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Volume 55 Number 5
September 1976

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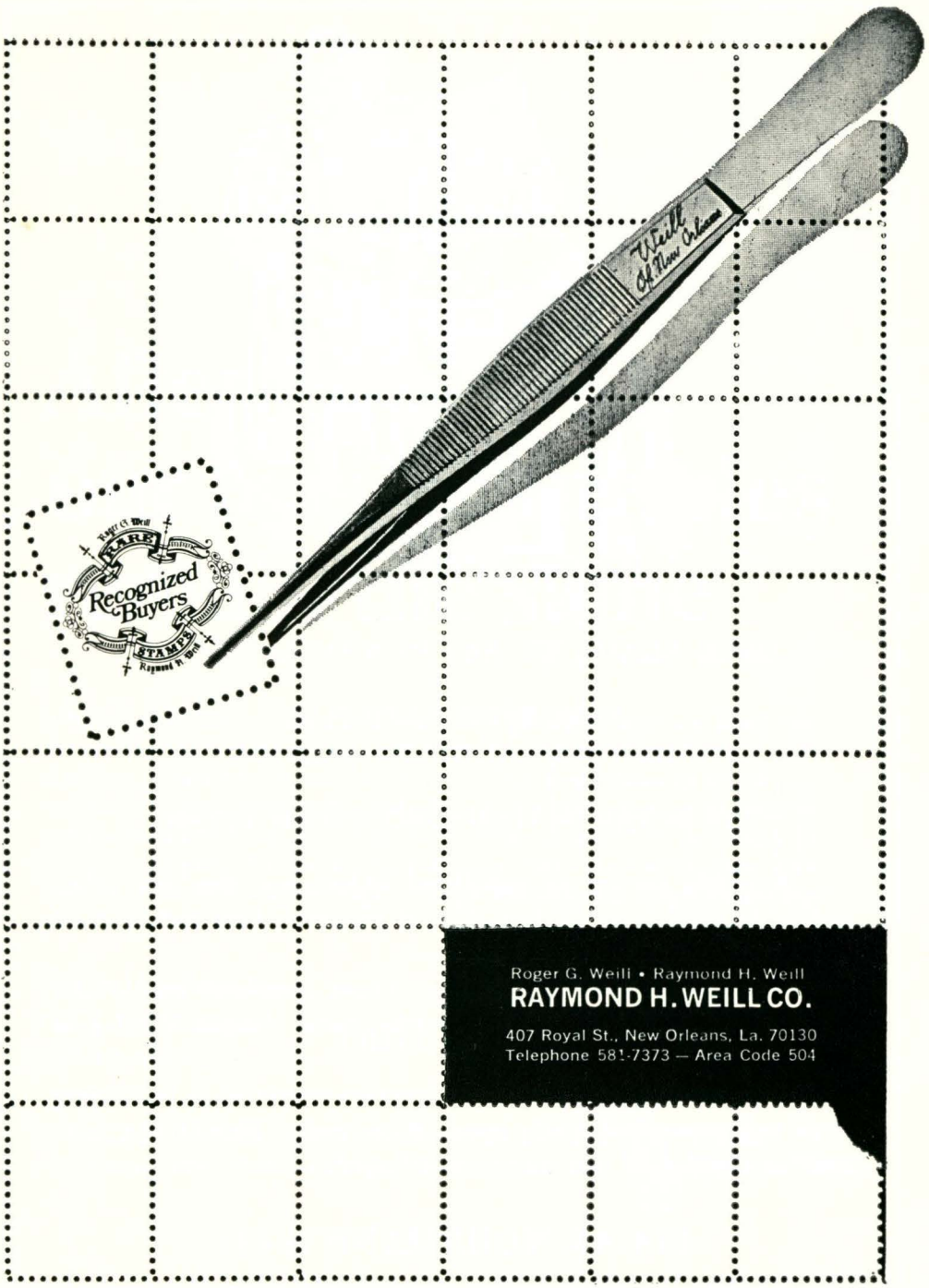
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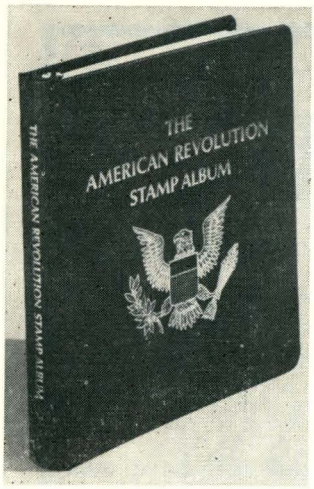
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The Collectors Club PHILATELIST

Volume 55, Number 5 September 1976

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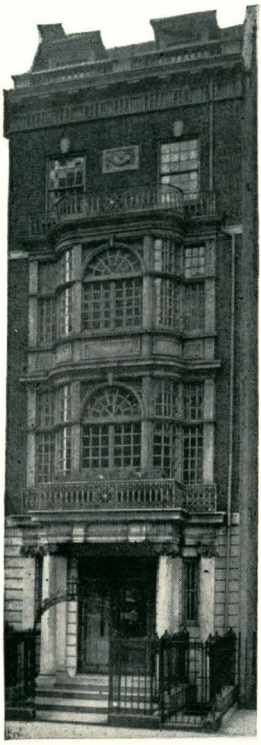
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September 15	— *BUENOS AIRES*—John Boker, Scarsdale, N. Y.
October 6	— *UNITED STATES, 1847-1857*—Louis Grunin, Spring Valley, N. Y.
October 20	— *THE U. S. 3 CENT, 1851-61*—Thomas J. Alexander, Prairie Village, Kansas
November 3	— *CONFEDERATE PHILATELY*—Charles E. Kilbourne, Charlottesville, Virginia
November 17	— *CANADIAN RATE COVERS, 1851-1875*—W. E. Lea, London, England
December 1	— *MAILS VIA PANAMA*—Col. James T. DeVoss, State College, Pa.
December 15	— *BOARD OF GOVERNORS OPEN HOUSE*

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OUR 80TH BIRTHDAY

In this, the bicentennial year of our country, The Collectors Club celebrates its 80th year. Few are the philatelic societies that have survived and flourished so long a time.

A leader in philatelic activities from the very beginning, our club has always stood for excellence, service to members and service to the community. Our record of achievement is long and distinguished.

Every International Philatelic Exhibition held in the United States has been organized and operated by members of The Collectors Club. Five of the first seven were held in the club's home city of New York.

Our members were responsible for the organization of the Philatelic Foundation, an educational institution chartered by the Board of Regents of the State of New York. Among its many activities, the Foundation operates the famed "Expert Committee" which issues opinions as to the genuineness of stamps and postal history material that are respected the world over. Expert philatelists, its members are members, officers and governors of The Collectors Club.

Our club owns and maintains the finest philatelic library in the United States. Started at the club's inception in 1896 under the guidance of Hiram E. Deats and fostered at later dates by such luminaries as Joseph S. Rich, John Walter Scott and J. Brace Chittenden, it has grown to prominence among philatelic libraries and is the largest in the country, if not the world.

Our club has also been a leader in the publication of philatelic handbooks and works of postal history. Publications of permanent value, they are eagerly sought after by philatelic students. A current list of some 20 titles is in stock.

Our club was the first philatelic society to have its own building. A handsome five-story town house, it was designed by famed architect Stanford White for Thomas Clark, a major collector of early Americana. A New York City landmark it, incidently, is free of mortgage.

Performing many community services, we have made our building available for meetings of many other philatelic societies and study groups. We lead the way in qualifying as an educational, charitable, scientific organization as establishel by the terms of the various Congressional and Internal Revenue Service guidelines, thus paving the way for a continuing source of tax-free contributions.

Our magazine, "The Collectors Club Philatelist," is the premier magazine of philatelic record in the United States. Its articles have been the basis of many books and it is a repository of much permanent reference material.

These are only some of our many accomplishments — accomplishments that came to pass because our members are not only leaders in philately and postal history, both in this country and abroad, but are leaders in every walk of life.

Our membership is international, and to be invited to become a member of The Collectors Club is considered an honor and a mark of distinction in the philatelic community.

Almost without exception every great philatelist of the last 80 years has been on our rolls. Among them were; Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the Earl of Crawford, Sir Edward Denny Bacon, Sir John Wilson, J. William Mittendorf, former Secretary of the Navy, Alfred Caspary, Theodore N. Steinway, Alfred E. Lichtenstein. The list is endless. Many have served as officers and governors of the club.

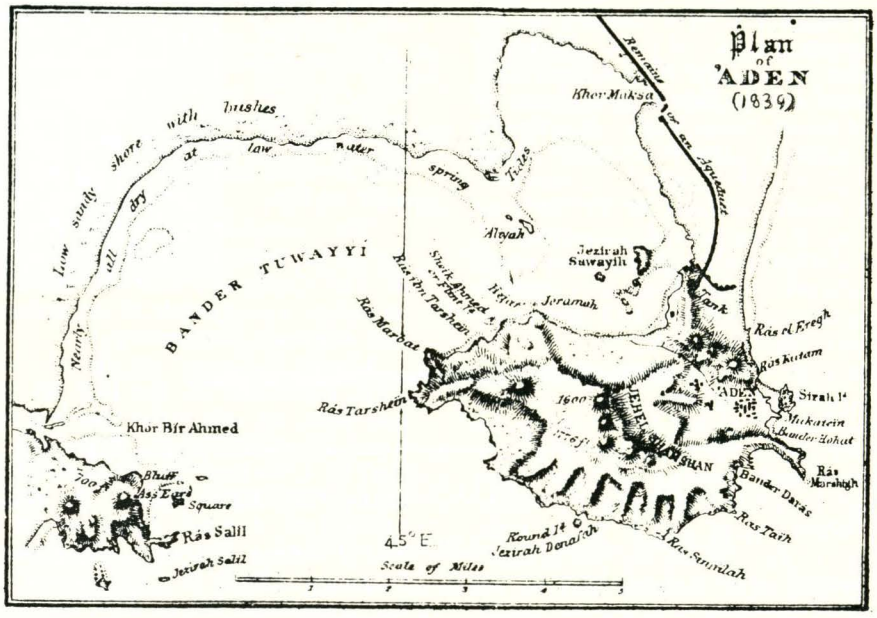
Now, as our 80th year of achievement is about to begin, I address myself to you, our members: You are part of a great tradition in American philately. Be proud of it! Honor it! Work to support it! Help our club to grow and maintain its high tradition of excellence. And, on October 6th, let us raise a glass and toast the next 80 years of The Collectors Club. Long may we flourish!

H. D. S. Haverbeck,
President

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POSTAL FACILITIES AT ADEN

By Murray A. M. Graham

An examination in depth of the early postal history of the former British Colony, this interesting and instructive account covers the establishment of Aden's first post office in 1839 to the systems maturity in 1865.



Map of Aden as it was in 1839.

"In January 1839, the month and year of the occupation of Aden by the British, a post-office was opened in the Settlement, and an establishment, with two clerks and four peons was sanctioned. One of the assistants to the Political Agent, or the Civil Surgeon, performed the duties of postmaster, and receive for so doing Rs.100 per mensem.

In 1857, the Aden office was placed under the director-general of the post-offices in India, a postmaster was appointed at Rs.250 per mensem, and one clerk was added to the establishment. Up to this time there had been no office at Steamer Point, and when the mails were received or despatched, a clerk and peon used to come down for the purpose from the Crater, the mails being carried on camels. After the opening of the overland route, this arrangement proved inconvenient, and accordingly the headquarters of the office were removed to Steamer Point. A building of mud and plaster was constructed, but the growing wants of the Settlement led in 1858 to the building of a more commodious structure, which was completed at a cost of about Rs.20,000. It was much improved and enlarged in 1877 . . ."

Thus did Captain F. M. Hunter, the then Assistant Political Resident, open his description of the Post Office on page 151 of his "Statistical Account of the British Settlement of Aden" published in 1877. All quite simple and straightforward — or so it would seem. The documents, however, stored away among the Aden government records, tell us a different and far more interesting story. Documents that I was able in part to examine towards the end of my residence in that former colony.

I should like the reader to appreciate that this account is limited to what I extracted from those documents. The volumes examined first were the Postal Compilations, starting with that for 1854 and continuing through the one for 1865. After that the early volumes from 1839 were tackled. Here the search was complicated by the need to examine all correspondence. Postal matters often occupied only an occasional paragraph inserted among matters of greater concern to the authorities in Aden and Bombay than the post office. This phase of my search got only to 1842.

While it is true that with the long gap between 1842 and 1854, much is missing that would make what follows into a properly connected narrative, I like to think that what I *have* pieced together will give the reader a reasonably full account of what transpired in the development of postal facilities in Aden from the time of its capture by British Indian Forces in 1839 until 1865.

I have chosen to let the people involved tell their own story by quoting, where suitable, extracts verbatim, and have found it convenient to treat the subject under two main headings:

1) The Post Masters

2) The Post Office Establishment & Accommodation

This arrangement means, of course, that I have had to fragment letters whenever both aspects have been discussed in a single communication.

I should also like at the outset, to gratefully acknowledge the forbearance with which hard-pressed government officials bore my importuning during my effort to glean the information that comprises what follows. It is also incumbent upon me to express my thanks to the Director of the Indian Office Library of Records in London (now the custodians of the old Aden Government Records) for permission to reproduce these extracts.

ADEN'S FIRST POST MASTERS

The first mention that I have been able to find in the archives dealing with Post Office matters is in Par. 26 of Commander Haines' long report on "affairs at Aden" which he sent to Bombay on June 9th, 1839. It reads:

> "As the correspondence between Aden and India is considerable, I beg that the Staff Officer might be appointed to perform the duties of Post Master, for on the arrival of a Steamer a great bustle and confusion takes place." [1]

Paragraph 35, the final one in Haines letter is also relevant, for it asks for an Assistant to be appointed to the Aden Residency:

> "In conclusion I would earnestly recommend that an Assistant to the Political Agent be appointed, for the duties are great and important."

The Bombay Government, however, had a different idea, for in par. 21 of their reply sent by L. R. Reid on August 10th, 1839, they said:

A one-time resident of Aden now living in London, Murray A. M. Graham, is a leading authority on the stamps and postal history of that colony. He has contributed many articles to "The Philatelist," and the publication of the India Study Circle of London.

1. Interested readers seeking further information are recommended to seek it in Gordon Waterfield's fascinating book, "Sultan of Aden," John Murray, 1968.

"With reference to the last paragraph of your letter, I am desired to inform you that it is the intention of the Honorable the Governor in Council to appoint an Assistant Political Agent at Aden, who, in addition to his other duties, should be placed in charge of the Post Office. This plan will supersede the necessity of the arrangement recommended by you, of appointing the Staff Officer, to that charge."

