THE COLLECTORS CLUB

PHILATELIST

Volume 38, No. 4

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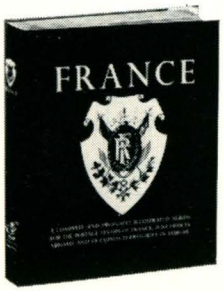
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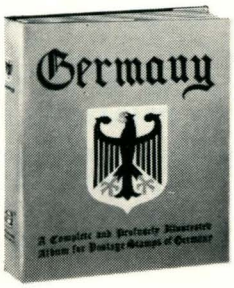
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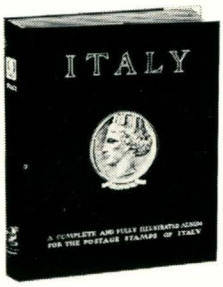
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Editorials

Long Live The Postage Stamp

Come all you philatelists from all over the world to gather at the bier of the Postage Stamp that has passed away sometime in the mid-20th century. Death was not sudden. In fact, the first signs of the illness, that eventually proved fatal, had been first detected around 1892. The passing has been noticed by only a few mourners, who revered a Postage Stamp for what it was—an adhesive label issued and sold by a government to its citizens to carry mail.

The Postage Stamp passed away rather poor, but is survived by an immediate family much more affluent—the commemorative stamp, the souvenir sheet and semi-postal issues. The governments of the world are taking good care of the Postage Stamp's survivors. In fact, their welfare is receiving far more attention from governments than the parent ever did. Why even the World's organization of nations, the United Nations, has almost forgotten the Postage Stamp, because it is receiving strong financial support from the survivors!

When the Postage Stamp was first issued in 1840, it was hailed as a great social and economic reform. It facilitated in time inter-communication all over the world. In the early years, no thought was given to any citizen, who might enjoy amassing different Postage Stamps from all over the world, to assort them into a meaningful but enjoyable stamp collection.

The Postage Stamp just continued carrying the mails, even as the ranks of stamp collectors started to swell. Just as an individual does not wish to wear the same suit every day so the Postage Stamp changed its appearance from time to time. But even dressed in its new Sunday best, the Postage Stamp performed its duty of carrying the mails.

Then later on one government decided to put a new suit on stamps—one of an entirely new style. The sole purpose of carrying mail became secondary. Now the adhesives would compete with the advertising billboards and handbills. A stamp would spread a message of propaganda. It would in time be used as a tourist attraction, just like a poster in a travel agency. Later on, stamps were utilized as a means of raising money for charity. For instance, one paid four cents for a stamp. Two cents paid the postage fee, while two cents went to a charity fund. The original purpose of the Postage Stamp became forgotten, while new ideas like a semi-postal issue developed, zooming its sales to collectors annually into millions of dollars a year.

One day a distant relative quietly came upon the scene. Its appearance was not taken too ominously at the time. It was not then realized that in time this relative, the souvenir sheet, would replace the Postage Stamp as the postal administration's favorite. The last

function of a souvenir sheet is for the public's convenience in carrying mail. All the practical attributes of the Postage Stamp are lacking in a souvenir sheet. To prove this point, one need only take a large quantity of souvenir sheets to a business firm with the suggestion of using them for mailing; or take a few souvenir sheets home to your "stamp widow" suggesting she use them on her letters. See what happens.

If one fails to visualize the replacement of the Postage Stamp by a souvenir sheet in the eyes of postal administrations, he only need read their terms of sale. In order to be able to buy one souvenir sheet we are obliged to buy a far greater number of postage stamps, something like at a ratio of 20 to 1. Lo, the former revered Postage Stamp! How the mighty have fallen!

Those mourning the demise of the Postage Stamp gaze sadly at a popularity poll printed in some of America's stamp papers. Here collectors are asked to chose their favorite design among the previous year's stamps. For instance, the United States issued a lot of new stamps in 1958, especially when the postal rates increased on August 1, 1958. But the popularity poll sheets, itemizing the United States stamps, omits all those primarily issued for postal purposes. The selection is confined to commemorative stamps only. Not that we have the slightest objection to such a popularity poll. It's a lot of fun. But what if a philatelist should think that one of 1958's postage, air mail or special delivery stamps carried the most attractive design? Such an example has been cited not to ridicule this poll, but only to demonstrate another example of the present sad state of the Postage Stamp.

The Postage Stamp has been forsaken by his parents. Governments are no longer interested in his welfare. Oh! yes, the stamp still works hard to carry the mail, but his relatives now receive most all of the attention, because they are the breadwinners. Governments annually issue more and more stamps—thousands more in 1959 than in 1859. But very few new ones are for postal purposes. All hail the prosperous souvenir sheet worth even before its creation many times the value of a postage stamp. Pick your favorite design! Make a future fortune! But never with the Postage Stamp; all attention to commemoratives, souvenir sheets; all stamps for propaganda purposes!

The Postage Stamp often is at his best for a collector on an envelope or folded letter. With the embellishment of postmarks and cancellations, a stamp's appeal to be held eternally grew. Let us lower our heads in silent tribute! Now the stamp is more desirable on cover when *no* postal use appears. The stamp is saved for the future on an unaddressed cover, where an obliging government gladly supplied a cancellation on the stamp. But perish the thought! If the slightest sign of postal use now is in evidence on a cover—its collecting worth is seriously lowered. This truly is another telling example of the obsolescence of the Postage Stamp.

However, perhaps all is not as black as it seems. There remains in the large circle of philatelists (exaggerated by postal administration tub thumpers as many, many millions), a hard core, who remain loyal to the Postage Stamp and who have earned the title, "stamp lovers". This faithful band of philatelists will not allow the Postage Stamp to pass into oblivion. They are not swayed by the majority, who madly pursue the adhesive output of modern postal administrations as if they were hot stock market tips. Instead, they remain steadfast, believing in the enduring charm and fascinating background of the Postage Stamp. This loyal band wants no truck with modern postal administrations and their high-pressure merchandising schemes. Those with some knowledge of history cannot help but mock a postal administration's inane ideas of great history of events to commemorate on a stamp. Philately was not born yesterday, nor are the 1958 or 1959 issues necessarily an improvement upon those of fifty or a hundred years ago.

The past definitely has its place. In order to better understand the present, one must know something of the past. Consequently, a collector of only the very newest stamps retains a shallow philatelic background. The past glory of the Postage Stamp will never be forgotten as long as there remains a hard core of serious philatelists. They will care well for those adhesives, that did postal duty, by seeing that they will be well housed in stamp albums rather than shoe boxes.

If those interested in the past are the ones who are best able to understand the present, then logically they too may better foresee the future. Therefore, it is possible that as the governments increase their output of replacements for the Postage Stamp for sale to stamp collectors, the supply might glut the market. Many might think this would be fatal for stamp collecting. No, instead the Postage Stamp might be resurrected and the small hard core of philatelists might grow to represent the majority.

The loyal devotees to the Postage Stamp want and need some medium for expression. Thus this magazine has promised to perform this service. As much as it is tempting to ridicule the modern commemorative stamp, selected by a political campaign manager, later rewarded with the position as head postal administrator, or the souvenir sheet and the long semi-postal series, or a high value air mail set issued by a country with no airport, this actually is not our purpose. This journal hopes to remain dedicated to the Postage Stamp and its Postal History. It is believed that in each country in the world, there will also be a publication like this one, which will honorably regard the Postage Stamp, rather than extol its mass popularity as an advertising label. Long live the adhesive that primarily does postal duty!

This Magazine's Meeting Reports

One of the most popular attractions for some members of The Collectors Club is the opportunity afforded them to attend our regular twice-a-month meetings with exhibits and lectures by well-known specialists on their high quality philatelic properties. However, because these meetings take place at 22 East 35 Street, New York City, the majority of our members cannot attend. Therefore, this magazine has tried to offer a suitable substitute for one's inability to be present in this magazine's "Clubhouse" section.

Years ago it was a regular practice to describe these meetings in detail. Then for about a decade before the present editorial staff took over, this was neglected. Letters from non-resident members reached the editor, urging him to revive the original feature of describing the meetings as comprehensively as possible. Commencing in about 1950 this was done and has continued.

The wisdom of doing this is confirmed constantly by correspondence from our non-resident members expressing their pleasure of having the opportunity to read what had been displayed by the exhibitors. For example, in the January 1959 number, the Hong Kong exhibit by George E. Burghard was described in great detail on six printed pages. Following this, many long letters of appreciation were received from members in California; Manitoba, Canada; Great Britain and South Africa.

It is understandable that when a collection is displayed at The Collectors Club, others with similar interests wish to know if the exhibitor showed this scarce variety or that unusual multiple piece. A non-resident member is curious if a certain cover was in the collection and if other elusive cancellations were on display.

The editor receives great satisfaction from learning of the pleasure that those, unable to attend our meetings, gain from our efforts to record as comprehensively as possible what was exhibited and described. These reports appear to be very suitable substitutes for the members, who cannot be in our Meeting Room.

You, A Vulgar Collector?

Do you collect U. S. commemorative stamps, plate number blocks, first day covers, United Nations, Ghana, Israel, Cambodia, Laos or Topicals? If you do, then you are a vulgar stamp collector.

Before you feel insulted, just go to your dictionary and look up the word "vulgar". Ours said—"Suited or practiced among the multitude".

So there you are! Collecting any of the present-day popular fields of philately, you are one of the multitude and thus a "vulgar stamp collector".

Uncommon Uses Of Common Stamps

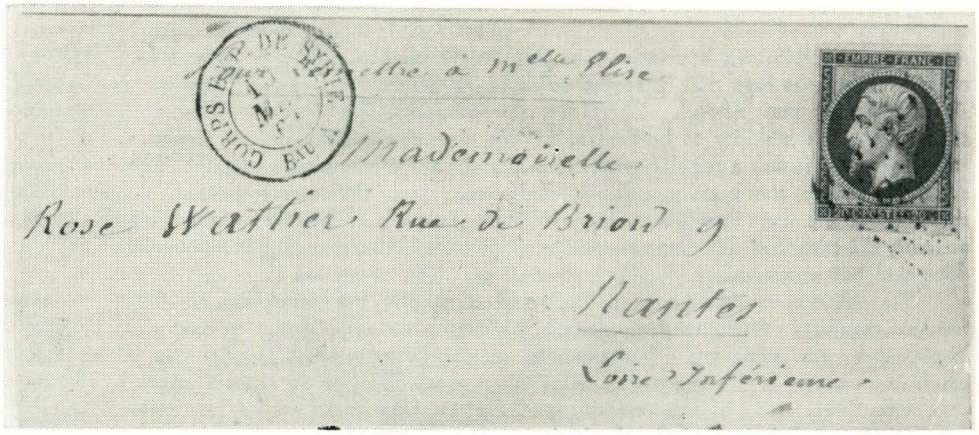
At the suggestion of some members, this journal will run a regular feature of showing covers with common stamps, which because of their exceptional usage are very scarce.

The purpose of this feature introduced in 1958 has not been completely understood by some members. "Uncommon Usage" is what seems to confuse. A freak use of a common stamp on cover does not qualify. Such odd usage ranks similar to stamps that are printer's waste or found with unusual perforations that do not achieve standard catalog recognition.

What our readers wish to see is a properly used cover having a common stamp that catalogs for little. But on cover this item's value is many times the standard catalog price for the stamp off cover, either unused or used.

You may own such material. Then it is hoped that you will send it to The Editor, Collectors Club Philatelist, 22 East 35 Street, New York 16, N. Y.

FRANCE
Occupation of Syria-Lebanon
1860 - 1861



(Photo by L. W. Giles)

Here is a common stamp of France used almost one-hundred years ago during the occupation of Lebanon by French troops. This recalls the landing of and occupation by American troops in Lebanon during the summer of 1958, a similar action occuring almost one-hundred years later.

During the 1860 Insurrection in Syria, which at the time included Lebanon, the Moslem Druses massacred thousands of Christian Maronites between May and July 1860.

At a conference in Paris, the European powers granted France a mandate to intervene. Thus the French landed an Expeditionary Force of 6,000 troops at Beyrouth in the second half of August, 1860.

After restoring order, a special constitution was proclaimed for Lebanon, and the French evacuated in June 1861.

A military postal service was established by the French during the ten months of occupation with a single post office in the city of Beyrouth. A dated cancellation used on the mail read: "Corps Exped. de Syrie Bau A" in a double circle. The killer in the usual form of a lozenge contained the letters: "C E S A".

(Continued on Page 205)

Complications With Foreign Mails Before the U. P. U.

UNITED STATES

4c Part Payment Rate to France 1870-74

By MILLIARD H. MACK

As of December 31, 1869 the Postal Convention Treaty of 1857 between the United States and France expired. Therefore, because of various disagreements between the United States postal authorities and the French post office, there was no treaty in effect until August 1, 1874.

