make use of this opportunity was certainly not an accidental one, but was due to the fact that the three harrow perforating devices were being used to capacity for Austrian stamps. A few years later, they were insufficient even for this job and the use of *line perforating devices* for the regular Austrian stamps, in addition to the continued use of the harrow devices, became necessary from 1877.

There can be no doubt that for the first printing of the stamps of Montenegro a *line perforation 10½,* varying from almost 10 to 11, with large holes and therefore conspicuously pointed teeth, was used. It is this same perforation, which was used for Austrian revenue stamps since 1868, the Austrian telegraph stamps of 1873 (typographed and first engraved printings) and for the first printing of the Persia issue of 1876. Since 1877, it was used for Austrian postage stamps and it seems almost certain that its further use for other stamps, especially those of Montenegro and Persia, was discontinued not later than in *1876.* At that time, it was replaced by *two other line perforations,* first *13* (varying from 12¾ to 13) and, shortly later, *12* (11¾ to 12½). These two perforations, in use for Austrian revenue stamps since 1863, and for Austrian postage stamps for a short period from 1877 to 1878, were used since 1876 for the Austrian telegraph stamps (engraved issue) as well as the stamps of Montenegro, Persia and, since 1879, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Some of the perforation devices 12 and 13 were quite worn and produced rather irregular perforations, with the holes forming a crooked line, characteristic of certain printings of Bosnia-Herzegovina, but also quite conspicuous on some Montenegro stamps.

A new change in the perforations occurred almost fifteen years later. It concerns *two line perforations, 11½ and 10½,* as well as a temporarily used *line perforation 11,* all quite regular and with no variations. The line perforation 11½, which exists in two varieties, with large holes and pointed teeth, or smaller holes and broad teeth, had been

used for Austrian revenue stamps from about 1883, but for Austrian postage stamps only since 1890. Its use for Bosnia-Herzegovina stamps also started in 1890. Some authors and catalogs claim that it was used since 1887 for Montenegro stamps. We doubt the correctness of this statement and rather think that it was not used for Montenegro stamps before *1890* at the earliest. Almost simultaneously, a line perforation 10½, but now with smaller holes and broad teeth, was employed. This perforation had also been used for Austrian revenue stamps from about 1883, for postage stamps of Austria and Bosnia-Herzegovina from 1890 and we believe, contrary to some authors, that it was used for Montenegro stamps occasionally since the same year, but probably regularly only since *1893*. The line perforation 11, in use for Austrian revenue stamps since about 1883, was only temporarily used for postage stamps of Austria and Bosnia-Herzegovina since 1889. Some authors and catalogs maintain that this perforation was used for Montenegro stamps—from the plates with wider spacing—as early as 1881. This is undoubtedly erroneous, as the State Printing Works had no such perforation device before 1883; the plates with wider spacing did not exist prior to 1893. We believe that only a small portion of the first printing of a few values from the new plates with wider spacing received perforation 11 in *1893* and that it was not used thereafter for Montenegro stamps. The use of the perforations 10½ and 11½ ceased for the stamps of Austria and Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1899; they were replaced by a line perforation 12½ and comb perforations, none of which are known on Montenegro stamps in the first design. This supports the assumption that no stamps of this kind were printed after 1899 and the supply lasted until the new stamps of 1902 were issued.

There are *part-perforated* and *imperforate* varieties known and partly listed in the catalogs. But only a mint *horizontal pair, imperforate between,* of the 10n, first printing, perf. 10½ (in the Tapling Collection, British Museum, London) seems legitimate, while all imperforates or part-perforated copies of later printings never reached a post office. They are either printer's waste, which escaped destruction, or were sold with the stock of remainders.

The Various Printings of the Postage Stamps

The different *printings,* which were made during the almost thirty years the first design of Montenegro stamps remained in use, have been studied by several authors and described by some of them as well as by several catalogs as different *"issues."* But a simple change in the spacing of the stamps or/and of the perforations used should be considered only as a new *printing* and never as a new *issue*. As it is impossible to separate all the many printings, it seems appropriate to *group* them by their characteristic features, mainly plate characteristics, paper and perforations. This is not a very difficult task and the various catalogs offer rather satisfactory listings. But in regard to the *dates of use,* there is much confusion and entire disagreement among the various authors and catalogs. We shall try to clarify this matter, by applying our knowledge of the use of the various papers, colors, gum and perforations by the Austrian State Printing Works and thereby pave the way for a more accurate and correctly dated listing of the various printings.

There is no disagreement about the fact that the *first printing* was made from plates with *narrow spacing* (2 mm. to 2½ mm.) and was *line perforated 10½* with pointed teeth. These were the stamps which should be found on first day covers, although we have to confess that we have never seen any covers or cancellations dated in the first weeks of the use of the stamps. In regard to the paper, it was the *regular, opaque paper* as can be found on the Austrian issue 1867 up to 1876, and had the *sheet watermark "BRIEF-MARKEN."* in the *first type*. The statement that also paper with the watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN" was used for these 10½ perforated stamps has in our opinion no foundation nor could we find any indication for it on actual stamps. The contemporary philatelic press was well informed concerning the facts of the issue. Already in the July 1873 issue of his "Le Timbre-Poste," J.-B. Moens had announced that such stamps were planned. In the following month he gave a list of the seven

values together with a picture of the 10n value, obviously taken from a proof or a sample copy. In October 1873, the list of colors was announced. In the June 1874 issue, it was punctually reported that the stamps had been issued. The "Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal," published by the Senf Brothers of Leipzig, also reported in its number dated June 1, 1874, that the stamps had been issued.

The official files in Vienna reveal that the first *re-order* for stamps, after the establishment of the postal service, was made as early as *Sept. 21, 1874,* by ordering *40,000 copies each* of the *2n, 3n* and *5n* values. This order was *delivered* on *Dec. 2, 1874* by the State Printing Works and forwarded a few days later to the Zara Postal Administration, which was instructed to collect the cost—43gld80kr—from the Montenegrin Postal Administration. It seems that this printing was soon delivered to the Montenegrin Postal Administration—we could not ascertain whether the Austrian authorities ever received payment for it—but was placed on sale only several months later in Cetinje. Moens reported in the October 1875 issue of "Le Timbre-Poste" that the 3n stamp had now appeared in yellow green. This indicates that the new printing was recognized by the observant Moens from the slightly differing shade of the 3n value. As no mention of any change was made, especially not in the perforation, the new printing had probably all the features of the original printing.

Unfortunately, the official files contain no further data concerning the *subsequent printings* of Montenegro stamps. The philatelic press also did not show much interest in the country. "Le Timbre-Poste" did not mention Montenegro again until 1885. Therefore we have to depend on *empirical data* collected by a study of the stamps themselves. The various authors and catalogs agree that a *change of the perforation* took place for one of the following printings. Two *line perforations, 12* and *13* came into use for stamps printed from the same *plates with narrow spacing* as in the previous printings. In the other details, the authors and catalogs vary so much that we have to state our own findings. One of the main points of disagreement is the *year of issue* of these stamps perforated 12 and 13. While the Moens Catalog of 1877 mentions only the stamps perforated 10½, it lists in its 1884 issue for the first time the stamps perforated 13 and gives *1880* as the date of issue. The Senf Catalog listed the stamps perforated 13 the first time in 1888, giving *1879* as the date of issue. These dates check well with all reliable data of the use of these stamps; we have also never seen a copy undoubtedly used before 1880. It seems that the 2n and 10n of the second printing were issued first, while of other values, including the most needed 7n, the supply of the first printing lasted several years longer, of some values to 1885. There are several facts which give food for a second thought. The stamps perforated 13 and some perforated 12 come not only on the *thinner, smoother paper,* which is somewhat *transparent,* so that the design shows through on the back, but also on the *thicker opaque paper* of the previous printings. This thicker opaque paper was used by the State Printing Works only *until 1876;* therefore all stamps printed on it must have been manufactured in 1876 or earlier. We could disregard that several authors give the year 1874 as date of issue for the stamps perforated 12 and 13, but there may be some truth in it, considering the above facts. We have every reason to believe, that, first only *line perforation 13* was used and the existence of *mixed perforations,* 13 x 10½ and 10½ x 13, indicate that these two perforations were, at least for a short period, used simultaneously. Shortly afterwards *line perforation 12* was introduced and then used simultaneously with line perforation 13; *mixed perforations,* 12 x 13 and 13 x 12, are not rare. The contemporary stamps of Persia (1876 issue) also show that about 1876 the change from perforation 10½ to the perforations 13 and 12 took place; mixed perforations with 10½ exist too. Considering all these facts, we must conclude that the first printings, perforated 13 and 12, were made in *1876,* but that the issue of these stamps was *delayed until 1879,* possibly caused by the constant non-payment of the stamps' costs by Montenegro. The *further printings* were then made on the *thinner paper,* in use since 1876. Up to 1883, the paper had the *sheet watermark "BRIEFMARKEN.",* in the *first type,* as for the previous printings. From *1883* paper with

the *second type* of that watermark and, beginning from *1890,* paper with the *sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS - MARKEN."* was used for new printings.

Before the use of the plates with narrow spacing ceased, another *change of the perforation* took place, namely to a *line perforation 11½*. It is stated in the literature and some catalogs that this printing was used as early as 1887. But the fact alone that we have seen it only on paper with the *sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS - MARKEN.",* which was only used since *1890,* suggests a much later manufacture. Several indications make it very probable that the stamps perforated 11½ were printed not earlier than in *1893*. The perforation 11½ used for this printing had *large holes* and therefore *pointed teeth*. Stamps of this printing can be safely recognized only in blocks, not in singles or pairs, because in the printings from plates with wide spacing the spacing was in some cases irregular and in some places only 2½ mm., so that single copies or pairs can easily be mistaken for the narrow spaced printings. This is also the reason why we are somewhat skeptical about the reported stamps *perforated 10½* (broad teeth) and *narrow spacing,* as we have never seen such blocks and therefore suspect erroneous classification of irregularly spaced stamps from the plates with wide spacing.

The year *1893* is uniformly given for the first use of the *new plates with wide spacing.* The first printing from these plates was *line perforated 11½;* shortly thereafter *line perforation 10½* came into simultaneous use and both perforations—11½ in two varieties, with pointed and broad teeth—were used for all further printings, including the new values of 1894 and the changed colors of 1898. In 1893, for a small printing of some values, *line perforation 11* was used.

For the *1893 overprint issue,* commemorating the 400th anniversary of printing in Montenegro, the available supplies of current printings were used, from *plates with narrow spacing, perforated 11½* and—a few values only—*perforated 12* and *13* and then from *plates with wide spacing, perforated 10½* and *11½,* as well as *11* (one value only).

A *grouping of the various printings,* with all known data, may facilitate the classification of these diversified stamps.

Group I. Printed from 1873 to 1876 (?), first *issued May 1, 1874. Plates with narrow spacing. Opaque paper* with *sheet watermark "BRIEF-MARKEN." (first type). Line perforation 10½* with pointed teeth.

Group II. Printed from 1876(?) to 1893, first *issued 1879(?). Plates with narrow spacing.* First *opaque paper with sheet watermark "BRIEF - MARKEN." (first type), line perforation 13* and (not all values) *12, also 13 x 10½* and *10½ x 13* (a few values only). Later (since 1877?) *transparent thinner paper,* with the *same watermark (first type,* since *1883 second type)* and, since *1890,* with *sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN.",* all with *line perforation 12* or *13,* also *12 x 13* and *13 x 12* (only few values).

Group III. Printed in 1893, first *issued in 1893. Plates with narrow spacing. Transparent paper* with *sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN.", line perforation 11½* with pointed teeth. A few values also *perforated 10½(?).*

Group IV. Printed from 1893 to 1899, first issued *in 1893. Plates with wide spacing. Transparent thinner paper* with *sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN.", line perforation 10½* and *11½* (latter with pointed or broad teeth), temporary (a few values only) also *11 and 10½ x 11½,* or *11½ x 10½*.

Commemorative Issue. Printed and issued in 1893. Overprinted on *Groups III* and *IV,* also (a few values only) on *Group II.*

It is not the purpose of this study to list the values and shades which can be found in each of these groups. The catalogs give incomplete information, so that there is still much research work to be done. This can bring satisfaction to ambitious philatelic students who wish to study this field.

Post Offices and Postmarks

C. J. Phillips published in 1907 a *list of 15 post offices* which he averred *were opened on May 1, 1874,* simultaneously with the establishment of postal service in Montenegro.

Hugo Hartmann in his article in 1908, gave the same list as follows:

Andrjevica	Njeguch
Bar (Antivari)	Podgorica
Cetinje	Pristane
Chavnik	Rieka
Danilovgrad	Ulcinj (Dulcigno)
Grahovo	Velimje
Kolachin	Virpazar
Niksich	

Even a superficial check of this reveals that it cannot be a list of the post offices existing in 1874. It must be a much later compilation, probably not less than twenty years after 1874. This is obvious from the fact that a number of post offices listed are in territory which did not belong to Montenegro in 1874, but was acquired only 1878 and 1880. The doubts about the correctness of Phillips' list are strengthened by one's inability to locate any genuine town cancellations, except from Cetinje, dated earlier than 1879.

As a matter of fact the official files leave no doubt that when the postal service was established in Montenegro *only one post office,* in *Cetinje,* was opened and only the mail route between Cetinje and Cattaro was in operation. This statement is corroborated by another fact, namely that *only the postmarks for the Cetinje post office* were *manufactured* and *delivered before May 1, 1874.* The *Viennese engraver, Theodor Burk,* who since *1861* engraved all Austrian postmarks, on *Feb. 1, 1873* delivered *three postmarks* for the *Cetinje* post office. They were *two small circle postmarks,* both of *20½ mm. diameter,* inscribed *CETINJE,* in Cyrillic letters and *with date* (day, month and year). The third postmark was a *straight line CETINJE,* in 7½ mm. high Cyrillic letters, which was intended for internal use only and has not been used as canceller. All three postmarks were *delivered* to the Montenegrin Postal Administration with the other equipment and material in *November 1873* and used at the Cetinje post office after its opening. The two circular postmarks were delivered *with year dates,* but only for the years *1874, 1875* and *1876.* From *1877* the *year date* was *omitted,* probably because no replacement was obtained, and both postmarks used henceforth with date of day and month only.

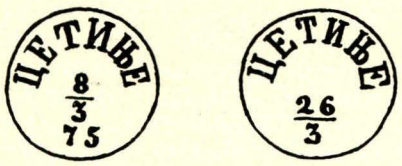


Fig. 4. **The first two Centinje postmarks of 1874** (20½ mm.), one without year date, as used in later years.

We are sure that Cetinje was the only post office in operation for several years. The war of 1876 and the following years of uncertainty about the future of the country seem to have prevented an extension of the postal service. In the official files, no further manufacture of postmarks for Montenegro is recorded and the available material of genuinely cancelled stamps and the few known covers up to 1879 do not reveal any other cancellations than the two postmarks of Cetinje. Only in *1879* do we find the *first cancellations from other towns.* The stamps of Group I provide the most reliable information in this field, as there were no remainders and, therefore, no faked or predated cancellations. The *postmarks of these new post offices* were undoubtedly also *manufactured by Theodor Burk* and are similar to the two circle postmarks of Cetinje, but of *larger size,* first of *22½ mm.* and later of *23½ mm.* diameter. Cetinje also received several such postmarks of larger size. Ulcinj had a similar postmark but with Roman figure for the month. The postmarks were delivered with *replacement year dates,* usually three years in advance; after that the postmasters either abolished the use of a year-date or they turned the year-date type over, so that a *spacer* in the shape of a full colored rectangle instead of the year date appears in the postmark. After 1886, up to about 1892, we find the circle postmarks only without year-date or with such spacers instead of the year date, as obviously no replacement year dates were obtained by the postmasters in that period. On stamps of Group I, which were used frequently simultaneously with Group II, as late as 1885, we found town postmarks of *BAR, NIKSICH, PODGORICA, RIEKA* and *ULCINJ.* Except for Rieka, all these towns were in the newly acquired parts of the country which were commercially more developed than the

old parts. These post offices could not have functioned before 1879 or 1880 at the earliest. In Group II, we found only three more town postmarks, *DANILOVGRAD, KOLACHIN* and *VIRPAZAR,* the second also in newly annexed territory; in Groups III and IV three more, namely *CHAVNIK, GRAHOVO* and *NJEGUCH.* These lists may not be complete. It is probable that the three other town postmarks, listed by Phillips (Andrjevica, Pristane and Velimje) can also be found on stamps in the first design. But there can be no doubt that all post offices in Montenegro, except Cetinje, were not established before 1879, some of them probably several years later. There were in 1908 only 18 post offices in Montenegro; therefore the progress of postal service was quite slow.

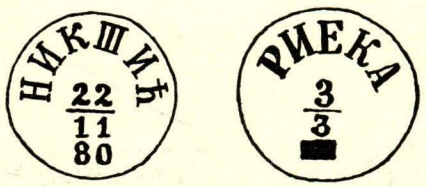


Fig. 5. **First postmark types of post offices outside Cetinje** (Niksich, 22½ mm., and Rieka, 23½ mm.).

The *color* of these postmarks was usually *black,* but from a few towns also *blue* postmarks are known, especially from Bar and Niksich; Ulcinj used for some time blue and *violet* ink.

Some *ship postmarks,* mainly of Austrian origin, can also occasionally be found used as cancellers. From *1888* the circle postmarks of the *Austrian Lloyd ships,* inscribed "LLOYD AUSTRO-UNGARICO," and after 1891 inscribed "LLOYD AUSTRIACO," both kinds with various Roman numerals at bottom, can be found quite frequently.

Until the turn of the century, Montenegro had followed the Austrian example in regard to the postmarks. Its postmarks, all engraved by Theodor Burk, conformed to the types of the Austrian postmarks except for the Cyrillic letters of the town names. The first deviation came around *1900* when Montenegro started to follow the example of *Serbia* in choosing a new type of postmark. *Bilingual double-circle postmarks,* similar to those used in Serbia since 1894, were introduced and served at most post offices during the last years of the use of the postage stamps of the first design. They can be found only on the new values of 1894 and the stamps in changed colors of 1898. The Serbian name, in Cyrillic letters, is now at the top, and the same name, but in Latin letters in a Gallicized version, is at the bottom, the date on a bridge between them.



Fig. 6. **New Serbian type postmark,** introduced at the turn of the century.