I think it reasonable to assume that Commander Haines had arranged at an early stage of the Occupation — how early I cannot say, since the Records give no clue — with the Officer Commanding the Troops at Aden (initially Major Thomas M. Bailie of the 24th Bombay Native Infantry) that the latter's Staff Officer should assume the duties of Postmaster (Haines then had no staff of his own, except for one, Moola Jaffer, his Native Assistant and Interpreter). On the other hand, this could well have been one of the duties normally assumed by such an officer under circumstances similar to those prevailing at Aden in the early days of the British occupation. That is to say, it was the obvious thing to do and therefore would not require special mention. Should my assumption be wrong, I am sure that Commander Haines would have mentioned the handling of the mails earlier in those of his letters to Bombay in which he dealt with his Establishment — or more correctly, his lack of one — if the Post Office had been under his control from the outset.

Whatever the true interpretation may be, the Staff Officer to the Officer Commanding the Troops at Aden, a Captain J. Hobson (Bombay European Regiment) was certainly Postmaster, and very likely the first to fulfill that function in Aden. Otherwise, why did Haines write (March 4th, 1840) to Lieutenant-Colonel D. Capon (Major Bailie's successor) asking that Captain Hobson should "give over charge of the Post Office Department with all records and orders connected therewith to Lieutenant Jenkins"? Lieutenant Griffith of the Indian Navy had been appointed the first Assistant Political Agent at Aden some months before according to a letter dated November 28th, 1839:

"The Hon'ble the Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint Lieut. Jenkins of the Indian Navy, Assistant Political Agent at Aden, and that Officer will be directed to proceed to join this appointment by the earliest opportunity.

The duties which will devolve on the Assistant Pol. Agent at Aden will be to take charge of the Harbour, Coal Store, Depôt Ship, Customs, Police and Post Office, and to perform any other duties which the Political Agent may deem proper to assign to him."

Since we know from another source that Lieutenant Jenkins had taken up his appointment on January 1st, 1840 (C. R. Low: "History of the Indian Navy," Vol. 2, page 125), Captain Hobson was obviously in no hurry to give up a job that brought him extra pay. It is likely, too, that Colonel Capon had told him not to pay any attention to Commander Haines' request. There was bad blood [1] between these two senior officers which eventually resulted in Colonel Capon's recall from Aden and which, in this instance, led to Commander Haines forwarding on March 20th "for the information of the Hon'ble the Gov. in Council a short correspondence on the subject of the Post Office Department being delivered over to the Assistant Political Agent agreeably to your orders." Haines points out that "in one case it is an expense to Government as the Staff Officer receives a Monthly Salary for the Duty, on the other the Assistant Political Agent would receive no extra salary for the performance of it." He concludes his letter by saying, "Under these circumstances I have the honor to solicit the decision of Government as my application has been

refused, and the Staff Officer retains the appointment since the arrival of the Assist. Political Agent in opposition I conceive to the decided wish & intention of the Hon'able the Govr. in Council."

Captain Hobson, however, could not have held on to the Post Office for very much longer, because we find Commander Haines referring to a letter from Bombay dated May 15th, Bombay dated May
1840 that accompanied a letter received from "Captain Hobson *late* Post Master at Aden." (Italics mine)

Lieutenant Jenkins, unfortunately, did not remain in Aden for long; he was around Sept. 10th of that year, "compelled through indisposition to proceed to England for the benefit of his health." I found a letter from Bombay to Commander Haines dated September 29th acknowledging Haines' appointment of Lieutenant O. J. Cruttenden of the Indian Navy, as Assistant Political Agent at Aden, until further orders, and requires the Lieutenant to undertake all duties, including the Post Office, for which his predecessor had been responsible.

Lieutenant Cruttenden continued as Assistant Political Agent at Aden until he was dismissed with his superior, Captain Haines around March 1854. Much of that time he was also Postmaster. I cannot, however, give precise details because none of the volumes covering this period were examined except Vol. 70. Vol. 70, one of those for 1848, had been wrongly labeled "10" on the spine and had consequently been placed on the shelves alongside the real Volume 10, one of those for 1840. It contained a letter from the Bombay Government to Captain Haines vital to my study:

> "With reference to your letter of 14th May last /i.e. 1847/ I am directed to acquaint you that in consequence of the inconvenience occasioned by the frequent absence of Lieutenant Cruttenden on Political duties, the efficient discharge of which requires him to be much away from Aden, the Hon'ble the Governor in Council is pleased to relieve that Officer of the duties of Post Master at that place, and to appoint the Surgeon in Charge of the Civil duties to be Post Master at Aden on a salary of Rupees (100) one hundred per mensem."
> (sgd.) I. G. Lumsden, Sec. to Govt.

This letter was dated February 15th 1848, and we can only guess at what period Lieutenant Cruttenden handed over charge of the Post Office during the nine months that elapsed between Captain Haines submitting his request and receiving Bombay's belated agreement. I do not know what discussion preceded this letter and so cannot tell whether the Assistant Political Agent had latterly been given any special allowance, or whether it was an inducement introduced to get the Civil Surgeon to take charge of the Post Office. The first Civil Surgeon at Aden, John P. Malcolmson, who had come with the occupying force in 1839 as its Medical Officer may well have been the first incumbent under this new arrangement; he was certainly still Civil Surgeon at Aden in April of 1847. However James Vaughan was the only Civil Surgeon we know to have been Postmaster. He was mentioned by name in a letter that Brigadier W. M. Coghlan, a later Resident, wrote to Bombay, April 25th 1856, concerning the state of the Post Office in Aden. It should be noted that Brigadier Coghlan in his summary of "the subject of the Post Master" ignored what happened before Lieutenant Cruttenden took charge when he wrote:

> "This appointment was originally held by Lieut. Cruttenden, Assist. Political Agent, who in addition to his other duties in which he had no assistance, held Command of the "Charger;" it was found necessary therefore to relieve him of the Post Office and appoint the Civil Surgeon on a Salary of Rupees one hundred.
>
> Subsequently Lieut. Cruttenden was relieved of the "Charger," and

on Assist. Surgeon Vaughan proceeding to Europe he resumed charge of the Post Office, which he retained until his departure from Aden."

I do not know when Surgeon Vaughan left Aden, but as I have already pointed out, Lieutenant Cruttenden left early in 1854. As Officiating Assistant Political Resident, Lieutenant C. E. Dansey of the Bombay Fusiliers (the name given to the Bombay European Regiment in 1844) was also Officiating (i.e. Acting) Post Master pending the appointment of a permanent successor to Cruttenden. We see from a letter that he wrote to the new Resident, Brigadier James Outram, that Lieutenant R. L. Playfair of the Madras Artillery, took charge of the Aden Post Office on July 24th 1854:

"I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with Brigade Order of this date, I have this day assumed charge of the Post Office from Lieut. Dansey Late Off. Pol. Agent."

Lieutenant-Colonel James Outram, C.B., appears to have been allowed a certain amount of latitude in the choice of his assistants, certainly in the cases the two with whom we are here concerned. For instance, Sir Frederick Goldsmid in his "James Outram: a Biography," tells us (page 90, Volume II) that "On first acceptance of his Arabian Residency, Outram had obtained Lord Elphinstone's consent to the nomination of Lieut. Playfair, of the Madras Artillery, as Assistant Resident . . ."

He also received sanction to employ a Mr. Hormuzd Rassam as Arabic Interpreter whom he had invited from England, where the latter was working in the British Museum, to take that post on his staff for a monthly salary of 300 Rupees. This sum was twice what Moola Jaffer, Captain Haines' Interpreter and Native Assistant, had been paid, and was obviously one of the main reasons why Mr. Rassam "was required /by the Bombay Government/ to assume charge of the Post Office as *a part* of his duties."

There is, however, no record of precisely when Rassam took charge of the Post Office from Lieutenant Playfair, but, judging from other correspondence I examined, it must have been at the turn of the year (1854/5). Also, in order to get around the problem of paying Rasam the salary he had been promised by Brigadier Outram, the authorities in India adopted the device of charging 200 Rupees of it to the Political Department and 100 Rupees to the Post Office Department. Though I can present no evidence either way, this may well have been the first time the Indian Post Office Department was required to contribute anything towards the Aden Postmaster's salary. As we shall see in the section on the Post Office Establishment, this arrangement led to much argument during the time Brigadier Coghlan was fighting for an increase in the Post Office Establishment to meet the increased and ever growing demands placed upon this department.

We need, at this stage, to go back to a letter that Brigadier Coghlan wrote on March 13th 1855 to Bombay embodying his "representation of the necessity for some improvement in the Postal arrangements of this place." However, since this letter deals with his wish to move the Post Office from Camp to Steamer Point, to keep the existing Camp office as a "receiving house" and to increase the Post Office establishment enough to man two offices, I have included it in the next section. Though Mr. Hart (the Secretary of the Bombay Government to whom Brigadier Coghlan had written in his covering letter to H. B. Riddell the Director General of the Post Offices in India) intimated that Brigadier Coghlan's arrangement was "worthy of adoption," Riddell thought otherwise. He made this clear in a letter written on June 12th 1855 to Duncan Davidson the Postmaster General, Bombay:

"I . . . have to request the favor

of your directing the Post Master of Aden to transfer the Post Office and his own residence from the Cantonment to Steamer Point, with as little delay as possible leaving one writer in Camp to receive letters.

If the Post Master is an Officer of the Aden force it will be necessary to relieve him from the charge of the Post Office and to appoint an uncovenanted Officer Post Master. I cannot see why the transfer of the Post Office to Steamer Point should render necessary any increase of establishment — the number of letters received and despatched from Aden is comparatively very small, the Postage levied is almost exclusively Steam Postage credited to Her Majesty's Government and for no other Post Office of equal size is a Salary of 100 Rupees allowed for a Post Master.

A Working Post Master with one clerk at Steamer Point ought to be able to perform with sufficient rapidity the work of closing and delivering the Aden Mails. I presume all letters are sent to be sorted at Bombay."

Davidson simply forwarded the letter to Rassam for his "information and guidance" and asked him to "have the goodness to report his proceedings." Rassam, however, promptly passed both letters to Brigadier Coghlan with a request for "instructions regarding the same." Brigadier Coghlan's reaction to this summary rejection of his arrangement was swift. He wrote to Rassam on the 20th requesting "that you will take no steps towards transferring the Post Office to Steamer Point, pending a reference which I intend making to Govt." This he did in a letter to Hart on the same day:

" . . . The Director General is not aware of the peculiar circumstances of this case, and appears under the idea that the Post Master here has no other duty than the post office.

Mr. Rassam's chief duty is in the Political Department, he being Arabic Interpreter to this Residency, and it is absolutely necessary for the due performance of this duty, that his residence should be in Aden. /i.e. in Crater or Aden Town/

There would be no difficulty in filling the appointment of Postmaster should it become vacant, but Mr. Rassam could not be easily replaced, and he must, either be permitted to retain his appointment of Postmaster, residing in Aden, or Government must be prepared to recommend that his salary be increased to Rupees three hundred charged to the Civil Department, instead of as at present, Rs.200 charged to the Civil Department, and Rs.100 to the Post Office.

This will entail on the Finances of India an expense of nearly double the amount recommended in my letter above quoted." (13th March).

Brigadier Coghlan goes on to explain why he requires an increased Post Office Establishment (see later), and closes on a rather bitter note:

"In conclusion I would beg to represent that, if the propositions I made in my former letter be not adopted entire, the public service would be better conducted by matters remaining in the present imperfect state, than by attempting to carry out my proposed reform with an insufficient establishment."

Riddell, in his reply, dated September 8th and forwarded to Brigadier Coghlan by H. L. Anderson, Secretary to the Bombay Government, on October 29th 1855, rather surprisingly confessed that:

"I was not aware that the Post Master at Aden is also Interpreter to the Political Agent, but I submit that the fact stated by Brigadier Coghlan as to the insufficiency of the salary allowed to the Interpreter at Aden, is not a reason for unnecessarily incurring expense in the Post Office Department.

In my opinion the existing establishment of the Aden Post Office is sufficient to accomplish the object proposed in Brigadier Coghlan's letter of 13th March, if the Post Master were unfettered by other duties, this being the case I cannot apply for an increase of establishment and I would suggest the advantage of making the Interpreter independent of the Post Office."

Brigadier Coghlan replying to Mr. Anderson on November 20th, rejects Riddell's argument outright and has some pretty pungent comments to make:

"That gentleman /i.e. Riddell/ does not agree with me in the necessity of any increased establishment to the Aden Post Office, and remarks that the insufficient salary of the Interpreter at Aden is no reason for unnecessarily incurring expense in the Post Office Department.

It is true that an individual might be procured for the present salary of Rs.100 who would devote the whole of his time to the Post Office and thus obviate the necessity of another writer. This however would be no saving to the State and I much doubt whether the public service would be benefitted thereby.

My object in making the propositions detailed in former correspondence was to increase the efficiency of the Post Office at the least possible cost to the State. I did not look upon the Political Department and the Post Office as two separate establishments having conflicting or separate interests, but as branches of the same public service, the expenses of which are ultimately defrayed from a common source, and in that view I respectfully submit that my proposal is more advantageous than the modifications suggested by the Director General.

On reconsidering the proposal contained in my letter dated 13th March last I am of the opinion that it is moderate, and the modification suggested in it is necessary for the convenience of the Community & efficient discharge of public business; I trust therefore that the Director General in again looking at the case will withdraw his objection and recommend the trifling addition which I ask."

Official acceptance of the need for a change in the Aden Post Office establishment was finally recognised after a year-long argument in the promulgation of an "Order in Council" dated February 19th 1856, authorising "an increase to the cost of the Post Office Establishment at Aden."

"The Most Noble the Governor General in Council observes that, owing to the constant confusion, risk and harassment occasioned by the present arrangements in the Post Office at Aden, on account of its being five miles away from the harbour, it has been determined to remove the Post Office to Steamer Point, turning the present place into a receiving house. But a difficulty having presented itself in Mr. Rassam, the Post Master, being also Arabic Interpreter in the Political Department, which the Officiating Political Resident and Commandant states renders it absolutely necessary for the due performance of the latter duty that his residence should be in Aden, the Director General suggests that the present Post Office Establishment be augmented and that the additional charge be debited to the Political Department or that the salary of the Interpreter be fixed at 300Rs. a month and the Post Office be placed under charge of a separate officed.

Under these circumstances His Lordship in Council is of the opinion that, if it is impossible for Mr. Rassam to reside out of Aden, it will be preferable to separate the Post Office from the Arabic Interpretership and thus render both offices efficient.

His Lordship in Council, there-

fore, directs that whichever arrangement is finally adopted, a tabular statement of the same may be submitted for the sanction of this Government."

A copy of this resolution was passed on March 19th 1856 by Riddell to Anderson with the comment that "if Mr. Massam, the Arabic Interpreter, cannot reside at Steamer Point, it will be necessary to relieve him of the charge of the Post Office and in that case, I presume, that the application for sanction to a personal allowance to Mr. Rassam will be made under the orders of the Right Hon'ble the Governor of Bombay."