During the period 1870-1874 there was considerable confusion on the part of the public with regard to the postage rates to France. There were a number of different methods by which a letter could be sent to France:

1) *Direct Mail via American Packet at the rate of 10c per ½ ounce.*
   On mail to and from countries with whom the United States had no postal treaty the rate was 10c per ½ ounce as per the act of *July 1, 1864, Sec. 8.* This 10c rate paid the postage to the French frontier. France then collected the internal postage from the addressee. This amounted to 8 decimes per ½ ounce or approximately 15c.
2) *Open Mail via England at the rate of 4c per ½ ounce—the 4c Part Payment Rate to France.*
   The U. S. postal officials, realizing that no treaty with France could be agreed upon, made arrangements whereby mail for France could be sent via England and from there to France under the terms of the Anglo-French Treaty. The rate was 4c per ½ ounce and this prepaid the latter to the British frontier, the letter then being the same as an unpaid letter originating in England and

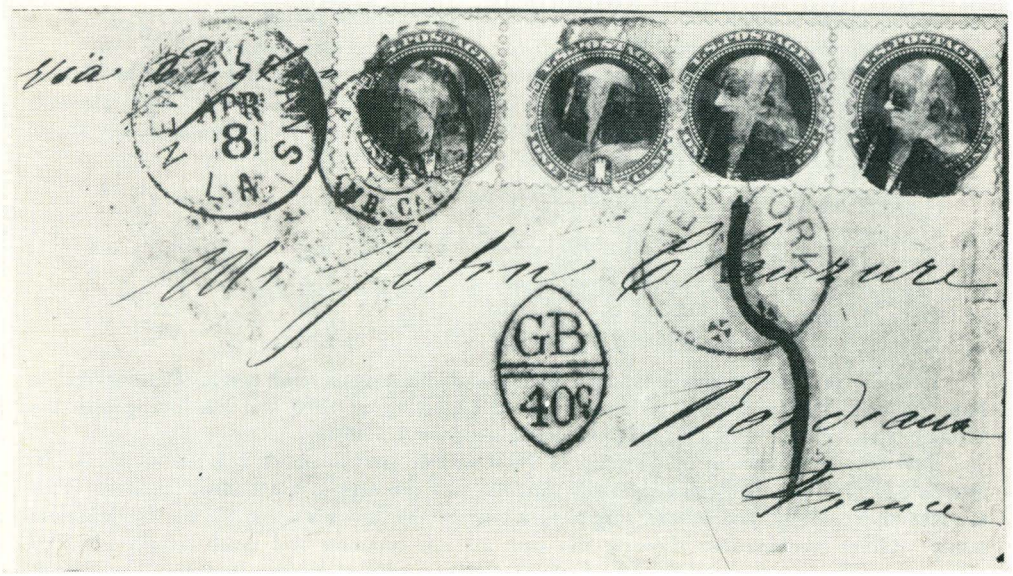


Fig. 1.

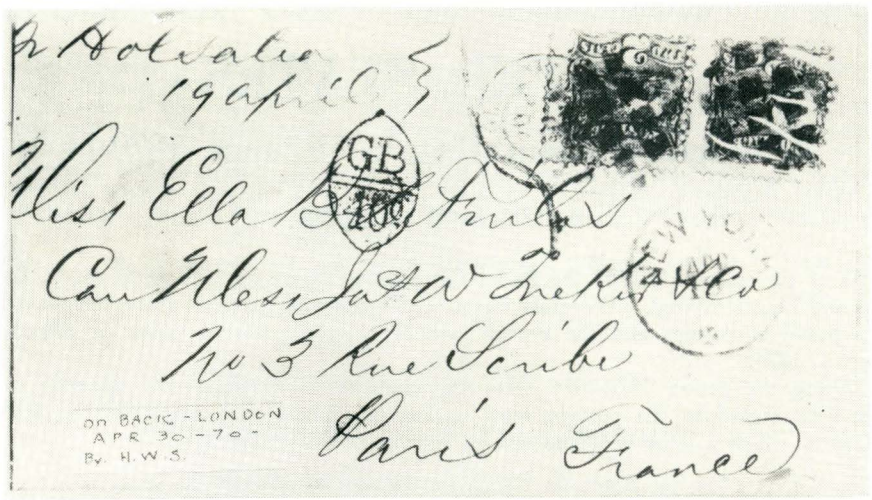


Fig. 2.

forwarded to France unpaid. France collected its postage from the addressee under the terms of its treaty with England.

3) *Fully Prepaid Mail via England at the rate of 15c per ⅜ ounce with a credit to England of 8c.*

This rate was in accordance with a decree of the French Emperor and apparently was recognized by the United States postal authorities. The decree also involved regulations regarding mail from France to the United States. Covers are recorded that bear dates in March, April, and May of 1870 that show this fully prepaid rate to France via England at 15c per ⅜ ounce with an 8c credit to Britain. Covers showing this rate are extremely scarce and are choice items for postal history collections of this period.

4) *Fully Prepaid Mail via England at the rate of 10c per ⅓ ounce.*

Arrangements were made with Britain whereby mail could be sent to France fully prepaid under the terms of the Anglo-French Treaty. Covers showing this rate are recorded as early as June, 1870. The following table shows charges for letters weighing up to one ounce:

Weight	*Rate*	*Credit to Britain*
Less than ⅓ ounce	10c	6c
Over ⅓ ounce but not over ½ ounce	16c	12c
Over ½ ounce but not over ⅔ ounce	20c	12c
Over ⅔ ounce but not over 1 ounce	26c	18c

It is the purpose of this article to discuss and illustrate several covers showing the 4c Part Payment Rate to France during the period beginning in 1870 and concluding with the United States-French Postal Treaty effective August 1, 1874.

The rate to Britain as of January 1, 1870 was 6c per ½ ounce figured at 2c—U. S. internal, 2c Sea, and 2c British internal; thus 4c paid the rate to the British frontier. This 4c rate was generally paid by two singles or a pair of the 2c 1869 stamp or the 2c Banknote stamp. Other combinations showing this rate are not common and much sought after by collectors. The covers show the "*G. B. 40c*" marking applied by the British. The French due markings were as follows:

Not over 7½ grammes (approximately ¼ ounce) ..... 5 decimes (9½c)
Over 7½ but not over 15 grammes (approximately ½ ounce) ..... 10 decimes (19c)
Over 15 but not over 22½ grammes (approximately ¾ ounce) .... 15 decimes (28½c)
And so on

The conversion of grammes to ounces is approximate (30 grammes equal 1.06 ounce or 1 ounce equals 28.35 grammes).

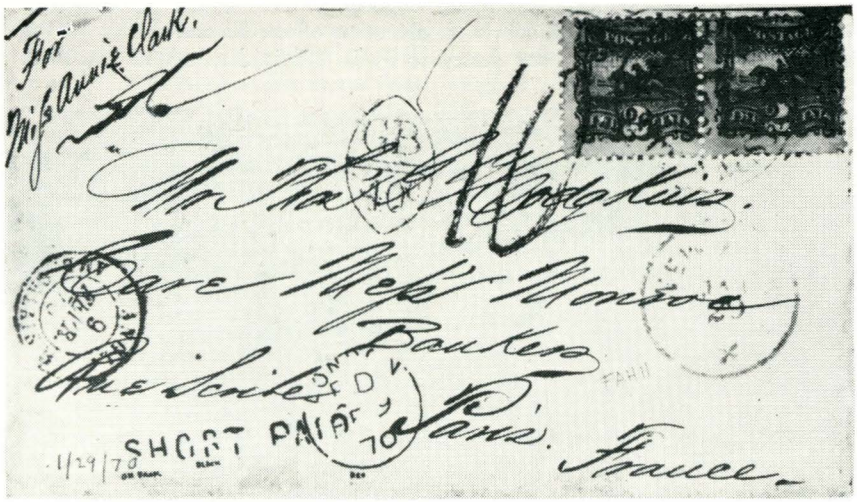


Fig. 3.

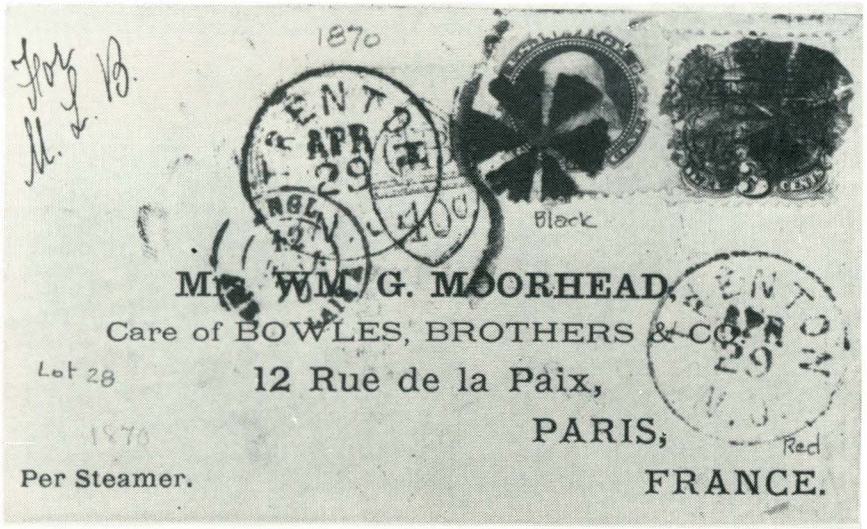


Fig. 4.

Figure 1 shows an extremely desirable cover franked with two pairs of the 1c 1869 stamp. The letter went from New Orleans, Louisiana to Bordeaux and is postmarked on April 8, (1870). The French due marking of "5" (decimes) indicates that the letter weighed less than ¼ ounce. This cover is in the collection of Karl Jaeger, Columbus, Ohio.

Figure 2 illustrates the 4c rate paid by a pair of the 2c 1869 stamp. This letter was sent from New York to Paris on April 19, 1870. The "5" (decimes) due marking indicates the letter weighed less than ¼ ounce.

Figures 3 illustrates the rate just as Figure 2 does except for the French due marking of "10" (decimes). This indicates the letter weighed between ¼ and ½ ounce.

Figure 4 illustrates the rate paid by a combination of the 3c and the 1c 1869 stamps. This letter went from Trenton, New Jersey to Paris and is dated April 29, 1870. The



Fig. 5.

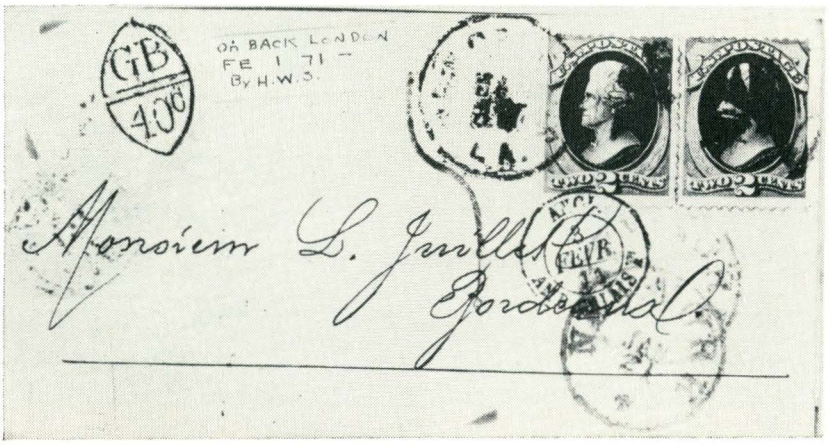


Fig. 6.

letter weighed less than ¼ ounce as indicated by the "5" (decimes) French due marking. This cover was lot #696 in the Emmerson Krug collection that was sold at auction by Robert Siegel in May of 1958.

Figure 5 illustrates a cover similar to the one shown in Figure 2. A pair of the 2c 1869 stamps paid the 4c rate to France from New Orleans on April 27, 1870. The "5" (decimes) French due marking indicates that the letter weighed less than ¼ ounce. In addition, the cover bears a "Paid Only to England" marking sometimes seen on these rates. This marking also appears on some covers from the United States to Spain during the last months of 1869.

Figure 6 shows the rate paid by two singles of the 2c Banknote stamp. The letter is dated at New Orleans on January 17, 1871, and went to Bordeaux. The French due marking of "5" (decimes) indicates the letter weighed less than ¼ ounce.

Figure 7 illustrates a choice cover in the collection of Mr. J. David Baker of Indianapolis, Indiana. This letter went from San Francisco, California to Paris and is franked with a 10c 1869 stamp. This was a double rate letter (2 x 4c) hence it represents an overpayment of 2c. The French due marking of "15" (decimes) indicates that the letter weighed between ½ and ¾ ounce. If the writer of the letter wanted to send the letter fully prepaid to France, he did not affix enough postage on the letter. Depending on the exact weight of the letter, the correct postage would have been 20c or 26c in accordance with the above table.

Figure 8 shows another double weight letter. The 8c rate (2 x 4c) is paid by a 2c 1869 stamp and a 6c Banknote stamp (Scott 137). The French due marking of "15" (decimes) is similar to the Figure 7 cover showing that the letter weighed between ½ and ¾ ounce. The cover is postmarked April 21, 1870.

Figure 9 illustrates a single weight letter from Norristown, Pennsylvania, to Paris, March 22, 1873. The cover is franked with a 7c plus a 3c Banknote representing an overpayment of 6c. The "10" (decimes) French due marking indicates that the letter weighed between ¼ and ½ ounce. The writer of the letter may have intended it to go by direct mail to France, in which case the postage prepayment would have been correct.