The study of the postmarks of Montenegro is complicated, on the one hand, by the fact that since the Nineties, to a small extent already in the Eighties, a great number of stamps were *cancelled to order,* partly with *pre-dated postmarks.* On the other hand, when the *remainders* of the stamps of the first design were sold to the trade, the buyer also received several *old withdrawn postmarks* which he used extensively for *predated cancellations* on the remainders. Several single circles of *Cetinje* (20½ mm. and 23½ mm.), as well as a single circle of *Rieka* (23½ mm.) served this purpose. We have never seen such pre-dated cancellations on stamps of Group I and the early printings of Group II, but they are frequent on stamps of Group III and IV, as well as on the later printings of Group II and the Commemoratives of 1893. Several authors seem to have been deceived by such pre-dated postmarks and, basing their research on the dates of such cancellations, arrived at entirely wrong conclusions about the dates of issue of several printings and varieties. Genuinely used copies of some printings, especially of the high values of the 1894 issue, are scarce, in fact, rare. Such stamps on commercial correspondence belong to the cover rarities; but on money orders or parcel post cards they are much more common. There also

exist a number of *faked postmarks,* all imitating the circle Cetinje types and quite easy to distinguish from the genuine types.

Foreign Post Offices

There were actually no *foreign post offices* on the territory of Montenegro, as the strong national feelings of the population would not have permitted such establishments. But when additional territory was acquired from the Turks in 1878, an *Austrian post office* was working in this territory, in the port town of *Antivari* (Bar). This post office had been established in 1855 and was managed by the agent of the Austrian Lloyd in the port, who acted in the double capacity of shipping agent and postmaster. The post office was connected with the outside world by the regular sailings of the ships of the Austrian Lloyd. Aside from the mail of the local residents, it handled a rather large volume of mail to and from Scutari, a Turkish commercial inland center, on Scutari Lake, as well as somewhat meager mail to and from other towns on Turkish or Montenegrin territory, all of which was forwarded by occasional travellers, except to and from Scutari, which maintained a regular messenger service. When Antivari was occupied by the Montenegrins in 1876, the Austrian post office continued to function, until the territory definitely came to Montenegro in 1878. The Austrian Post Office was closed late in 1878, as the Montenegrin authorities did not permit its further functioning. But as the necessity to serve the mail to and from Scutari continued, shortly thereafter in 1879, an Austrian Post Office, also working in connection with the agency of the Austrian Lloyd there, was opened at the small port of *San Giovanni di Medua,* just across the Montenegrin border in the Turkish province of Albania. For face-saving—to give the impression that after the somewhat involuntary closing of the post office at Antivari an Austrian postal service in Montenegro was still maintained—the new post office received the official name *Dulcigno - San Giovannia de Medua. Dulcigno* was a small port on Montenegrin territory, just across the border from San Giovanni di Medua and seems to have had, at least for some time, an *Austrian*



Fig. 7. Letter mailed at the **Austrian post office at Antivari (1864).**

branch post office. But Montenegro protested against this manoeuver and after a short period all Austrian Postal activity on Montenegrin territory seems to have ceased. The name Dulcigno was dropped and the post office henceforth simply called *San Giovanni di Medua.* It was connected with the outside world by regular ship routes of the Austrian Lloyd and functioned until 1915 when the Italian occupation of Albania forced its closing.



Fig. 8. **The Austrian DULCIGNO-SAN GIOVANNI DI MEDUA postmark.**

During the 23 years of activity *Antivari* used *only one postmark,* a *single circle ANTIVARI* with date (day and month only), in *black* and *blue.* It can be found until 1864 on pre-stamp covers, then on the Austrian issues 1863 (perf. 14 and 9½) and 1867 (coarse and fine pritings), all in Soldi currency. *San Giovanni di Medua* received first a *single circle with DULCIGNO* at the top and *SAN GIOVANNI DI MEDUA* at bottom with date (day, month and year), which is known in black, with dates of 1879, 1880 and 1881. A new postmark, also a *single circle* with date (day, month and year), with *SAN GIOVANNI* at the top and *DI MEDUA* at the bottom, was introduced early in *1881.* It can be found on the Austrian 1867 issue (fine printings, 50s coarse printings), in Soldi currency, always in black. On later issues we find also other type postmarks, in black, blue and violet.

Conclusion

Montenegro, a *"dead country"* since 1916, produced altogether 127 stamps in the 42 years of its postal history. 49 of them formed four commemorative sets, of which three, including their numerous varieties, were of doubtful necessity. Otherwise Montenegro has, as far as the stamp production is concerned, a clean record and, compared with the orgies in stamp production of some countries during the last thirty years, Montenegro could be considered a philatelically honest country. This rather good record has been partly spoiled as stated before by the sale of large quantities of remainders of obsolete issues, together with contemporary postmarks, to a stamp wholesaler, who misused the genuine postmarks for reckless pre-dated cancellations, which ruined the philatelic reputation of the little country. But measured by present standards for the philatelic conduct of countries, the "crime" of Montenegro seems quite innocent and no longer does the collector any harm. Montenegro was philatelically punished, by becoming an "unpopular" country. But we think that it has been punished sufficiently and the little country should be recognized again among the desirable fields for the collector. The basic foundations for an intense study and classification are laid. Montenegro stamps can be bought today at rather reasonable prices. Nobody can build a collection of Montenegro which costs him tens of thousands of dollars. The material of better stamps is too limited and especially early covers, as well as even genuinely cancelled copies of some values of the later printings, are hard to get. The collector-student will be able, with comparatively little means, to build a highly specialized collection of Montenegro stamps, which will not only satisfy himself but also arouse the attention of other collectors. Even a moderately specialized Montenegro collection will be an attractive object at every local exhibition. If this will be realized more generally, Montenegro will again become a *popular country,* a distinction which is greatly deserves.

COSTA RICA

Mystery of First Surcharged Stamps

By ALEX A. COHEN

In the past every effort to throw some light on the reason for issuance of the surcharges on the first issue of Costa Rica, (Scott's Nos. 7 to 15) met with complete failure. No law or decree officially authorizing the issuance of these stamps has ever been found. A careful recent examination of complete files of the *Official Gazette* for the years 1882 and 1883 failed to reveal any mention of the surcharged stamps, leading to the conclusion that the stamps were prepared for emergency use. This conclusion is confirmed to some extent by certain other evidence brought to light from these Gazettes.

In the Gazettes for the year 1882 certain correspondence is published which passed between the Foreign Minister of Costa Rica and Dr. Peralta, the Costa Rican Minister in Europe, concerning negotiations then in progress with a view to Costa Rica joining the Universal Postal Union. Although no record was found indicating the date Costa Rica actually became a member of the Union, *Gazette No. 1,439* for December 22, 1882, publishes a full-page announcement on page 4, giving new Postal rates under the Universal Postal Union. Three sets of rates are given, i.e. (1) rates for the interior of the Republic; (2) rates for countries members of the U. P. U.; and, (3) rates for countries not belonging to the Union. A photograph of these tables is shown herewith.

It is logical to assume that Costa Rica became a member of the Union on or about the date of publication of the new rates, i.e., during the second half of December, 1882. It accounts for the issuance of the three values with U. P. U., the 5c on the ½ real, 10c on 2 reales and the 20c on 4 reales.

Official Gazette No. 10 for January 14, 1883, publishes the following resolution of the Costa Rican Treasury Department:

UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL.

TARIFA PARA EL INTERIOR DE LA REPUBLICA.

CARTAS						PESO en gramos de papeles de negocios y muestras de mercaderías.	FRANQUEO.		IMPRESOS.	ENCOMIENDAS.
PESO EN GRAMOS.	Franqueo.	Certificados sin recibo del destinatario.	Recibo de retorno.	Franqueo y certificación sin recibo de retorno.	Franqueo, certificación y recibo de retorno.		Papeles de negocios.	Muestras de mercaderías.		
1 á 15	5 cs.	25 cs.		30 cs.	40 cs.	1 á 50	2 cs.	2 cs.		
15 „ 30	10 „			35 „	45 „	50 „ 100	4 „	4 „		
30 „ 45	15 „			40 „	50 „	100 „ 150	6 „	6 „		
45 „ 60	20 „			45 „	55 „	150 „ 200	8 „	8 „		
60 „ 75	25 „			50 „	60 „	200 „ 250	10 „	10 „		
75 „ 90	30 „			55 „	65 „	250 „ 300	12 „	12 „		
90 „ 105	35 „	Veinticinco centavos.	Diez centavos.	60 „	70 „	300 „ 350	14 „	14 „		
105 „ 120	40 „			65 „	75 „	350 „ 400	16 „	16 „		
120 „ 135	45 „			70 „	80 „	400 „ 450	18 „	18 „		
135 „ 150	50 „			75 „	85 „	450 „ 500	20 „	20 „		
150 „ 165	55 „			80 „	90 „	500 „ 550	22 „	22 „		
165 „ 180	60 „			85 „	95 „	550 „ 600	24 „	24 „		
180 „ 195	65 „			90 „	100 „	600 „ 650	26 „	26 „		
195 „ 210	70 „			95 „	105 „	650 „ 700	28 „	28 „		
210 „ 225	75 „			100 „	110 „	700 „ 750	30 „	30 „		
225 „ 240	80 „			105 „	115 „	750 „ 800	32 „	32 „		
240 „ 255	85 „			110 „	120 „	800 „ 850	34 „	34 „		
255 „ 270	90 „			115 „	125 „	850 „ 900	36 „	36 „		
270 „ 285	95 „			120 „	130 „	900 „ 950	38 „	38 „		
285 „ 300	100 „			125 „	135 „	950 „ 1000	40 „	40 „		

Libre de porte. Peso máximum de cada envío 2,000 gramos (4 libras.)

Por cada 500 gramos (1 libra) ó fracción de cuatro. Peso máximum del envío 3,000 gramos (4 libras.)

COSTA RICA'S FIRST SURCHARGES

THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, VOL. XXIX, NO. V

TARIFA PARA LOS PAISES QUE FORMAN PARTE DE LA "UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL."

CARTAS.						PESO	FRANQUEO.		
PESO EN GRAMOS.	Franqueo.	Certificados sin recibo del destinatario.	Recibo de retorno.	Valor del porte y certificacion.	Valor del porte, certificacion y recibo de retorno.	en gramos de papeles de negocios, muestras é impresos.	Papeles de negocios.	Muestras.	Impresos.
1 á 15	10 cs.	Diez centavos.	Cinco centavos.	20 cs.	25 cs.	1 á 50	6 cs.	3 cs.	2 cs.
15 „ 30	20 „			30 „	35 „	50 „ 100	7 „	4 „	4 „
30 „ 45	30 „			40 „	45 „	100 „ 150	8 „	6 „	6 „
45 „ 60	40 „			50 „	55 „	150 „ 200	9 „	8 „	8 „
60 „ 75	50 „			60 „	65 „	200 „ 250	10 „	10 „	10 „
75 „ 90	60 „			70 „	75 „	250 „ 300	12 „	Peso maximum del envio: 250 gramos (½ libra.)	12 „
90 „ 105	70 „			80 „	85 „	300 „ 350	14 „		14 „
105 „ 120	80 „			90 „	95 „	350 „ 400	16 „		16 „
120 „ 135	90 „			100 „	105 „	400 „ 450	18 „		18 „
135 „ 150	100 „			110 „	115 „	450 „ 500	20 „		20 „
150 „ 165	110 „			120 „	125 „	500 „ 550	22 „		22 „
165 „ 180	120 „			130 „	135 „	550 „ 600	24 „		24 „
180 „ 195	130 „			140 „	145 „	600 „ 650	26 „		26 „
195 „ 210	140 „			150 „	155 „	650 „ 700	28 „		28 „
210 „ 225	150 „			160 „	165 „	700 „ 750	30 „		30 „
225 „ 240	160 „			170 „	175 „	750 „ 800	32 „		32 „
240 „ 255	170 „			180 „	185 „	800 „ 850	34 „		34 „
255 „ 270	180 „			190 „	195 „	850 „ 900	36 „		36 „
270 „ 285	190 „			200 „	205 „	900 „ 950	38 „		38 „
285 „ 300	200 „			210 „	215 „	950 „ 1,000	40 „		40 „

La correspondencia dirigida á los paises no adheridos á la Union Postal Universal, se regirá por la siguiente tarifa.

Cartas—por cada 15 gramos ó fraccion..... 25 cs. **Papeles de Negocios**—por cada 50 gramos ó fraccion..... 10 cs.

Impresos—por cada 50 gramos ó fraccion..... 5 „ **Muestras**—por cada 50 gramos ó fraccion..... 5 „

No podrá certificarse correspondencia destinada á dichos paises,; y por la que proceda de ellos se cobrará á los destinatarios, igual porte al establecido para su envío.

El Admor. General, M. G. ESCALANTE.

DAILY REPORT

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

No. 181

Palacio Nacional

San José, Enero 13 de 1883.

Habiendo legado á esta Capital los nuevos sellos de correo, conforme á la "Union Postal Universal," S. E. el General Presidente de la Republica

ACUERDA

Desde la fecha en adelante se expenderán en las Oficinas de Correos los nuevos sellos: el Administrador General del ramo ordenará á los subalternos remitan á su oficina las estampillas antiguas para ser cambiadas; y las personas que tengan existencias de éstas ocurrirán á las oficinas de Correo á efectuar el mismo cambio, en todo el corriente mes.

Desde el 1° de febrero en adelante no se admitirá carta que no llve el franqueo con los sellos de la "Union Postal." Esta misma disposicion se observará respecto de los impresos, que segun leyes anteriores, deben pagar porte.

El Administrador General de Correos entregará al Jefe de Seccion de la Secretaría de Hacienda las estampillas antiguas que se encuentran hoy en su poder, y las que le sean cambiadas por los sellos de la "Union Postal."

Publíquese.
Rubricado por S. E. el
General Presidente
SOTO

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

No. 181

National Palace

San José, January 13, 1883

The new postage stamps conforming to the "Universal Postal Union" having arrived in this capital, His Excellency, the General President of the Republic

RESOLVES

Effective this date the new stamps will be sold in the post offices: the General Administrator will order his subordinates to remit to his office the old stamps to be exchanged; and persons having stocks thereof will present them to the post offices for the purpose of effecting this exchange during the course of the current month.

Commencing next February 1st, letters will not be transmitted unless franked with the stamps of the "Postal Union." This same provision will be observed with respect to such printed matter as, in accordance with previous laws, should pay postage.

The Administrator General of Posts will deliver to the Section Chief of the Treasury Department the old stamps now in his possession and those which may be exchanged for the "Postal Union" stamps.

Let it be published.
Initialled by His Excellency, the
General President
SOTO

From the foregoing evidence it appears reasonably certain that the stamps under consideration were in circulation from approximately December 22, 1882 until January 13, 1883—a total of but 22 days, which included the Christmas and New Year holidays. They were valid for the payment of postage until January 31, 1883.

Since foreign mails during this period left Costa Rica only once a week, it follows that these stamps served a maximum of five foreign dispatches and possibly only for two, because from January 13, 1883 on the new stamps (Scott's 16 to 20) were available.

Here then is the explanation why these three stamps with GENUINE cancellations of the period are real rarities. After the stamps were demonetized some were cancelled to favor. A discussion of these "to order" cancellations may be found in the Costa Rican section of *Kohl's Handbuch.*

The reasons for the 1, 2 and 5 centavo surcharges on the medio real blue (without U. P. U.) will be discussed in a subsequent article.

THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

May 6th to 13th, 1950.

Superb stamps, coupled with superb organization resulted in a superb show

By WINTHROP S. BOGGS

Those of us who were fortunate enough to attend the International Stamp Exhibition, London, at Grosvenor House, May 6th to 13th, 1950, have memories of an occasion that will last their lifetime.

Certainly it was an example of how an exhibition and the social events connected with it could be conducted in an atmosphere of friendliness and cordiality coupled with the dignity and eclat so sadly lacking in the world today.

The first impression was its ideal size, that is about 1,000 frames. This was sufficient to include a great diversity of material, yet compact enough so that the visitor was not wearied merely getting to a particular display. The fact that it was highly selective eliminated the needless repetition of similar material so often seen in other philatelic exhibitions.

Aside from the fact that there was an absence of repetition, the careful screening of all exhibits assured superlative quality in every display, each being the best that could be had in its particular field. There never was a question as to "why was this put in" nor any space wasted in the trivialities of first day covers, decorative cachets, and the like.

As was to be expected, the classics—the fine old stamps of the 19th century—were there in profusion, amazing in their freshness, and the remarkable pieces shown. However, the collector of later issues had much to gladden his heart. The displays of 20th century Great Britain, Irish Free State, Rhodesia, Ascension, South Africa, Jaipur, Kedah, Palestine, Australian Commonwealth, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, Saar, Egypt, and Tibet, to name a few, were as philatelically interesting as those of many of the early issues, and included many pieces that were equal in rarity to the greatest of the classics.

The spaciousness of the show was delightful. There was always room to study a display without being continually jostled by others trying to see the same display or just passing by. Perhaps this was due to the fact that no special stamp or souvenir sheet was issued by the British Post Office, thus not attracting a locust like swarm of speculators, and mint sheet hoarders. The stamp lover was left to enjoy the "caviar" prepared for his delectation.

For the experienced philatelist a brief study of the frames led immediately to the conclusion that the judges were going to have a difficult time, as in fact they did. Several members of the jury remarked after the show that it was merely a case of dividing a number of medals among practically all gold medal collections, since each display was of exceptional quality. Because of the selective care as mentioned previously there was none of the usual triteness of the obvious in this exhibition. The visitor was constantly refreshed by seeing different material in each frame.

Space forbids comment on the individual exhibits, but perusal of the extraordinarily fine and intelligent catalogue of the Exhibition is a philatelic education in itself. Produced in dignified form, illustrated with the

finest pieces from the various collections on display, (instead of the usual gallery of publicity seekers, whose status as philatelists can frequently be questioned), plus enlightening notes, we consider it the finest exhibition catalogue we have ever seen. It should serve as a model for those to come.

In so far as the social aspects were concerned, the two outstanding events were the Stamp Day Dinner, at the Savoy Hotel on the evening of the opening day of the show, May 6th, and the final Banquet and Ball at the Grosvenor House on the evening of May 12th. Both events were conducted with the grace and polish in which the British are so adept. They bespoke the truly international aspect of the Exhibition. At the Stamp Day Dinner, for instance, speakers from twenty-five different countries responded to the toast, led by former King Carol of Romania.