Anderson, in his turn, forwarded the copy of the resolution together with Riddell's letter to Brigadier Coghlan on 14th April. Coghlan promptly replied on the 26th giving the "tabular statement" asked for (see later under the section on the Post Office Establishment) and then went on to "solicit the consideration of Government to the subject of the Post Master." Much of this important letter has been quoted elsewhere in this chapter, and I will just quote Brigadier Coghan's proposals regarding that office:

"It is now proposed to separate the Post Office from the Interpretership, and to revert to the former arrangement when the Post Office was held by the Asistant Political Resident.

I consider this in all respects desirable as the Assistant Political Resident resides at the Point. He, magisterially, holds a Police Court there ordinarily three times a week, besides the extra occasions arising on the arrival of steamers. It is there, contiguous to the Point Police Office, that I propose to erect the Post Office which I hope will be sanctioned, and there under one head the two offices may be efficiently conducted.

I have therefore to solicit sanction to the appointment of Lieutenant Playfair, Assistant Political Resident, to the Charge of the Post Office, with the Establishment proposed in para 2." /see later/

Hart sent Brigadier Coghlan's letter to Riddell on June 5th together with his own comments of which the most significant were those pointing out a discrepancy in the cost of the changes to the establishment and appointing his Assistant postmaster:

"This statement it will be seen exhibits a small increase of Rupees 33 per mensem, but I am desired to remark that the increased expense will in reality amount to Rupees 133 per mensem inasmuch as the Political Resident proposes that, for the performance of the Post Office duties, his assistant Lieut. Playfair should receive an addition to his salary of Rupees 100.

The Rupees 100 therefore which it is proposed to asign to Lieutenant Playfair would be an additional expense independently of the modification of establishment proposed by the Resident at the further monthly cost of Rupees 33 and whether it can be considered advisable to adopt in supercession of the present arrangement any other which would involve a monthly increased expense of Rupees 133 is a question for the consideration of the Government of India.

With respect however to the particular arrangement which has been suggested by Brigadier Coghlan, viz. that of coupling the Post Mastership with the Assistant Resident's Office, His Lordship in Council desires me to state that he considers it objectionable on the ground that the latter Officer is occasionally under the necessity of being absent on duty connected with Missions to Ports in the Red Sea and that during such absence his performance of duties as Post Master will be liable to interruption."

(To be Continued)

A CURIOUS DISCOVERY

By Robson Lowe

Was the two cent Landing of Columbus "forged" or "reproduced?" Robson Lowe may have come up with the answer.





While looking through a file of papers sent to the Royal Administration in Cape Town on 5th April 1893, I was amazed to see two copies of the U. S. A. 2 cents Columbian over one of which was written, "Genuine Stamp," and over the other, "Reproduction." At first sight the latter looked flat enough to be lithographed but closer examination suggests that it was produced by photo-engraving.

The genuine stamp was perforated 12 and the reproduction is perforated 14. The reproduction shows considerable loss of detail and under 10x. magnification the faces of the characters portrayed show many differences. The colour is a good match, taking into account that the reproduction lacks the depth of engraving which distinguishes the original.

There is a guide dot in the right margin which I think I have seen on the original stamp and there are three other dots which are either peculiar to the reproduction or may assist a specialist to identify the sheet position which has been copied. The inner frame line that binds the horizontal shading to the right of the picture is much weaker than in the genuine and there are marks in the left column of horizontal shading which look distinctive.

At the foot of the page is a manuscript note "A duplicate of this was handed to Mr. Todd."

On the next page there are two more genuine examples of the stamp alongside which have been stuck

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Robson Lowe, the widely known London dealer and auctioneer, has authored numerous philatelic articles and books. He is also publisher of "The Philatelist."



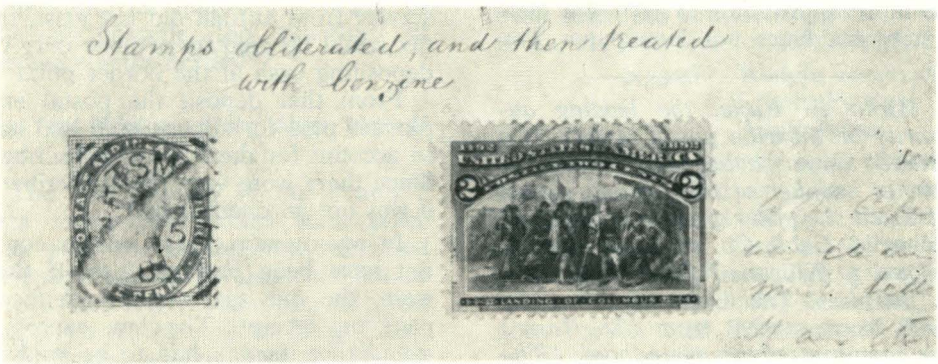
One penny English stamp and two cent Columbian used, before being treated with benzine.

copies of the contemporary one penny stamp issued in England. Over the top pair was written, "Obliterated Stamps," and over the lower pair "Stamps Obliterated and then treated with benzine," the cancellations being partially removed. Against the Columbus 2 cents is a pencil note, "The one sent to the Cape was cleaned much better than this."

The cancellation is the British squared datestamp, "PORTSMOUTH 1L JA 5 85."

Having now quoted the facts, one must theorise on the reasons for these experiments. In October 1893 a new design for the Cape of Good Hope one penny was issued. The design showed the allegorical figure of "Hope" standing with Table Bay in the background. Supposing the Cape of Good Hope postal authorities had wanted an engraved stamp and their printers, De La Rue & Co. in London, wanted to produce a typograhed stamp? Then a "secret" report showing how well (?) an engraved stamp could be copied and how easy it would be to remove the cancellation might have influenced the issuing authorities to retain typography as their printing medium.

These thoughts are no more than theories but if any reader can produce a credible alternative reason for these experiments, we would like to hear it.



One penny English stamp and two cent Columbian after being treated with benzine. Cancellations are partially removed.

SERBIA — THE COAT OF ARMS ISSUE

By Mirko R. Rasic

A controversial issue for more than a hundred years, the peculiar character of Serbia's first stamps is due to the fact that Serbia, a vassal state, could not maintain direct relations with other countries.

Arguments have been going on about the nature of the "Coat of Arms" stamps since the day they were issued. Derocco's first published article in a 1905 issue of Senf's, "Illustiertes Briefmarken Journal," dealt with the subject under the title, "Are the Serbian Newspaper Stamps of 1866 Postage or Tax Stamps?" The catalogs of the world classified them as Newspaper Stamps, Revenues, Newspaper Dues or Newspaper Tax stamps. Even today, they are listed as such in the Scott Catalog. In 1940, Derocco, in his last work, states that the method of usage of these stamps proves that they were a kind of Postage Due. His contemporaries, De Smeth and Dorning-Beckton, were of the same opinion.

A great Yugoslav philatelist, the late D. Novak, published an article in 1952 in the "Berner Briefmarken Zeitung" and correctly stated that the stamps were, "newspaper stamps to prepay postage." Perhaps, to describe them more precisely, the expression, "Newspaper Delivery Stamps," would be more appropriate .They were definately not Dues nor Newspaper Tax Stamps such as Austria had at that time. Novak's article prompted a reaction from the late Edwin Mueller in his, "Mercury Stamp Journal." He expressed the opinion that the stamps were "Newspaper Postage Dues." At the same time, Mr. Mueller added, "the deciding factor should be whether the revenue received was in favor of the post office or of the fiscal authorities." We shall see later that the revenue went to the post office.

The peculiar character of these stamps is due to the fact that Serbia was a vassal state which could not have direct relations with other countries. Mail was handled, as mentioned before, by the Austrian Consular Service at Belgrade while that from the Turkish Empire was delivered to the Serbian post office at the border.

According to the law of January 25, 1866, subscribers to foreign newspapers had to pay, in advance, a tax of 2 para for a weight of 10 drams (32 grams) plus another para for each additional 5 drams. As a direct postal service from abroad did not exist, the tax could be paid in advance only by depositing cash at the border point.

From that deposit the postal employees paid for stamps used and had to account for them to the subscriber. Since there were very few subscribers, it was not an onerous task.

In my opinion, these stamps could not have been postage dues. If they were, the due tax would have been paid on receipt. The law expressly stated that the tax had to be paid in advance. Since the recipient could not pay it himself, it was done either by the post office or by a forwarding

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"Serbia — The Coat of Arms Issue" is an excerpt from Mr. Rasic's forthcoming definitive handbook, "The Postal History of Serbia," to be issued shortly by The Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund.

agent on behalf of the sender or the recipient. The law further stated that it was a postal tax in favor of the Postal Authority. The stamps themselves answer the question affirmatively.

Appearing over the coat of arms was an inscription that read, "K. S. Posta," (Principality of Serbia Post). Further proof of the character of these stamps, is the fact that foreign newspapers coming in at Belgrade for delivery to subscribers in the city did not require payment of the tax, which would have been charged had it been fiscal.

Some advocates of the theory that the tax was fiscal may ask why the Minister of Finance was so involved in the preparation of postage stamps and why did he, and not the Home Secretary, order the printing? Here again, we have to consider the peculiar situation of Serbia as a vassal country. Serbia had no national currency of its own, but was using Turkish groah and paras as well as Austrian silver and copper coins for small change. These were bulky and impractical. Merchants and authorities both were hoping that postage stamps would, in a way, replace or reduce the use of these coins. A letter in the State Archives from Home Secretary Hristich [#855] dated June 15, 1865, states: ". . . as the postage stamps will be replacing money, they will be your responsibility. For this reason I ask you to think about the matter . . . order, as soon as possible, the quantities of postage stamps needed."

The First Printing of the Arms Issue of May 1, 1866

The first printing of the 1 and 2 para newspaper stamps took place soon after the commission submitted their report to the Minister of Finance (April 5, 1886). The order to print was given on April 25th [A#2250], when Cukich realized that the stamps could not be printed in Vienna in time to meet the May 1st deadline as prescribed by the law of January 25th.

That same day he informed the Home Office that: "An order has been issued to print tomorrow and to deliver to you stamps of 1 and 2 para values which are most urgently required by our post offices. Stamps of the 10, 20 and 40 para values cannot be printed in time. And, for this reason, until they are ready, the post offices will continue to accept payment in cash."

Indeed, in #47 of the "Srpske Novina," dated April 26, 1866, an announcement appeared stating that postage for letters would continue to be prepaid in cash. This announcement by the Home Office, informed the public that newspapers liable to postal tax would, from May 1st, be prepaid by newspaper stamps which would then be available.

The commission, which was appointed on March 7th, submitted, on April 26th, the following report: (Fig. 1).

"To the Minister of Finance. — Referring to your order, A #2250, the Commission, composed of the undersigned, reports that in their presence, at the State Printing Works, 1944 copies of 2 para stamps and 2040 of 1 para stamps were printed. The first are on lilac-grey paper and are printed in dark green color. The others are on pale-rose paper, printed in yellowish green color.

The work of the Commission completed, the non-usable material has been destroyed and the stamps handed to the management for safekeeping."

Signed: Radoje Sarcevich
Kikola Petrovic
Adolf Jaksa

It is surprising that the color of both stamps is described as green. In the catalogs the 1 para stamp of the first printing is never listed as yellowish green and the 2 para dark green is rarely found — probably less than a dozen copies exist. More copies exist of the dull grayish green shade usually listed in the catalogs as a color error. It would seem from the above report that the 2 para dark green is the

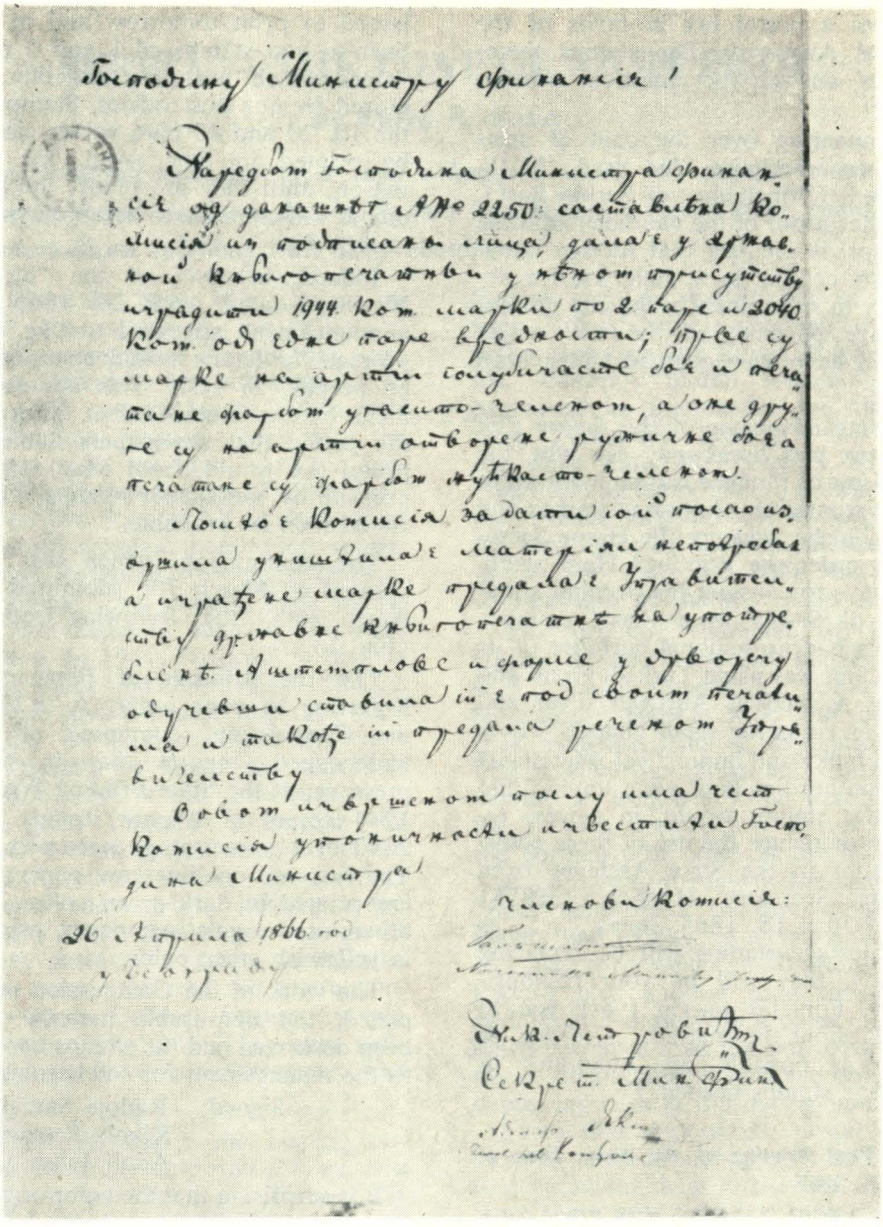


Fig. 1. Report of the Commission — April 26th, 1866.

regular 2 para stamp of the first printing. Some philatelists now advocate this theory. Nineteen hundred and forty four stamps could not disappear that easily. Possibly the colors were mixed up in the report. One or two sheets of the dark green stamps from the color trials, placed accidentally or purposely on top of sheets of the 2 para red brown, might have caused such an error. The Commission probably checked the more important quantity and not the shades.