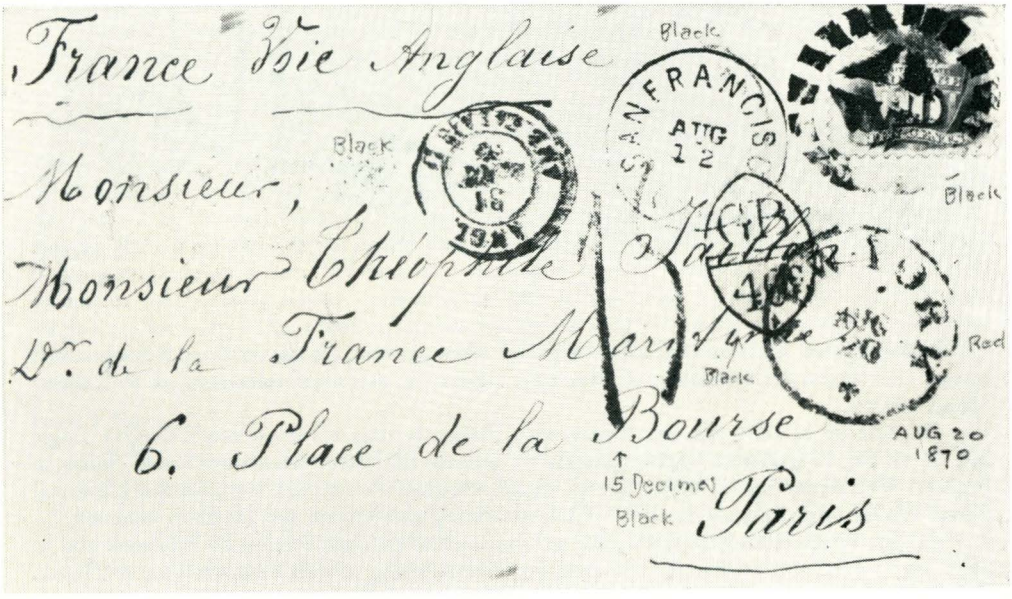


Fig. 7.

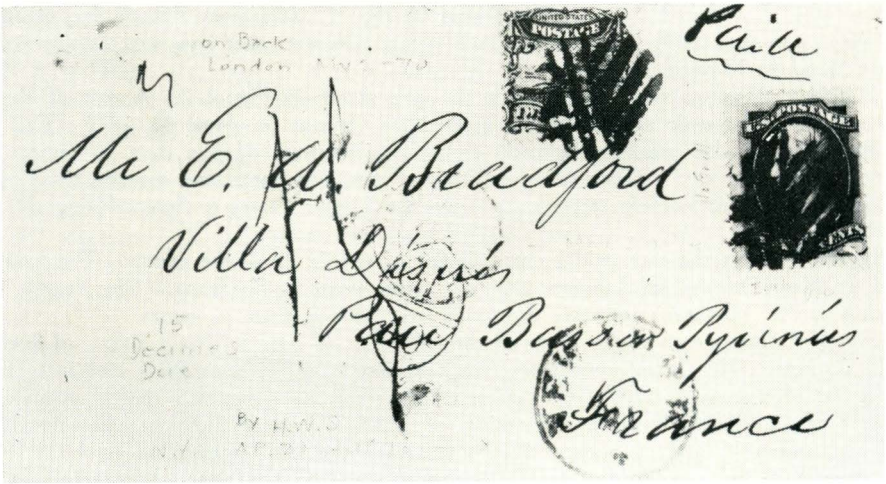


Fig. 8.



Fig. 9

Knowledge of this rate can be of help and often prevent a collector from buying faked covers. A thorough knowledge of the rates and how the mail was handled will detect "fixed" covers.

On August 1, 1874 the new treaty with France became effective establishing a single rate of 9c per 15 grammes (approximately ½ ounce) on letters from the United States to France. The treaty was in effect for 17 months because France did not join the Universal Postal Union until January 1, 1876. Covers showing the 9c rate are far from common.

All photos accompanying this article are the work of the late Stanley B. Ashbrook and to him I owe a debt of gratitude for fostering my interest in the 4c Part Payment Rate to France. The information as the various rates presented herein was drawn from various issues of his Special Service. Certainly a study of rates to France during this period is most interesting.

For the first time documentary evidence is given of the existence of a postal system in this Indian State at least eight years prior to the issuance of adhesive stamps in 1886.

INDORE

By LEONARD C. PARTON

Before embarking into the maze of the postal history of Indore, or as it was known during part of its existence, Holkar, it will be necessary to consider something of its political history during the 19th century. Conditions prevailing during the period, in which we are specially interested, are revealed through the life and character of its ruler, Tukoji Rao II Holkar XI, 1844 to 1886, the longest and most progressive reign in the two and a half centuries of the State's existence. Therefore, four brief extracts from "The Indore State Gazeteer", written and published in 1908 by Colonel Luard, C. I. E. sometime Resident or Political Agent to Indore, Gwalior and Bhopal, first of all give prominence to the bearing of the young Maharajah at the time of the Mutiny in 1857. He was then 27 years of age.

Extract No. 1

> "Holkar throughout this trying time was almost if not quite powerless, his troops being entirely beyond his control. As early as June 9th he had urged Durand (acting Resident for Hamilton on home furlough) to send away the ladies and children and treasure to Mhow but his counsels were not accepted and again on the 1st of July he had written offering to help to the best of his ability. After the outbreak at Mhow and Indore he did his utmost in maintaining order. His mutinous troops flocked to the Palace demanding surrender of the native Christians to whom he had given asylum but would not listen to their demands. He sent out detachments to bring in and secure wounded Europeans and recovered what was left of the Indore treasure and gave Captain Hungerford, who was Commander at Mhow, all the assistance in his power. So efficiently in a word did he cooperate with Hungerford that the latter found himself able to re-establish postal and telegraphic communication and to restore order in Mhow and the neighboring districts."

Three further extracts essential to my purpose outline earlier and later affairs in the Indore State, the first the immediate years following 1844 when the boy Tukoji at the age of 14 was installed on the gadi (throne) by the Resident, Sir Robert N. Collie Hamilton, Bart., I. C. S. in open Durbar. By this action Sir Robert ran a grave personal risk of incurring permanent displeasure as the Imperial Authorities looked at it askance, considering it too precipitate an action. Fortunately, there have always been such unsung heroes of this calibre in the Colonial service, especially in the selfless cadre of the Indian Civil Service. As it was, not until 1852, when the young Maharajah had shown his aptitude for ruling and had toured India, visiting all the important places, had he been granted full administrative powers. This was only five years before the tragic circumstances of the mutiny.

Extract No. 2

> "The same Regency Council as had held office under the late Chief continued but a close supervision was now maintained by the Resident and numerous reforms were set on foot. Order and tranquility reigned throughout the State. By 1845 the State had commenced to recover its prosperity . . . In 1848 the young chief began to evince a desire to take part in the administration. This ill-suited the designs of Raja Bhan Phanse (Chief Minister) who complained that the Maharajah's enquiries were embarrassing and irksome. The Resident, however, supported the Chief in his desire to gain

in Council also agreed that the payment of 4½ per cent. guaranteed interest will be made without deduction for income tax.

By order of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,
SIMLA,
The 10th August 1870.

C. U. AITCHISON,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India in the Foreign Department.

No. IX.

ARRANGEMENT for the EXCHANGE of CORRESPONDENCE between the IMPERIAL POST OFFICE of BRITISH INDIA and the POST OFFICES in the territories of HIS HIGHNESS the MAHARAJA HOLKAR,—1878.

ARTICLE 1.

There shall be mutual exchange of correspondence between the Imperial Post Office of British India, hereinafter termed the "Imperial Post," and the Post Offices in the territories of His Highness the Maharaja Holkar, hereinafter termed the "Indore State Post."

The term "correspondence" shall include all classes of articles which may be forwarded by post under the rules for the time being of the Imperial Post.

ARTICLE 2.

On correspondence originating in the Indore State Post, and destined for delivery through the Imperial Post, the Indore State Post may levy such local postage as may from time to time be directed by the Darbar of His Highness the Maharaja Holkar. But all such postage shall be collected by payment in advance, and the correspondence shall be made over to the Imperial Post without any claim whatsoever.

ARTICLE 3.

Correspondence so made over shall be treated by the Imperial Post in the same way as if it had been posted originally in an Imperial Post Office, no account being taken of any Indore State postage already paid thereon whether in cash or by means of postage labels of the Indore State Post.

ARTICLE 4.

Correspondence which may be made over by the Imperial Post to the Indore State Post shall be made over without claim when no Imperial Postage is due, and with claim when Imperial Postage is due.

Figs. 1a, 1b. Reproduction of pages 40-42 of Central India Agency Reports covering the 1878 arrangements for the exchange of correspondence between the Imperial Post Office of British India and the Post Offices in the territories of His Highness The Maharaja Holkar.

In the latter case the claim shall be—

(*a*) on correspondence originating in offices of the Imperial Post termed "Inland correspondence" one-half of the amount of Imperial Postage due;

(*b*) on correspondence originating in Foreign Offices termed "Foreign correspondence," the whole amount of the Imperial Postage due, the term "Imperial Postage" including in this case the postage due to the Imperial Post on behalf of Foreign Offices or (in the case of overland parcels) to the Custom House.

ARTICLE 5.

On correspondence made over under head (*a*) of the preceding Article whether with or without claim, the Indore State Post may levy such local postage as may from time to time be directed by the Darbar of His Highness the Maharaja Holkar, but on correspondence made over under head (*b*) no local postage shall be levied.

ARTICLE 6.

Correspondence received by the Imperial Post from the Indore State Post, or *vice versâ*, which may be undeliverable shall be returned, and on correspondence so returned to the Imperial Post the Indore State Post shall have the right to reclaim any Postage previously claimed from it under Article 4.

ARTICLE 7.

Detailed regulations for carrying out this arrangement in respect to the particular offices to be designated for the exchange of correspondence on which Imperial Postage is due, the forms to be used in exchanging correspondence, the preparation and settlement of accounts, and other matters of detail, shall be drawn out by the controlling authorities of the Imperial Post and the Indore State Post in direct communication with each other, and the detailed regulations so drawn out shall be subject to such modification as may from time to time be mutually agreed to by the said authorities.

ARTICLE 8.

This arrangement shall be executed by the Darbar of His Highness the Maharaja Holkar and the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India and shall be brought into operation from the date of such execution.

ARTICLE 9.

This arrangement shall continue in force for one year after the date on which one of the two contracting parties shall have announced to the other an intention to terminate it.

42 CENTRAL INDIA—CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY—*Indore*—NOS. IX—1878 AND X—1881.

Signed by His Highness the Maharaja Holkar this the 27th day of January one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight.

TOOKAJEE HOLKAR.

Signed by the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India this the 27th day of January one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight.

H. D. DALY.

LYTTON.

Ratified by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, at Simla on the twenty-second day of April one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight.

A. C. LYALL,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Foreign Department.

No. X.

KHARITA to HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJ ADHIRAJ RAJ RAJESHWAR SAWAI TOOKAJEE RAO HOLKAR, BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., C.I.E. of INDORE,—1881.

MY HONOURED AND VALUED FRIEND,

The Agent to the Governor-General in Central India has at length been able to report to me the conclusion of the negotiations for the exchange of territory which have been so long pending between Your Highness and the Government of India.

I have now the pleasure to inform Your Highness that I approve and confirm the transfer to the possession of Your Highness of the 231 villages in Taluka Nimawar, and the 176 villages in the district of Nimar, of which the names, revenues, and other particulars are given in schedules A and B of the memorandum by Lieutenant-General Sir H. Daly enclosed in this letter.

That memorandum correctly summarizes the results of the negotiations, and I feel assured that Your Highness will not fail to perceive, in the constant desire to meet Your Highness' wishes which has been evinced by my predecessors throughout the course of the negotiations, evidence of that friendly spirit which I am confident will ever characterize the relations of the British Government with Your Highness' loyal and distinguished family.

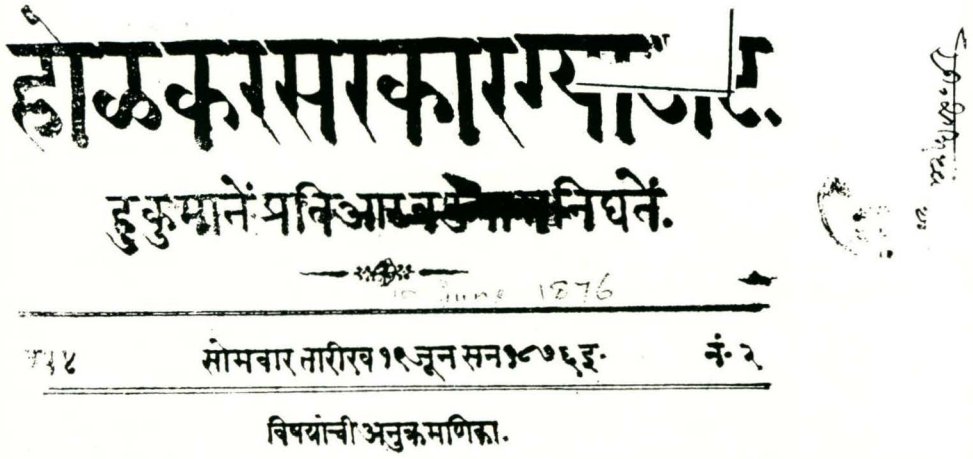
I beg to express the high consideration I entertain for Your Highness, and to subscribe myself.

Your Highness' sincere friend,

RIPON,
Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

SIMLA;
The 25th May 1881.

Fig. 1c. Memorandum regarding exchange of territory between India and Indore.