Various members of the Collectors Club were active in this great show. Mr. Jacob S. Glaser was the Club's official representative. On the International Jury of twenty-two, eleven or half of them were members of the Club, and two were from the United States, namely Mr. John H. Hall, and Dr. Clarence W. Hennan.

The Royal Philatelic Society presented two special medals to those who contributed greatly to the success of the Exhibition, one to Mrs. John Denny Dale, which was the only one to an individual, the other was given to the Swedish Philatelic Society for a co-operative display.

Among those who won awards in the competitive exhibits, were the following Collectors Club members:

Mr. Charles F. Meroni of Chicago, who won the only gold award of honor to come to the United States. This was for his remarkable exhibits tracing the origin and development of the postal service throughout the world. Three other Collectors Club members also won Gold awards of honor. Mr. Gerald E. Wellburn, of British Columbia, for his outstanding lot of Canada, and British Columbia & Vancouver Island. Mr. Robert Hoffmann, of the Argentine Republic, for his superlative collection of Uruguay, a collection which must be seen to be believed, and Mr. D. C. Gray of London, for an unbelievably fine showing of the 1852 issue of the Netherlands.

Among the other awards were:

Gold Medals—Mr. Richard Canman of Chicago for his grand lot of China, and Mr. H. W. Edmunds of London for a remarkable display of Hanover.

Silver Gilt Medals—Mr. E. D. Finney of Baltimore for a brilliant showing of Confederate States.

Dr. Herbert Pollack of Chicago for an unusual lot of Bergedorf.

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs for his Afghanistan.

Silver Medals—Mr. Van Dyk MacBride of Newark, N. J., for his 5c De La Rue Confederates.

Mr. L. V. D. Schermerhorn, of Longmeadow, Mass. for Netherlands.

Mr. Robert J. Gill of Baltimore, for his Hungary.

Mr. W. M. Holbeach, of Brisbane, Queensland, Aust., for his Commonwealth of Australia.

Mr. William Irving of London for Ceylon.

Mr. E. A. Smythies of Ireland for his Nepal.

Bronze Medals—Mr. Lee H. Cornell of Wichita, Kans., for his study of the U. S. Kicking Mule cancellations.

Mr. Ray E. Morrison of Skokie, Ill., for Belgian Congo.

Mr. Alfred Diamond of Chicago, for Marianas Islands.

Mr. Henry C. Hitt of Bremerton, Wash., for Hawaii, 2c, 1894-99.

Walter M. Eisin, M.D., of Chicago, for Lithuania Air Mails.

To all these members we tender our congratulations for so ably representing the Collectors Club in a show of such caliber, and amid such severe competition. In passing we might remark that more than forty exhibitors in the competitive classes failed to receive any award whatsoever.

If we may be permitted to draw a lesson from this great London show we would say briefly it is this. If we in America ever wish to attract to our beloved hobby the caliber of people and philatelic material that we saw in person and in the exhibits in Lon-

(Continued on Page 322.)

BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS POST

Chapter VII

The Civil War Years

1861 - 1865

By HENRY E. ABT

(Continued from Vol. XXIX, page 241.)

The history of the second epoch of Boyd's City Express Post begins on a packet ship making the westward crossing of the Atlantic, in the spring of 1859, at about the time the elder John Boyd lay on his deathbed in a house on West 31st Street in New York.(1)

Among the several dozen cabin passengers on the upper deck were a tall, black-bearded gentleman from County Longford, in the northern part of Ireland, William Blackham, and his attractive, dark-haired, trimly dressed wife, Mary.(2) There is little doubt that they sat at the captain's table and, during the seven or eight weeks' passage, engaged in long and spirited conversations with other privileged passengers and the skipper about the troubled isle they were leaving forever and the promising new land for which they were destined.

Blackham was an engaging man. Accustomed to a gracious social life and a graduate of Trinity College of Dublin University, he was an excellent conversationalist. His wife, less loquacious as became a lady of that time,(3) would yet have added pithy and pertinent bits to the discussions.

No doubt they talked of the recurrent potato famines that had caused the death by starvation of millions of Irish tenant farmers and their families since 1846, and of the evictions of hundreds of thousands who could not pay the relentless rents demanded by an extravagant and heedless landlord class.

In the steerage below them, as on countless other ships, were packed in ill-smelling, cramped quarters hundreds of these evicted persons who had gratefully read the advertisements of American shipping companies, 'placarded on every corner, tree, pump and public place in the city of Dublin and for forty to fifty miles in the surrounding country,' offering passage to New York at 3 or 4



Figure 1. William Blackham (1815-1896) and his wife, Mary E. Blackham (1817-1898). From a daguerreotype in the family album of Miss Harriet Slator of Staten Island, New York. The album was dated August 26, 1863. The likeliness must, therefore, have been made not long after the couple arrived in America.

pounds British money per head, and promising in America 'perfect equality . . . and ten pounds British money per month and diet as wages.'(4)

Perhaps the conversations of these privileged cabin passengers, whose fare was tenfold the steerage rate, also embraced the "Encumbered Estates Act," passed by the British parliament in 1848, and accounting in many instances (quite likely including that of the Blackhams) for their own departure from Ireland.

The upper-deck passengers were mainly of the same landlord class whose exploitation had driven more than one million tenants to America since 1846(5)—but despite their implacable collections of rents, many of them, through extravagance and irresponsibility, had run their estates hopelessly into debt. The 1848 Law enabled creditors to force such estates into public sale (the English and Scotch being the principal purchasers) and thereafter a new stream of relatively impoverished "upper class" Irish emigrants had been set in motion.

Blackham was certainly of the landlord group and had been "Master of Hounds" in the fox hunts of his own country.(7) The late Edgar Julian Williams, Blackham's subsequent associate and successor in the management of Boyd's City Express Post, many years later wrote that Blackham "had to flee at night aboard a sailing vessel because of the fact that he was head over heels in debt. His family would not help him because they did not approve of the girl he married."(8)

This recollection was probably colored by many decades of retelling and by the romantic haze that time gives to a story. The debts no doubt existed, and for this reason, and his own distaste for business responsibility, Blackham, throughout his remaining years, put his major holdings including The Express Post in his wife's name.

Creditors notwithstanding, however, Blackham took ample funds with him. Less than a year after landing in America, he informed the census taker that his "personal estate" had a value of $6,000; and his wife, separately, valued hers at $3,000, a tidy joint wealth for that time.(9)

If there was a quarrel with his family over his marriage, it must have been a long-standing one, for this man in 1860 gave his age as 45(10) and Mary's death certificate in 1898 gave her date of birth as February 4, 1817—making her 42 when she sailed to America.(11) As they grew older, the Blackhams varied in statements of their birth dates, but it is believed that the foregoing are approximately correct and that they were a middle-aged couple, probably long married, at the time of their emigration.

From the available evidence, it appears likely that Mary's family were of lesser social station, professional or mercantile people, and the class-consciousness of the then quasi-feudal Irish society may, in fact, have permanently disaffected Blackham from his own people, eliminating the possibility of their rescuing him from his debts.

Williams later said(12) (and Blackham's cousin, Miss Harriet Slator of Staten Island, confirmed) that Blackham never liked business. He remained throughout his life nostalgic for the country gentleman's life he had formerly known. Much of the family's subsequent business success, observers said, was due to Blackham's harder-headed and more practical wife—a fact that gives confirmation to the view that she did not share his leisure-class background.

The Blackhams were then, and thereafter, childless and this comparative freedom from domestic responsibilities was another reason for Mary's subsequent availability for active participation in her husband's business affairs. They made their first home in America at 162 Oxford Street, Brooklyn, and affiliated themselves with The (Protestant Episcopal) Church of The Good Shepherd on McDonough Street near Lewis Avenue.(*) (13)

From the beginning of his residence in America Blackham sought for a congenial service occupation rather than an opportunity in the manufacture or distribution of physical articles. For a few months, he appears to have been associated with a brokerage firm,(14) but we do not know whether the commissions he executed were for the purchase and sale of products, securities, real estate, or business enterprises.

Perhaps they were the latter, as, shortly after November 20, 1860, when the Kochersperger suit in Philadelphia was settled and

* This church is still in existence, but in 1944 was renamed The Church of St. Philips and is now a Negro place of worship.

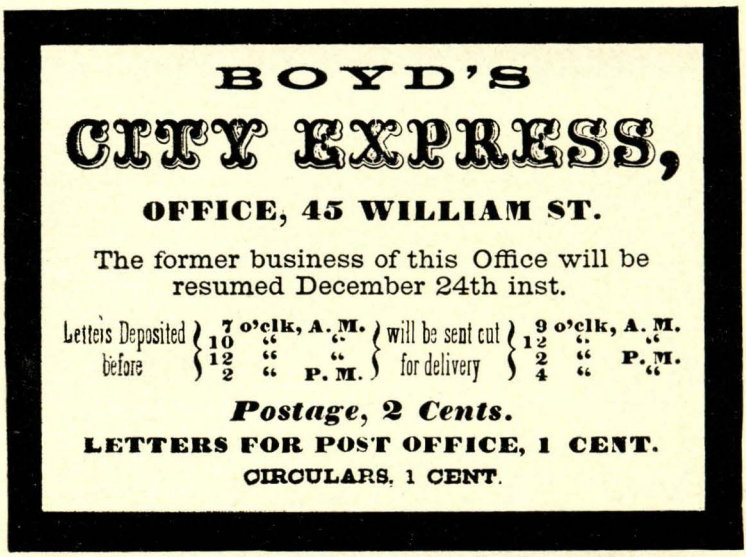


Figure 2. Advertising Card distributed in mid-December, 1860, announcing the reopening of Boyd's City Express Post. (From the collection of H. W. K. Hale, Montreal, Canada.)

the legality of private postal service confirmed,(15) Blackham learned of the decision of the Boyd Estate and John Jr., to sell the City Express Post. Here was an occupation congenial and suitable to the Irishman's taste.

No record of the price, terms or other aspects of the sale has been found, but from our knowledge of events in late November and early December, 1860, we can guess that the deal was more favorable for the purchasers than for the sellers.

No worse time could have been chosen by the Boyds to sell their property. The election of Lincoln had been followed by a tide of ugly news from the South portending the secession of the slave-owning states. South Carolina was closest to this fateful step and, in fact, acted before Christmas.

In New York, an historian later wrote: "a commercial panic spread over its business circles with unequalled rapidity. Gold disappeared, credit was no longer given, the banks came forward bravely to assist the merchants and each other; but the effort could not be long successful."(16)

The City was to recover its equilibrium and experience a war-economy boom the following summer, but at the time of the sale, Blackham's liquid funds must have looked inviting indeed to John Jr., Shea and the others of the family. On the other hand, in the face of the uncertainties of the hour, perhaps only an immigrant couple, not overly sensitive to the implications of the approaching Civil War, would have made such an investment.

The speed with which the transaction was concluded is reflected in an advertising card, presumably distributed among the former commercial patrons of the Post, announcing that "the former business of this Office will be resumed December 24th inst." (Figure 2). On December 30th and 31st, 1860, the *Herald* carried this announcement:(17)

> "BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS — The business of this office has been resumed and will be carried on with the same punctuality and accuracy as formerly.
>
> M *(ed. note*—Mary) BLACKHAM,
> proprietor"

The reestablishment of this service and business after 146 days of inactivity must have presented a pretty set of problems. To all intents and purposes, all that was left of the property was its central office, equipment and residual Good Will. We can take it for granted that the facilities and organiza-

tion for collection and distribution of mail had disintegrated.

When the Post had suspended business August 1, 1860, Boyd's boxes for reception of mail, presumably, were still located in more than 2,000 stores, inns and other public places throughout the city. ([18]) It may also be assumed that most of these places had supplies of Boyd's stamps for which their proprietors had paid face value less a standard discount to compensate them for selling the adhesives. At the time of the suspension, also, we may take it for granted that a carrier and clerical organization of 40 or more men was intact.

After the suspension, however, it is equally certain that most of the merchants, innkeepers and others who possessed the stamps turned them in and their outlays were refunded. Viewing the interlude as temporary,([19]) young Boyd, under no circumstances, would have risked the future ill will of his outlets by declining to make the refunds. Boyd's repossession of these stamps is the probable explanation for the remainders of No. 20 L. 15, later found in the Posts' files and referred to in the previous Chapter of this series.([20]) It is likely, too, that by November a majority of the possessors had turned in their mail reception boxes.

It is certain that most of the carriers and clerks had found other jobs, and it will be recalled that some had gone to work for the United States Post Office.([21]) Young Boyd, himself, may have stayed on with the new owners for a short while to orient them to the business, but the period could not have been long, as in his New York City Directory listing for the year ending May 1, 1862, the former business address at 45 William Street was deleted and only his residence with the Shea family at 135 West 46th Street appeared. In 1863 he left New York City not to return for almost ten years.(*)

The lack of advertisements or announcements, for study, other than the ones already referred to, makes it necessary for us to deduce policies and practices of the new management from the available philatelic material—and from bits and hints contained in subsequent interviews with Mr. Blackham quoted in the contemporary philatelic press —or in later interviews with Mr. Williams.

The new rates for service were stated on the advertising card. (Figure 2) It is clear that the experience of early 1860 had led Blackham to the conclusion that the business could not operate profitably at young Boyd's uniform rate of 1 cent for all types of service. Relying on the elder Boyd's favorable experience with a premium rate, and on the public's prevailing dissatisfaction with the service provided by the Government's Carrier Department, the Blackhams decided to reestablish the original rate of 2 cents for door delivery of letters, despite the fact that the Government's 1-cent rate established in 1860 was still in force.

They maintained the younger Boyd's 1-cent rate for transmitting letters to the U. S. Post Office, competitive with the Government's charge, and they also undertook to solicit a patronage of commercial mail, printed matter, etc., collected in bulk and delivered at a charge of 1 cent per unit. This type of patronage never had been vigorously pursued by the Boyds, but George Hussey during the six years since his business was established, had demonstrated that the field was a lucrative one.

From the beginning, most of the letters handled by the new proprietors—and, of course, all of the letters for the Post Office —were prepaid, but some of the *locally* addressed mail was "collect." Because of the change of rate from that which had prevailed early in 1860, the local mail was, not infrequently, understamped. A handstamp "COLLECT 1 CENT," (Figure 3) struck in black ink (Type "bb") was used for such letters. The old prepayment handstamp, with the initials "J.T.B." was, of course, no longer suitable, and a new "PAID" in 4 mm. let-

* With his proceeds from the sale of the City Express Post, the younger John Boyd is believed to have attended Columbia University for about two years. His absence from the City after 1863 may have been related to service in the Union Army, though no specific record of military enlistment has been found. In 1872, when his name reappeared in the New York City Directory, he had affiliated with his cousins, Andrew Boyd and Company of Albany, N. Y., publishers of a New York State business directory and several upstate city directories. That year, at 32 years of age, he married Annette Hartmeyer Griscom, a widow, who bore him seven children. In the 1880's John T. Jr. became a real estate auctioneer at 111 Broadway—later, 59 Liberty Street. His real estate business was sold to Joseph P. Day & Co. around the turn of the Century. He died in New York City May 3, 1904, in his sixty-fourth year.



Figure 3. A tracing of "postage due" mark (Type "bb") struck in black on correspondence handled by Boyd's City Express Post 1861-1864.

ters (Type "h") framed in a 19 x 12 mm. oval (Figure 4) was put in use, struck alternately both in blue and black ink. This handstamp frequently served also to cancel the stamps of the Post.



Figure 4. A tracing of Prepayment Mark (Type "h") struck in black or blue on mail carried by Boyd's City Express Post, 1861-1865.

The advertising card declared the Blackhams' intention to resume the four daily deliveries—9, 12, 2 and 4 o'clock—following the elder Boyd's long-standing practice—but it is noteworthy that not until a decade later were they willing, as Boyd had been, to record both the date and hour of dispatch on the mail passing through their offices. When the service was resumed in 1860, the new proprietors employed the last postmark (Type "H") of the former management but deleted the hour and date. (Type "J", see Figure 5).

It is believed that this deletion was a consequence of the wartime problem of employing reliable carriers in sufficient number to maintain swift and consistent service. Throughout their early years in the management of the Express Post, the Blackhams must have been troubled with repeated turnover of personnel, resulting from enlistments; after 1863, conscription; and the competition of war industry. It is no wonder that the proprietors did not at the time wish to advertise their hours of receipt and delivery.

Conspicuously missing from the advertising card or newspaper advertisement was any reference to collection points other than the central office at 45 William Street. Nor is there any conclusive evidence that these were reestablished.

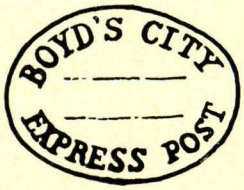


Figure 5. A tracing of Postmark (Type "J"). Used by Boyd's City Express Post, 1861 and 1862.

This writer is inclined to the opinion, however, that in the early years of the Blackhams' regime, collection boxes in some of the former outlets were resumed. Among the evidences supporting this view is the nature of the surviving covers. From 1861 to 1864 too great a proportion of this mail was personal—and feminine—to have originated in the then predominantly business area surrounding 45 William Street. Also, if all the mail had been deposited at the central office where rates would have been stressed, there would be no acceptable explanation for the understamped local letters marked "COLLECT 1 CENT." A further indication that box collection was resumed in 1861 was a statement by W. B. Taylor, Postmaster of New York, in a newspaper announcement shortly to be quoted, that Boyd's "agents" were telling the public that the Post's stamps would be honored by the Government on letters deposited in the Federal lamp-post boxes. Such an allegation makes no sense whatsoever, and probably reflected some patron's misunderstanding of a "sales talk" to deposit letters in *Boyd* boxes.

The absence of references to outside collection points in the *initial* advertisements is believed to have been due to the need, at the time of their publication, to reconstitute the entire system and the Blackhams' inability to do so before the completion of other aspects of the reorganization.