The following facts indicate that the

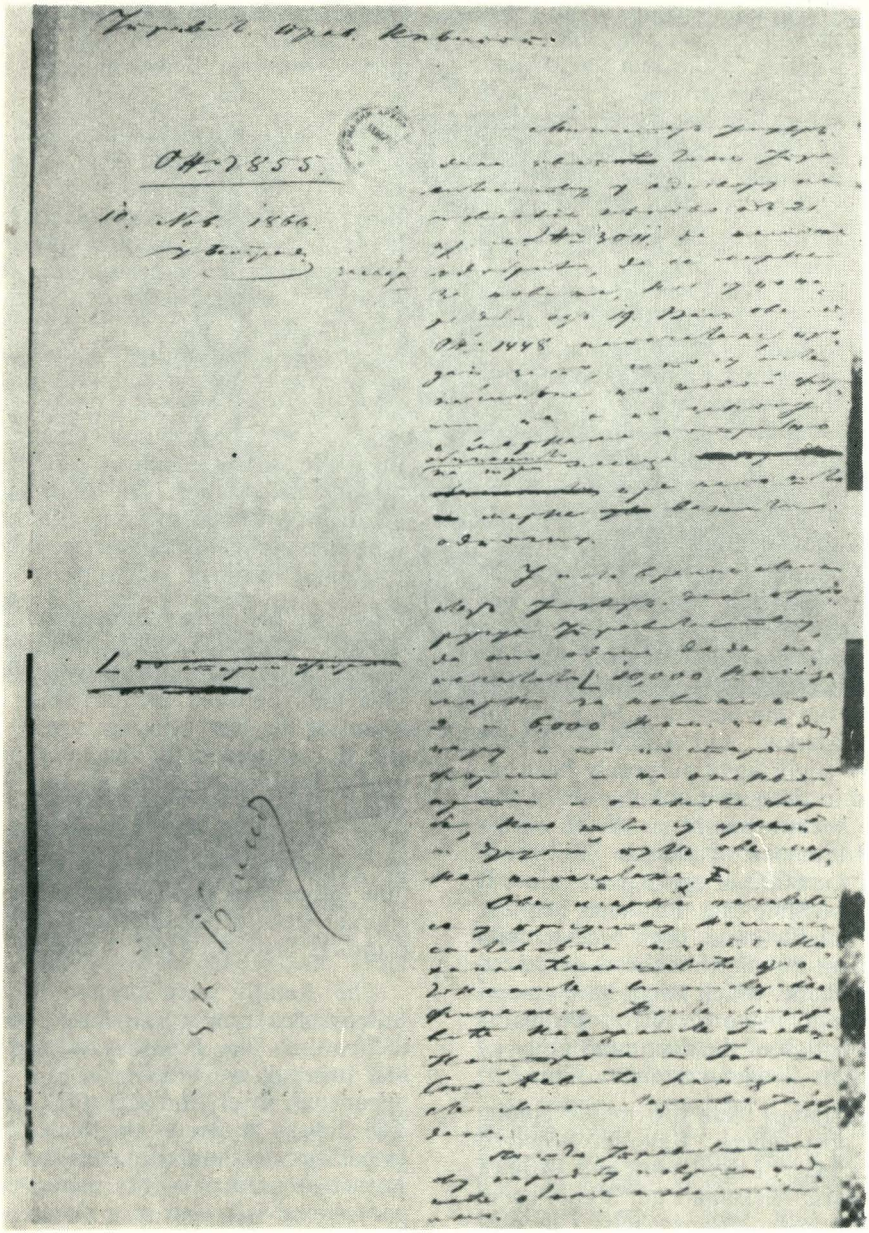


Fig. 2. Letter to the Printing Works — November 10, 1866

colors mentioned in the report is in error"

(1) On November 10, 1886, # On 2855 (Fig. 2) the Home Office recommended that the State Printing Works print, without delay, 10,000 copies of the 2 para and 6,000 of the 1 para stamps in the old design, on the same paper and in the same colors as those used in the first and second printings (April 26th and May 19th). This letter, written by

Sarcevich, head of the Post & Telegraph Section, would not expressly mention the first printing if the two values had both been printed in shades of green. Sarcevich was a member of the Commission during both printings and had first hand knowledge about them.

(2) In his order A #2250 of April 25th, the Minister of Finance asked the Commission to record in writing before starting to print, what color paper and ink would be used for each of the stamps. It is not likely the Commission chose shades of green for both stamps, something bound to cause difficulties during usage.—(Unfortunately this document is still missing).

The commission, in whose presence the first printing was executed, was obviously anxious to get as large a quantity as possible ready for distribution. Since 1944 2 para stamps had to be sent out the next day, May 1st, for use in Kladovo and Aleksinet, 2 para stamps might have purposely been included in the green color trials of this stamp because the order of the Ministry of Finance of March 7th, 1866, called for 6000 of the 2 para value. It is also possible that the sheets of these trials might have been accidentally placed on top of other sheets in the red brown shade, which might have caused Petrovic to make the error. From the reproduction of the document (Fig. 1) it appears it was written by him.

The stamps were distributed among three post offices: Belgrade received 1500 copies of the 1 para and 1404 of the 2 para; Aleksinatz got 300 of each; and Kladovo 240 of each. The post offices were advised by an accompanying letter that they could sell the stamps to the public, but not for less than the 10 para "charshia" rate.

The stamps were printed by typography in sheets of 12. 170 sheets of the 1 para and 162 sheets of the 2 para were printed.

Twelve separate engravings were made in wood, one for every stamp. These were cast in type metal. As can be expected, each of the stamps showed different flaws, making them very easy to plate.

The stamps are rectangular in shape, 17½ mm by 22 mm. The coat of arms of the Principality of Serbia within a circle of 77 white pearls is in the center, framed by a double line. Over the arms is the inscription, "K.S. Posta," in colored lettering. Below it is the value, "1 Para 1," or "2 Para 2," in similar lettering. The overall rectangular frame is composed of two lines, the outer one being thicker. The entire inner background surrounding the circle is filled with 24 horizontal broken dotted lines. The impressions are divided from each other by three unbroken vertical lines and two broken horizontal lines on each sheet.

One of the broken horizontal lines was damaged before the second printing of the 2 para stamps was made. This line, between the 7th and 11th stamp of the first printing is very thin and is continuous. In the later printings it is thick. The break is always about 1½ mm in length and is just below the letter "E" of "PARE" on the 7th stamp. This damaged plate, the thin paper and the surface color are characteristic of the sheets of the later printings (NS. 5) (Fig. 3 and 4)

The stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper purchased across the border. The 1 para values of the first printing are mostly on thin hard paper and, rarely, on soft thick paper. The 2 para is always on thick paper. In addition to the dark green shade on surface-colored pale rose paper, the 1 para stamp is found in a slightly different deep bronze-green shade with the surface-colored paper in a little stronger lilac color. Occasionally, this paper is nearly white, perhaps caused by fading. A very rare variety on soft thick paper is listed by Stanley Gibbons. The normal stamp, in good condition with gum, is scarce and it is doubtful that an entire sheet has been preserved, even in the archives.

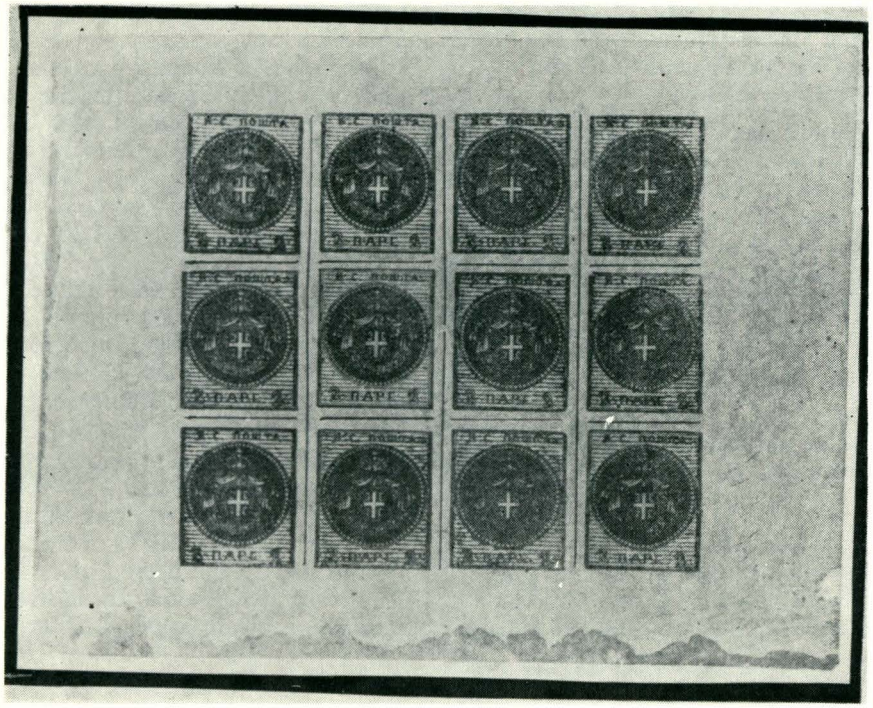


Fig. 3. Sheet of the 2 para, first printing.

The 2 para stamp of the first printing is normally red brown on thick surface-colored lilac-grey paper. It is the only stamp of all the printings which has been recorded with the "Naplaceno" cancellation. About two dozen entire sheets are known. (Fig. 4)

The 2 para stamp is also known in dull greyish green on grey-rose and in deep bronze green on pale rose. The paper is usually thick. It is mostly described as an error of color, The main reason for this catalog listing (see footnote 22 in Stanley Gibbons) is Derocco's statement that he has seen two single copies of such stamps with the boxed "Naplaceno" cancellation of the Belgrade post office. If these copies had been genuinely used it would then be correct to consider the dark green 2 para stamps color errors. However, I have inspected the two copies reported by Derocco, and while I agree that the cancellations are genuine, this does not prove they were genuinely used. Remembering the story narrated by De Smeth in his handbook, I believe these cancellations are probably favors. According to him, during criminal proceedings in 1894, a witness testified that, on behalf of a Belgrade Book & Stationery store, acting for a stamp dealer in Saxony (Senf ?), he arranged with a postal employee to have certain quantities of the newspaper stamps cancelled with the "Naplaceno" canceller. These two stamps were in the Ferrari collection when it was auctioned and it is possible that he had them cancelled when visiting Belgrade. This, and the fact that they come in two dull green shades, plus a deep bronze-green shade on different papers, supports the contention that they are color trials. An error can occur once, but not three times. Also important, is the confirmation given by Stevan Popovich, an inspector of the Serbian Postal Administration who in 1896 published much information about the first Serbian

postage stamps in the, Austria Philatelist. Newly published documents from the State Archives about the first issue of Serbia all confirm Popovich's statements as correct.

It should also be pointed out that the 2 para dull green is a very fine impression, probably printed from the first plate. The deep bronze-green shade is not clear and might have occurred during a later printing. I have seen more than two dozen copies of the dull greyish green shade and six or seven of the deep bronze-green, two of which were cancelled.

The Second and Third Printing of the Arms Issue (May 20th and Nov. 15th)

On May 11, 1866 the Home Office requested the Minister of Finance to issue orders to print, as soon as possible, 18,000 copies of each of the 1 para and 2 para values. Printing started on May 13th in the presence of the same Commission in which Sarcevich was replaced by Mladen Z. Radojkovic, a secretary of the Post and Telegraph Section of the Home Office. While the stamps were still on press, a request was received from the Aleksinatz post office for 1,000 2 para stamps. Documents now published, show that 85 sheets (1020 copies) were sent to them on May 19th and were received on May 22nd. The entire printing, consisting of 18,360 copies of the 1 para 1530 sheets) and 18,300 copies of the 2 para (1525 sheets) was also completed on the 19th.

Belgrade received 17,300 copies of the 1 para (Fig. 5) and 17,340 copies of the 2 para stamps. From this quantity Aleksinatz got 1,020 of the 2 para stamps and 1,000 of the 1 para stamp. The respective receipts are in the State Archives and it appears from these

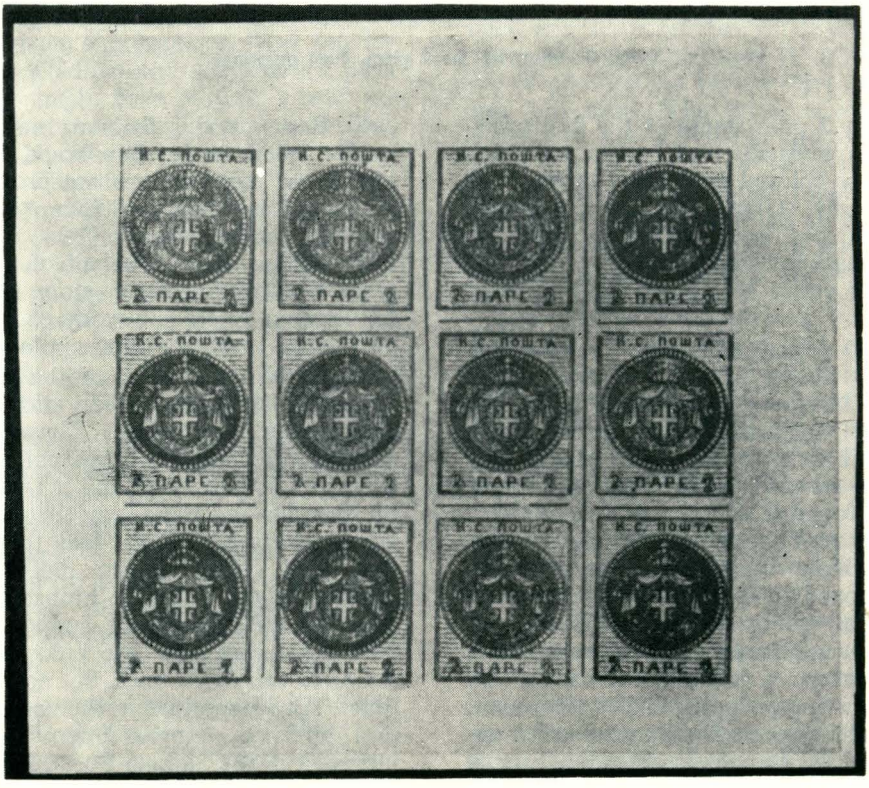


Fig. 4. Sheet of the 2 para, second printing.