होळकरसरकारगॅझेट.

हुकुमानें प्रसिद्ध केलें निघतें.

15 June 1876

सोमवार तारीख १९ जून सन १८७६ इ. नं. २

विषयांची अनुक्रमणिका.

Fig. 2. Masthead of "Holkar Sirkar Gazette" of 19 June 1876, showing vestige of label.

an insight into the administration, on which Raja Bhan Phanse finally quitted Indore, taking the Maharajah's seal with him."

Extract No. 3

"In order to make the Holkar dominions more compact, various exchanges of territory were effected between 1861 and 1868, the districts of Salwas in Nemawar of Barwaha, Dharangarn, Kanaward, and Mandleshwar in Minar being exchanged for lands held in Deccan, United Provinces and elsewhere. In 1878, 360 square miles of territory in the Satpura region were transferred to Holkar as an act of grace due to commemorate the Assumption by her Majesty of the title of Empress of India. In 1878 a Postal Convention was effected and in 1880 a Salt Convention."
and finally:—

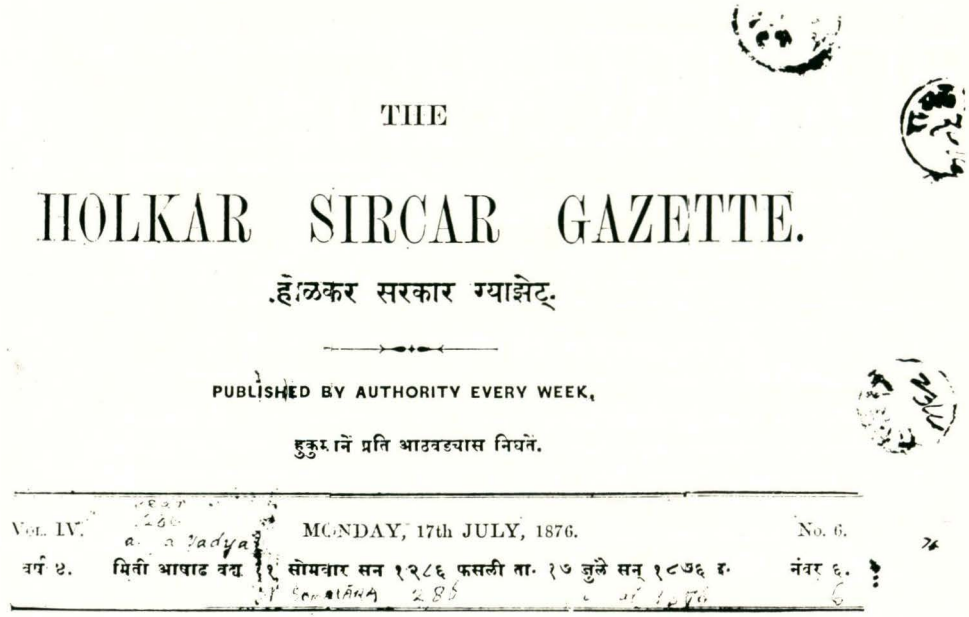
Extract No. 4

"Lord Northbrook visited Indore in November, 1872 and the Prince of Wales in March, 1876. In 1877 the Maharajah attended the Delhi Assemblage when he was made a CIE and was raised to the dignity of a Counsellor of the Empress while his personal salute was increased from 19 to 21 guns."

The India Office Library have been good enough to search, find and have photographed for me the two printed documents referred to in the last few lines of Extract No. 3 in this article. These are shown in full. (See Figs. 1a, 1b, 1c).

One of the documents is of particular philatelic interest—dated January 27, 1878, detailing the terms of the 1878 Postal Convention. It is signed respectively by The Indore Ruler Tookaji Holkar and Lord Lytton, the Governor-General for Central India, and ratified by the Viceroy and Governor-General. The other dated March 25, 1881, is a personal letter from the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, the Marquis of Ripon, which, after approving and confirming, congratulates the Ruler of Indore on the transfer to him of the 407 villages which were added to the two State Zilas (divisions) of Nemawar and Nimar.

Some years ago I became the fortunate possessor of frontispiece portions of the "Holkar Sirkar Gazette", printed and published in Indore City in Marathi. The pieces received from India are contained in the period 1876 to 1882. The numbering on the oldest piece shows that this enterprising publication was established in 1872 in a fairly rough format. By 1876 it had become an attractive weekly, the style of which would not disagrace a



THE

HOLKAR SIRCAR GAZETTE.

होळकर सरकार ग्याझेट्.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY EVERY WEEK,

हुकुमानें प्रति आठवडयास निघतें.

VOL. IV. MONDAY, 17th JULY, 1876. No. 6.

वर्ष ४. मिती आषाढ वद्य १ सोमवार सन १२८६ फसली ता. १७ जुलै सन १८७६ इ. नंबर ६.

Fig. 3. "Holkar Sircar Gazette" July 17, 1876 showing postmarks of the States Post Office.

modern publisher. Significantly, the main headlines were then changed to English with the Marathi below, and in this I see the hand of Sir Robert Hamilton. Incidentally, Sir Robert had become the Political Agent to the Governor-General, Central Province, in which appointment that of Resident was merged so far back as 1854. Later, 1877, the Holkar Coat-of-Arms was incorporated in the heading, a most impressive addition.

In this valuable series of portions of the "Holkar Sirkar Gazette", extremely fragile to handle, I had hoped to find a set of numerals accepted officially as standard by the Indore authorities and applied to their other departments including that for the Posts. It is true that they have hammered out for gazette purposes an irreproachable set with each figure distinct from any other, and thus taken at least a step towards allaying the curse of interchangeability in the various "styles" of the four main vernaculars—Gujarati, Marathi, Punjabi, Hindi—affected in Central and North West Indore.

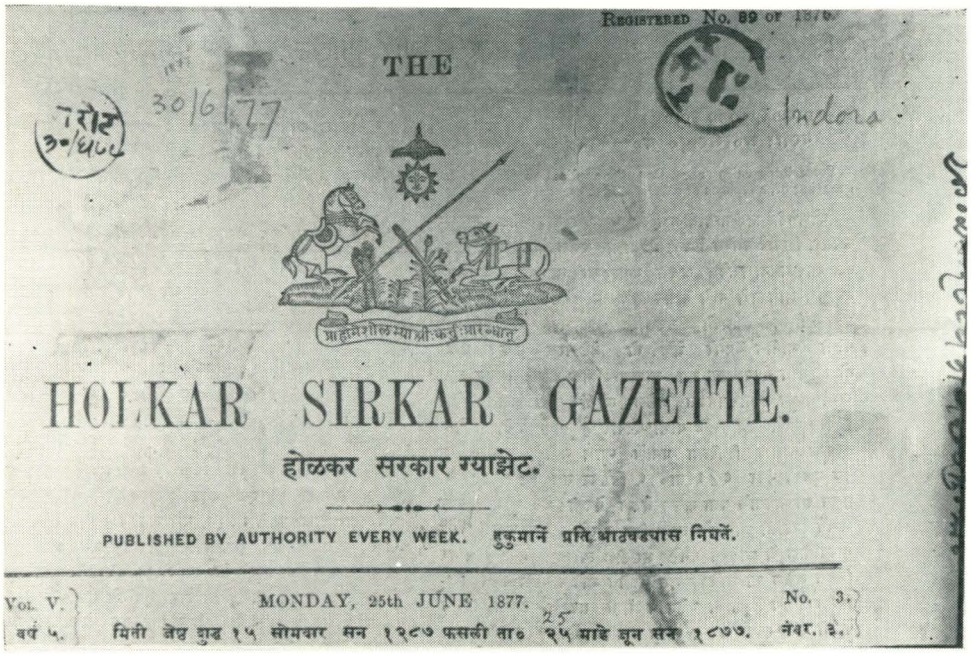
I cannot speak for the other Departments except to say that the Gazette numerals were apparently *not* consistently adopted by the Postal Department, and thus the value of this good work was considerably lessened.

In the limited few vernacular postmarks I own or have seen with dates in the Marathi (some complete with the year), the variations in the shape of the numerals is fantastic, and presents the ever constant problem as to what style *and figure* it was meant to represent.

It is, therefore, only by seeing a goodly number that it is possible to ascertain whether there is a factor of constancy on which to build.

In attaining their aim for distinctiveness the Editorial Staff have, to a considerable extent, reverted for their numerals to the true Sanskrit. A reference to "A Sanskrit Grammar"*, or its like, will confirm this. There is, however, one striking exception, that for the "eight". For this figure they continued with the Marathi (and Gujarati) but making the outline bolder and better. The reason for this exception is that had they used the

* "A Sanskrit Grammar" by Arthur A. Macdonald, M. A., Ph. D., L. L. D. (Edin), D. O. L. Calcutta) late Boden Professor of Sanskrit in the University of Oxford; Fellow of Corpus Christi College, etc., etc.


THE

HOLKAR SIRKAR GAZETTE.

होळकर सरकार ग्याझेट.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY EVERY WEEK. हुकुमानें प्रति आठवडयास नियमें.

Vol. V. MONDAY, 25th JUNE 1877. No. 3.

Fig. 4. "Holkar Sirkar Gazette" June 25, 1877 with State Post Office postmarks.

accepted Sanskrit "eight" it could have been mistaken, amongst many other confusions, for a major portion of the "six" in any of the vernaculars, and quite possibly for the "nine" in Marathi, Balbodh, Punjabi, and Hindi.

Had the postal authorities followed suit, all might have been easier. As it is, unless, as already stated, I can obtain sufficient material of postmarks "60's to 90's" inclusive, with vernacular figured dates to examine, my few pieces will continue to be inconclusive.

I give a suggested reason for the Postal Departments failure to adopt the standard numbering set up by the H. S. G. As the map shows, Indore is made up of some half dozen Zilas (Divisions) interspersed and/or surrounded by tracts of British Raj and the territories of a dozen or so other Indian States.

It is likely that the Head Post Office of each Pargana (sub-district) of which there were many in each Division, did their own cutting of dies for cancelling purposes or other reasons, in which case the shape and size of the resulting numerals depended largely on the "pedigree" of the cutter and in addition his schooling and apprenticeship; quite as likely that of his supervisor.

The existing geographical conglomerate will be understood if we refer to a special map of Indore State. (Fig. 6). As an all-round example of the prevailing lay-out, let us take as an example the Indore Zila, one of half dozen making up the State, which of course contains Indore City itself.

Both to the west and the east of this Zila we have territory belonging to the much smaller State of Dhar. This State has, in its turn, Ratlam at the top and Barwani at the bottom. That part of Dhar on the east of Indore is itself contained by the boundary of the Indore State Zila of Nemawar part of which was acquired from the British as a gift in 1881. See reference in the document reproduced with this article. This Zila of Nemawar is in its turn (still further to the East) bounded by the State of Bhopal. The elongated Dhar territory to the West of the Indore Zila was bordered by the small states of Jhabua, together with some small odd bits of Indore territory. Incidentally, here and there were small patches of Dewas State territory, one of which, a few miles square, is an enclave inside the Indore Zila. Does all this give a mental birds-eye view?

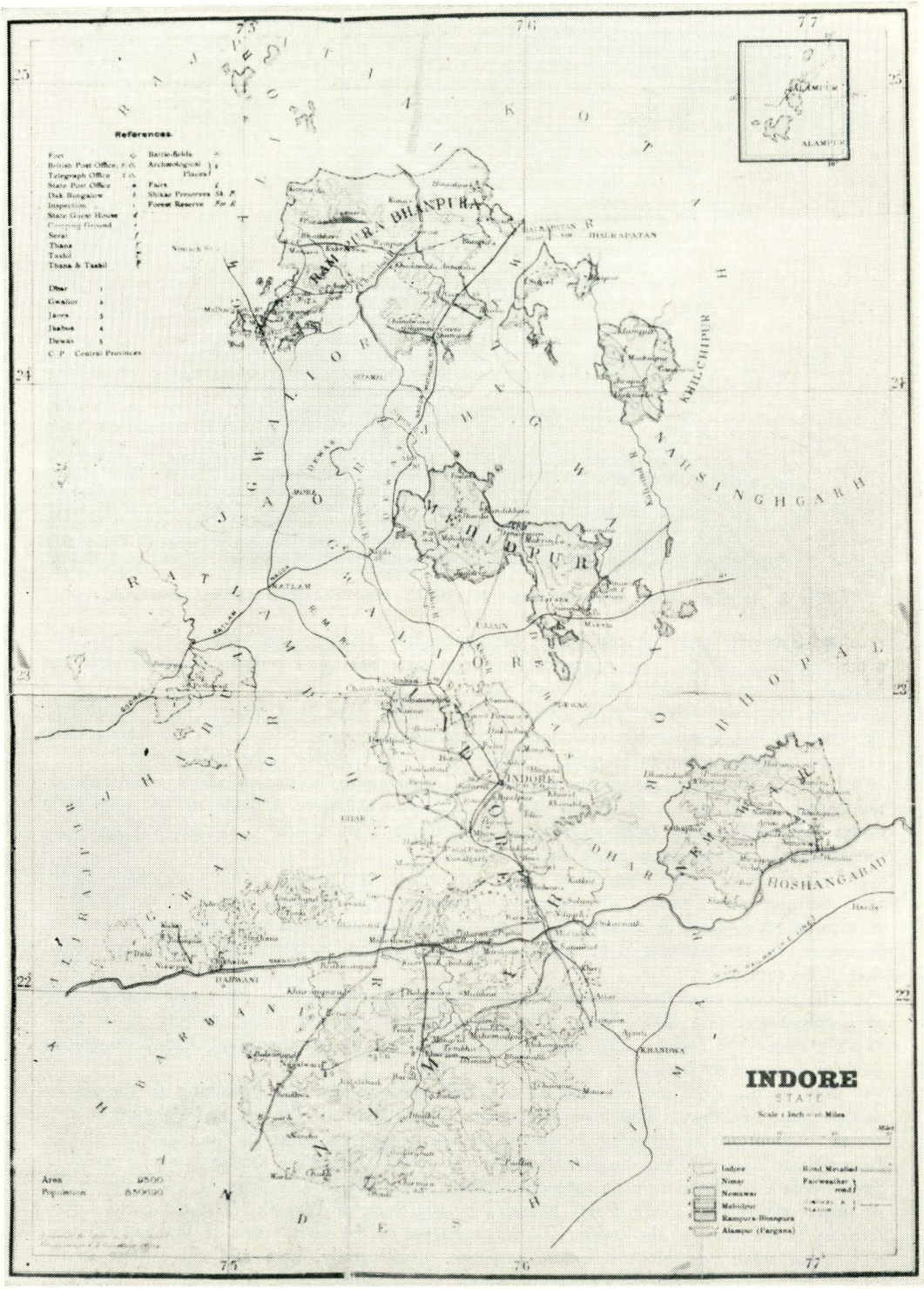


Fig. 6. Map of Indore State reproduced from the "Indore State Gazetteer."