The resumption of the city-wide collection system could not have been effected until new stamps for prepayment of mail were available. The probable condition of the sheets turned in by the former outlets, and under any circumstances, the generally unsatisfactory appearance of the previous issue (No. 20 L. 15); plus the need now for two



(Photograph by Boutrelle)

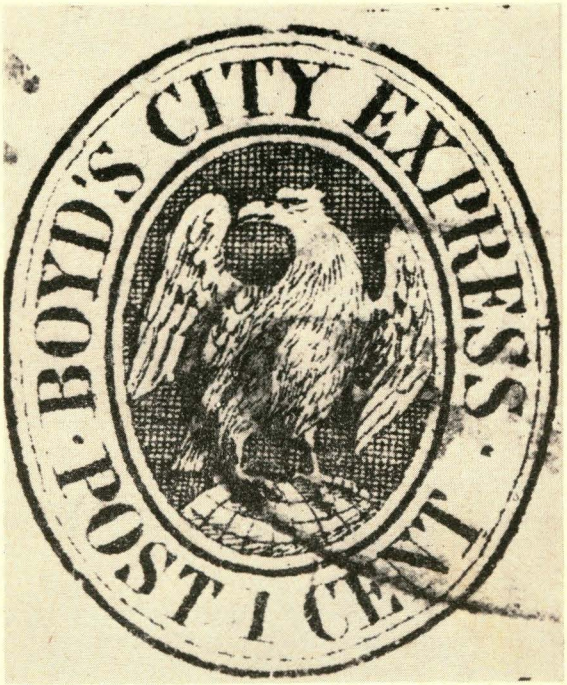
Figure 6. No. 20 L. 16 (Type X). The 2-cent stamp used by patrons of the Post, 1861-1864.

denominations, as compared with one, previously, made a new issue imperative.(*) Thereafter, it must have taken several weeks to restore contact with the outlets and distribute the stamps. Probably at no time in Blackham's regime were the reception points as numerous as they had been in the 1850's.

The format determined for the new stamps reflects the Blackhams' basic attitude toward the reconstruction of the business. Retaining the trade name of Boyd's City Express Post, they also sought to capitalize on the familiar symbol of the eagle perched on a globe, and the traditional elements of the Boyd postage stamp design. Yet, faced with the need for two distinguishable denominations, 1 cent and 2 cents, they abandoned henceforth the familiar green glazed surface colored paper that had identified almost all the earlier stamps, thus giving these symbols of the Post the new and fresh appearance that might be expected of emissions by a new management.

The new stamps (Type X) were lithographed in black ink in sheets of 100 subjects, the 2-cent stamp (No. 20 L. 16) on orange-red surface colored and glazed paper, the shade of which was nearest to Ridgway's

* The fact may also be that a public notice, not yet found, demonetized the old issue, offering a specified period of time for holders to turn in any supplies they may have possessed. No example is known of No. 20 L. 15 legitimately used on a cover carried by the City Express Post after its purchase by the Blackhams.



(Photograph by Boutrelle)

Figure 7. Nos. 20 L. 17 and 18 (Type X). The 1-cent stamp used by patrons of the Post, 1861-1864.

"Flame Scarlet" (Plate II, 9b) and the 1-cent stamp on blue-gray surface colored and glazed paper. (Figures 6 and 7).

There appear to have been at least six printings of the latter during its duration, the earliest (1861) being on a shade Ridgway calls "Light Dull Glaucous Blue" (Plate XLII, 41‴d). Later the paper was "Pale Medici Blue" (Plate XLVIII, 41‴b); "Pearl Gray" (Plate XLII, 35⁗f); "Deep Glaucous Gray" (Plate XLVIII, 37⁗f) "Bluish Glaucous" (Plate XLII, 37‴f), and finally "Colombia Blue" (Plate XXIV 47‴b). The first five shades are the varieties Scott lists as "Nos. 20 L. 18" and "20 L. 18a"; and the last-named (1863) "No. 20 L. 17" (called by Scott "Lilac"). In this writer's opinion, these were successive printings of the same variety on papers which varied in the amounts of gray, blue and violet and green mixed into their surface coatings.

In all likelihood, two dies were prepared, one for the central vignette and the portion of the surrounding inscription reading

"BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS"; and the other for the lower inscription reading "POST CENTS," a mortised space separating these words. Transfers, it is believed, were made of the first die in horizontal rows of ten repeated ten times on each stone. In transferring the rows to the 2-cent stone, the top row (positions 1 to 10) was inadvertently placed upside down, creating 10 vertical *tete beche* pairs on each sheet of 100 subjects.* (Figure 8)

Transfers from the second die (the lower segment) with the numeral "2" dropped into the mortised space, were repeated on the 2-cent stone; and then the same with the numeral "1" inserted and the "S" erased were repeated on the 1-cent stone. However, in one of the ten positions on the latter transfer, the printer failed to erase the "S", creating varieties No. 20 L. 18b and 20 L. 17b, reading "1 CENTS."

The heavy outer oval framing this type measured 17 x 21⅜ mm. It is supplemented by a second, inner, thinly drawn oval separated by ½ mm. from the outer oval. A heavily drawn oval measuring 11 x 14½ mm. frames the vignette. The subjects on both 1-cent and 2-cent stones were separated by horizontal and vertical dividing lines forming individual frames 17½ x 22 mm. drawn on the stones.

The background of the vignette in this type is a closely drawn cross-hatching. The globe on which the eagle is perched is 2¼ mm. high. The eagle's beak almost touches the right wing, and its left wing touches the frame of the vignette. The beak was drawn slightly open.

The characteristics of Type X, distinguishing it from all others, are two "periods" or dots of color, one on the left-hand side of the design preceding the word "POST" and the other, directly opposite, after the "S" of "CENTS" on Nos. 20 L. 16, 20 L. 18b and 17b, or on Nos. 20 L. 18 and 20 L. 17, in the same position, but following the "T" of "CENT."

The 1-cent and 2-cent stamps of Type X appear to have been sold ungummed and no form of perforation or die-cutting was undertaken. The 1-cent stamp issued by the second John Boyd is believed to have been the last of the City Express Post's stamps to have been sold cut to oval shape for "pill-box" containers, and the experiments with serrate perforation were not continued by young Boyd's successors.

The exact date of issue of these stamps cannot be positively established since no covers with January and February, 1861, dates have been seen. The earliest recorded is one in the H. W. K. Hale collection dated March 28, 1861, franked with the 1-cent denomination and also bearing U. S. No. 26, the 3-cent stamp of 1857 (Figure 9).

However, that the stamps were probably on sale by early February (and at several places in the city) is indicated by the references to Boyd's adhesives in the following announcement, previously referred to, which appeared in the *Journal of Commerce,* February 7th:(†)(22)

> "POST Office, New York, Feb 6, 1861—Public notice is hereby given, that payment of the carrier's fee on letters dropped in lamp-post boxes, cannot be made by the use of stamps issued by private penny posts or express companies. Within a few days past many of the letters detained for want of the fee have had Boyd's stamp affixed; and today I am informed that his agents state to persons who deposit letters in the boxes, that such stamps are available for that purpose. Under these circumstances, and to protect the public, I hereby give notice that the only stamps to be used in pre-payment of the carrier's fee, are those issued by the United States.
>
> W. B. TAYLOR, Postmaster.
>
> "CITY EXPRESSES.—The right of private expresses to carry letters in the city has recently been established by a judicial decision; but it should be distinctly understood that all such "posts," "dispatches," &c. are entirely unconnected with the Government. This caution is necessary at the present time, as nearly a score of mail let-

* The foregoing description of the lithographic stones is not based on repeated transfer characteristics which, unfortunately, have so far defied identification by this writer and associates. The workmanship was excellent, and very few flaws or incidental markings have been noted. However, the conclusion that the transfers were rows of ten is based on the fact that this is the most reasonable explanation of the inverted row.

† The stamps referred to *could* possibly have been the old issue, No. 20 L. 15, but the availability of the new issue is much the more likely hypothesis.

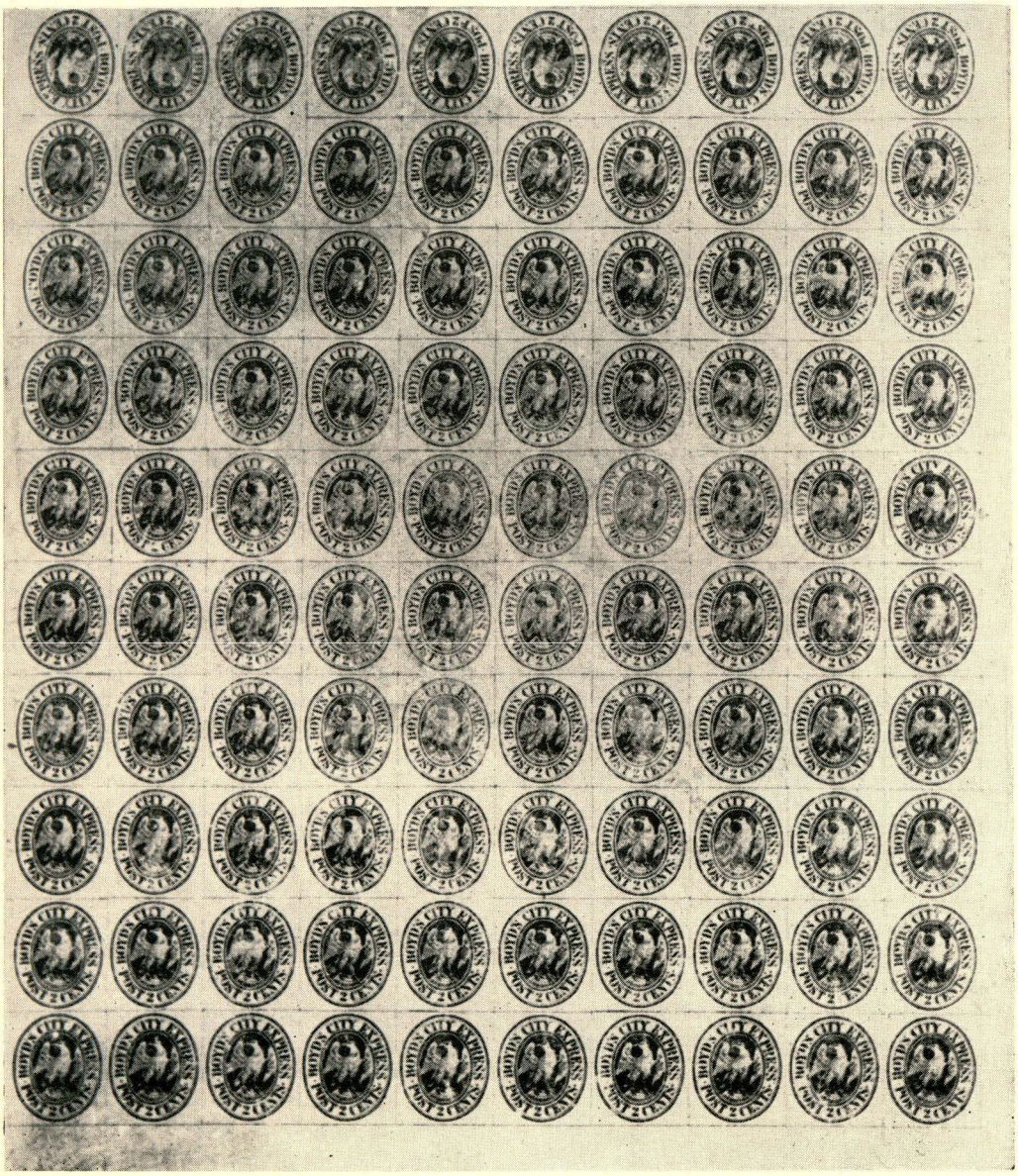


Figure 8. A full sheet of 100 subjects of No. 20 L. 16 showing tete beche row at the top. Courtesy of Laurence and Stryker, auctioneers of this property on June 16, 1947.



Figure 9. No. 20 L. 18 in combination with U. S. No. 24 on a cover dated March 28, 1861, in the H. W. K. Hale collection, addressed to Poughkeepsie, N. Y. The local stamp is canceiled in black ink by the Boyd prepayment mark "h."

ters are daily taken from the lamp-post boxes with the one cent stamp of "Boyd's Dispatch Post," (instead of the one cent Government stamp), on them, to pay for their carriage to the Post Office. Such letters are detained at the office until the persons to whom they are addressed have been notified by the Department, and have forwarded a proper one cent stamp."

Since the essential purpose of the 1-cent stamp was to prepay transmission of letters to the Post Office, Nos. 20 L. 18 and 17 on covers are usually found in combination with United States postage stamps, U. S. No. 26 or other denominations of the 1857 issue prior to September 22, 1861, when these stamps were demonetized in New York City; or after September 16th, when the first stamps of the 1861 issues were placed on sale—the 3-cent stamp of the later issue, U. S. No. 65.([23])

An interesting usage of the Boyd 1-cent stamp with three copies of U. S. No. 26 and a single copy of the United States No. 24, the 1-cent stamp of the 1857 issue, is illustrated herewith, the Boyd Adhesive prepaying carriage to the Post Office and the Government stamps prepaying the rate to San Francisco. (Figure 10).

The earliest cover noted by the writer, combining the Boyd 1-cent variety of 1860 and the U. S. 3-cent stamp of 1861, is one in the Hollowbush collection, bearing No. 20 L. 18, dated September 30, 1861. (Figure 11). The latest of these combinations recorded is one in the collection of Mr. Cyrus Miller, stamped with No. 20 L. 17 and U. S. No. 65, dated January 8, 1863, illustrated herewith. (Figure 12).

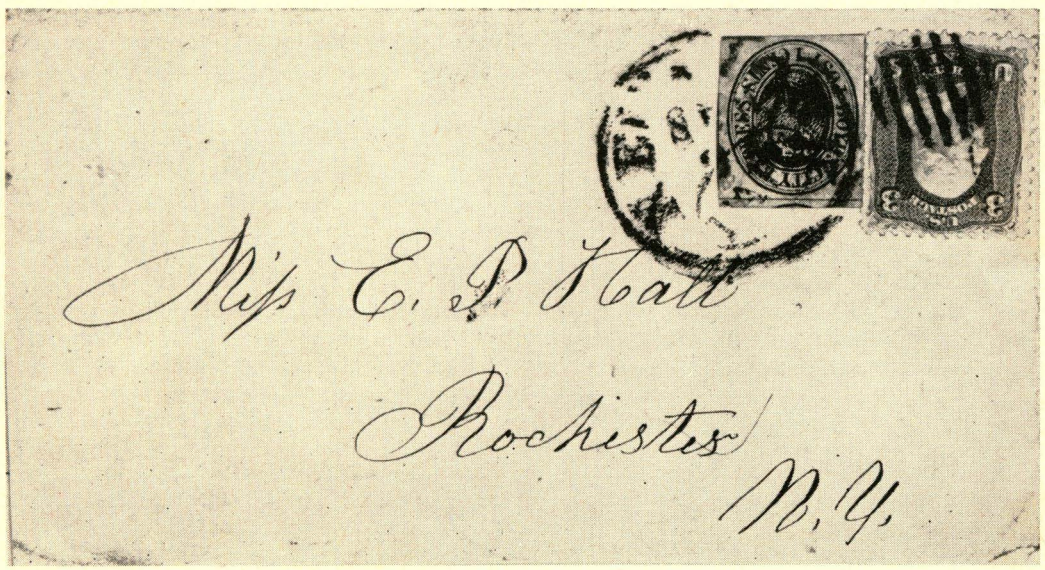
The 1-cent stamps, of course, occasionally were paired to defray the 2-cent rate for local delivery service. An example of this usage (undated) is also shown. (Figure 13). However, locally addressed letters handled by the Post between 1861 and 1864 were ordinarily stamped with No. 20 L. 16. (Figure 14).

We can only speculate on the volume of business enjoyed by the Post during the first two years of the new management. The reference in the newspaper announcement, previously quoted, to "a score daily" of Boyd-stamped letters *mismailed* in the Government's lamp-post boxes, and the present comparative plenitude of used 1-cent stamps of the Type X design, on and off of covers, indicates that the patronage of the Post for transmission of letters to the Post Office must have been considerable. The Government, like the Blackhams, was having war-



(Photograph by Boutrelle)

Figure 10. No. 20 L. 18 cancelled by Type "h" prepayment mark in blue ink, in combination with U. S. No. 24; also a pair and single copy of U. S. No. 26 on a cover in the Abt collection, dated September 3, 1861. Boyd stamp paid service to the New York City Post Office, U. S. stamps to San Francisco, California.



(Photograph by Boutrelle)

Figure 11. Earliest recorded combination of No. 20 L. 18 and U. S. No. 65, the local tied with U. S. postmarks and slightly overlapping Government stamp. In the Frank Hollowbush collection, dated September 30, 1861. The local stamp pre-paid service to New York City Post Office, U. S. Stamp to Rochester, New York.



(Photograph by Boutrelle)

Figure 12. Late usage (January 8, 1863) of No. 20 L. 17 in combination with U. S. No. 65 on a cover in the collection of Cyrus Miller, Kansas City, Missouri. The local stamp, hit with U. S. postmark, paid transmission to New York City Post Office; U. S. stamp to Galesburg, Illinois.

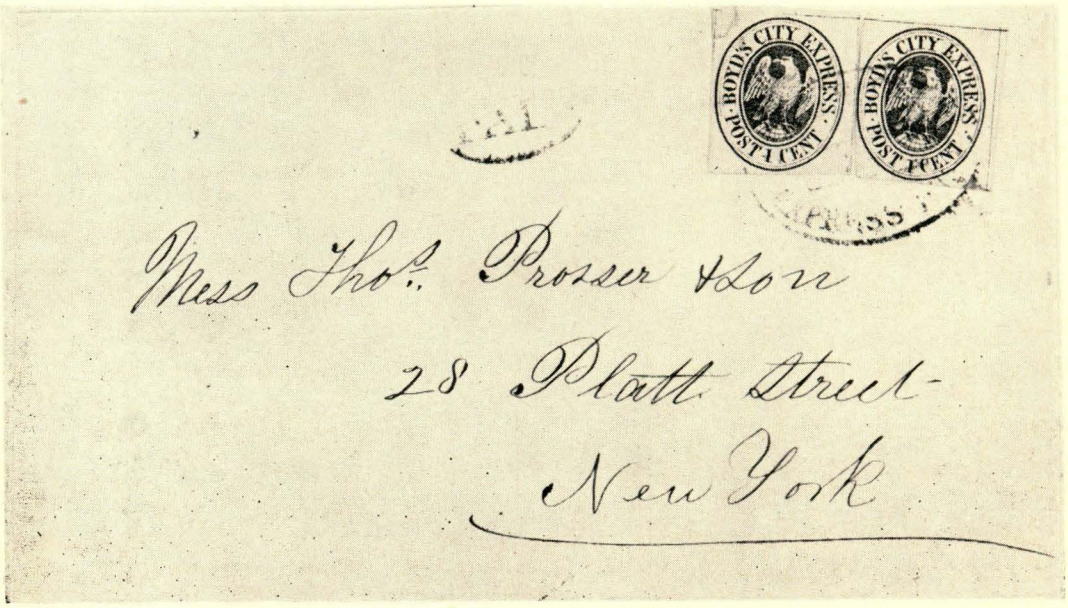


Figure 13. Undated, locally addressed cover with 2 copies of No. 20 L. 18 defraying 2-cent postage rate. Tied by Type "J" Postmark, cover hit in black with prepayment mark "h."