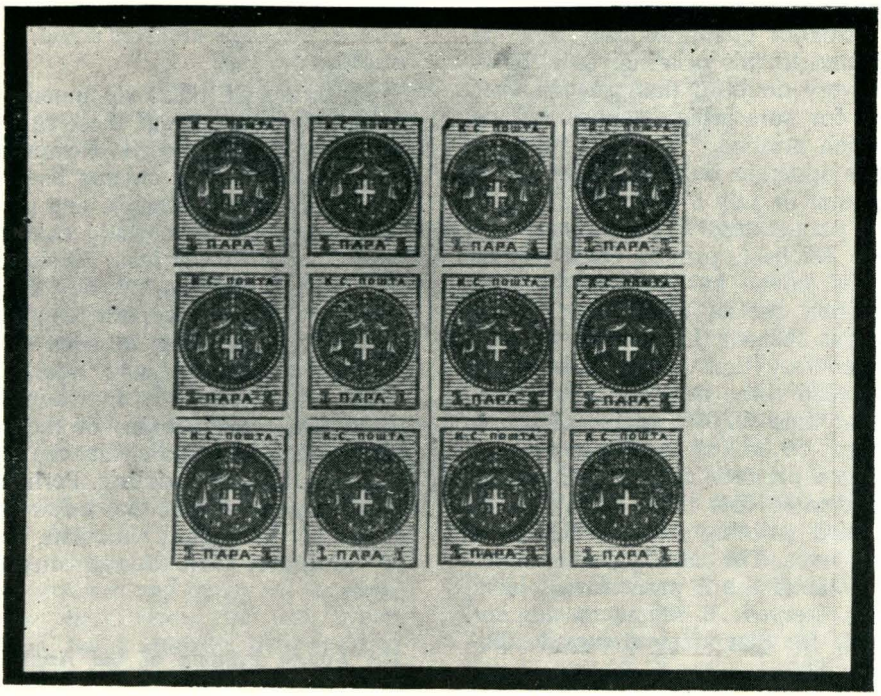


Fig. 5. Sheet of the 1 para, second printing.

documents that the stamps were placed on sale between May 20th and 25th.

Again, as at the time of the first printing, the post office at Karantin Raca at the Bosnian border did not receive any stamps, although the mail from Bosnia had been entering Serbia at that point since 1852. It has been established that correspondence from Bosnia before 1875, for destinations in the Monarchy in addition to those in Turkey, was on most occasions mailed with Austrian, and after July 1871, Hungarian stamps. Therefore, it is possible that newspapers from Sarajevo were mailed prefranked with Serbian newspaper stamps, as was the case with letters for destinations in Austria and Hungary.

The 1 para stamps of this printing are always on thick soft paper and the 2 para stamps are always on thin paper. The 1 para stamp is either bistre or olive green on surface-colored pink paper. The 2 para is red brown on lavender. The sage green shade of the 1 para stamp and the chocolate brown of the 2 para stamps were also considered to belong to this printing. However, Mr. Vukovic discovered documents revealing a third printing of the 1 and 2 para stamps on similar paper and shades. The quantities of the third printing are smaller, consequently we can only assume that the rarer sage green shade of the 1 para stamp and the chocolate brown shade of the 2 para stamp belong to this later printing.

Until recently, it was thought that the 1 para deep green on lilac colored paper belonged to the third printing. The letter from the Home Office [No. 2855] dated November 10, 1866, (Fig. 2) to the State Printing Works, revealed that a printing of another 6,000 1 para stamps and 10,000 2 para stamps in the same design and colors was ordered. As mentioned before, it can only be assumed that the 1 para stamp was in the sage green shade and the 2 para was in the chocolate brown shade on papers similar to that of the previous printing. These

two shades of the May and November printings are the rarest. Because of their smaller quantities they may be attributed to this printing. It is, however, very doubtful that we will ever know for sure which stamps belong to which printing.

It is apparent from the same document that in July a quantity of the 1 and 2 para stamps with the portrait of Prince Michael, printed from cliches brought home by Raichevich were kept from use by the Home Office. This was because the postal law made it mandatory that any new issue be announced three months in advance. At that time 60,000 copies of the 1 para and 59,050 of the 2 para stamps had been printed. The 1967 Jugofilatelija catalog lists these quantities as the third printing of the "Coat of Arms" issue. The catalog further states that none of the 2 para stamps have been preserved. It seems to me impossible for that many stamps to disappear without a trace. It seems even more impossible that such a large quantity would be printed considering their meager usage and the small amounts previously prepared.

My written requests to friends in Belgrade for clarification met with failure. So, during my trip to Jugoslavia in the summer of 1970, I decided to try and get a satisfactory explanation. Again, I met with failure. Fortunately, V. Ercegovic, editor of, "Filatelija," of Zagreb, promised to help me. Indeed, In January 1971, he put me in touch with M. Vukovic, who on his own initiative not only has been able to clarify this mystery, but also has managed to find in the State Archives a large number of unpublished documents relating to the early issues of Serbian postage stamps.

This printing was completed on November 14, 1866, and that day the Commission reported that 6,000 copies of the 1 para stamps and 10,000 copies of the 2 para stamps were handed to Raichevich for distribution.

At the moment no information has been found concerning the delivery of these stamps to the post offices. The new law of October 31, 1866, transfered the project to the Printing Works, but their archives could not be traced.

In future, if these documents are found, the sequence of these printings will have to be revised. However, in view of the present catalog listings, I would not like to suggest any premature changes. I am mostly concerned with the fact that at least 20 sheets of the "first" printing of the 2 para stamps exist and none, not even a pair, of the 1 para. This, in spite of the printed quantities being nearly the same. This might be an indication that more than 1,944 copies of the same stamp were printed and that the stamp belongs to a later printing. Perhaps, it should be mentioned that a few single copies of the 2 para chocolate brown on lavender were found on thick paper.

The Fourth Printing of the Arms Issue (December 15, 1866)

This printing was originally called the "third" and it includes only the 1 para stamp. The color of this stamp is deep green and the paper is lilac on both sides. The two qualities of paper used were thin, and in lesser degree, thick. It was printed from old plates. The work was completed on December 14th, 1866, before a commission composed of M. Belesevich, K. Lazarevich and G. Stojicevich, who reported that the required quantity of 10,000 copies was handed to Raichevich for distribution. However, the stamps were never placed on sale.

Usage of the Newspaper Stamps of 1866 Forgeries

S. V. Popovich also supplied the "Austria Philatelist" with information concerning the use of the Newspaper Stamps of 1866. According to him, the postal tax for newspapers coming from abroad to subscribers in Serbia had to be paid in advance. This is in line with article 23 of law of January 25, 1866. The postal employees at the point of entry on the border had to

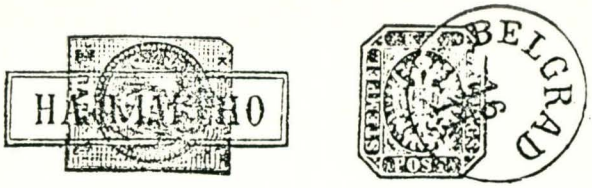


Fig. 6. Reconstruction of stamps on the newspaper, "Danica."

apply the stamps, using as payment the deposit made by the subscribers. There were four points of entry: Belgrade, Aleksinatz in the south, Kladovo in the northeast for mail from Moldavia and, in isolated cases after 1851, Karantin Raca for mail from Bosnia.

Since article 16 of the implementing law of March 13, 1866, prescribed that the stamps had to be placed partly on the wrapper and partly on the contents so they would be torn when removed, many students believe these stamps were not supposed to be cancelled. This is not necessarily so. The law says nothing about *not* cancelling these stamps. It is true that for postage stamps it expressly states that they *must* be cancelled with the "Naplaceno" postmark of the prestamp period. Nevertheless, it cannot be logically concluded from this that newspaper stamps should *not* be cancelled. The reason why so few cancelled stamps have survived is very simple. The issue was in use about ten months and there were very few people in Serbia who subscribed to foreign newspapers.

De Smeth and Derocco both mention a copy of, "Danica," a newspaper published in Novi Sad addressed to a Mr. Ostojic in Kragujevata. A recon-



Fig. 7. Sarajevo newspaper of August 13, 1866 and another stamp used at Kar Raca.

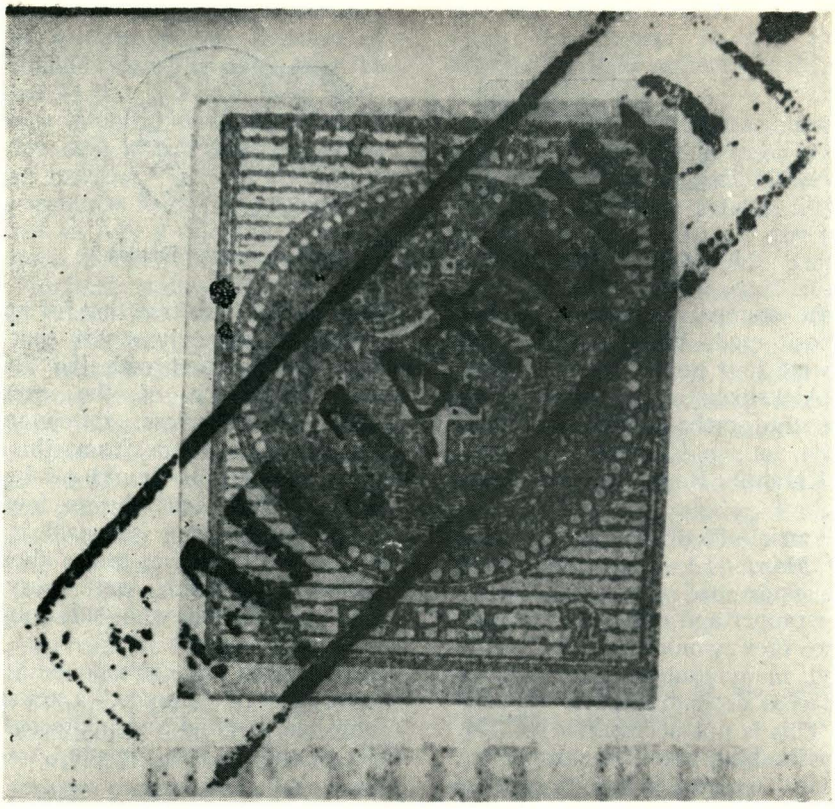


Fig. 8. Enlargement of Kar Raca stamp.

struction of it is shown in Fig. 6.

During World War I an Austrian soldier found an entire copy of "Bosanski Vjestnik," a newspaper published in Sarajevo, among the correspondence of Mrs. Mina Vukomanovich, daughter of the Serbian poet Vuk Karadjich. The paper was dated August 13, 1866, and was franked with a 2 para stamp of the first printing cancelled with the boxed "Paplaceno" of the Karantin Raca post office. (Fig. 7) This cancel is different from any other "Naplaceno" cancel. Its size is 37 mm by 10½ mm, which is slightly wider than the Belgrade cancel which is 37 mm by 10 mm. The lettering has entirely different characteristics from other "Naplaceno" marks. This is clearly visible, particularly at both the letters "A" and at the "P, L, H and E." Enlargements of the stamp from the "Bosanski Vjestnik," and from a single stamp (Fig. 8) show that these characteristics also appear on the single.

Two, or possibly three, stamps off newspaper have been recorded in addition to the "Bosanski Vjestnik" copy. They may be counted among the great European rarities. That on the newspaper is the greatest surviving rarity of this issue.

Lot 487 of the Ferrari sale of June 15, 1923, was a 2 para stamp off newspaper with a horizontal strike of the Belgrade post office of which the letters, "NAPL," are visible. This may be one of the favor cancels obtained in the 1890's by the stamp dealer in Saxony mentioned before and not the one seen by Derocco from "Danica." That copy had a vertical strike. The Belgrade cancellations are all off newspaper and, with the exception of the "Danica" copy, it is impossible to

Continued on page 342

SAMOA

The Palm Trees Issues, 1886-1900

By Robert P. Odenweller

Continued from page 259, Vol. 55, No. 4, July 1976

THE CATALOGUE

½d PALM TREES

cat. no.	perforation	paper	mesh	wmk.	spacing	shades	mint	used
Oct. 15, 1886		*Original Issue*				*(12,480 printed)*		
B1a	12½	HM		6		purple brown	RR	RR
July 6, 1887		*Change of Perforation*				*(9,600 printed)*		
Nov. 5, 1887						*(24,240 printed)*		
B1b	12 x 11½	HM		6		purple brown	RR	RRR
May 9, 1890		*Change of Paper*				*(60,720 printed*)*		
B1c	12 x 11½	VM		4		(1) deep purple brown	RRR	RR
						(2) purple black	RRR	RR

*Note: Two papers are presumed to have been used for the May 1890 printing. Estimates of relative proportions of this printing indicate that approximately 25% to 30% of this printing (approximately 18,000 copies) was on the VM 4 paper.

May 9, 1890		*Printings on VM 7 Paper*				*(60,720 printed*)*		
Oct. 27, 1891						*(79,440 printed)*		
B1d	12 x 11½	VM		7		(1) purple brown	S	S
						(2) purple black	S	S

sheet numbers — large, about #159251

*Note: 70% to 75% of this printing (approximately 42,000 copies) is believed to be on the VM 7 paper. (See note after B1c).

Mar. 7, 1891		*Temporary Use of Perf. 12½ Machine (600 printed)*						
B1e	12½	VM		7		?	U	U

Note: At the time of publication, none of this printing has been recorded.

POST OFFICE FIRE — ALL STOCKS OF THE ½d BELIEVED DESTROYED (1 April 1895)

May 11, 1895 (i)		*First Perf. 11 Issues*				*(18,360 printed)*		
Jan. 11, 1897 (ii)						*(47,880 printed)*		
Oct. 11, 1897 (iii)						*(118,800 printed)*		
B1f	11	VM		7		purple brown (shades)	C	S
	(z) Double Perforations						R	RRR

sheet numbers (i) — large, 925001 to 926800

sheet numbers (ii) — large, 353001 to 353600

sheet numbers (iii) — large, 612501 to 614500

cat. no.	perforation	paper	mesh	wmk.	spacing	shades	mint	used
July 18, 1899			*Changed Colors on New Paper (199,160 printed)*					
B1g	11	Coarse	VM	7		(1) dull blue green	C	RR
						(2) deep green	C	RR
						(3) green	C	RR
	(z) Double Perforations [on (1)]						—	—
	(y) Patched and Replaced [on (1)]						—	—

sheet numbers — small, 204002 to 205000

Sept. 20, 1899 (i) *"Provisional Gov't." Overprints (48,000 printed)*
Jan. 19, 1900 (ii) *(94,800 printed)*

OVERPRINTED IN RED

OB1h	11	Coarse	VM	7		(1) dull blue green (i)	C	R
						(2) deep yellow green (ii)	C	R
	(z) Double Perforations [on (2)]						RRR	—

sheet numbers (i) — small (5mm), 265501 to 267124

sheet numbers (ii) — small (5mm), 347501 to 350300

Feb. 7, 1900			*Original Shades on New Paper (71,880 printed)*					
B1k	11	Coarse	VM	7		(1) deep purple brown	C	RRR
						(2) purple brown	C	RRR
						(3) purple black	C	RRR

sheet numbers — small, 368501 to 371050

1d PALM TREES

Nov. 5, 1886			*Original Issue*			*(12,480 printed)*		
B2a	12½	HM		6		yellow green	R	R

July 6, 1887			*Change of Perforation*			*(9,360 printed)*		
Nov. 5, 1887		HM		6		*(24,240 printed)*		
B2b	12 x 11½					yellow green	RRR	RR

May 9, 1890			*Change of Paper*			*(61,560 printed*)*		
B2c	12 x 11½	VM		4		yellow green	R	R

*Note: Estimates of numbers of this printing on VM 4 paper vary from 90% to 25% (55,000 to 16,000 copies) with the latter number more likely. (See note after B1c).