Fig. 5. "Holkar Sirkar Gazette" August 22, 1881 showing State Post Office postmarks of Rampura and Indora as well as part of a postal label.

Now the State of Dhar measured in the aggregate about sixty miles by twenty only, but its inhabitants—some quarter million—each spoke one at least of four native languages, viz. Hindi, Marathi, Nemadi, Malwai. Hence my supposition that if the Indore postmark dies were cut "locally" the formation of the figures involved might, not surprisingly, be of any shape and size. And quite easily resemble a "wrong number", acceptable in another vernacular.

I had put aside these "Holkar Sirkar Gazettes" to await co-operation from anybody, anywhere, possessing Indore material which includes last century missives or pieces of any sort (stamped or otherwise) bearing vernacular dated postmarks of the last century.

Then came along quite unexpectedly the photographs of the 1878 Postage Agreement previously mentioned. There will be seen in Article 3, a specific reference to existing Indore Postal-labels *with a monetary value*. The Article concludes with the following words:- ". . . no account being taken of any Indore State postage already paid thereon whether in cash or by means of postage labels of the Indore State Post."

This made me turn again to the "Holkar Sirkar Gazette", and I was rewarded by finding not only traces of gum but portions of the labels themselves still adhering. They bear Marathi printed characters, of which more anon.

Several of the portions are here reproduced (Figs. 2 to 5), upon which seriatim I make comment.

Fig. 2. An issue No. 2 of the 4th year dated 19th June, 1876, in the rough format in which the paper was, presumably, first published in 1872. The remains of a gummed-on label will be clearly seen. On the upper line of printed Marathi there is a terminal character which could be and probably is that of INDORE which the vernacular postmark confirms. Also it was at Indore City that the paper was produced and printed. Again there is nothing in the outline to prevent the small portion of the Marathi word on the lower line being the receiving town or village of Rampura. In this connection refer to comments to Photoplate, Fig. 4. *(Continued on Page 195)*

BOOK REVIEWS

Neues Handbuch der Briefmarkenkunde. Reihe A. Lieferung 3. Contents: Madagascar 1889-1902. Paper cover, 56 pages, Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Published by the "Arbeitsgemeinschaft Neues Handbuch der Briefmarkenkunde E. V." U. S. Agent, Fritz Billig, 168-39 Highland Ave., Jamaica 3, N. Y. Price $1.50.

The long awaited treatise on Madagascar, the most "difficult" of all French Colonies, has finally made its appearance, though only as a torso. It ends with the local emergency issue of 1902. Nevertheless, it completes series A of the handbook; the remaining portions of Madagascar, the issues from 1903 to the present time, are scheduled to follow in the addenda to the book. As explained in two announcements at the end, the difficulties arose when the previous editor of the handbook, Mr. Kricheldorf, did not live up to his often repeated promise to finish the Madagascar section.

The authors, Helmuth Kricheldorf and Paul-Louis Pannetier (issues of March 1889, July 1891 and March 5, 1896) closely follow the pattern of *the Kohl Handbook* as laid out by the late Dr. Herbert Munk. They begin with all pertinent geographical data; extensive historical treatment follows, eventually leading into postal history which starts relatively late as very little is known about its earlier phases. The scope of this section, which also includes a listing of some "forerunners", a comprehensive bibliography and a map of the island, can be seen by the fact that it encompasses some 14 pages.

The following 40 pages are devoted to the issues of the French Post in Madagascar, first a Protectorate, then from 1896 on a Colony. The main features are the various local emergency issues which produced many great rarities. Since the book is, of course, written in German, a thorough knowledge of that language is an absolute necessity for understanding its major portions. But the treatment of certain issues—especially those described by Pannetier, e. g. the 1896 oval surcharges—is so superbly done and accompanied by such wonderful illustrations that even the handicap of not knowing German can be at least partially overcome. It is fervently hoped that the book will be finished in the future. This is not an easy task, as the missing portion embraces not only the continuation of the French section, but also the British Consular Mail Service of 1884-87, the British Inland Mail of 1895 and the Norwegian Missionary Post of 1894-99. It was a wise decision to publish the finished portion at this time. Even if the work were never finished, this published section on Madagascar will still be an outstanding contribution to philatelic knowledge and literature.

(Herbert J. Bloch)

Handbook of Austria and Lombardy-Venetia Cancellations. 1850-1864 Issues, by Edwin Mueller. Bilingual (German & English) published in 10 to 12 sections of 32 pages each. Subscription for the entire book including binder is $25.00. After completion of publication, bound copies will be available for $30.00 at the Mercury Stamp Company, 10 East 40th Street, New York 16, N. Y.

The appearance of the sections I, II and III of this handbook of cancellations is monumental. One can hardly grasp the huge amount of work involved in such an undertaking. Knowledge alone is not enough, only the great love for philately and his fellow philatelists can bring about such an accomplishment.

Little can be added to the laurels of the author, because for four decades he has supplied the philatelists with many outstanding publications, especially the student of the Austrian-Hungarian monarchy, who have been so richly rewarded by the author. It is no surprise to find again a book which will prove indispensible for all collectors of Austria and Lombardy-Venetia.

The previous edition on this subject was published by the same author almost 30 years ago, and which became the accepted guide for practically every specialist. Being out-of-print for many years, this first edition had become a collectors item. I am sure because of the demand of collectors and friends, the author has undertaken the relatively thankless job of bringing out a new edition, with many additions in revised form.

The system and cataloguing is arranged in simple form. Following the instructions of the author, one will find the catalogue rather easy to use.

The instructions are to be found on the covers of each section printed in red in German and English. It is stated by the author, that after completion of the series, one section will be entirely devoted to the illustrations.

It is this reviewer's hope that such outstanding records will be heartily supported by all collectors, because it is a labor of love done for philately for which all of us owe a lot to the author. *(Louis Stich)*

World's First Air Stamp. Italy 1917 by L. H. Harris. 15 pages with 18 illustrations. Paper cover. Available from J. C. Crimlisk, 9 Victoria Ave., Filey, Yorkshire, England. Price 50 cents (3/6).

"Number One" stamps always have a greater philatelic appeal, as witness the Great Britain "Penny Black" or the U. S. 5c. 1847's. A much more modern "Number One" has not stimulated the collector interest it deserves. This is the first government-issued air mail stamp, Italy Scott C1. The reason for this lesser interest probably lies in ignorance. Too few collectors realize the great historical position of this Italian air mail stamp.

Nothing can overcome such ignorance better than information. Mr. Harris of England has supplied this in his interesting booklet. Similar accounts have appeared in publications for air mail specialists. But it is hoped that word of this booklet will get around, so that many more collectors will, in time, properly appreciate the "Number One" status of Italy's 1917 air stamp.

The author has done admirable preparation by attempting to read all that had been written about this stamp and its first flights. This is attested by the long bibliography on page 15. Also he had access to a famous air mail collection, now in the British Museum. The "Fitzgerald" collection afforded Mr. Harris the opportunity to study some of the scarcer flight post cards, cancellations and postmarks. He has then spread this information in an intelligent, clear manner in this book.

The main fault in the eyes of this reviewer is the lack on the author's part to study other scarce flight pieces such as those in American collections. For example, one was illustrated in this magazine (THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Vol. 38 No. 2, page 58). We know of at least six other scarce first flight post cards that not only deserve mention but also illustration in a comprehensive work like this.

The illustrations are clear. The key inserted with this caption for Fig. 11 is an excellent idea. However, a petty annoyance for this reviewer's reading was the unusual manner of dividing words at the end of lines such as "alterati-ons" and "havi-ng". But there is only one serious fault with this booklet. The omissions of scarce first flight cards mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Nevertheless, the virtues in this work are so many that a reviewer often wishes he could omit criticisms. In this vast field of philatelic literature, this little booklet is a fine contribution, ranking far above many others this reviewer has read.

(H. M. G.)

1558-1958, 400 Years of Polish Posts. (400 Lat Poczty Polskiej). Published by Ministry of Communications, Warsaw, Poland. Many stamp specimens in color, blocks and illustrations. 398 pp. 8x11½, ln. Leather bound. Price $7.25. W. Kolakowski Co. Box 394, Great Neck, N. Y., Agent.

This is perhaps the best and most comprehensive book on Polish philately ever issued describing the entire postal service. Contrary to any preconceived notion, the book is not a dull reading nor a dry complication of rules, regulations and statistical tables. This is rather full, rich and vivid presentation of human endeavors in the field of communications since dark ages began up to our era of today.

There is, of course, a particular emphasis specifically upon Polish achievements. There we find a full page facsimile of the royal edict (in Latin) dated October 18, 1558, ordering the creation of a regular postal service, quite modern in its conception, including passages

about international connections. Then follows a chronological description of the further development of the Polish postal service within the framework of the contemporary civilized world, rudiments of rules and customs, complications with postal tariffs and the issues relative value to the general market prices.

It is interesting to note, however, that the authors (and this is an "official" book) did not follow the Communist Russia idea of ascribing every outstanding invention to some Russian scientist of the past. This book obviously departs from the usual pattern of Iron Curtain countries propaganda and gives the full credit where it rightfully belongs.

Accordingly, we find even an illustration of Robert Fulton's first steamship "Clermont" churning up the Hudson river from New York to Albany. There is credit for Bell, Stephenson, famous American and British inventors, and Marconi rather than a claim for some unknown Polish or Russian as the Kremlin has dictated in recent years.

One finds a well-illustrated and fascinating chapter depicting the history of Polish Post at Gdansk (Danzig) up to its heroic stand during the first day of World War II in 1939. Of particular interest is a vivid account of the fight of the postal employees against the Nazi aggressors and their death in line of duty when the entire staff of 51 was killed by the Nazi German invaders.

Highly readable are chapters presenting the scope of Polish Postal Service, which incidentally is much broader than that of U. S. Postal Service. Finally, the most interesting part appears under the heading, "Postal Stamps and Philately in Poland".

From general point of view there is nothing new, as far as history of postage stamps is concerned, but Polish stamps and Polish philately are presented with almost scientific precision, yet in a very popular, light and readable way. Numerous stamp tablets, full color inserts with original blocks of stamps—all with ample description of their history, subject, composition, paper and technical method of reproduction—complete one of the finest books of this kind.

There is, however, one regretteable aspect. We have not heard about any translation of this outstanding book. So far it exists only in Polish, and consequently only those who know that language are in a position to fully appreciate this grand book.

(Wladislaw Kolakowski)

Pakistan, Overprints on Indian Stamps, 1948-1949, by Col. D. R. Martin, Royal Engineers (Ret.). Published by Robson Lowe Itd., 50 Pall Mall, London, S. W. 1 England, 1959. 92 + VIII pages, 16 plates, clothbound. Priced at 30/- ($4.25).

The State of Pakistan was established when the Dominion of India was divided on the 15th of August, 1947.

In the chaos that followed, stocks of India stamps called in for overprinting were either seriously delayed or failed entirely to reach their destination, while supplies of the overprinted stamps being delivered from Nasik in India fared no better. Faced with grave shortages, postmasters and Government officials endeavored to carry on by providing their own means of converting Indian stamps to those of Pakistan. The resulting variety of overprints: press printed, handstamped, typewritten or manuscript, in various ink colors and styles, on both ordinary postage and Service stamps, offers a golden opportunity for study.

Col. D. R. Martin needs no introduction to collectors of Indian stamps. He is the author, with E. A. Smythies, Esq., C. I. E., P. R. P. S. L., of the fine monographs, "The Half Anna Lithographed Stamps of India, 1854-55". The latter book won the Crawford Medal awarded by the Royal Philatelic Society, London. He has also written many articles for "The Philatelic Journal of India". "The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" and "The London Philatelist".