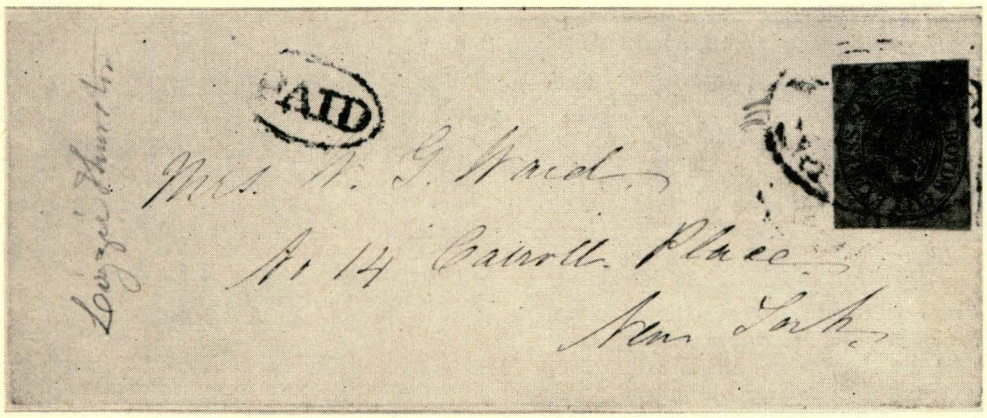


Figure 14. Undated cover, locally addressed, franked with No. 20 L. 16, tied with Type "J" Postmark, cover struck in black with Type "h" prepayment mark. (Abt collection.)

time personnel trouble and was still handicapped by its legally prescribed "piecework" basis of compensation to carriers.

The dynamic Holt had been transferred by President Buchanan, in December, 1860, to the more urgent secretaryship of War, and was succeeded in the function of Postmaster General by his next-in-command, Horatio King, of Maine. When Lincoln took office, King in turn was supplanted in the cabinet by Montgomery Blair.

These gentlemen were absorbed with the breakdown of the intercity mail service as a result of Secession, and with other matters much more pressing than city mail delivery. It has been said that after Holt's change of responsibility, the Federal carrier service in New York declined to a condition not much better than that which had existed in the late 1850's. Though beset with many problems of their own, the less circumscribed Blackhams could offer better compensation to carriers, and there is no doubt that they did so and that they recovered a good share of their predecessors' former patronage, at least in the transmission of mail to the Post Office.

The 2-cent door delivery service does not seem to have fared as well as the service to the Post Office. Judging by the comparative scarcity of No. 20 L. 16, used or on covers, it appears that except in circumstances of unusual haste, the public was less willing than it formerly had been to pay a premium for the Boyd service. Neither in the early 1860's nor after 1863, when the Government's rate returned to 2 cents, did the Blackhams ever regain the major part of the city's local personal mail patronage.

Toward the end of their second year in the management of the Post, the Blackhams concluded that the old quarters in which the firm's business had been conducted since its establishment, were no longer satisfactory for the current requirements. After 18 years, the doors of the old office were closed for all time, and the business was moved to No. 39 Fulton Street (at the corner of Pearl Street).

The Type "J" postmark was discontinued, and to familiarize the public with the new address, a new handstamp (Type "K") was placed in service. (Figure 15). The latest use of the old postmark noted by the writer was on a cover in the former collection of Mr. Laurence Mason, bearing No. 20 L. 16 and dated November 11, 1862; and the earliest with the new handstamp was on a letter in the Hollowbush collection, also bearing the Type X 2-cent stamp, and the "h" prepayment mark, dated February 2, 1863. Thus, the move must have occurred

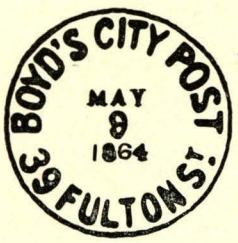


Figure 15. Tracing of Type "K" Postmark, used by the Post 1863-1865.

in late November, 1862, some time in December of that year, or in January, 1863.

At the time of the change of address, the proprietors began omitting the word "EXPRESS" from the trade name of the Post, styling it "BOYD'S CITY POST." The new handstamp was a circle, diameter 20 mm. struck in black, with the inscription at the top "BOYD'S CITY POST" in 3¾ mm. letters, "39 FULTON ST." at the bottom in letters of the same size except the "T" of "ST." which was drawn 2 mm. high and under which was placed a thickly drawn dash, ¾ mm. long. The month and year appear in 2 mm. letters; the numeral indicating the day was lettered 3 mm. high.

In all periods of its history, the post had been frequently referred to as "Boyd's Dispatch." Francis Hagedon had called it by that name in his 1850 advertisement announcing that the letters mailed in his care on Staten Island would be delivered by Boyd in New York.(24) The *Journal of Commerce* announcement, quoted on page of the present Chapter, called the firm by the same name as Hagedorn had used.

About two years after the Type "K" postmark was adopted, when another new handstamp was needed, the Blackhams decided to make a clean break with the past and adopt "Dispatch" as a part of the official designation of the establishment. The 1865 handstamp (Type "L") was of the same format but slightly larger than its predecessor (32 mm. diameter). The inscription at the top of the circle read "BOYD'S DISPATCH" (4 mm. lettering) instead of "CITY POST" (Figure 16), and the words "Dispatch" or "City Dispatch" have remained in the official trade name since that time.(*) That the variation was not taken too seriously, however, is evidenced by the fact that two subsequent issues of adhesive stamps continued to bear the words "CITY EXPRESS POST."

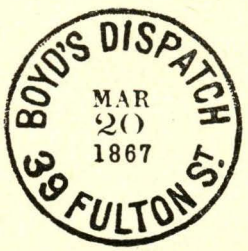


Figure 16. Tracing of Type "L" Postmark, used by the Post from 1865 to 1869 or 1870.

Frequently coupled with the Type "L" postmark was a crudely drawn "PAID" in 6 mm. letters (Figure 17), struck in black, (Type "j") which succeeded the Type "h" handstamp and served as the Post's prepayment mark from January or February, 1866, for a period of about three years.

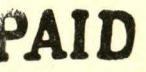


Figure 17. Tracing of Type "j" prepayment mark, usually struck in black, used by the Post from 1865 to about 1869.

Early in 1863, Congress again turned its attention to the problem of city carrier service. Despite the reassurances given by the proponents of the Act of June 15, 1860, in the course of the debate on that legislation, the system of compensation of carriers based on the number of letters they carried was proving inequitable and inadequate to attract a satisfactory corps of carriers. Elliott Perry, analyzing statistics presented in the Postmaster General's Report of 1863, showed that compensation in larger cities ranged from $600 to a maximum of $800 per year, and in smaller places from as little as $200 to a maximum of $500 per year. That year the New York Post Office employed 137 carriers who were paid a total compensation of $103,600.(25)

In the Postal Act of 1863, passed March 3rd and effective June 30th, the Congress at last provided for the payment of fixed salaries "to be prescribed by the Postmaster General" not exceeding $1,000 per annum, if the Post Office were paying its own way.(26) In 1864 it was made possible to pay this maximum, whether the Post Office was making money or not.(27)

The 1863 Act also abandoned, for the time being, the 1-cent drop letter fee established in 1860, returning the rate to 2 cents per half ounce, "but no extra postage or carriers' fee shall hereafter be charged or collected upon letters delivered by carriers; nor upon letters collected by them for mailing in delivery."(28)

* The latest use seen by this writer of the Type "K" postmark was on a cover in the Hollowbush collection dated November 2, 1865.



Figure 18. U. S. Envelope U. 34 with (Berthold) Type 5 frank, brought to New York by Wells, Fargo Co., delivered by Boyd to the Metropolitan Hotel (Abt collection). Wells, Fargo & Co. "San Francisco Oct. 12" struck in blue, Boyd Type "K" Postmark, November 23, 1864, in black.

In effect, while restoring equality between the Post Office rates and those of Boyd's City Post for the transmission of letters locally originated and locally addressed, the new Act directed that service to the Post Office from all Federal collection points in the City should be free of charge, a mortal blow to the aspect of the Blackhams' business that had thrived best during the two-and-one-half years since the change of ownership of the business.

The Blackhams made no change in rates nor in services offered, but it is clear that soon after they moved away from 45 William Street they gave up hope of supporting the business primarily, as their predecessors had done, on personal letter patronage, and sought other sources of revenue to make the enterprise a profitable one.

One of these supplementary activities was the publication of *Boyd's Shipping Gazette*. Late in 1862, in their new offices, at 39 Fulton Street, the firm was joined by Mrs. Blackham's nephew, William Hicks. Under his management a bulletin containing "information respecting sailing of ocean steamships, coasting and river steamers, also time tables of all railroads running to and from New York,"(*) was published semi-monthly, on the first and fifteenth of each month. The subscription rate per year was two dollars and advertising was sold at $40 per year for "1 square of ten lines in all issues." Delivery, of course, was made without charge by Boyd carriers. Hotels that would place the publication on file in their reading rooms were provided with free subscriptions. Evidently the circulation was considerable as the *Gazette* attracted a large number of advertisers.

In the postal end of the business the Blackhams concentrated their efforts increasingly on the development of commercial patronage and of special services not offered by the Government.

One step in this direction was the effectuation of an arrangement in 1863 or 1864 with Wells, Fargo and Company for the New York door-delivery of letters brought to New York "outside of the mails" by Wells, Fargo

* Quotations are from a volume of scattered issues of *Boyd's Shipping Gazette* in the library of the New York Historical Society, the only surviving file of this publication found by the writer in New York City.

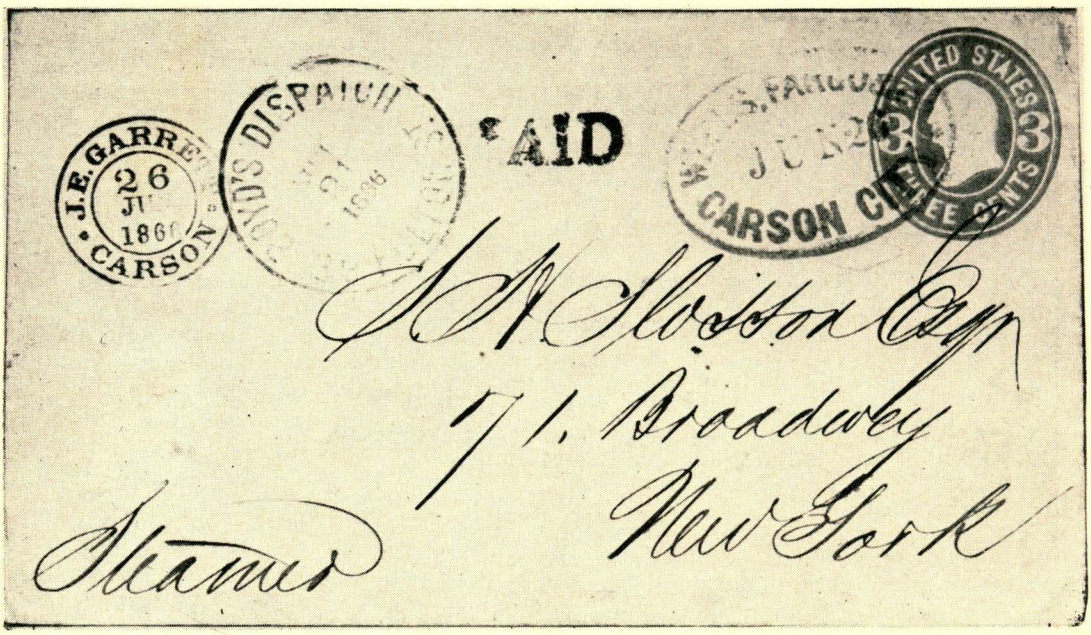


Figure 19. U. S. Envelope U. 58, handstamped in blue by Wells, Fargo & Co., at Carson City, Nevada, June 26; brought by W. F. & Co. to Pacific Coast and thence by steamer to New York where Boyd delivered it to 71 Broadway. Boyd postmark Type "L" (July 21, 1866) and prepayment mark "j," both struck in black. (Edgar Jessup Collection.)

& Co. The warfare between the Government and the private express companies over the transmission of mail from the Pacific Coast and mountain territories to the east[29] had essentially ended in 1853 when Wells, Fargo & Co. adopted the policy of partially protecting the Government from loss of revenue by purchasing stamped envelopes and imprinting their company franks —these being sold at premium prices for transmission swifter than the Government's normal service. The amicable character of the subsequent relationship was reflected in the Government's million-dollar subsidy of Wells, Fargo's Pony Express Service, which, between April 3rd and October 26, 1861, carried the mail from San Francisco to St. Joseph, Missouri.

After the overland telegraph was completed the Pony Express was discontinued, but Wells, Fargo continued to bring a substantial volume of letters east, in its franked envelopes, by means of its stagecoaches and in care of its agents, outside of the U. S. Mails.

Collections of Boyd and of Wells, Fargo material include a number of exceedingly interesting U. S. (Nesbitt) envelopes with Wells, Fargo franks, emanating from San Francisco, Carson City and other Western points, struck in New York with the Boyd Type "K" and later the Type "L" postmarks; and also Boyd's prepayment markings.(*) In New York, Blackham sometimes remailed these letters to other East Coast or even foreign destinations, thus adding a series of Government markings *after* the 3,000-mile trip from the West. (See Figures 18, 19, and 20.)

While the Blackhams were reestablishing the business they had purchased, not far from the neighborhood in which their offices were located a novel business was emerging. It was described in 1869 by an anonymous writer as follows:[30]

"The sale of foreign stamps in this city commenced in 1862, the pioneer in the busi-

* Senders of letters from the West apparently had the option of prepaying Boyd's New York delivery charge (via Wells, Fargo to Boyd) or making this feature of the delivery "collect." The writer has seen covers brought on by Wells, Fargo and delivered by the Dispatch Post marked, in manuscript, "due 2 cents."



Figure 20. U. S. Envelope U. 58 with (Berthold) Type 5 frank, dated Sacramento, Cal., November 21, brought to New York by Wells, Fargo & Co., delivered by Boyd to U. S. Post Office for transmission to Belfast, Maine. Boyd Type "L" postmark, December 17, 1866, in black. (Edgar Jessup Collection.)

ness, Baily by name, still retaining his open-air stand on the corner of Chambers Street and the Park . . . Saturday is the great market day. Many of their patrons are school boys who devote their weekly holidays to exciting investments and speculations of this nature . . . The profits of dealers in stamps are almost invariably enormous."(†)

The new hobby was an importation from abroad, London, Brussels and Paris having known it for almost a decade. Once launched in America it spread swiftly and its commercial center in the 1860's, as now, was the area within two or three blocks of the Post's Fulton Street office.

A major problem of the philatelic trade in those days was the lack of sufficient low-priced material to keep up the collector's interest. All the stamp-issuing governments, combined, had produced only about 1,000 varieties, and of these many were too scarce for the schoolboy's pocketbook.(*) The average collection seldom contained more than 300 varieties.([31])

It was natural, therefore, that the few surviving private postal enterprises, seeing a chance for some additional income and good advertising, should have issued some varieties of adhesive stamps primarily for the collectors' market. Almost all modern governments have, to a greater or lesser degree, followed this example.

The Blackhams discovered the budding "philatelic" market in 1863, and the varieties listed by Scott as Nos. 20 L. 19, 20, 21 and 22 were the result. They were lithographed from the Type X 2-cent stone, sheets of ten

† J. W. Scott in "The Rapid Growth of Philately in America," *American Journal of Philately,* first series (July 1, 1868) Vol. I, p. 37, gave the time of philately's emergence in America as "the Fall of 1860"—otherwise his description was substantially the same.

* Philip H. Ward, in "U. S. Notes and Comments," *Mekeels Weekly,* December 12, 1949, quoted Dr. J. E. Gray on January 15, 1863, as having recorded "1660 varieties," but Ward adds "this included many of . . . dubious standing." Among the total, according to James Leslie, "A Chapter on the United States Local Postage Stamps," *Stamp Collectors' Magazine,* (Bath, England, Nov. 1, 1863) Vol. I, No. 10, pp. 153-156, were 264 varieties of U. S. Local stamps.

rows of ten subjects with the top row inverted, on white, green, navy blue, and crimson surface colored and glazed paper respectively.(†)

It is probable that the Blackhams would accommodate an occasional customer by cancelling an envelope bearing one of these stamps or perhaps passing it through their regular carrier service. Dr. William H. Mitchell, of Bayonne, New Jersey, who collected the stamps of the private postal services in the 1880's and 1890's, and knew Mr. Blackham, bequeathed us more information than any other authority on the subject of the Boyd later issues. Mitchell, in 1887 and several times subsequently, quoted Blackham as stating positively that this issue never served any regular postal purpose.(32)

The stamp on navy blue glazed paper (No. 20 L. 21) tied to a cover in the Emerson Collection was sold at auction by Daniel F. Kelleher, February 23, 1939, and this specimen probably accounts for the listing of this variety "on cover" in Scott's *Specialized Catalogue*. Beyond question, however, the stamps had no regular postage usage, and should be regarded merely as interesting album decorations, reflecting the early days of American philately.

While the Blackhams were not hesitant to bring out stamps for the satisfaction of the philatelic trade, on paper different from that of their regular issues but of the same design, their competitor George Hussey went much further. He not only issued facsimiles of his own past stamps—non-commercial varieties which, if pressed, he would honor postally—but he also went into the business of manufacturing "for the stamp trade" counterfeits of his surviving competitor's stamps, and those of the past private posts. He did not, of course, attempt to imitate the former so closely as to cause defraudment of Blackham or other competitors, but his imitations were close enough to give considerable subsequent trouble to philately.

Type X of Boyd was honored by his attention—a counterfeit 2-cent stamp (Figure 21) printed in rose on white paper, 3,500 sheets of 42 subjects (6 rows of 7) which, according to his notebook,(*) were produced and sold between January 6, 1863, and August 25, 1864; the same denomination, from the same stone, in gold on white—a scarcer commodity (the notebook tells us of only one run of 1,000 sheets, June 28, 1862); and an "issue" of 3,620 sheets of 1-cent stamps of the identical design, printed in blue on white wove paper.