May 9, 1890			*Printing on VM 7 Paper*			*(61,560 printed*)*		
Oct. 27, 1891						*(80,040 printed)*		
B2d	12 x 11½	VM		7		(1) green	R	S
						(2) blue green	R	S

*Note: Estimates of numbers of this printing on VM 7 paper vary from 10% to 75% (6,000 to 45,000 copies) with the latter number more likely. (See note after B1c).

Mar. 7, 1891			*Temporary Use of Perf. 12½ Machine (600 printed)*					
B2e	12½	VM		7		?	U	U

Note: At the time of publication, none of this printing has been recorded.

cat. no.	perforation	paper	mesh	wmk.	spacing	shades	mint	used

POST OFFICE FIRE — ALL STOCKS OF THE 1d BELIEVED DESTROYED (1 Apr. 1895)

May 11, 1895 (i) *First Perf. 11 Issues (18,480 printed)*
Jan. 11, 1897 (ii) *(46,800 printed)*
Oct. 11, 1897 (iii) *(119,400 printed)*

B2f		11	VM		7	(1) green (i)	S	R
						(2) pale blue green (ii)	C	S
						(3) blue green (iii)	C	S

sheet numbers (i) — large, 925001 to 926800

sheet numbers (ii) — large, 353001 to 353600

sheet numbers (iii) — large, 612501 to 614500

Note: A portion of (ii) and (iii) was overprinted "Surcharged 2½d" (See 2½d overprint section).

July 18, 1899 *Changed Colors on New Paper (119,280 printed)*

B2g		11	Coarse	VM	7	(1) red brown	C	R
						(2) deep red brown	C	R
	(z) Double Perforations [on (1)]						—	—
	(y) Patched and Replaced [on (1)]						—	—

sheet numbers — small, 204002 to 205000

Sept. 20, 1899 (i) *"Provisional Gov't." Overprints (47,520 printed)*
Jan. 19, 1900 (ii) *(94,560 printed)*

OVERPRINTED IN BLUE

OB2h		11	Coarse	VM	7	(1) red brown (i)	C	R
						(2) deep red brown (ii)	C	R
	(z) Double Perforations						RRR	—

sheet numbers (i) — small (5mm), 265501 to 267124

sheet numbers (ii) — small (5mm), 347501 to 350300

Feb. 7, 1900 *Original Shades on New Paper (71,400 printed)*

B2k		11	Coarse	VM	7	(1) deep green	C	RRR
						(2) deep blue green	C	RRR
	(z) Gummed Both Sides [on (1)]						—	—

sheet numbers — small, 368501 to 371050

"SURCHARGED 1½d" OVERPRINTS ON 2d PALM TREES

cat. no.	perforation	color of surcharge	(H)andstamped or (P)rinted	shades	mint	used

Jan. 28, 1895 *"Surcharged 1½d" Type (S1) (Applied at Auckland)*

OB3dS1	12 x 11½	deep blue	H	(1) dull orange	RR	R
		blue black	H	(2) pale orange	RRR	RR

Note: The type 1 overprint (S1) is distinguished from type 2 by the shape of the second "r" in "Surcharged." In type 1 it has the same shape as the first and is upright.

cat. no.	perforation	color of surcharge	(H)andstamped or (P)rinted	shades	mint	used
Jan. 28, 1895		*"Surcharged 1½d" Type 2 (S2) (Applied at Apia)*				
OB3dS2	12 x 11½	deep greenish blue	H	dull orange	R	RRR

Note: The S2 overprint differs from the S1 in that the second "r" of "Surcharged" is malformed and leans to the right.

POST OFFICE FIRE — ALL STOCKS OF SURCHARGED 1½d STAMPS BELIEVED DESTROYED (1 April 1895)

June, 1895 *"Surcharged 1½d" Type 1 (S1) (Applied at Auckland)*

OB3fS1	11	deep blue	P	(1)	orange	R	S
		pale greenish blue	P	(2)	pale orange	R	S
		blue black	P	(3)	orange yellow	R	S
		pale greenish blue	P	(4)	yellow	R	S
	(z) Surcharge Double					RRR	—
	(y) Double Perforations					RRR	—
	(x) Horibontal Pair, One Without Surcharge					RRR	U

sheet numbers — large, 925001 to 926750

Note: This S1 on Perf. 11 stamps is the same as the first S1. A sub-type, S1a is the same, but the bottom of the fraction diagonal is flat, rather than rounded as in S1. 18,000 copies are believed to have been printed.

OB3fS1a	11	deep blue	H	(1)	orange	RR	R
		deep blue	P	(2)	orange	RR	R

Jan. 20, 1896 *"Surcharged 1½d" Type 3 (S3) (Applied at Auckland)*

OB3fS3	11	pale greenish blue	H	(1)	orange yellow	N	R
		pale greenish blue	P	(2)	orange yellow	N	R
		pale greenish blue	P	(3)	pale orange yellow	N	R
	(z) Surcharge Double					RR	RRR

sheet numbers — large, 110501 to 110850

Note: S3 is a new type with a serif at the foot of the "2." There is also a small patch of color on the top of the curve of the "2."

2d PALM TREES

cat. no.	perforation	paper mesh	wmk.	spacing	shades	mint	used
Nov. 5, 1886		*Original Issue*			*(12,480 printed)*		
B3a	12½	HM		6	(1) brown orange	R	R
					(2) orange	R	R
July 6, 1887 (i)		*Change of Perforation*			*(9,600 printed)*		
Nov. 5, 1887 (ii)					*(24,240 printed)*		
B3b	12 x 11½	HM		6	(1) yellow (i)	RR	RRR
					(2) yellow orange (ii)	RR	RRR
May 9, 1890		*Change of Paper*			*(60,600 printed*)*		
B3c	12 x 11½	VM		4	(1) orange brown	RR	S
					(2) orange yellow	RR	S

*Note: Estimates of numbers of this printing on VM 4 paper vary from 60% to 25% (36,000 to 15,000 copies) with the latter number more likely. (See note after B1c).

cat. no.	perforation	surcharge	or (P)rinted	shades	mint	used
May 9, 1890 (i)		*Printings on VM 7*		*(60,600 printed*)*		
Oct. 27, 1891 (ii)				*(78,600 printed)*		
B3d	12 x 11½	VM	7	(1) orange (i)	S	S
				(2) brown orange (ii)	S	S
				(3) yellow brown (iii)	S	S

sheet numbers — large, about #158740

*Note: Estimates of numbers of this printing on VM 7 paper vary from 40% to 75% (24,000 to 45,000 copies) with the latter number more likely. (See note after B1c).

Mar. 7, 1891 *Temporary use of Perf. 12½ Machine (600 printed)*

B3e	12½	VM	7	orange yellow	U	RRR

Note: 3 used copies are recorded.

POST OFFICE FIRE — ALL STOCKS OF 2d BELIEVED DESTROYED (1 April 1895)

May 11, 1895 (i)		*First Perf. 11 Issues*		*(18,480 printed)*		
Jan. 20, 1896 (ii)				*(83,400 printed)*		
Jan. 11, 1897 (iii)				*(47,280 printed)*		
Oct. 11, 1897 (iv)				*(119,280 printed)*		
B3f	11	VM	7	(1) yellow (i)	RR	RR
				(2) orange yellow (ii)	R	R
				(3) bright yellow (iii)	C	R
				(4) ochre (iv)	C	R
				(5) pale ochre (iv)	C	R
	(z) Double Perforations				RR	—

sheet numbers (i) — large, 925001 to 926800

sheet numbers (ii) — large, 110501 to 110850

sheet numbers (iii) — large, 353001 to 353600

sheet numbers (iv) — large, 612501 to 614500

Note: Portions of (i) and (ii) were overprinted "Surcharged 1½d" and "R3d." (See the 1½d and 3d overprint sections).

Sept. 20, 1899 (i) *"Provisional Gov't." Overprints (48,120 printed)*
Jan. 19, 1900 (ii) *(94,200 printed)*

OVERPRINTED IN RED

OB3h	11	Coarse VM	7	(1) bright orange (i)	C	R
				(2) deep ochre (ii)	C	RR
	(z) Double Perforations [on (1)]				—	—

sheet numbers (i) — small (5mm), 265501 to 267124

sheet numbers (ii) — small (5mm), 347501 to 350300

Feb. 7, 1900 *Printing on New Paper (70,800 printed)*

B3k	11	Coarse VM	7	brown ochre	C	U
	(z) Double Perforations				—	U

sheet numbers — small, 368501 to 371050

cat. no.	perforation	paper	mesh	wmk.	spacing	shades	mint	used

2½d MALIETOA

Jan. 7, 1892 *Original Issue* *(24,600 printed)*

B4ax		12½	VM		7	rose	S	R

Note: Both printings before the fire were from Plate I.

Nov. 22, 1892 *Change of Perforation (59,880 printed)*

B4d		12 x 11½	VM		7	(1) rose	RRR	S
						(2) pale rose	RRR	S

POST OFFICE FIRE — ALL STOCKS OF THE 2½d BELIEVED DESTROYED (1 Apr. 1895)

Note: All printings after the fire were from Plate II.

July 9, 1895 (i) *First Perf. 11 Issues* *(18,360 printed)*
Oct. 11, 1897 (ii) *(119,160 printed)*

B4f		11	VM		7	(1) rose (i)	C	RR
						(2) rose carmine (ii)	C	RR
	(z) Patched Before Perforation						RRR	—
	(y) Double Perforations [on (1)]							

sheet numbers (ii) — large 612501 to 614500

June 16, 1896 *Changed Colors* *(118,080 printed)*

B4g		10 x 11	VM		7	black	C	RR
	(z) Double Perforations (vertically)						RRR	—
	(y) Patched and Reperforated						RRR	—
	(x) Mixed Perforations (horizontally)						—	—
	(w) Mixed Perfs Horizontally and Double Perfs Vertically						RRR	—

sheet numbers — large, 205001 to 205500

B4gx		11	VM		7	black	RRR	RR

Note: B4gx is a perforation variety of the 1896 printing.

Feb. 7, 1900 *Original Shades on New Paper (72,000 printed)*

B4k		11	Coarse VM		7	(1) deep rose carmine	C	RRR
						(2) dull rose carmine	C	RRR
	(z) Partial Print Variety (Design missing at bottom)						RRR	—

sheet numbers — small, 368501 to 371050

cat. no.	perforation	color of surcharge	(H)andstamped or (P)rinted	shades	mint	used

"SURCHARGED 2½d" ON VARIOUS PALM TREES STAMPS

May 17, 1898

First "Surcharged 2½d" (Ta) (Type "A" only, handstamped individually)

OB8gTa	11	black	H	dull rose carmine	S	R
	(z) Surcharge Double				RRR	—

Note: This is the only printing from the "T" section to be handstamped, and all copies are Type A (see text). The overprints of the "Ta" group are more matte appearing and are of a lighter shade generally than those printed from stereos.

May 17, 1898 *"Surcharged 2½d" on 2/6 (Tb)*

OB9gTb	11	black	P	deep purple (wmk rev)	N	RR
	(z) Minor Stereo Damage Varieties				S	RRR

Row 1, #1 — large 2, curved piece missing at top left.
Row 4, #6 — small break in top of "c"

May 17, 1898 *"Surcharged 2½d" on 1/- in red (Tc)*

OB8gTc	11	red	P	rose carmine	N	RR
	(z) Minor Stereo Varieties				S	RRR

Row 1, #1 — large 2, curved piece missing at top left

Row 4, #6 — small break in top of "c"

(y) Surcharge Double

Jan. 11, 1897 (i) *"Surcharged 2½d" on 1d in red (Td)*
Oct. 11, 1897 (ii)

OB2fTd	11	red	P	(1) pale blue green (i)	C	RR
				(2) blue green (ii)	C	RR
				(3) pale green (ii)	C	RR
	(z) Surcharge Inverted [on (2)]				—	RRR
	(y) Double Perforations [on (2)]				RRR	—
	(x) Minor Stereo Damage Varieties				C	RR

Row 1, #1 — large 2, curved piece missing at top left.

Row 4, #1 — break in foot of "d" of Surcharged

Row 4, #2 — "rg" broken [on (1)]

Row 4, #3 — 2 of ½ and bar broken

Row 4, #6 — small break in top of "d" of value and in "c" [on (1)]

Row 4, #8 — spot of color in head of "e"

Row 5, #1 — broken "g"

Row 8, #3 — nick near top of bar

sheet numbers (ii) — large, 612501 to 614500

Note: Other minor varieties include misplaced surcharge (sideways or upward) [on (2) or (3)], roller offsets on back [on (2) or (3)], and partial double prints ("kiss" print) [on (2)].

(To be Continued)

The Clubhouse

The Meeting of June 16, 1976

MALTA

Presented by PHYLLIS L. TURNBULL

Our speaker on the evening of June 16th was a long way from home. Phyllis L. Turnbull, whose home is in Australia, was kind enough to substitute for Tomas Bjarringer of Brussels who was unable to come to New York to show his collection of Sweden originally scheduled for that date.

Mrs. Turnbull's presentation was both interesting and lively. Furthermore, her prize-winning display of Malta gave members a chance to see some fine material from that tiny British entity in the Mediterranean whose postal emanations are rarely shown.

Her remarks follow:

Malta is a group of five islands in the Mediterranean, between Africa on the south and Sicily on the north. Together, the islands comprise an area of 122 square miles (Malta 95, Gozo 26, Comino 1). Cominoto and Filfa are uninhabited. Total population of the group is 320,000.

The group is steeped in history, dating back more than 3,000 years B. C. Relics of copper, bronze and pottery, as well as the remains of stone-age temples are found on the islands which were first colonized by the Phoenicians around 800 B.C. They were followed by the Romans who arrived in 215 B.C.

St. Paul was shipwrecked on the northeast coast of Malta in 60 A.D. when the island was known as Melita. Its tiny walled capitol city was also known as Melita. The island country was one of the earliest countries to accept Christianity.

800 years later in 870, the islands fell into the hands of the Arabs and remained under their domination for almost 200 years. Then, in 1090, the islanders were freed by Count Roger the Norman who reestablished Christianity in the country. During the next five centuries the Maltese had a procession of rulers, passing from one European to another until they were taken over by Charles V of Spain.