It was Colonel Martin's privilege to serve the State of Pakistan for nearly six years from its inception. He was on the scene when the stamps discussed in this book were placed in use. He has taken his own notes and collections, and along with those of other collectors placed at his disposal, has produced a definitive study of the provisional issues.

The book is divided into eleven chapters dealing with the various types of overprints. Within these chapters the geographical distribution of the stamps are discussed. For instance, when treating of the handstamped overprints, there is no necessity of searching through many pages, because all the information on them is concentrated under this one heading. He has provided checklists of all known overprints under each subheading. These lists are cross-indexed according to the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue number of the basic Indian stamp. On page 92 a table is provided for conversion of the Stanley Gibbons numbers to those of Scott and the Yvert and Tellier catalogues.

The photographic plates are remarkably clear and so arranged that easy comparison of types can be made. This is most useful for the person, who is just starting to make a study of these issues, as it permits a tentative identification, after which the text may more easily be followed.

The checklists also carry prices. There does not seem to be any indication whether these are the prices quoted in the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue or whether they are included as a guide for relative scarcity. In a year or two it is entirely possible that the values indicated by the pricing may be obsolete. In this event the users of the book would be well advised to consider them as an indication of supplies available to collectors rather than as a gauge of then current market values.

This book is the result of ten years intensive effort. It is the first attempt to classify and provide definitive information about the Pakistan overprints. It is of great value to students of these issues and must be considered the comprehensive vade mecum for all collectors of these stamps. In addition to this, it is an excellent example of clear and precise philatelic writing which should serve as a guide to other writers for the preparation of advanced and learned studies. The book is a very fine example of printing and production, thus also appealing to the philatelic bibliophile for his personal library. *(H. D. S. H.)*

American Air Mail Catalogue. Vol. 3 (1959 Supplement). L. B. Gatchell, Editor-in-Chief and many others. 400 pages, hundreds of illustrations and maps. Clothbound. Published by the American Air Mail Society, Albion, Penna. Price $5.00.

The American Air Mail Society sparked by a longtime philatelist, L. B. Gatchell, has over a period of more than twenty-five years supplied a catalogue of flight material. The general air mail stamp catalogs such as Sanabria confine their listings and pricings to stamps. But many air mail specialists enjoy collecting postal history. These are the flight covers usually franked with common stamps, but having a value because of the cachet or souvenir nature.

The admirable part of this long series of catalogs is that all the work of compiling and editing is done upon a labor of love basis. Few properly evaluate the time and effort required to put out books like this. If one asks you—"What is there to stamp collecting?", show him a catalog like this. Outsiders with a quick glance would logically assume that the editors and compilers were handsomely paid and the philatelic society publishing these books make a nice profit. How wrong! We know that many did not even ask for reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses.

Furthermore, with publishing costs rising, it is remarkable that in the face of present-day costs, the American Air Mail Society continues with their catalog work. Many others would say "no more" because it costs too much.

This book is indispensable to the collector of United States flight covers domestic and foreign. The Collectors Club librarian can vouch for this statement, because so often an inquiry for information comes here about a certain flight marking or cachet. The answer is found in the "American Air Mail Catalogues".

This catalog is a supplement to Volume I (1947) and Volume II (1950). One familiar with these previous volumes will find reference to Volume III easy. Since this latter is not indexed but only has a Table of Contents, the newer user might have some difficulty at first. But within a short time, he will become used to it.

Every listing is priced with evaluations set according to the informed opinions of the

various specialists. Philatelic pricing is a headache. Unfortunately, this reviewer must be very critical of the Air Post First Day Covers pricings on pages 1212 to 1215. Starting with the 1918 series, *the first days* are not correctly dated, while *the first flight* prices are far, far below the current market. This also applies to the 1930 Graf Zeppelin stamps and the Lindbergh booklet.

Another bad mistake is found on the prices at the bottom of page 1230. The "May 16, 1918 First Trip" covers are worth at least ten times those without the words "First Trip" in this dated cancel.

This catalog is a neat production. The maps are very helpful and wisely placed for easy reference. Many cachets are clearly shown. There are very few indistinct ones such as at the bottom of page 1242. The information given in the notes is more than adequate. The amount of mail carried on the flights is usually stated.

This catalog was needed by many air mail specialists and the A. A. M. S. deserves great praise for supplying it. We hope the sales will be sufficient to encourage the continuation, in the future, of such concrete service to a popular branch of philately. *(H. M. G.)*

Chillicothe, Ohio. A Postal History by Robert D. West. Published by the Chillicothe Philatelic Society pp 81, 5 aps and 57 illustrations. Price $2.00. Obtainable from Robert D. West, P. O. Box 366, Chillicothe, Ohio.

This plastic ring bound pamphlet can serve as a model for town postal histories. It is comprehensive, well organized and pleasantly written. The material is divided into six chapters dealing with the following topics: Historical Background, Transportation Facilities, Postal Routes, The Chillicothe Post Office and the Chillicothe Postal Markings; the final chapter is concerned with an account of the genesis, development and issue of the Ohio Sesquicentennial stamp and also includes a program of the first day ceremonies for this stamp bound into the pamphlet.

The book gives a good picture of the difficulties and uncertainties of the early mail routes west of the Alleghanies. By contrast the reader is given a brief survey of the handling of mail by rail and the present day distribution of the mail by motor vehicle.

The chapter on the postal markings is comprehensive, well illustrated and remarkably complete—in fact nothing has been omitted that could in any way serve to elucidate the use of various markings from any point of view. It will prove a boon to students of Ohio markings and Ohio postal history.

The Chillicothe Philatelic Society and Mr. West are to be congratulated for a job well done. *(Dr. G. Philip Grabfield)*

The Numeral Cancellations of the British Empire. Compiled by Rev. Henry H. Heins, Published by Robson Lowe, 50 Pall Mall, London, S. W. 1, England. Soft Cover, 63pp. Priced $3.00.

The vast field of postal markings encompassed in this useful booklet can mostly serve as a check-list or outline. The author states that it lists in a single source the numeral and alphabetical cancellations and markings of the British Empire. The title does not include this fact, but the alphabetical listings of the letters found in postal markings has never been thoroughly explored.

The introductory remarks correctly notes the many fine handbooks pertinent to the subject of postal markings from the larger dominions of the Empire, such as Australia, Canada, New Zealand and markings on Military mail (Field Post Offices, etc.), which are all omitted from these listings. However India is listed notwithstanding the excellent handbooks of Jal Cooper. Mention is made of Brumells listing which this booklet somewhat supplements. The bibliographical acknowledgements by the author, is a storehouse of

(Continued on Page 205)

FRENCH COLONIES

THE GENERAL ISSUES

By ROBERT G. STONE

CHAPTER V.

THE ALPHÉE DUBOIS ISSUE, 1881-1891 (SCOTT'S Nos. 46-59)

The Change in Type[1, 2]

It has been noted in the preceding Chapters how since 1863 the Minister of Colonies had been thwarted in his efforts to have the colonial stamps perforated—either it was war, the need for economy, or the lack of time that intervened. Complaints from the colonies had been rising over the years. In September, 1879 the Minister finally seized a propitious time to make the desired change; presumably he calculated that prosperity and peace had prevailed for nearly a decade and that the Sage Issue had been used long enough. And he was aware too, that the Minister of Posts favored such a change because frauds against the post office were being encouraged by the similarity of the French and colonial stamps, because since 1871 the only distinction between them had been in the method of separation.

Obviously any perforated stamps for the colonies would have to be distinct in appearance from French stamps—that meant a new and special design-type. This the Ministry of Colonies (with approval of the Finance Ministry) proceeded to authorize. The Ministry of Posts was asked to submit a number of artist-engravers' designs from which one could be selected, the subject to be allegorical with the denomination in a large numeral. Seven sketches from four engravers were submitted in October. The one by Alphée Dubois chosen. The Mint, when asked to prepare the dies and stamps, indicated it lacked competence in this type of engraving and would have to obtain the guidance of an outside Consultative Committee of Experts; also that the stamps if perforated would have to be exactly the same size as those of France. The Minister of Colonies was agreeable to these points, and now suggested to the Mint that since the time for the annual printing of colonial stamps was almost at hand perhaps the colonies should be supplied on schedule with about half of their requirements in Sage stamps and the other half later in the new type stamps. To this last proposal the Mint countered that the 1880 supply would have to come entirely from Sage printings as M. Dubois would require four months to prepare the dies and the Bank of France six months additional for printing the new type. Dubois proceeded with his task as soon as the Consultative Committee approved his competence and recommended some changes in the design. Meanwhile, in early 1880, the Parliament appropriated money for the Ministry of Posts to buy the printing plant of the Bank of France, which naturally quickened the interest of that Ministry in the Dubois project.

By May Dubois completed the dies, including the plugs with the numerals of denomination, and they were accepted by the Consulative Committee and the Mint. (Ultimately, in June 1890, the dies were deposited in the Naval Museum in Paris.) The 4,000 francs paid to M. Dubois for his work was charged to the accounts of the individual colonies by shares, New Caledonia and Cochinchina paying the most (533 fr); Martinique, Guadeloupe, Reunion and India 400fr each; St. Pierre-Miquelon, Guiana, and Senegal 266fr each and the others 133fr each.

The denominations included were the same as in the Sage issue; the 3c and 5 Fr. values in use in France were not adopted, but the 1 Fr dropped in 1878 was returned.

Alas, M. Dubois' work, like that of Sage and Mouchon, did not result in an attractive stamp. There is some disagreement among philatelic sources as to description and interpretation of the Dubois allegory, while official sources are silent about it. The seated figure

might be a goddess representing France; she holds a tricolor in one hand and an olive branch in the other, a bale and some casks lie at her feet, while at left stands an anchor and a ship sails in the distance to the right (—whence the notion of some cataloguers that the design symbolizes "Navigation and Commerce"). Apart from the questionable taste and judgment in attempting to squeeze such a mess of symbols on one small stamp, the artist was unable to give his design a sufficient sense of coherence, life or beauty. The dark paper tints of the stamps also detract from the appearance of the design.

Printing

The stamps were produced in the government's newly-acquired Atélier de Fabrication des Timbres, presumably by the same processes and presses used for the contemporary Type II Sage issues, that is by surface printing from plates of three or six 50-subject electros (see Chapter IV). The colonial stamps were still being printed in quantities small compared to those made of most French Stamps, and it is conceivable that the original set of galvanos or plates took care of all the Dubois printings (1881-1891) without showing much wear or damage. For the lower denominations, however, of which 2 to 6 million copies each may have been printed, perhaps full or multiple plates were advantageously employed, while half-plates were sufficient for the rest.

The dimensions of the stamp, arrangement of panes, galvanos and plates, control punches etc., were the same as for the Sage stamps. In October 1891 French (Sage) stamps began to appear with a number in the gutter between each pair of panes (opp. second row) to indicate the year of printing or *millésime* ("1"=1891, "2"=1892, etc.). Only a few 5c Dubois which happened to be reprinted in late 1891 are known with a *millésime*[3] ("1"); no more Dubois printings were made because preparation of definitive issues for all the colonies was already envisaged by 1890. *Millésime* numbers were printed by means of ordinary copper type fastened into a space cut out between the panes.[4]

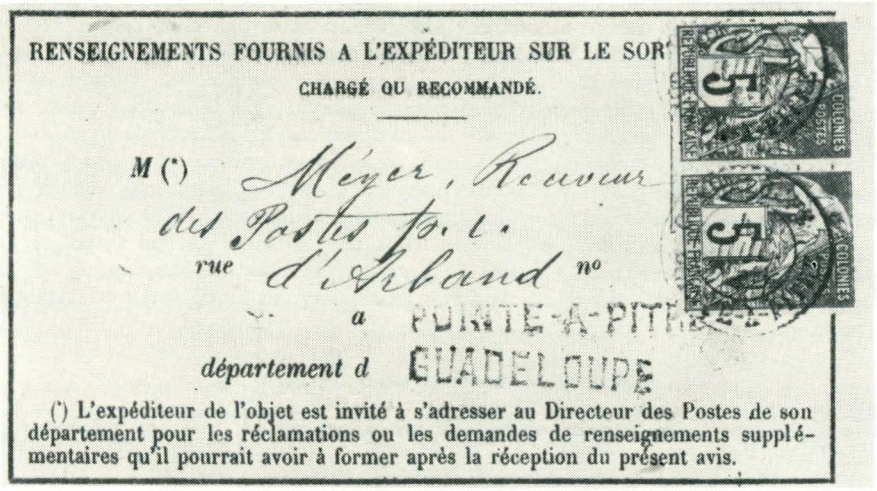
The date of the first printing is usually cited as May 1881, but that appears rather to be the approximate time when the stamps first became available for sale or use in any colony. The printing must, therefore, have been completed several months or more earlier, which is also suggested by the availability of the dies since May 1880, the existence of proofs from 1880, and the fact that the colonial stamps were customarily printed around December, January or February.

We have no information as to whether all denominations were printed annually or some may have been made less frequently. It is reasonable to infer that at least the 30, 35, 75c and 1fr values could be in the latter category as they are much scarcer and show fewer shades. The 75c in particular was probably not printed more than once or twice. The 20c was probably not reprinted after 1885 or 1886. Perhaps only a few large printings were made and the annual supplies often were drawn from reserve stocks; this is suggested by the apparent recurring shortages of some values in the colonies, sometimes extending over several years or more.[9,16] (A *Dépeche Ministeriel* of 23 Dec. 1887 reaffirmed, however, that annual stamp requisitions must reach Paris by September each year.)