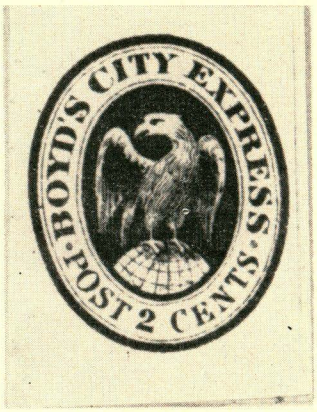


Figure 21. The George Hussey counterfeit of the Boyd 2-cent stamp of 1861 (No. 20 L. 16). Hussey also made a 1-cent stamp of this type.

Other counterfeiters of Type X also made their contributions to the packets of "facsimile locals," once sold to collectors all over the country. One of these types, probably an S. Allan Taylor imitation of George Hussey's counterfeit, is illustrated herewith. (Figure 22.)

In 1864, as a new feature of their service to commercial patrons, the Blackhams issued the Post's first embossed stamped envelopes. The writer finds no satisfactory explanation for previous failure to add this convenience to the services of the Post, the Government having led the way in 1853, and Blood's Dispatch in Philadelphia having done a substantial business in stamped envelopes from 1850 to its demise in 1863.

Limitations of space do not permit description of the first Boyd embossed envelopes in the present Chapter, but they will be illustrated and fully described in its successor.

† These printings from the original 2-cent stone are believed to have been the only uses made of the stones or dies of Type X subsequent to the printing of Nos. 20 L. 16, 17 and 18. There were no *reprints* of the latter stamps. Unused copies of these varieties, available to collectors today, are remainders.

* This notebook has long been in the possession of a well-known contemporary philatelist and dealer.

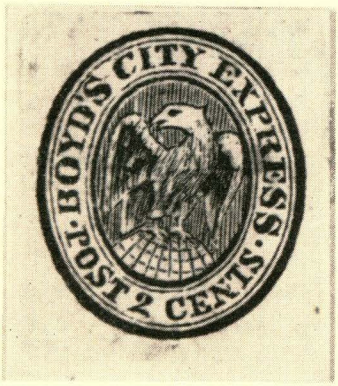


Figure 22. A second counterfeit of the Type X 2-cent stamp made for sale to collectors. This counterfeit type is also seen in the 1-cent denomination.

The spring of 1865 saw the end of the long, bitter Civil War, and soon the nation was beginning the difficult task of reconstruction and the resumption of normal commerce.

For William and Mary Blackham the four war years had been a period of orientation to America, its ways and mode of life; and a period of trial, experimentation and orientation to the business they had purchased. Gradually they had won the confidence, not only of the limited number of business firms which had employed the services of John T. Boyd and his son—the banks, insurance companies and such utilities as the Manhattan Gas Light Company—but of a considerable number of new patrons who desired rapid and economical deliveries of bills, notices and circulars. Boyd's Dispatch was once more a firmly established New York City utility and was to retain that status, without interruption or serious challenge for nearly 20 subsequent years.

(To Be Continued.)

REFERENCES

Chapter VII

1. See Chapter V, this Series, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, (May, 1950), Vol. XXIX, No. 3, p. 173.

2. Personal descriptions of the Blackhams are based on the recollections of Miss Harriet Slator of 357 Jewett Avenue, Staten Island, N. Y., daughter of William Blackham's first cousin, Thomas Slator, as recited to the author in May, 1949.

3. *Ibid.*

4. Quoted in Robert G. Albion, *The Rise of New York Port, 1815-1860,* Charles Scribners Sons (New York, 1939), p. 341.

5. *Ibid.,* Appendix XXVII, from U. S. Bureau of Statistics *Tables Showing Arrivals of Alien Passengers and Immigrants in The United States from 1820 to 1888,* (1889), pp. 108-109.

6. John F. Finerty, *The People's History of Ireland,* The World's Best Histories Series, P. F. Collier & Son (New York, 1904), pp. 854-855.

7. Copy of letter from the late E. J. Williams to Edgar Allen Forbes, June 14, 1932, in the files of Boyd's Dispatch, Inc., New York, N. Y.

8. *Ibid.*

9. *Rolls of the United States Census, 1860,* in the County Clerk's office, Brooklyn, Kings County, N. Y.

10. *Ibid.*

11. *Papers Relating to the Estate of Mary Blackham,* Probated December 6, 1898, Final Accounting Decree December 22, 1899, Hall of Records, Brooklyn, Kings County, N. Y.

12. As quoted in *The New York World-Telegram,* January 18, 1936, p. 4, cols. 3 & 4.

13. *Papers Relating to the Estate of Mary Blackham, Op. cit.*

14. *Rolls of The United States Census, 1860, Op. cit.*

15. See Chapter VI, this Series, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, (July, 1950), Vol. XXIX, No. 4, p. 240.

16. James Grant Wilson, *Memorial History of The City of New York and The Hudson Valley,* New York History Company (New York, 1892), Vol. III, p. 415.

17. *New York Herald,* Sunday, December 30, 1860, p. 6, col. 6; also, *Ibid.,* Monday, December 31, 1860, p. 3, col. 6.

18. See Chapter V, this Series, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, (May, 1950), Vol. XXIX, No. 3, p. 163.

19. *Op. cit.,* Chapter VI, (July, 1950), Vol. XXIX, No. 4, p. 238.

20. *Op. cit.,* p. 226.

21. *Op. cit.,* p. 239.

22. *The New York Journal of Commerce,* February 7, 1861, p. 2, col. 2.

23. See Elliott Perry, *Pat Paragraphs,* (April, 1945), No. 47, p. 1522, for issue dates of U. S. No. 65 in the various cities of the nation.

24. See Chapter IV, this Series, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, (March, 1950), Vol. XXIX, No. 2, p. 107.

25. Perry, *Op. cit.,* (May, 1937), No. 31, p. 862.

26. 12 Stat. 705 (1863).

27. 13 Stat. 339 (1864).

28. 12 Stat. 705 (1863).

29. See Chapter V, this Series, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Vol. XXIX, No. 3, p. 161.

30. From an article by "CF" entitled "Philatelism As a Fine Art," *Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector,* (August, 1869), Vol. III, No. 8, p. 92.

31. Philip H. Ward, Jr., "U. S. Notes and Comments," *Mekeels Weekly,* (December 12, 1949), Vol. LXXIII, No. 24, p. 420.

32. William H. Mitchell, D. D. S., "Notes from a Philatelic Notebook," *Independent Philatelist,* (1887), Vol. I, No. 5, p. 3; also, same author, "History of The Local or Private Post-Offices in The United States of America," *Philatelic Journal of America,* (April, 1898), Vol. V, No. 4, p. 148.

SECRETARY'S PAGE

June 7, 1950 *Collector's Club Night*

This meeting was devoted to an exhibition and discussion of the material from the many fine collections belonging to The Collectors Club. Since it was impossible to show the collections in their entirety, Mr. H. D. S. Haverbeck, Curator of the Collectors Club, selected some interesting pages from a number of the albums. The purpose was to give those present some idea of the vast scope of the material. Mr. Stephen G. Rich and Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs assisted Mr. Haverbeck in discussing the display.

As many of the out of town members are probably unaware of the various collections which are owned by the Club, it would seem more appropriate to use this space to outline their scope rather than to describe the material shown.

The Charles L. Pack Canada: This is a highly specialized collection of the first Dominion Issue, usually called, "The Large Cents." The collection includes a grand range of shades, perforation, and watermark varieties, such as a complete reconstruction of the "E. and G. Bothwell Clutha Mills" watermark, as well as examples of the rare Script watermark on the 15c. This collection is in three volumes, and is copiously written up and annotated by Mr. Louis G. Barrett.

The Charles L. Pack Brazil: An outstanding study of the 1894 100 Reis Liberty Head (Scott No. 116) of Brazil. The collection which fills eight volumes was formed by Mr. Pack to show that philatelic research does not require a well filled wallet. The stamp is common and has a nominal catalogue value. It is one of the most exhaustive studies that have ever been made of a single stamp. The various printings, papers, perforations, substituted heads, and other points have been worked out in great detail. Extensively written up by Mr. Louis G. Barrett.

The Joseph S. Rich Korea: A specialized study of the stamps of Korea prior to the Japanese occupation and conquest. It is chiefly famed for the fine covers and the study of the various surcharges, some of which are present in complete sheets, as well as various reconstructed settings. This is an exceptionally fine study of what has been an unpopular country.

The Siedenburg Bremen: A very fine and rather complete collection of the stamps of Bremen. The collection is rich in unused and large pieces. It is particularly useful for comparison purposes by experts.

The Steinway Seychelles: A complete collection of the stamps of the Seychelles up to 1935. It contains mint examples of every stamp and also mint blocks of four of most of them. There are also reconstructions of the settings of many of the provisional surcharges, as well as all the various varieties occurring in these surcharges.

The Morris Honduras: These are complete imperforate proof sheets of the 1907 issue of Honduras. In addition, the Club also has the dies and some of the plates from which these stamps were printed.

Bolivia: This is a highly specialized study of the first two "Condor" stamps of this country. Excepting the first, all states of the plate are represented by unsevered sheets, and thus is extremely valuable to students of these stamps. This collection has been recently mounted and written up by Mr. John K. Bash and was exhibited for the first time at this meeting.

United States Locals: This is a fine reference collection of these most interesting stamps of the Private Posts of the United States. The collection has recently been mounted by Mr. Elliott Perry and will be available to students in the Fall.

The De Long Collection: A general Collection in five volumes. In addition to many fine stamps, there are autographs of the Rulers of the country or of the persons pictured on the stamps.

(Continued on Page 318.)

FRANCE

The "Sower" Issues

Notes On A Few Alleged Varieties

By CARL STEPHENSON

Member, France & Colonies Group *

Between 1903 and 1938 the French Republic issued a large number of stamps characterized by the design of *la Semeuse,* or the Sower. As most every collector knows, such stamps fall into two main groups: those having a lined background (Scott, Nos. 138-54) and those having a solid background. Within the latter group are to be found the 10c red with "ground under feet" (Scott, No. 155) and a long series of stamps with "no ground under feet." Of these there are two major types: printings from early plates (Scott, Nos. 162b, 163a, and 175b), identified by thin numerals and letters, and printings from later plates, identified by thicker numerals and letters. Besides, our Standard Catalogue (1950 edition, p. 305) tells us about a supposed retouching of the early plates that resulted in additional varieties. Whatever the source of that information, it does not appear in modern French catalogues. I advise collectors to forget it; for I have tried in vain to find stamps that would justify any such learned commentary.

The main purpose of this article, however, is not to criticize the Scott listings mentioned, but to consider some of the minor varieties distinguished in more specialized catalogues—primarily that of Yvert (1939), which seems to have been followed by Thiaude, Lesgor, and others. From Yvert we learn that French stamps of the earlier twentieth century were all produced by letterpress ("typography"). In the case of the Sower issues, particularly, a die was engraved with a space left for an insert *(poincon)* bearing the needed designation of value. Such a die would then be used to produce a number of molds in a soft metal or thermoplastic. These were used to make an electroplate for the printing of stamps in sheets, strips, or booklet panes. But as the plates became worn, new *poincons* for the commonest denominations would have to be produced. Since they were engraved by hand, slight changes of the numerals and the adjacent letter would appear in later printings. Hence the varieties that came to be recognized by Yvert. (See *France and Colonies Philatelist,* vol. 1, no. 5; but do not trust the drawings at the top of the left column on p. 21, which are inaccurate).

The central argument here briefed seems to me quite sensible, and has been verified to my own satisfaction by the actual finding of most varieties thus listed. Some of them are so distinct that they might even be catalogued by Scott. Others, depending mainly on the shape of the "C," cause more trouble but can still be identified by means of Yvert's descriptions. Only a few continue to baffle my search: the alleged varieties of Scott, Nos. 159, 160, and 162. As a mere collector, I long tried to buy mint copies of them from American dealers and had poor luck. Then I happened to acquire a large lot of used twentieth-century France and was curious enough to look through it for examples of the wanted varieties. Here they are:—

(1) Scott, No. 159, 5c. green. Yvert lists two types: I (No. 137A), the "Q" of "REPUBLIQUE" represented by an "O" with separated dot and the "5" measuring 3 mm. across (Thiaude, No.

* This study is contributed to the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST by the France & Colonies Society.

178; Lesgor, No. 185); II (No. 137B), the "Q" represented by an "O" with attached line and the "5" measuring 5 1/5 mm. across (Thiaude, No. 178i; Lesgor, No. 186).

(2) Scott, No. 160, 5c. orange. The same two types are listed by Yvert, Nos. 158A, 158B (Thiaude, Nos. 179L, 179; Lesgor, Nos. 199, 200).

(3) Scott, No. 162, 10c. red. Yvert lists two types, reversing the order for those of the 5c: I (No. 138A), the "Q" represented by an "O" with attached line (Thiaude, No. 181; Lesgor, No. 187); II (No. 138B), the

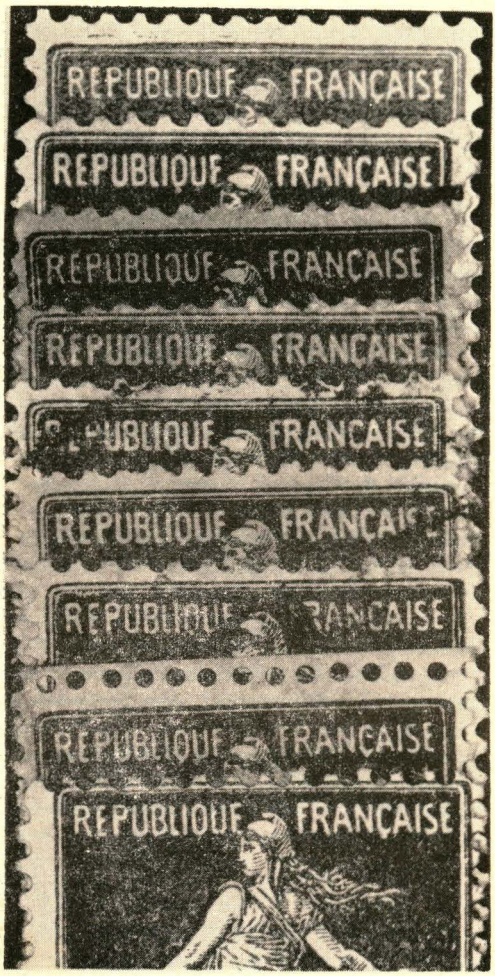


Fig. 1—Yvert #137A, 137B.



Fig. 2—Yvert #158A, 158B.

"Q" represented by an "O" with separated dot (Thiaude, No. 181H; Lesgor, No. 188, apparently confused with Yvert, No. 159B). No difference in the numerals or in the "C" is noted by Yvert, though such difference seems to be implied on p. 111.

Now for a few conclusions. I can understand how an inserted *poincon* could change the shape of the numerals or of the "C," as well as their distance from the surrounding design. But how could it affect the inscription at the top of the stamp? When I am asked to detect the fifth of a millimeter in the width of a numeral printed with varying ink on varying paper, I quit. Most of us have already done so in the case of Scott's two varieties of No. 37. So, to identify Yvert, Nos. 137A, 137B, 158A, 158B, 138A, and 138B, we have to rely on the tail of the "Q." Herewith, consequently, I submit several photographic reproductions (for which I have to thank my good friend and colleague, John W. Wells):—

(1) Nine copies of the 5c. green—Figure 1. Don't they seem to indicate a gradation in the inking or in the wear of the plates?

(2) Two mint copies of the 5c. orange, together with a used pair showing the two alleged types—Figures 2, 3. What do you make of them?



Fig. 3—Pair, Yvert #158A, 158B.

(3) One mint copy of the 10c. red, normal type, and three used copies (selected from about a thousand) possibly illustrating the other type—Figure 4. Do they tend to prove the existence of a distinct die?

If anyone looked over a thousand copies of the 10c. green, which is not supposed to show Type II ("Q" with separated dot), he might perhaps find three copies like those illustrated above.

And how about all the other denominations of the Sower design?

Personally, I lack the time as well as the material for such research. I can merely ask questions to which I have no definite answers. Those who own complete sheets, or large stocks, of the stamps in question should be able to justify or discredit the pertinent remarks in our specialized catalogues of French stamps. Yvert, I should add, gives specific dates for the first printings of the stamps that he catalogues as distinct types. It is quite possible that different dies were made for the early Sower issues—for the frames as well as for the designations of value. But let's have better evidence before we try to collect all these alleged varieties.



Fig. 4—Yvert #138A, 138B.

Meanwhile I shall continue to believe that too many of our philatelic experts merely repeat what, at some time, somebody happened, for some reason, to publish somewhere.

(Continued from Page 314.)

The General Reference Collection: This collection is valuable for expertizing. It contains many rare and fine pieces of the United States, Japan, British Colonies, etc. It has recently been remounted by the Curator and will be available for students in the Fall.

It is our hope that in future numbers of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST we will have more detailed articles discussing various phases of these fine collections so that our members will know more of the wonderful philatelic material available for study and encourage those who wish to make donations to enlarge upon the Club's collections.

The following new members were elected to membership at the Board of Governors' meeting held June 28th, 1950:

NO.

2863 Hugo S. Barbiera, Brooklyn, N. Y. Collects U. S. A. and Italy

2864 William Joseph Blaum, Albany, N. Y. Collects U. S. 20th Century Imperfs, British—King Geo. VI

2865 Richard Dumonte, Los Angeles, Calif. Collects Independent Asia, China

2866 Barbara R. Mueller, Jefferson, Wisc. Collects U. S. Covers & Postal History

2867 Robert H. Rhodehamel, Indianapolis, Ind. Collects Stamps on cover, Postal History of Indiana and Alaska

2868 E. E. Steene, Appleton, Wisconsin. Collects U. S. and Zeppelins

2869 John Richard Cooke, Ontario, Canada. Collects Philatelic Literature of the English language only, especially Canadiana

2870 John W. Yaxley, Montreal, Canada. Collects Canada, Egypt, and Switzerland

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

"Catalogo Ilustrado de Sellos de Correo de Espana" by Hermenegildo Prets

"Early Wisconsin Railroad Postmarks" by Roland L. Hustis

"Approaches to Philately" by G. B. Erskine

"Stamps Day by Day" by L. N. & M. Williams

"French Philatelic Facts" June 1950 issue, by Brainerd Kremer

"Exposicion Filatelica Internacional Republica Argentina" Prospectus of Argentine Exposition, Buenos Ayres Oct. 6 to 12, 1950

"The Postmark-Stamps and the Postal Cancellations of the Sardinian States 1851-1863" by Alberto Bolaffi—English translation of previous work in Italian

"Locations and Assignments, U. S. Army Post Offices, World War II" compiled by Almon J. Tripp

H. S. D. Haverbeck

SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER, 1950

October 4 — **Dr. Clarence W. Hennan**—General Exhibit.