In 1850 Charles ceded the islands to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. They had been thrown out of Rhodes by the Turks.

The Knights of St. John reached their new home in August 1530. The fleet sailed into Grand Harbor led by the great carrack, "Santa Anna," under the command of Sir William Weston, Grand Prior of England. At that time Malta consisted of the ancient walled capitol, Fort St. Angelo with the Borgo and a few scattered villages outside the capitol walls which were constantly raided by the Turks for slaves.

Rather than invade the privacy of the nobility living within the walls of the city, the Knights took up residence in the Borgo behind Fort St. Angelo and set about trying to turn a barren rock into a living area where they could continue their charitable work. Since there was little wood or soil on the islands, the Knights were forced to import both.

In 1565 a Turkish armada laid siege to the island and left Malta even more barren than when the Knights landed. Their Grand Master at that time was John de la Valette, the last and greatest of the order's military heroes.

The Knights had a mail service and I have been able to detail the quantity of mail sent by them and the cost of the service through an ancient book of records acquired by a member of the Malta Study Circle. Unfortunately, I did not bring them with me, having to travel so far.

My collection begins with the early letters of the Knights of St. John.

My earliest is dated 1614. The earliest known was written in 1599. My next earliest are dated 1623 and 1630. One from 1655, a decree in the form of a "leave pass" from the Convent of Malta, has a superb portrait seal of the Grand Master, Lascaris. I have others from the 1700s written by famous people. The one I show here is dated 1774 and was written by the celebrated navigator, D'Entrecasteaux, while his fleet was in port at the island.

The earliest known handstamp to carry the name of Malta was that of "Marseilles" and "De Malthe"' struck separately on incoming mail at Marseilles. The year was 1759. I show here one of the six known letters with these handstamps. I also show two entire letters of a later type. These are struck in one.

The first Maltese Director of the Post Office was Domenico Montanaro. He was in charge of the mails during the latter years of the Knights rule. The islands were captured in 1798 by Napoleon. They became a British Protectorate in 1800 and a British Colony in 1814 under the Treaty of Paris.

In 1806 the Postmaster General was empowered to arrange a packet service to and from Falmouth in England. A British Packet Agency was established on the Island to deal with external mail. Rates for single letters were set at 2sld. Local delivery charges were assessed in addition so that the full rate to London was 3sld. It became 3sld in 1812.

The British Packet Agency used the Arc 'Malta' type handstamp. The one I show here of Feb. 12th 1807 is the earliest known. I also show the same mark struck in red. Only eight are known in this color. Also in the frame are several other examples of later types of this mark. Late in 1808 the agency used the same handstamp with "Paid" above. Two sizes of "Paid" are known. I show both.

"Malta" in black linear serif capitals was introduced around 1817. I show one of the very few known examples.

Along with the Packet Agency there was also an Island Post Office in the charge of a local postmaster. His pay was the equivalent of 3 pounds, 4 shillings, 7½ pence per month. This tiny local P. O. used a straightline handstruck arrival date plus delivery charge marks. A few of these are included in the frames as well as a straightline "Free" which is extremely rare.

The local post office worked at a loss and the Crown establishment produced a surplus. Both occupied rooms on the ground floor of the House of Common Treasury (the Casino Maltese) and they were at continual loggerheads.

In 1841 the Post Office of Her Majesty's Packet was removed to a building in Strada Mercanti (Merchants St.) which had served as the town hall during the time of the Knights. Frequent errors made by people who mistook one office for the other caused the local office to follow the Agency to Merchants St.

About this time the straightline "Malta Post Paid" and the "Malta Post Office" markings came into use. I show two examples of the "Post Paid." They came from the Cochrane correspondence and they are addressed to a famous old ship, "The Benbow." One is "paid to destination" and has the delivery charge marking. The other is paid to the port only, "PP," and therefore, has no local delivery charge mark. These are followed by the straightline "Malta Post Office." Three of the scarcest types are shown, as well as the very rare "Vapori de Malta" Italian ship marking. It is usually called the "Broken Broach" type because of its oval shape and how it was applied. One end or the other was usually broken.

That same year (1841) a "Malta Ship Letter" handstamp was dispatched to the colony and remained in use until 1876. Letters so stamped were carried by a private vessel, rather than a mail packet. They are scarce to rare. Another rare item shown here is the "Malta Boite Mobile." They were only issued to two ports in the Mediterranean - Malta and Alexandria.

A British post office was estab-

lished on the island in September 1857. The first cancellation it used was the letter "M" in an oval made of bars. Incidentally, some of the uncatalogued items being shown are from the "Gold Medal" Glassco "Used Abroad" collection.

A duplex cancellation was brought into use in 1859. One half was a Malta circular datestamp and the other "A 25" in bars. In that year, between Sept. 30th and Dec. 3rd, all letters posted on the island were postmarked "1856" in error, the 9 being inverted. I show one of these errors and also part of a cover postmarked the day the error was corrected.

Next we show several soldiers and sailors letters with the "Forces One Penny" letter rate. One has the rare "TOO-LATE" marking. Another shows the rare oval "More to Pay" and the very rare "1/- Postage Due" marking.

Other interesting pre-stamp marks which I cannot show due to space are the round double circle type with "Malta" at the top and the month, day and year in the center. These are found in red and also in black. I have the earliest dates of both, also a later type with "Paid" below. These are also found in red and black.

Malta issued its first postage stamp on Dec. 1st 1860, the halfpenny buff (or yellows as they are usually referred to). They were strictly for local use. The first issue was on blued paper. Some of them may be found with the "M" cancellation which was in use for about one month. They are exceptionally rare and I have one here.

Included in the display is a small part of my study of the one and only plate used in the printing of all the halfpenny yellows and the green halfpenny of 1885. They were typographed by De La Rue in a shade recorded in De La Rue's Ink or Color Book as Amber No. 668. To get this shade they used 1 oz. Indian Red Ink, No. 667 and 2 oz. Deep Chrome Ink, No. 657 which produced a very pale and often washed out shade.

Many philatelists have made extensive studies of the shades in an effort to separate them into the correct year of issue. To date, none have been very successful. Therefore, rather than cover the same ground once more, I decided to study the plate. I have found it to be extremely interesting and have turned up many flaws. Apparently this was the first time such a study had been done and I published my findings in the *London Philatelist* in 1970. I discovered that the shade of a flaw often helps with the other shades. Obviously a more advanced state of usage denotes a later shade.

Over the years I have been trying to reconstruct a full sheet of 240 stamps. I show here one pane of 60. The other three panes are not yet complete.

Only six die proofs are known of the halfpenny stamp. Two are full size, two half size and two are cut square from the De La Rue proof books. I show here a half size proof, also a specimen on "Blued Paper." I also show some 1884-86 die proofs and twelve 1899 pictorial issue color trials as well as "Malta" color trials and a progressive die proof of the 1926 1/ value Waterlow issue.

The two post offices were united in 1886 and moved along Merchant St. to the Palace which Napoleon had lived in during his occupation of the island. This was to have been a temporary measure, but the post office remained there until the middle of 1975. I was sorry to see it go, although it only moved across the street to an other historical building, one formerly used by the Knights.

Newspapers, until 1898, were carried free. From 1898 to 1900 an intaglio handstamp with "Malta Postage Paid" around the perimeter and "One Farthing" (¼d) in the round or oval center was used for newspapers.

This brings us to the stamps issued which I will explain as I go along.

Mrs. Turnbull then showed the postage stamp issues of the island group, giving a brief explanation of each issue, That was followed by a question and answer period, bringing to a close a very pleasant evening

(I. Z.)

THE CAPITAL FUND APPEAL — AN UPDATE

There are doubtless many members of our Club who in the past twelve years have cried out in purest agony, "A pox on your Capital Fund. Cease your endless prattling and dire predictions of impending doom. Leave us in peace so we may enjoy the fruits of philately."

To them we say, "You are right! You deserve tranquility and the inalienable right to enjoy your next *decade* of membership in The Collectors Club in a setting of quiet reflection, cradled in the bosom of fine fellowship and even finer stamps. These are desiderata with which no one can argue."

To achieve that desired tranquility, however, we must attain the financial stability that makes it possible. That is why the Capital Fund was started in the first place. If income from membership dues was not sufficient to maintain all the necessary services and activities of our club, another source had to be found. That source was, and still is, the Capital Fund. Part of its income is used to offset the annual deficits. For 1976, for example, the Treasurer's budget anticipates a deficit of $10,000.00. Interest and dividend income from the Capital Fund will eliminate that deficit if it materializes as budgeted.

We can truly state that the members' response during this past half-year has been extremely gratifying. To state it more precisely, the participation in "SHARE" purchase in the future of The Collectors Club has been no less than phenomenal. Since the appeal letter was sent out late in February, 63 members have achieved or pledged "SHARE" participation as follows:

PATRON	($5,000.00)	1
BENEFACTOR	($1,000.00)	14
SPONSOR	($ 500.00)	6
DONOR	($ 250.00)	7
CONTRIBUTOR	($ 100.00)	35

The potential value of the above SHARE purchases, when fully achieved, is in excess of $27,000.00.

Since the last list was published in the May 1976 issue of the Collectors Club Philatelist, the following members have achieved or pledged SHARE purchases:

BENEFACTOR

Apfelbaum, Earl and Martin (P)
Siegel, Robert A. (A)

SPONSOR

Fricks, Eugene E. (P)
Robson Lowe Internat., Ltd. (A)
Ira S. Zweifach (P)

DONOR

Backal, Isaac, Arg. (P)
Miller, William H., Jr. (P)

CONTRIBUTOR

Bonilla Lara, Alvaro (A)
Koester, Reinhold (P)
Mozian, Vahan, Inc. (A)
Wunsch, Charles L., M.D. (A)
Yoshida, Riichi (A)

CHANGE IN CATEGORY

Cheston, Col. D. M. III
from CONTRIBUTOR to
DONOR (P)

Grunin, Louis
from DONOR to
BENEFACTOR (P)

Mondolfo, Renato
from SPONSOR to
BENEFACTOR (A)

Stolow, J. & H., Inc.
from DONOR to
BENEFACTOR (A)

To all the members listed above, the heartfelt thanks of the Officers and Governors of The Collectors Club. To those who have not as yet participated, we ask you to consider the Capital Fund as your vehicle of private giving. May we remind you that all contributions are deductible for income tax purposes. In the process, the future of our Club will have been ensured. And, as chairmen of the Capital Fund, we pledge upon our sacred honor to allow you the tranquility you deserve to enjoy philately unencumbered by our periodic appeals.

(A) = Achieved (P) = Pledged

Book Reviews

1977 Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, Vol. II. Scott Publishing Co., 530 5th Ave., New York, N.Y. 10036. 856 pages, plus Addenda. Flexible binding. Available from dealers and the Scott Pub. Co. $13.00.

Volume II of the new four-volume edition of the 1977 Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue runs from the French African Territory of Afars and Issas to Portugal's Funchal. As with Volume I, new issues run rampant. So many were the stamps issued for this small grouping, that 45 pages had to be added to encompass them. There were 1,255 new issue listings in all.

In its 856 pages, Volume II also devotes 40 pages to highly useful introductory matter. It includes helpful material on paper, watermarks, separations, printing processes, inks, gum, reprints and reissues, remainders, Cinderellas, counterfeits and forgeries, repairs and fakes and terminology.

Catalogue terms are given in five languages, also listings of colonies, former colonies, territories, etc. Especially interesting in this section is a new 9-page addition that deals with stamps of common design such as are found throughout the French and Portugese colonies, the Europa issues, etc. Simplifying the listing, illustrating and locating of such stamps, it should be of great help to the general collector. It excludes overprinted stamps and those issues which are illustrated in each country. For example, the Navigation-and-Commerce and Faiderbé commemoratives of the French Colonies.

There are, of course, myriad price changes — 23,827 for just this small grouping of which 95% are increases. Most of these increases are to be found in the classic issues of the major and popular countries and in the earlier issues of the others.

As an example, early classics of Austria rose about 20%, Belgium semi-postals 20 to 40%. Nearly all of Bosnia and Herzegovina (80%) showed increases ranging frm 30 to 40%. Danish issues up to 1935 went up 15 to 30%.

France showed 500 price increases in just the 1849-1923 issues alone, ranging from 10 to 50%. Spectacular indeed, was that of the 1fr vermilion of 1849-50, which went from $15,000/$5,000 to $17,000/$6,000, a jump of $2,000 mint and $1,000 used. Even more spectacular was the jump made by the 1fr carmine tête bêche, 1849-50. It leaped $10,000, moving from $100,000 mint to $110,000 and from $60,000 used to $70,000. Also startling was the $750.00 rise of #71, the 20c blue, Sage issue, type I. Never issued, this scarce stamp went from $4,500 to $5,250.

The country showing the most price changes was Nationalist China with 2,665. Belgium followed with 2,511. Austria with 2,338 came in third.

The catalogue also contains many revisions and additions in its listings. Among them is a complete revamping of the 1881-90 watercolor handstamps of Afghanistan that affects varieties, color changes and paper variations.

There has also been a reassembling of the 1974-75 Argentinian definitives which, issued piecemeal, so appeared in past catalogues.

China has had 131 major numbers in 12 provinces added to its listings for the 1949 Silver Currency issues.

Heads rolled in the People's Republic of China in 1968 when the 8f stamp, inscribed "The Entire Nation is Red!" was issued at Canton. Its red map left Taiwan glaringly *white,* causing prompt withdrawal. A rarity, it is now listed as No. 999A and is priced at $2,000.

Denmark has had a deletion. Nos. 155 and 272A-276 are now Faroe Islands Nos. 1-6 and have been given substantial price raises.

Two sets have been added to the listings for Esthonia under German Occupation, 1941 — three postage values and six semi-postals.

The 22 handstamped provisionals of 1896-98, Fernando Po, have been re-

arranged according to surcharge type instead of by colors.

Lastly, the "A Percevoir" handstamps of French Offices in China, 1903, Nos. J7-J32A, have been rearranged to make carmine the major color with purple as the minor.

Encompassing, as it does, the postal emanations of the entire world, the compiling of a catalogue such as this is a difficult and exacting job. Once again, we must congratulate editor Hatcher and his staff for a job well done. *(Ira Zweifach)*

San Marino Zeppelins-Italian Voyage by Sebastiao Amaral. 72 pages, profusely illustrated. Privately printed. Apply to author, Caixa Postal, 367, Belo Horizonte, Brazil. Price not stated.

It seems ages ago that most philatelists gave up the impossible task of collecting the stamps of the entire world and began to limit themselves to geographical or political areas. Thus, collections of Latin-American countries and the British Commonwealth, for example, seemed feasible for many.

The almost unbelievable profusion of stamps issued even in these and other supposedly limited areas caused many collectors to specialize in the stamps of only one country. Many still do.

A logical step in this evolutionary process took place when some philatelists began to specialize in even more limited confines. In aerophilately, for example, a collector could confine his interest to pioneer flights or Zeppelin flights of the world.