Perforation

The perforation gauges 14 horizontally by 13½ vertically. It was done a half-sheet (150 subjects) at a time by the machines used for French stamps since 1876, and is, therefore, identical with the perforations of the latter.[4] Perforations cross the gutters only between panes with the same half-sheet, and at one end of the half-sheet (usually at top) extend some centimeters beyond the stamps creating a row of perforated blank labels. Although the perforation rows are rectilinear, a considerable degree of poor centering is very common on the Dubois issue owing to the small spacing between stamps and poor guidance control. Guide lines (crosses or vertical lines) for the perforating operation were printed by the plate above subject no. 5 and below subject no. 145 of each halfsheet.

Of the various imperforates of the Dubois, only a few can be considered as possibly genuine perforation errors:-[3] the imperforate pairs of the 1, 25, 35c and 1Fr, first reported in the press[5] in early 1905, for example, and the 10c which was actually used for postage at


RENSEIGNEMENTS FOURNIS A L'EXPÉDITEUR SUR LE SORT
CHARGÉ OU RECOMMANDÉ.

M (*) Meyer, Receveur
des Postes p. i.
rue d'Orband nº
a POINTE-A-PITRE
département d GUADELOUPE

(*) L'expéditeur de l'objet est invité à s'adresser au Directeur des Postes de son département pour les réclamations ou les demandes de renseignements supplémentaires qu'il pourrait avoir à former après la réception du présent avis.

Fig. 50. Acknowledgment-of-receipt form for registered mail, showing use of pair of 5c Dubois stamps to pay the fee for return receipt; this was sent to the destinaire at Halifax and returned signed to the sender at Guadeloupe, 1884.

the St. Denis, Reunion, post office in 1887.[6] All others are certainly or very probably proofs of one type or another.

Paper and Gum

The printery used the same kinds of paper for the Dubois as for contemporary French and preceding colonial Sage stamps: varying from opaque to transparent, thick to thin, soft to hard and brittle. The combination of poor paper and poor centering has greatly limited the proportion of very fine copies of Dubois stamps, being in part responsible for their unpopularity.

A white paper stock was always used. However, the press continued the practice of block printing a tint of the same color as the stamp over nearly the whole face of the sheet. From 1890 on, allegedly to prevent the use of the gutters for forgeries,* the color block was interrupted in the horizontal gutters between panes and a narrower band in the color of the stamp was printed by the plate along each gap thus made.[4] On the thin transparent papers the face-tinting usually results in the paper appearing as though it were faintly colored. A few of the 75c is reported with the color block erroneously printed on back of the stamp. Until 1890 a thin white line interrupts the color block down the middle of the gutter between the half sheets on some printings.

It is alleged that some sheets were sent to the colonies ungummed, which is very doubtful.

Colors

Each denomination is in the color used for the same value at the same time in France. All denominations show the range of variation in shade that would be expected in view of the printings having extended over a decade. Every value has at least two rather distinctive shades, representing differences whether in hue, chroma, or brightness, as well as in paper tint, analogous to those of the Sage and Group Types colonial issues. The 1, 2, 5, 15, 20 and 25c yellow seem to have the most shades. The 25c was of course intentionally re-issued in 1886 in an entirely new color, corresponding to the change in the French 25c (reason unknown). Both the 2c and 4c appear in two different hues of the paper tint distinct enough to find recognition in some general catalogues. The 5c, 25c yellow, 35c, 40c, 75c

* Mr. S. G. Rich questions the validity of this quasi "official" explanation;[4] he believes that the bars were inserted in the plates in order to reduce the wear at the edges of the panes.

and 1Fr. have more subtle though often-noticed hue variations of the stamp color. However, our impression is that in general, variations of color appearance in the Dubois are due as much (if not more) to brightness of the paper tint as to the stamp color. No special study seems to have been given to the question of dating the shades. We believe this will be found rather fruitless unless documentary facts on the composition and date of each printing are discovered. Because large amounts of the stamps were disposed of out of course (overprinting, philatelic use or holding, selling in post offices only after long delays, and other reasons), an analysis of used copies could be entirely misleading. Moreover, notes in the philatelic press during the 1880's and '90's reveal that while the shades of certain frequently (annually?) reprinted denominations (5c and 15c) varied definitely in *prevailing* shade from year to year, there was also apt to be almost as much range in shade within a single given large printing.

Minor Varieties and Proofs[3]

No significant plate varieties of the Dubois are reported; nor are there any very noticeably worn impressions, except for a few breaks in frame and background lines (25, 40, & 75c). However, there are many poor impressions due to underinking and bad make-ready.

A number of perforation varieties or errors have puzzled experts for years. We refer to the imperforates (mentioned above under "Perforation"). In the first place, the ungummed imperforates in both issued and unissued shades and colors are known to be proofs of one sort or another; i. e., the die proofs in black without value and the color trials on white paper made and released in 1880 (—there are also perforated and gummed proofs in this series). Nor is there any confusion about the extremely rare artist's De Luxe proofs in issued colors on card, first made in 1880 (all denominations except the 25c yellow). But imperforate *gummed* pairs (on tinted paper) of the 1c, 25c, 35c, and 1Fr, reported[5] in January 1905, have been widely accepted as true perforation errors; prior to that the known *ungummed* imperforates of all values had been regarded generally as proofs even when their colors approximated those of the issued stamps. This ad hoc dependence on the presence or absence of gum as a criterion does not perhaps deserve too much confidence, for some degummed stamps are alleged to have been issued locally. During 1887[6] a few 10c imperfs (gummed?) were used for postage at St. Denis, Reunion, a fact which some interpret as "proof" that certain of the various imperfs may be "errors" of the issued stamps.

A once-alleged "reprint" of the 25c black in 1896 has not been verified in recent years.

The *millésime* "1" of the 5c is an important variety, and quite rare. Use on letters of 5c stamps cut out from Dubois-type envelopes, though unauthorized was apparently tolerated to some extent in Cochinchina during the 1890's and might be considered a "variety".

The 75c is reported with the color tint printed on the back instead of the front.

The "Spécimen" overprints from Cochinchina have been seen on all but the 25c yellow (which may exist also).

Forgeries

Practically all the counterfeit Dubois stamps were made with forged overprints and cancellations to imitate various issues of individual colonies. These include the well-known lithographed Fournier products, and another "make" of unknown source. (Counterfeit overprints on genuine Dubois are also found.) The identifying features are described in Serrane[7] and other works on forgeries. Dubois stamps *per se* have been too plentiful to attract fakers. However, in expertizing the overprinted Dubois issues it is necessary in many cases to have a good knowledge of the genuine Dubois stamp and especially of its proper cancellations. The Fournier sample books contained litho facsimiles of the 4c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 75c and 1 Fr., imperf. or perf., very coarse and off-color imitations usually hand-stamped "FAUX" or "FACSIMILE."

Cancellations

During the 1880's nearly 300 post offices existed in the French colonies and many of these used several or more styles of postmark.[10] Thus in the absence of other attractive features it is not surprising that so many collectors find the cancellations to be practically the only source of interest in the Dubois issue. Lozenges, though still in general use at several offices in Reunion,* in this period are very exceptional (Guadeloupe, India) or non-existent from other colonies. French paquebot (seapost) cancellations[11] are occasionally found on Dubois and eagerly collected thus by the knowing. "Army-correspondence" cancels (actually in use since 1863) became more frequent on this issue and are of special interest.[10] A few accidental or philatelic uses in France are seen.

The cancellations reveal how much more widely distributed were the Dubois than preceding issues. All colonies and most postoffices seem ultimately to have received at least a majority of the denominations, but no systematic studies of the matter are known to us except for de Ponyers rather tentative and incomplete lists (—most of Dr. Bouvet's extensive notes [9,16] have not been published). Even the colonies newly established during the 1880's all used the Dubois to some extent. However, some denominations were very little used or withheld entirely from sale in certain colonies (see "Guadeloupe" below, and "Quantities Printed"). In Martinique the 1c was very rare before 1887, the 2c and 4c before 1892! In Reunion many values were not sold until late; and the 1c, 2c and 4c are not reported at all from New Caledonia.[16] The accompanying Table of Relative Scarcity compiles what we have found but obviously we have little information on some colonies.

In Senegal the military postoffices in the back country which lacked lozenges or dated postmarkers used a straightline "SÉNÉGAL" mark for cancelling stamps; it was usually struck diagonally and so often as a favor on mint stamps that many collectors thought it was an overprint.[3] Unfortunately for cancellation collectors a large amount of "used"

* During the 1890's Dubois stamps were also sometimes cancelled in Reunion with a mark consisting of serifed capital "PP" in a circle of about 13mm diameter. In the 1880's the "PD" in circle or box was also occasionally used in Reunion to cancel Dubois.

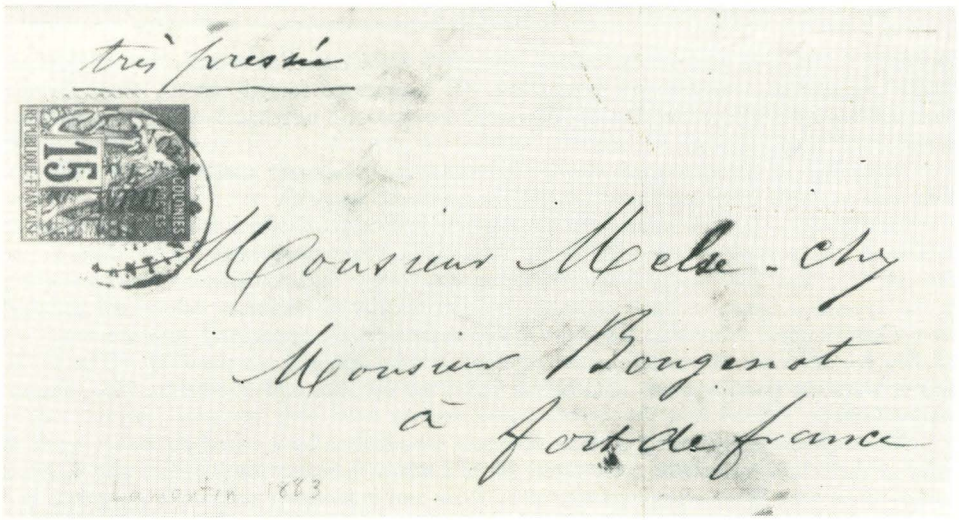


Fig. 51. Local letter Lamentin to Fort-de-France, Martinique, 1883, with 15c Dubois, the typical stamp for the inland rate.

TABLE OF RELATIVE SCARCITY OF THE DUBOIS ISSUE IN THE VARIOUS COLONIES, ETC.

COLONY	1c	2c	4c	5c	10c	15c	20c	25c YELL.	25c BLACK	30c	35c	40c	75c	1 FR.
GUADELOUPE (LOZ)	C	S	S	C	C	L/C	C	C	C	N/O	N/O	NE/O	VR	VR
GUIANA	S	VS	VS	S	S	S	VS	C	C	R	VS	S	VR	S
MARTINIQUE	L/S	L/S	L/S	C	C	C	C	C	L/C	VS	S	C	VR	S
ST. PIERRE & MIQ.	VR	R	R	S	S	S	VR	C	S	R	VR	VR	VS	VS
BÉNIN (1889-)(GOLFE DE GUINÉE)	S	S?	S?	S?	VS?	R	R?	R?	VS	R?	R?	S?	R?	R?
CONGO (1891-)(FORMER GABON)	VS	R?	R?	VS?	VS	VS	VR?	N	S	VS?	VS?	VS?	R?	VS?
CÔTE D'OR (1889-)(IVORY COAST 1893-)	X	X	X	VR	VR	VR	X	VR	VR	X	VR	X	X	X
GABON (1881-90)	VS	R	R	VS	VS	VS	R	VS	S	R	VS?	VS?	R	VS
OBOCK (1884-)	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	VR	VR	VR	E	X	X
RIVIÈRES DU SUD (1886-)(GUINEA 1891-)	X	X	X	VR	VR	VR	X	N	VR	X	X	X	X	X
SENEGAL	S	S	S	C	C	C	C	C	C	VR	VS	VS	VS	VS
SUDAN (1891-)	X	X	X	X	VR	VR	X	VR	VR	X	X	X	X	X
REUNION (LOZ)	C	C	L/C	C	C	C	C	L/VS	C	L/S	R	L/C	L/VS	L/R
ANJOUAN (1892-)	N	N	N	N	N	N	AE	N	N	N	N	N	NAE	N
DIÉGO-SUAREZ (1886-)	R	VS	VS	VS	VS	R	R	N	S	R	R	S	R	VS
MADAGASCAR (1883-)	VR	R	VS	C	C	S	VS	VR	C	S	VS	S	VS	C
STE. MARIE DE MAD.	X	X	X	VR	VR	VR	VR	VR	VR	VR	VR	VR	VR	VR
MAYOTTE (LOZ)	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	C	C	S	S	C	S	C
NOSSI-BÉ	R	R	R	S	S	S	S	VS	S	R	S	S	R	VS
INDIA (LOZ)	C	S	S	C	C	C	VS	C	C	R	S	S	R	VS
INDO CHINA (CCH, 1881-88)	C	S	C	C	C	C	R	C	C	C	S	C	S	C
ANNAM & TONKIN (1881-88)	S	C	S	C	C	C	R	S	C	S	S	S	S	VS
CAMBODIA (1881-88)	S	S	S	C	C	C	R	S	C	S	S	S	VS	VS
NEW CALEDONIA	NE/O	NE/O	NE/O	S	C	C	R	C	C	C	S	S	S	S
OCEANIA	R	R	R	S	S	S	R	S	S	R	R	VS	VS	VS
FRENCH PAQUEBOTS	AVR	AVR	AVR	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS	AVR	AVS
FRANCE	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	AVR	N	N	N	N	N

(LOZ) = LOZENGES OCCASIONALLY USED.