18 — **Theodore E. Steinway**—Selected Material from his collections.

November 1 — **Mrs. Prentice Cromwell—20th Century Newfoundland**—Conducted by Mr. George B. Sloane.

15 — **19th Century Europe** by arrangement of **Mr. John R. Boker, Jr.**

BOOK REVIEWS

The Triangular Stamps of Cape of Good Hope. By D. Alan Stevenson, B.Sc., F.R.S. (Edin.), M.I.C.E. London, H. R. Harmer Ltd., 1950. 142 pp. £3 3s. ($8.82) post free.

When we consider how long the Cape Triangles have been a favorite field for the most advanced collectors as well as for the tyros in our hobby, the most remarkable fact about Mr. Stevenson's book is that a work of this caliber and compass had not appeared many years ago. Judged by the standards of study which have been applied to the U. S. 1851's, the U. S. 1861's, the first issues of France, Britain's Penny Black, and even measured against such works of deep and original study as Lobdell's on the Union of South Africa King's Heads, the Cape Triangles have really had surprisingly superficial study. This is said with full appreciation of the works of Allis and Jurgens, which are, within their chosen aspects, as deep-penetrating as one could desire. But the fact still remains that until this year of 1950, there existed no published work giving these grand classics anything approaching the detailed study that they deserve.

The book now being reviewed presents material hitherto not on published record, to the extent of approximately half the total number of philatelic facts mentioned in it. Of this unpublished information, the larger part is known to this reviewer to be discoveries by Mr. Stevenson himself. Thus the new Three-Cornered Capes book is quite correctly to be described as the major piece of philatelic research published thus far in 1950.

In one important respect, the Stevenson work introduces to extensive use in philatelic writing something which had hitherto been practiced far too little. This is the coordination of old and new information into a coherent, comprehensive report on the matter in hand. We have had numerous works in which the various contributions by various philatelists on one subject have been all reported; but in the main, and with only small exceptions, no attempt has been made to work fact No. 1 from student X, fact No. 2 from student Y, fact No. 3 from the author, and perhaps hypothesis A from some other source, into a single coherent treatment. The mutual cross-bearings of the facts, suggested explanations, etc. usually have not been explicitly worked out and stated. In doing this, Mr. Stevenson has provided a work of far more service to his fellow collectors than even such masterpieces of the other and older method as the Kohl Handbook treatments of various countries.

Naturally, main interest attaches to what is new. The studies of the dies and plates of the engraved Triangles, the new information about plate position varieties, the discovery of two dies of the 1d engraved Triangle, a pioneer investigation of the differences between the papers used for the 1853-55 and the 1863 issues by the two different printing firms, are among the more conspicuous pieces of new information. Entirely new is the study, by statistical methods and with graphs, of the production, deliveries, and "consumpts" of the various stamps. This is at least equal as a contribution to our understanding of the Triangles, to the extensive plate-variation studies just mentioned.

The present reviewer, who has long collected these issues, and has long been dissatisfied with the usual discussion of what points make an 1863 "De La Rue" Triangle instantly recognizeable, is inclined to set high value on Mr. Stevenson's treatment of this problem, and particularly on his introduction of the categories "flaky prints" and "woolly prints."

One conspicuous feature of the book, which will render its use more than usually convenient, is the series of very carefully thought out and equally carefully drafted diagrams. The whole-page developments on page 37, showing the process from source dies to finished plate, and printed stamps, is indeed a real key for understanding much that even the best verbal description might leave confused. Those of the relative positions of the stamps in square pairs on pages 40 and 41, of the woodblock stereos and their differences on page 73, and of watermark arrangement on page 85, deserve special mention.

Beyond these, the illustrations appear at first sight to be "lavish." Actually, close study shows that not one is even partly superfluous. The pictures are many because

many positions in each sheet of stamps have characteristic stigmata that need to be shown.

This reviewer may perhaps be prejudiced in favor of Mr. Stevenson's book because, among the workers to whom full credit is given, his own name is found mentioned appreciatively when his own contributions of detail are mentioned. In a sense, it is somewhat of a reflection on the level of stamp scholarship, to have to mention appreciatively what is normally done in other fields of intellectual work. Yet the cold fact is that Mr. Stevenson, following only the normal practice of writings in engineering technology (his own profession), has set up a new standard of recognition of the other men's work within philately.

No one student, however able and willing, can get everything exactly right. It thus becomes the reviewer's duty to mention any such hiatuses, however ungrateful such mention may seem.

The treatment of "constant marks"—the stigmata of the individual plate positions—frome page 50 onward, is seriously affected towards inadequacy by lack of recognition of the nature of plate layout markings. The various dots and scribed lines which show up on the stamps are adequately described. But the fact that they are located with reference to the "side point" used for positioning the transfer roll in laying down the plate, rather than to the actual relief, is unfortunately missed. Accordingly, Mr. Stevenson fails to appreciate why the marks are in the positions in which they occur. We hope that some future student, armed with such information as is on reach in James Baxter's well known book, will work over what Mr. Stevenson has reported so fully, and bring it into the further stage of full order.

There is mention of the discovery by Meyer and the present reviewer, in 1946, of the varying distances between stamps of the square pair in each value. Mr. Stevenson adds a notable contribution in examining each value for whether the corners of the stamps in the square pair come opposite each other or have some other constant relation. However, he accuses us of missing one fact —accuses us fairly and justly; and then commits an error on this fact in stating what he found. We stated that the bases of the 4d stamps were parallel and 1.4 mm. apart. Mr. Stevenson says that they are converging and 1.4 mm. apart at one end, 1 mm. at the other, even as the stamps of the 1d square pairs.

Examination of some 25 pairs or blocks of the 4d since receiving Mr. Stevenson's book for review, and measurement of the space between stamps with adequate instruments show that the stamps are slightly out of parallel in this value. They are 1.4 mm. apart at one end and 1.2 mm. apart at the other. This correction of fact is offered to Mr. Stevenson as our contribution to the study of these fascinating stamps. So much less conspicuous is the "trumpet shape" of the space between stamps on the 4d square pairs than on the 1d, that it can be understood that when Mr. Meyer and I worked, we did not feel the need for measuring this space to so small a distance on the 4d. (The term "trumpet shaped space" is Mr. Stevenson's, for the space on the 1d square pairs—we gladly give it publicity).

Absence of an index is the one regrettable feature.

The introductory section, integrating the postal history compactly, the chapter on cancellations, bringing things into order most conveniently in this field, and the treatment of essays and proofs, are among other sections deserving more than merely "favorable mention." But in plain truth, any adequate review would amount to a condensation of the book!

At long last we have the Cape Triangle book of which we have always dreamed.

Stephen G. Rich

Die Ausgabe Stehende Helvetia 1882-1907 by Ed. Rűttimann; Basel, Switzerland; 1950; German language.

As the 1882-1907 issues of Switzerland carry the same design, their popular philatelic name is "The Standing Helvetia" in contrast to the 1908-1925 "Sitting Helvetia" stamps. This book, just published, is a remarkable study devoted solely to the stamps with "the Standing Helvetia." It was printed in a very limited edition of only 250, and is generously illustrated with 99 illustrations and 6 drawings.

We consider this a complete description of these issues and most every detail relating to the paper, printing, gum, watermarks, errors, essays, colors, perforations, retouches, quanti-

ties printed and used plus 18 different types of cancellations are mentioned.

This outstanding study was compiled by Mr. Ruttimann with the assistance of well known Swiss philatelists. It is of great value to the students of those issues.

Although in German, those unfamiliar with the language will no doubt be able to understand most of it, because most all of the text is accompanied by illustrations.

Maurice Trepit

Sanabria Air Post Catalogue. 1950 Edition. Edited and Published by N. Sanabria & Co. Inc. New York, N. Y. 472 pp. $4.75.

A practical guide to the field of collectable material and its valuations in the various specialty branches of stamp collecting is a most useful philatelic tool. The House of Sanabria, recently under new management, has annually published since 1936 a reference book to aero-philately. The catalog's growth, as the number of air mail stamps increased, had caused it to become bulky and unwieldy. The new proprietors have done a complete revision and re-write job. The 1950 edition runs about half as many pages as former ones by the use of a double instead of a single column listing.

The Sanabria tradition of being unabridged is carried on to a large extent. The result is that many of the recent controversial issues are included. There is no question that a small percentage of such foreign stamps never saw an airplane but flew instead directly from the printer or postal agent to philatelic hands. However, this slight minority as listed in Sanabria should not offset the total general value of this catalog. A good specialized catalog of air mail stamps has been needed for many years. Formerly there were many, most of which have disappeared. It is, therefore, heartening to see the Sanabria catalog continue.

It is conceded that there are frequent errors in this new edition. The editors are well aware of this and promise to make the necessary corrections. But the revisions already made in such sections as the United States, Czechoslovakia, the British Empire, France and some of the Latin American countries demonstrate the formation of an aero-philatelic reference book of great value.

H. M. G.

The Persian Gulf by Major T. L. C. Tomkins. Published by Stamp Collecting, Ltd., 27 Maiden Lane, W. C. 2, London.

This volume commences a series of handbooks to be published under the honored name of "Stamp Collecting." If the remainder of the series is up to the standards set by the first of them, a signal service to philately will be rendered.

This study is an entirely new work and typifies one of the better trends in our hobby, Postal History; collectors are no longer satisfied with the stamps themselves, but wish to learn the whys and wherefores of their issue and how and when they are used.

The book gathers in one place the various usages of stamps of the Indian Empire in the Persian Gulf. It attempts to show the types of cancellations used in the area and the kinship of the cancellations to those of the Indian Empire itself. The author is careful about dating and nowhere claims "Earliest known usage" or "Last Day". He exhibits the studied care of the true historian and philatelic researcher, and has made a valuable contribution to the hobby.

This reviewer feels that the work has not been carried far enough in respect to the philately of the Persian Gulf area. There is no mention of what stamps of the Indian Empire were available at the various post offices or whether the postal rates were the same as those in India. In all there is too little emphasis on the stamps and postal rates. These however are sins of omission rather than commission.

On the credit side of the ledger is the careful and clear illustrating of the various postmarks. The reviewer has done some browsing in the pastures of "India used Abroad" and can testify to the difficulty of obtaining clear cancellations and postmarks. If only for this reason alone the book is useful and valuable. The historical data supplied is brief and accurate and the quotations from Official Documents are not overdone, a fault of so many works of this kind. The author is to be complimented on his labor. He has helped to fill another gap in the archives of Philately.

The editor of Stamp Collecting is to be congratulated too for his daring and foresight in starting a new series of handbooks. Too much knowledge is buried in the files

of the Monthly and Weekly philatelic magazines, where the labor involved in digging it out is often a deterrent to study. How much better to have it available in one booklet when studying a certain problem. This reviewer sincerely hopes that this effort will be carried on to a successful conclusion.

H. D. S. H.

Die Post-Vermerk-Etiketten der Schweiz (The Postal Notice Labels of Switzerland) by Ed. Ruttimann; Basel, Switzerland; 1950; German language.

The matter of "Postal Labels" is not often studied nor written up by philatelic students. The author of this study did an outstanding work.

Acquiring knowledge about this unusual part of Philately is probably not easy because records and accessibility to the necessary information require time and patient hunting.

The reader will be amazed to see how many types of "Postal Notice Labels" saw service in Switzerland from 1882 to 1943, the period covered in this work.

This booklet is a helpful guide, perhaps the only one of its kind for Switzerland. No doubt the interest in this field will be limited but this fact does not affect our admiration for the pioneer work the author did.

Even without a knowledge of German, the language in which this booklet is written, the many illustrations will enable the reader to understand the text.

Maurice Trepit

Considerations sur Quelques Planches des Emissions Lithographiees des Timbres de Roumanie, 1868-1872. By Eduardo Cohen. Published by the Author at Rua Nova de S. Mamede, 7-5, Lisbon, Portugal.

This is a beautifully produced monograph on the plating of the stamps of Romania, 1868-1872. Its printing and paper are excellent, and, while written in French, should be easily followed by those who know the stamps.

On this last phrase hangs the entire usefulness of this work. If the reader is not already an advanced student of the particular stamps discussed, this book will be of little use to him. This is because there is no description or illustrations of the various types which go to make up the transfers as laid down on the lithographic stone. The author has assumed that the reader already is familiar with these and is also familiar with the flaws which make them identifiable in the stamps themselves. For this reason, the book is of little use to the beginner. Illustrations would have vastly improved this monograph and made it of far more importance than it is at present.

The work shows a great depth of philatelic scholarship and research. The author is to be complimented upon the care and diligence with which he has studied his problem and upon the clarity with which he has presented his conclusions. The numerous tables showing the arrangements of the subjects on the various lithographic stones are of great value in following the text and in clarifying some of the more obscure passages.

For the advanced student of Romanian philately, this book should prove to be of great help. For one who is just beginning the study of these presently rather unpopular stamps, the reviewer recommends that he leave this book aside until he is far enough advanced to be able to recognize the characteristics of the separate transfers which go to make up the stone.

H. D. S. H.

LONDON EXHIBITION

(Continued from Page 294.)

don, we should not be afraid to have a moderate sized, highly selective show, with an informative catalogue that discusses stamps and the exhibits, and is not merely ballyhoo. We should have a committee whose first and foremost interest is to see that stamp collecting is presented as a dignified and intellectual hobby appealing to those who enjoy something themselves and are not content with being merely spectators, and whose interests are above the marketplace. We should have a committee that is disinterested in the glory it can gather for itself, but ever watchful of the honor that can be gained for the pursuit of Philately. Exhibition Committees should aim for quality in attendance as well as quality in stamps if Philately in this country is ever going to become more significant than it now is.

THE PRINCIPALITY OF TRINIDAD

Its Philatelic Phantoms

By HARRISON D. S. HAVERBECK

These are phantoms, like the stamps of Sedang; made not for profit, but to bolster the claims to royalty of a visionary dreamer.

James A. Harden-Hickey, James I of Trinidad, Baron of the Holy Roman Empire, was born in San Francisco, California, December 8, 1854. He was the son of E. C. Hickey, one of the well known early settlers of the city. His ancestors were Catholics and Royalists, who had left Ireland with the Stuarts when they sought refuge in France. Early in his life, in order that he might have proper education, his mother took him to Europe. There he was educated at the Jesuit College at Namur, then at Leipzig, and later entered the Military College of St. Cyr.

James was one of those boys who never have had the misfortune to grow up. He reached maturity in the Paris of Louis Napoleon, which was the natural home of every adventurer in the world.

In 1883, while still at St. Cyr, his father died, and when he graduated, with honours, he found himself his own master. His assets were a small income, a perfect knowledge of the French language, and the reputation of being the most expert swordsman in Paris. He chose not to enter the army, and instead became a journalist, novelist, duellist, an habitué of the Latin Quarter and the boulevards. As a reward for his championing the Catholic Church, he received the title of Baron of the Holy Roman Empire.

In 1881 he started the newspaper, "Triboulet." It was this paper which made him famous to all Paris. It was a Royalist sheet, subsidized by the Count de Chambord and published in the interest of the Bourbons. Until 1888, Harden-Hickey was its editor. During that period he served his employers zealously and annoyed the Republican Government. The paper was discontinued in that year and its editor went to London. From there he embarked upon a voyage around the world which lasted two years, and in its course he discovered the island kingdom of which he was to be the first and last king. He sailed on the "Astoria," a British merchant vessel bound for India by way of Cape Horn, Captain Jackson commanding.

Off the coast of Brazil, the ship touched at the uninhabited island of Trinidad. Harden-Hickey went ashore. Before he left, he claimed it in his own name, and upon the beach raised a flag of his own design. The island of Trinidad claimed by him must not be confused with the larger Trinidad belonging to Great Britain and lying off Venezuela. Little Trinidad, latitude 20 30′ South and Longitude 29 22′ West, seven hundred miles from the coast of Brazil, is about five miles long and three miles wide. It has been claimed by both Great Britain and Brazil, but is still uninhabited.

After seizing Trinidad, Harden-Hickey rounded the Cape Horn and made north to Japan, China and India. In India, he became interested in Buddhism and remained for over a year questioning the priests and studying its tenets and history.

Upon his return to Paris, in 1890, he met Miss Annie Harper Flagler, daughter of John H. Flagler, the famous American millionaire. A year later, on St. Patrick's Day, 1891, at the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City, Miss Flagler became the Baroness Harden-Hickey.

In 1893, in order to escape from his father-in-law's unromantic world of Standard Oil and Florida hotel interests, he announced himself in a proclamation to the Powers as King James the First of the Principality of Trinidad. The Proclamation failed to create a world crisis. Several of the Powers recognized his principality and his title. But

America was at first amused, and in less than nine days indifferent.

However, Harden-Hickey earnestly played the part of king. His friend De La Boissière was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs, and established a Chancellory at 217 West 36th Street, New York, N. Y. A prospectus, written by the King, was issued and signed by "Le Grand Chancelier, Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères, M. le Comte de la Boissière." The document, in French, announced that the new state would be governed by a military dictatorship, that the royal standard was a yellow triangle on a red ground, and that the arms of the principality were "d'Or chapé de Gueules." It pointed out that those who first settled on the island would be the oldest inhabitants, and hence would form the aristocracy. But only those, who at home enjoyed social position and private fortune, would be admitted into this select circle. Any one purchasing ten $200 bonds was entitled to a free passage to the island, and after a year a return trip. The hard labor was to be performed by Chinese coolies, the aristocracy existing beautifully, and according to the prospectus, to enjoy "vie d'un genre tout nouveau, et la recherche de sensations nouvelles." To reward his subjects for prominence in literature, the arts and the sciences, his Majesty established an order of Chivalry, the Order of the Cross of Trinidad.

He also issued a set of postage stamps on which was the picture of the island.