The author of this book, "San Marino Zeppelins-Italian Voyage," has gone one step further. He not only limits his Zeppelin collecting to one country but, in addition, to a specific voyage of the Graf Zeppelin. Mr. Amaral is not alone in limiting his stamp collecting activities to so small a field. Many collectors the world over have done the same thing, a natural concomitant of the spate of new countries and the product of the printing press in both old and new nations.

A natural consequence of such intense specialization is that more and more philatelists have acquired detailed knowledge through study and research in their specific fields of endeavour. Some published the results of their studies. Thus, there ensued a proliferation of handbooks which have enriched the body of philatelic knowledge.

Mr. Amaral has collected the Zeppelin stamps and covers of San Marino since 1948. In the process, he has acquired almost every collectible item in his field, many of them unique. His book has made all the knowledge he has gathered over almost three decades available to the philatelic community. A small area, it is debatable whether there are that many specialists in it to fully appreciate and savor the fruits of his labor. Nevertheless, even the general Zeppelin collector can find and use the wealth of information contained in the book.

The San Marino Zeppelin stamps, issued on April 28, 1933, were made by surcharging six denominations of the first air mail issue of that country. Thus, the stamps were not available for the 1930 Europe-Pan America flight of the Graf Zeppelin to the United States — the flight with which most collectors in this country are familiar. They were used on only six specific voyages:

1, The first 1933 trip to South America,
2. The circular flight over Rome,
3. Drop mail at Nettuno, Italy, intended for Naples,
4. Rome-Friedrichshafen trip,
5. Drop mail at Barcelona, Spain, on the way to the second 1933 trip to South America,
6. The second 1933 South America trip.

For each of these trips, Mr. Amaral furnishes cover illustrations as well as drawings of all the different postmarks, cachets, Zeppelin etiquettes and registration etiquettes used at one time or

another. There are 136 illustrations in black and white, plus photographs of an additional 16 San Marino "jewels" in full color. There is text, of course, but it is sparse and unobtrusive. Mr. Amaral gives an adequate introduction to each one of the trips covered, followed by a description of the known covers.

For each of the known covers carried on the flights, Mr. Amaral has established a degree of rarity listing as follows:

A — possibly unique
B — 2 to 5 pieces known
C — 6 to 10 pieces known
D — more than 10 pieces known

It is surprising that so few San Marino covers exist for the six trips on which they were used. 20,000 stamps of the 3L/50c of the 20L/3L stamp were sold out of a printing of 20,000, yet, for the first 1933 South America trip, Mr. Amaral's listing is as follows:

description	rarity
covers with 3 lira stamp	C
covers with 5 lira stamp	C
covers with 10 lira stamp	B
covers with 12 lira stamp	B
covers with 15 lira stamp	B
covers with 20 lira stamp	B

The book ends with listings and photographs of many special items, a comprehensive bibliography and a fine, detailed index.

A labor of love, it took six years to complete. The author apparently covered the cost of printing this limited edition of only 500, himself. Since no distributor is noted, it would appear that philatelists interested in purchasing the book must contact the author at the address given above.

(Philip Silver)

Specimen Stamps of the Crown Colonies 1857-1949 by Marcus Samuel. 256 pages, plus 16 plates — over 250 illustrations. 5⅜ x 8½ in. hard bound. Published by The Royal Philatelic Society, London. 41 Devonshire Place, London W1N 1PE, England. Available from the society at £9.50 plus 80p for posting to the U. S. A.

Marcus Samuels, "Specimen Stamps of the Crown Colonies," is a much needed work, excellently compiled and prepared. The first 66 pages is definitive writing on classification, valuation, forgeries, methods of application and reasons for usage. This is followed by a formidable checklist of 200 territories, which include the Mandated Territories, Protectorates and Postal Agencies on which the overprints conform to the general Colonial Pattern.

This book gives thorough insight into "Specimen" and "Cancelled" overprints done by handstamp, printing or perforation. An interesting illustration is the Sloper Perforator done for Bradbury, Wilkinson and used from 1928 to 1948.

In the forgery area Mr. Samuel warns that perforated forgeries came into the market in 1970. Thus, those of us finding these perforated specimen stamps in old collections need have no fear. The various English committees have complete knowledge of the fakes. Publishing such information on how to distinguish the fakes would only help the forger and show him what to correct. An alert to stamp collectors was published in the April 1975 issue of "Stamp Collecting.'

There is no index, but the table of contents is arranged to serve as one. A bibliography is included.

Samuel's book is a "must" for every philatelic library.

(Abbot Lutz)

The Dealer's Guide to Chemical Restoration of Postage Stamps by National Stamp Service, 95 Puritan Drive, Quincy, Mass. 02169, Price $15, postpaid.

It was only a question of time until a book of this sort had to come along, and now it is here. It could only be written by a chemist, as it was, and it could only be produced by someone who knows stamps, paper, and the effects the elements (and other things) have on them — and again it was.

If you expect a book that will tell you how to remove postmarks from stamps so they can be used again, this is not it. If you want a book that will tell you how to take a heavily cancelled stamp, and make out of it a

lightly cancelled specimen, this isn't it. But if your lovely 4c Columbians brushed up against a stamp pad, or if you got butter on a 24c air mail, now you know how to restore the stamp.

Be warned beforehand, you are going to need a laboratory that will make Dr. Frankenstein's office look like a teacher's desk in a one room schoolhouse. Some 27 chemicals are needed to open a philatelic laboratory that will take care of anything that can happen to a stamp, from candle wax to your children's crayons. And in case your local drugstore cannot supply you with the ones needed, there is a price list at the back, and a source given for each one.

Even if one is not experienced with chemicals, the sections of the book dealing with such things as stamp forgeries and alterations, safety paper, phosphorescence and fluourescence alone ought to be worth the price. A chapter on restoration adds considerably to the reader's knowledge. We know many philatelists who possess ultra-violet lamps, but our experience is that not one in ten knows how to get proper benefit from one. This book gives a lesson.

The 40 page, Americana Card bound booklet may seem expensive at the price, but bear in mind that the cost, plus a good deal more, can easily be returned to the buyer in saving a single stamp that otherwise would be on the road to degradation and ruin.

(Herman Herst Jr.)

NEW MEMBERS

5900	Malcolm Bruce Assheton	Hove, South Australia	Australia & Territories
5901	Joyce Buchanan	Fairfield, Vic., Australia	Persia
5902	Phyllis Lillian Turnbull	Surrey Hills, Vic., Australia	
5903	Kenneth M. Reed	San Francisco, Calif.	Malta, Ryukyu, China, Korea, Manchukuo
5904	Seymour Goldhagen	Douglaston, N. Y.	Crown Agent Issues, Education through Stamps
5905	Jeffrey Stein	Boston, Mass.	19th Century U. S.
5906	Arthur T. Freer	Gilbertsville, N. Y.	Scandinavia, Canal Zone
5907	Steven Metzger	New York, N. Y.	U. S. Black Jacks
5908	Diane Prignoli Associate Non-Resident	Cambridge, Mass.	First Day Covers, Philatelic Writing, U. S.
5909	Graham Edward O'Hara	London, England	General Collector
5910	Alan Warren	Philadelphia, Pa.	U. S., Scandinavia, Tibet
5911	Lewis Ellman	Lake Carmel, N. Y.	Ghana specialized, U. N., U. S. general
5912	Lewis Lipset	Farmingville, N. Y.	U. S.
5913	John Page Kenway Haydon	Baltimore, Md.	U. S., France, U. S. Scott #10, 11
5914	Peter W. W. Powell	Richmond, Va.	Confederate States & Virginia Postal History
5915	Seth S. Gross	Scranton, Pa.	U. S., Israel, Postal History
5916	Erwin Herschkowitz	Lebanon, Pa.	Bolivia, Pennsylvania Postal History
5917	Jerome G. Laconis	Palmyra, Pa.	Switzerland, Austria, Japan, Topicals
5918	Bernard Fridgant	Norristown, Pa.	U. S. Coils
5919	Stanley Morycz	Englewood, Ohio	U. S. Bank Note isues & Fancy cancels
5920	Barry Marcus	New York, N. Y.	Large Die Proofs
5921	Clemens E. Prokesch, M. D.	New London, Conn.	U. S., Austria, Germany, Israel, Scandinavia
5922	Preston A. Pope	South San Francisco, Calif.	Ireland, Canada
5923	Richard Buckner Jordan	Fresno, Calif.	U. S. Singles, used to 1900; mint, after; 20th Century mint blocks



Fig. 9. Forgeries.

say if they were genuinely used or not. "Danica" was franked with an Austrian newspaper stamp of 1864 (Coat of Arms) cancelled by the Austrian post office at Belgrade 16.11 and a 2 para Serbian newspaper stamp of the first printing of 1866, cancelled vertically to prepay postage to Kragujevatz.

For a long time it was believed that the stamps of this issue could not be sold to the public because they had to be applied by the postal employees at the border. Actually, the only restriction in the implementing regulations was that the minimum amount that could be sold was 10 para, as the government wished to avoid handling small change which, of course, was in Austrian or Turkish coinage.

There are three types of forgeries found in this issue: The Fournier of Geneva, reproduced here. (Fig. 9) and another one with a different shaped crown, the cross on the shield very thick and the background of lined dots giving the appearance of regular broken lines. Both of these forgeries are lithographs. The third forgery is of the 1 para value, executed by a Belgrade lithographer. Very close to the original, it was manufactured by photolithography. However, the printing is unclear and the paper and colors different from the genuine. All three are crude and can be easily recognized.

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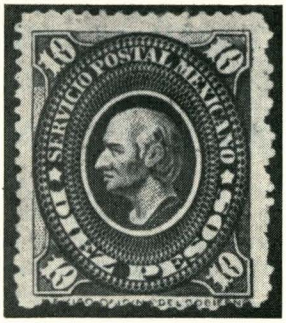
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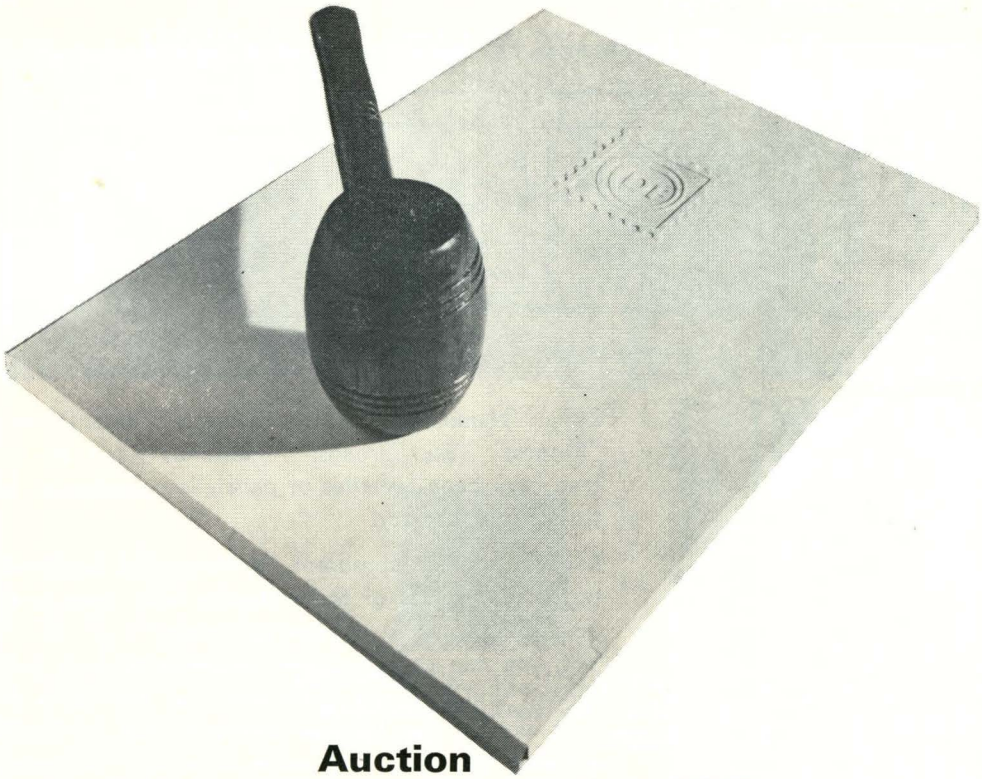
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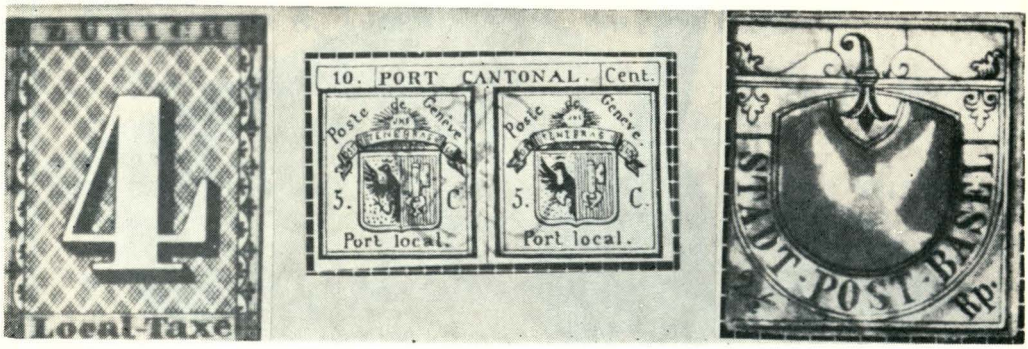
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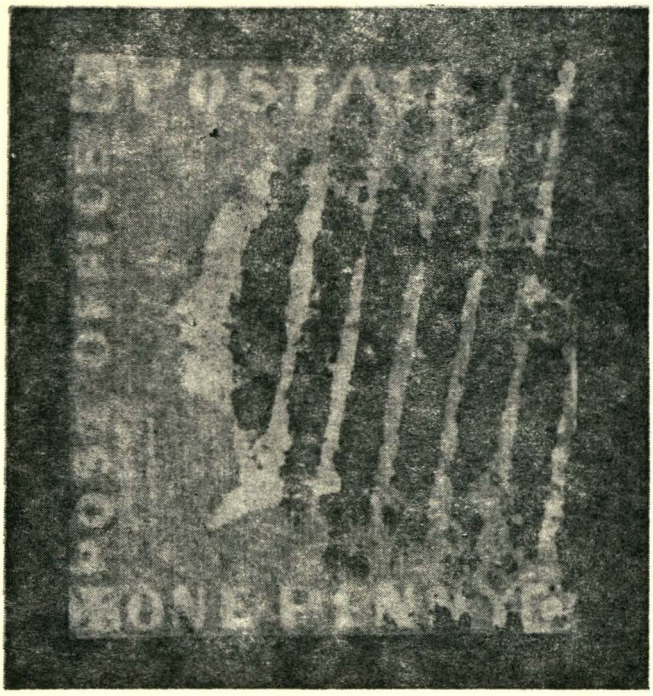
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