We quote verbatim the official decree of October 15, 1894, which authorizes the stamps:

"Principality of Trinidad.

"Postal Administration.

"The public is hereby informed that on the first day of November, 1894, the following postage stamps will be issued:

5 centimes, color Green and Black.
10 centimes, color Brown and Black.
25 centimes, color Blue and Black.
50 centimes, color Orange and Black.
75 centimes, color Lilac and Black.
1 franc, color Vermilion and Black.
5 francs, color Gray and Black.

"These postage stamps have the form of a rectangle, with a view of the Island of Trinidad from the south side.

"The indication of the value, in francs and centimes, will be found in both the upper corners.

"The left side of the border bears the inscription "Timbre-poste," and the right side "et fiscal." At the bottom, in the form of an arc of a circle, will be found "Principauté de Trinidad."

"For official correspondence these stamps will have the superscription, "Official."

"In addition,

Envelopes at 5 and 15 centimes on white and buff paper.

Postal cards at 5, 10 and 10 x 10 centimes on buff card, with the stamp similar to the postage stamps, and

Letter cards at 15 centimes on bluish and rose card.

Trinidad, Oct., 15, 1894.

The Chancellor,
Cte. de la Boissière."

The stamps were never used in the island, because the postal service was never started. So the stamps are phantoms. His Majesty believed that the stamps would be indispensable when the island was settled, as indicated in a letter from the Chancellor to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, dated March 22, 1895.

"A convoy of 300 coolies should next month join there about 40 white people, who form the staff . . . As regards the postage stamps, they have not been introduced to satisfy the curiosity of collectors, but for use where their like are usually employed. The financial personal condition of the Prince re-

moves, however, every suspicion that his enterprise be destined to cover some speculation not owned to."

Today the stamps are rare and cannot be found in philatelically good condition. We have as yet found no evidence that the envelopes and postal cards mentioned in the decree were ever prepared. There is a record that copies were sent to the Universal Postal Union for distribution to its members for their information. But no formal application was made by Trinidad to join the Postal Union as was done by Marie I, Roi des Sedangs.

For some time, the affairs of the new kingdom progressed favorably. A ship was chartered which made regular trips between Brazil and Trinidad, where an agent was established on the island. Construction of docks, wharves and houses was begun. Then an unexpected blow was struck.

In July, 1895, while laying a cable to Brazil, Great Britain found the Island of Trinidad lying in the direct line she wished to follow. She seized it as a cable station. Objection was made by Brazil. Between the rivals the world saw a chance for war, and the fact that it belonged to James I was forgotten. The Minister for Foreign Affairs addressed a circular note to all the Powers, and protested to the United States State Department. The protest was disregarded by all concerned and Baron James Harden-Hickey lost his kingdom.

Following this, he left New York and went to San Francisco. Here there was one last chapter of royalty. He was invited by Ralston J. Markowe, a lawyer and one-time officer of artillery in the United States Army, also an associate of the Morrow filibustering expedition which attempted to overthrow the Dole Government in Hawaii and restore Queen Liliuokalani, to lead an expedition to Hawaii. The purpose was to establish Harden-Hickey as King of Kauai and later to seize all the Hawaiian Islands. This second attempt at becoming a King was abortive.

Our story finds its ending in El Paso, Texas. On February 9, 1898, he registered at a hotel there. The following morning he was found stretched rigidly on his bed, as if lying in state, with a half emptied bottle of poison beside him. Thus passed James A. Harden-Hickey, James I of Trinidad, Baron of the Holy Roman Empire, in his forty-third year.

Bibliography:

The Files of the New York Times.

The Files of the New York Evening Sun.

Real Soldiers of Fortune, by Richard Harding Davis, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1911.

Phantom Philately, by Fred J. Melville.

Back Issues of **THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST** are available in limited quantities at **$1.25 per copy.** Write to The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York 16, New York.

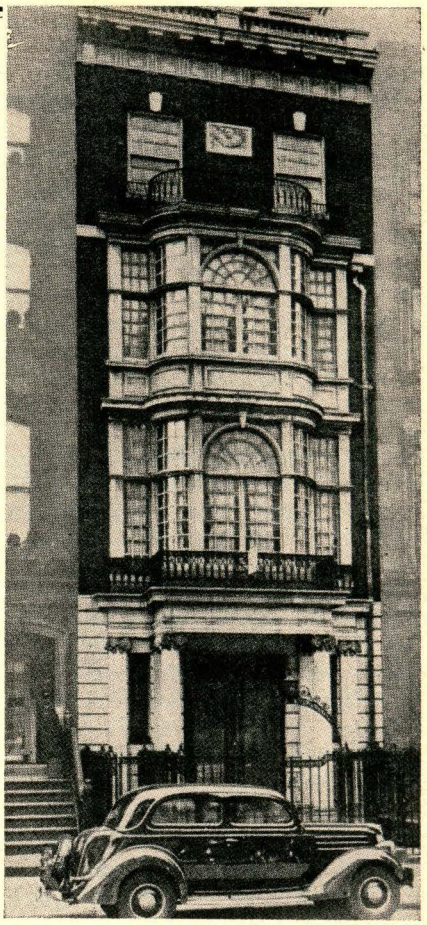
Volume III (1924)—July and October
Volume VII (1928)—January and July
Volume VIII (1929)—January, April and October
Volume IX (1930)—January, April, July and October
Volume X (1931)—January, July and October
Volume XI (1932)—April, July and October
Volume XII (1933)—January, July, October
Volume XIII (1934)—April
Volume XIV (1935)—January, April, July and October
Volume XV (1936)—January and October
Volume XVI (1937)—January, April and October
Volume XVII (1938)—October
Volume XVIII (1939)—April
Volume XIX (1940)—April and October

Volume XX (1941) to Volume XXIX (To date)—All issues are available.

Issues not listed are no longer available.

The Collectors Club Inc.

22 East 35th Street
New York 16, New York



Officers

RICHARD S. BOHN
President

JOHN J. BRITT
Vice President

HARRISON D. S. HAVERBECK
Secretary

EDWIN E. ELKINS
Treasurer

Governors

SIDNEY F. BARRETT
RICHARD S. BOHN
JOHN BOKER
JOHN J. BRITT
FRANKLIN R. BRUNS JR.
DR. GEORGE CAMNITZER
EDWIN E. ELKINS
JACOB S. GLASER
ROBERT L. GRAHAM JR.
JOHN H. HALL
HARRISON D. S. HAVERBECK
MALCOLM JOHNSON
WILLIAM R. RANKIN
CHESTER SMELTZER
CORNELIUS W. WICKERSHAM

Trustees

EDWIN E. ELKINS
JOHN H. HALL
ROBERT L. GRAHAM JR.

OCTOBER AUCTION

AIR POSTS

R. F. On United States

(one of the finest specialized collections)

Also a Magnificent Collection of

Mint Airs of All Countries

including many unique items as well as

Errors, Varieties, Proofs & Essays

&

Rare Flown Covers and very fine used Material

Your name on a penny card will bring you free illustrated catalog.

NICOLAS SANABRIA Co., Inc.

521 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

HUNTING PERMIT STAMPS

As listed on Page 357 in the Specialized Catalog. All are in very fine mint condition, and our supply is very limited. There is an increasing demand for these attractive stamps, and the tendency is higher prices. Order promptly.

				SINGLE	BLOCK	PLATE 6
RW 1	1934	$1.00	Blue	$11.50	$60.00	.....
RW 2	1935	1.00	Lake	17.50	110.00	.....
RW 3	1936	1.00	Black	6.00	35.00	.....
RW 4	1937	1.00	Green	5.50	40.00	$80.00
RW 5	1938	1.00	Purple	7.00	50.00	.....
RW 6	1939	1.00	Brown	3.50	30.00	.....
RW 7	1940	1.00	Sepia	....	25.00	45.00
RW 8	1941	1.00	Carmine	....	20.00	35.00
RW 9	1942	1.00	Brown	2.00	15.00	30.00
RW10	1943	1.00	Rose	2.00	12.50	25.00
RW11	1944	1.00	Orange	....	12.50	20.00
RW12	1945	1.00	Black	2.00	12.50	17.00
RW13	1946	1.00	Red Brown	1.75	10.00	14.00
RW14	1947	1.00	Black	1.50	6.00	12.00
RW15	1948	1.00	Blue	1.40	6.00	12.00
RW16	1949	2.00	Green	2.35	9.50	.....

ECONOMIST STAMP CO., INC.

87 NASSAU STREET NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

CHINA

WE ARE BREAKING UP A BEAUTIFUL COLLECTION OF THIS COUNTRY INCLUDING

COMBINATION COVERS

CHINESE LOCAL - GERMANY
CHINESE LOCAL - JAPAN
CHINESE LOCAL - U.S.A.
CHINESE LOCAL - USA - JAPAN
CHINESE LOCAL
CHINA - HONG-KONG
CHINA - FRANCE
CHINA - FRENCH CHINA
CHINA - GERMAN CHINA
CHINA - KIAU-TCHEOU
CHINA - JAPAN
CHINA - RUSSIAN CHINA

As well as a good range of **PAKUA** cancellations

I.P.O. and **SHIPS MARKINGS** and **FORWARDED**
Some Unknown to Students

MAURICE JAMET

10 RUE D'ALGER, PARIS I, FRANCE

U. S. PRICE LIST

OUR 68 PAGE ILLUSTRATED PRICE LIST

Free On Request

INCLUDES:

Confederate Issues
U. S. Possessions
Canada
Newfoundland
Separate Listing of U. S. Plate Number Blocks

Your Want Lists of U. S. Stamps and Covers Will Be Appreciated.

JOHN A. FOX

116 NASSAU STREET, N. Y. C., 7, NEW YORK

Look Over

Scott's Loose-Leaf Blank Albums

Spring-Back Binders

NE PLUS ULTRA (Style B) . . . $12
Has 100 leaves of linen ledger paper, with glassine interleaving. Page size, without hinge, is 8¼ x 11½ inches. Overall album size is 11 x 11½. Back binder, gold stamped, Extra pages, 25 for $1.50. Binder only, $6.

BRUCE $12
Red, green or black binder. Has 100 linen-hinged pages, size 8½ x 10¾. Gold stamped backbone. Extra pages, 25 for $1.50. Binder only, $6.

DOUGLAS $12
Like the Bruce, but larger. Page size: 9½ x 11½. Overall album size: 12 x 12.

Post Binders

BRUCE POST $10
Red, green or black binder in imitation leather with gold decoration. 50 linen-hinged pages, size 8½ x 10¼. Overall album size: 10½ x 10¾. Extra pages, 25 for $1.50. Binder only, $7.

BRUCE POST SPECIAL $17.50
Like the Bruce Post in size and binder colors. Has morocco back and corners, linen-covered slip case. 50 pages of special Crane linen paper, with transparent interleaving. Extra pages, 25 for $3.75. Binder only, with case, $11.

ORDER FROM YOUR DEALER

Scott Publications, Inc., 1 W. 47th St. New York 19.

FACTS ABOUT SELLING YOUR STAMPS

- Public Auction is the modern way to sell most collections.
- We have been conducting sales for over 20 years and our efficient, up to date, PERSONALIZED SERVICE assures the maximum in results.
- We can offer early dates and attractive terms. Liberal advances pending sale. Expert supervision of all material by experienced philatelists.
- **OUR PRIVATE SALES SERVICE** successfully places Philatelic Properties privately, where this method is preferred. Our advice, backed by over 20 years of ethical dealing is at your service.
- We are also prepared to purchase for cash Collections, Accumulations, Rarities, etc.

INFORMATION CHEERFULLY GIVEN

IRWIN HEIMAN, Inc. 2 West 46th Street
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

Telephone: LUxemburg 2-2393

Our First

FALL AUCTION

SEPT. 26, 27 and 28, 1950

contains a wide variety of material of

BRITISH EMPIRE and EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Singles, up to the greatest rarities, **multiples** as well as **sets,** unused and used, a large number of interesting and valuable **cancellations** and **covers, Essays, Proofs, Specimen overprints** etc. Also many attractive **lots by countries** (balance of the collections offered) and **philatelic literature.**

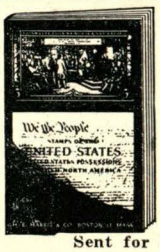
If you are not on our regular mailing list, ask for the richly illustrated catalog, free of charge.

MERCURY STAMP COMPANY

522 Fifth Ave. (at 44th St.)
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

Phones: MU2-7106 and 2-6976

UNITED STATES STAMPS



Complete except for the great rarities, this 128-page catalog, with more than 1,000 illustrations for your convenient reference, lists and prices all major varieties of the United States, U. S. Possessions, and British N. America.

Sent for 25c postpaid

H. E. HARRIS & CO.
61 Transit Building
Boston 17, Mass.

Your Collection

is important to you

We Are Prepared To Offer Outstanding U. S. Items To Enhance It

ALSO: We are prepared to sell your collection or single items of merit through the medium of our Public Auctions. We will advance 75% of our appraised valuation.

ALSO: We are prepared to buy your collection in its entirety or single items of merit.

Correspondence Invited

sylvester colby INC.
505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

Alex S. Juliard

(FORMERLY L. JULIARD & SON, EST. 1889)

Dealer in Classics

and

better grade stamps

Maybe I can help you building up your collection?

PRICE LISTS FREE

Alex S. Juliard

Penn Valley, Narberth, Pa.

1840 – 1890

●

I specialize in rare stamps of all countries, issued during the above period, and have one of the best stocks in existence. Enquiries invited.

●

DOUGLAS ROTH

Fairways, Mona Crescent, Newlands,

Cape Province, South Africa

ESSAYS and PROOFS

Are regularly offered

in my

Auction Sales

Request Free Catalogues

EUGENE N. COSTALES

99 Nassau Street., New York 7, N. Y.

FOR YOUR

SPECIAL NEEDS

SOMETIME every collector wants some special service. He wants to sell his collection for the best possible price; he wants to buy a great rarity or an unusual group of stamps, not to be found in dealers' regular stocks; he wants reliable information about his philatelic affairs. Just such service is the sole function of J. C. Morgenthau & Co., Inc. The company has nothing to sell; it acts, on commission, for collectors who wish to add to their collections or dispose of them in whole or in part. Collections for disposal are examined without cost (except postage) to the owner and commissions are charged only on completed transactions. If you want to buy or sell . . .

Always Ask Morgenthau

J. C. MORGENTHAU & CO., INC.

(Subsidiary of Scott Stamp & Coin Co. Inc.)

1 West 47th St., New York, N. Y.

SISSONS 1950

B.N.A. CATALOGUE

●

A Complete Illustrated 52-page List
CANADA, NEWFOUNDLAND AND THE PROVINCES
POSTAGE—REVENUES
STATIONERY—OFFICIALS
MINT AND USED BLOCKS, PLATE BLOCKS, ETC.

PRICE 25c

(Refundable on $2.00 order)

●

J. N. SISSONS

59 Wellington St. W., Toronto 1, Canada

at Gimbels:

Everything For The Stamp Collector

GIMBELS . . the World's Largest Stamp Departments . . has everything for the beginner as well as the advanced collector. Visit our attractive department where you can purchase a packet of 2000 different world wide stamps for $3.50 or a packet of 2500 different Portuguese Colonies for $175.00; where you can acquire a 5c New York on cover for $75.00 or the 1901 Pan-American Issue complete in mint blocks of four for $81.00; where you can buy the complete set of Offices in China K1-K16 in blocks of four at $230.00 or a very fine mint copy of U. S. #132 (the 90c 1869 re-issue). (As we have only one of each of some of the items listed they are offered subject to prior sale).

You will find the largest assortment of:

- **United States Issues**
- **Packets by Countries**
- **The Scott Line**
- **The White Ace Line**
- **World Wide Sets**
- **Philatelic Literature**
- **The Elbe Line**
- **Accessories**

- OR -

Should you wish to dispose of your stamps whether it be a $500.00 or a $50,000.00 collection you will find it well worth your while to consult the buyers at Gimbels. Courteous, Conscientious treatment awaits your visit.

WRITE FOR GIMBEL'S STAMP NEWS. IT'S FREE.

Gimbels

Worlds Largest Stamp Departments

33rd Street & Broadway
New York 1, New York

Ninth at Market Streets
Philadelphia 5, Pa.



LONDON

BOURNEMOUTH

PHILADELPHIA

MELBOURNE

BOMBAY

THE SIGN OF INTERNATIONAL SATISFACTION

Selling?

OVER 3000 COLLECTORS

in our World-Wide Clientele are anxious to buy.

The first of our **New Season's Auctions** are now completed, but we can incorporate your material in our future sale if you advise us

NOW

☛ WE ALSO BUY FOR CASH ☚

Buying?

Many of the world's

GOLD MEDAL COLLECTIONS

have been formed by purchases made through our **Auction Sales** and **Private Treaty Departments.** Auctions are held in **London** (weekly), **Bournemouth** (monthly), **Philadelphia** (monthly) in which you are bound to find either a collection, set or single rarity that you need.

AMERICAN OFFICE:

Robson Lowe, Inc.,
1820-27 Lewis Tower,
15th. and **Locust Streets,**
Philadelphia 3, Pa., U. S. A.
Telephone: Ki. 5-4324/4325

Send for our current **Auction Catalogues,** details of **Private Treaty Offers** and current publications; also our **"Review,"** which will give you details of our methods of business and terms of sale.

ROBSON LOWE LTD.

Head Office:

50 Pall Mall, London S. W. 1

Telephone: Trafalgar 4034 Cables: "Stamps, London"

From the World's Finest Auction Galleries

An Outstanding New Season's Schedule

The Famous "WILLIAM L. MOODY III" COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES
Six Sessions In October

THE "DR. ERNEST G. STILLMAN" GENERAL COLLECTION
EXCLUDING BRITISH COMMONWEALTH
Four Sessions in December

THE "GUS MOSLER" GENERAL COLLECTION
Three Sessions in November

THE "ARTHUR J. HERSCHMANN" COLLECTION
OF UNITED STATES AND LATIN AMERICA
Three Sessions in October

A VERY FINE SPECIALIZED COLLECTION OF CANADA
Three Sessions in New Year

And Numerous Other Important Properties

Write for illustrated auction catalogues now to ensure not missing one of these exceptional auctions. They are post-free.

H. R. HARMER, Inc.

32 EAST 57TH STREET, NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

IN THE NEW PREMISES ON THE ENTIRE THIRTEENTH FLOOR