Dubois (of the 1-4c and 30-75c values especially) were cancelled-to-order in still-gummed sheets or panes at a certain few postoffices. A number of forged cancels, even phantom ones, are reported (Cayenne, Benin, Mayotte), the work of merchants trying to satisfy the demand for "used" copies.

According to the catalogues the 5-30c values are commoner used, the rest mint—the 1-4c were probably purchased very heavily for philatelic purposes.

Guadeloupe.—In this colony the Dubois are known postmarked from nearly all post-offices of the period. Postmarks of the small offices are most likely to be seen on the 5c, 10c, 15c and 20c, being in fact rare on any other denominations. The coefficients in the appended Synoptic Table show the relative scarcity of different values and printings from Guadeloupe. Note that the 30, 35, 40c and 1Fr were apparently withheld from sale as they are never seen cancelled in the right period (except perhaps the 1Fr). The 1c, 2c, and 4c were not postally much used before 1884, the 10c, 20c and 25c before 1883, the 15c before 1886.

Although the overprinting of late 1891 was supposed to have taken the entire stock on hand in the colony, occasional commercial use of Dubois thereafter during the early 1890's is noted—these were likely stamps purchased by firms and individuals before the overprinting.

The half-dozen types[10] of circular dated postmarks in wide use during the 1880's in Guadeloupe are readily found on Dubois stamps; curious Type G [10] with misspelling "Gouadeloupe", introduced in 1885, is the most interesting of these. We have not seen



Fig. 52. Registered local letter Ste.-Rose to Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, 1885, 40c rate franked with strip of 10c Dubois. (The 40c Dubois was not sold in Guadeloupe without overprint).

many lozenges of the colony on Dubois excepting the "GPE" lozenge on low denominations—it is very rare. However, one may expect to find also the lozenges of Capesterre (G. P.) and of one or two other small offices, since they are found occasionally on Sage and Guadeloupe stamps during the 1880's.

Multiples

Used multiples, if they once were common, are no longer so, except for pairs and strips of the low values, and for blocks with philatelic or to-order cancels.

Mint blocks are generally commoner than used ones; and many large mint blocks or complete panes of 25 and 50 are known.

Entires

Covers with Dubois stamps are on the whole somewhat less plentiful than with earlier colonial issues, except perhaps the Sage. This is probably because after 1880 most business firms gave up the old custom of preserving their archives indefinitely and those firms which did save their correspondence destroyed the covers. Particularly rare are commercial frankings with denominations 30, 35, 40, 75c, or 1Fr stamps. On account of the lower rates prevailing after 1878 the 25c franked most ordinary foreign letter mail, leaving the higher denominations to serve mainly for overweight letters, letters to non-UPU countries, registration and various special-purpose-rates (parcel post, 1882). At times 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c or 25c stamps ran out of stock and combinations of other values were used in their place until new supplies arrived or overprints were made.

Combinations of denominations and multiples were no longer so characteristic in the 1880's as on earlier colonial mail, single denominations now being available for all the common rates. Combinations with Ceres or Sage stamps are seldom seen from most colonies, though Dubois combined with later colonial issues (overprints and Group type) are more frequent, particularly on covers addressed to stamp dealers and collectors around 1885-96. New Caledonia, Martinique, and Reunion perhaps originated mixed frankings in the 1880's more naturally than other colonies.

Formula postcards of French Colonies, Cochinchina, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Senegal, and Ste.-Marie de Madagascar sold during the 1880's had Dubois stamps affixed (10c, or pair of 5c), in most cases at least.

Guadeloupe.—Dubois covers from this colony seem to be comparatively scarcer than they are from the other large colonies, because only the low denominations were available there and because so many Ceres, Sage and Guadeloupe stamps were also concurrently on sale. The single 25c was the usual stamp on foreign letters after 1882, the 15c on interior letters after 1885, the 10c on postcards and the 5c on circulars (1886-). Bouvet[8,9] notes that the 25c rate was usually franked at Pointe-a-Pitre by combinations of other denominations in the period around June-December 1883, which he claims is evidence of the shortage of 25c stamps that was given as the excuse for surcharging of "25c" on 35c Sage stamps later in 1884. We have seen, however, numbers of covers with the 25c in late 1883 and early half of 1884, but mostly from Basse-Terre to be sure.

The 15c also regularly franked the "Army Correspondence" after 1885, scarce as it is. On the formula postcards of Guadeloupe sold during 1881-85 a 10c Dubois (or rarely a pair of 5c) was affixed by the postoffices; these cards are very scarce used, but common unused (most of the remainders lacking stamps).

Postal Stationery [3, 4, 15]

In 1885 and 1891 a series of postal cards, in 1885 and 1890 of letter cards, in 1888 of wrappers, and in 1888 of envelopes, were issued imprinted with the vignettes of the Dubois Type, for use in all colonies. Although formula postcards had been first issued experimentally for the colonies in 1876, and for Reunion in 1874, one to three years after such cards were first tried in France, the Dubois stationery appeared with a lag of seven years after stamped stationery was introduced in the mother country.

Apparently such ample quantities of the Dubois stationery were printed that very large unused remainders of some items were on hand in 1892 when each colony ordered new sets of stationery in the Group Type. Used Dubois stationery is in fact not very common; and with several exceptions it is much easier to obtain unused. Many of the used pieces are philatelic. Dubois or colony stamps were often added to make up higher rates (there being no 25c envelope, e. g.).

Presumably some varieties of the Dubois stationery were supplied to all the colonies; but the 1885 issues and the scarcer letter cards were not so widely distributed. (Guadeloupe, Martinique, Reunion, Senegal, Ste. Marie de M., and Cochinchina had their own series of formula postcards printed between 1874 and 1888 which are found used as late as the 1890's.) Seven colonies overprinted the vignettes on certain Dubois stationery in 1891-92 to convert it to definitive issues: Obock, Benin, Diego Suarez, New Caledonia, Guiana, St. Pierre-Miquelon, and Tahiti. Also in Cochinchina they overprinted a small quantity with the word "Spécimen" and new values in cents, to inform the public of the equivalences in local currency. The handstamp "SÉNÉGAL is merely a cancel (see "Cancellations", above).

A list of the Stationery issued follows:—

Postcards:

10c black on lilac (1885) (shades; and two die types of the vignettes)
10c black on chamois (1891) (scarce used)
10c+10c reply card, opening at top, black on blue (1885) (scarce)
10c+10c reply card, opening at bottom, black on blue (1885)

Letter Cards:

These come in three types of perforation—
Type A has only the side perforations extending out to the margins;
Type B has the perforations of both sides and the bottom extending out to the margins;
Type C has no perforations extending out to the margins.
15c blue on gray (Type A), gummed (1885) (scarce)
15c blue on green (Type A), ungummed (1885) (very rare) unfolded
15c blue on blue or gray-blue (Type B) (1885)
15c blue on green (Type B) (1885) (rare)

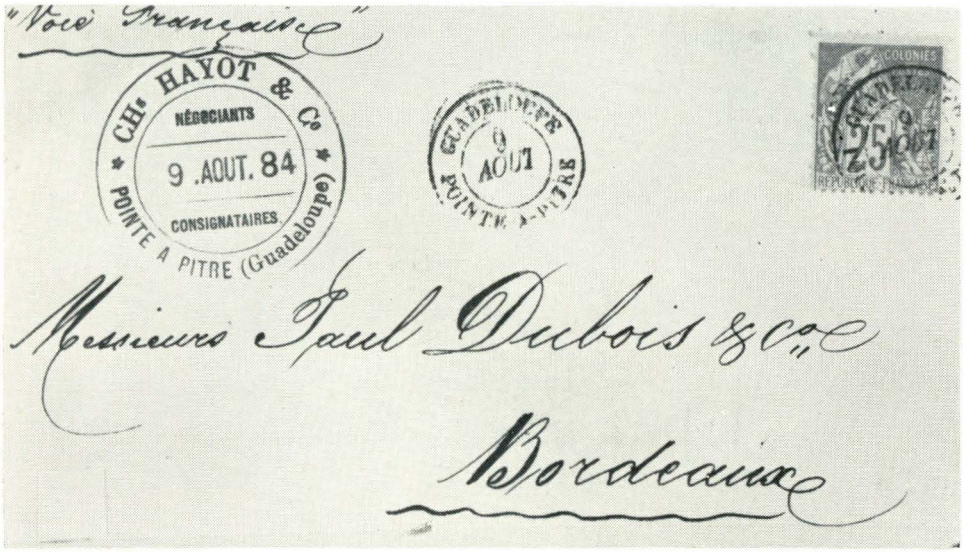


Fig. 53. Letter from Guadeloupe to France, 1884, with 25c yellow Dubois prepaying the UPU rate. (Note that this is from the period when the 25c overprinted on 35c Sage stamps were available also for this rate from Guadeloupe).

25c black on rose (Type A) (1885), ungummed (rare) unfolded
25c black on rose (Type B) (1885) (scarce)
Variety: impression of stamps on both front and back sides (extremely rare)
15c blue on pale gray (Type C) (1890)
25c black on rose (Type C) (1890)

Envelopes: (all 1888)
5c green (116x76mm)
Variety: vignette cut out and used pasted-up on cover as a stamp
15c blue (116x76mm) on gray-blue, bluish and blue
15c blue (123x96mm) on gray-blue and blue
15c blue (147x112mm) on gray-blue, bluish, and blue

Wrappers: (all 1888)—size 320x51mm; lines across bottom and top of face of wrapper
1c black on buff
2c brown-red on buff
3c vermillion (red-orange) on buff
4c brown-violet on buff
5c green on buff

The Overprints

About 4,958,000 of the Dubois, accounting for perhaps an eighth of the total printed, were surcharged for use in individual colonies. Because the quantities and distribution of the overprints are to a large extent known and may throw some light on the original printing quantities of the Dubois as well as on their distribution (about which we have no official data at all), and on their use, it seems desirable to examine the matter here.

The vast majority of the numerous colonial overprints of 1880-1895 were on Dubois stamps (—only about 392,000 were on Sage and 141,000 on the first three general issues). The overprinted Dubois present a rather distasteful group for the average collector, with their dark paper tints, poor centering, and brittle paper, their many seemingly-unnecessary

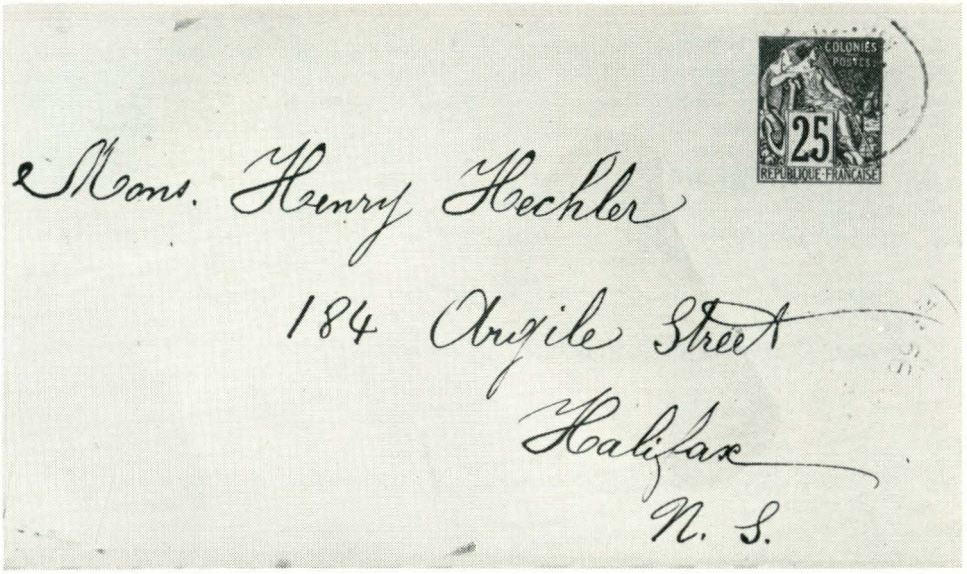


Fig. 54. Cover from St. Pierre-Miquelon to Halifax, 1889, with 25c black Dubois.

often rare and much-forged varieties difficult to expertize, and their generally philatelic inspiration. The earlier overprints (1881-86) were apparently justified by genuine shortages of certain needed Dubois values.[12] But philatelic demand induced the colonies to exploit the idea, for which they soon found sanction in the guise of a Ministerial policy (1890-) to convert to definitive issues (on account of the differences in exchange rates between colonies). It would appear that the Ministry preferred to use up all the Dubois stamps, constructively if possible, but anyway profitably, rather than to destroy any remainders.

The formal period of use of the Dubois extended from 1881 to 1891 or 1892, when all colonies stocked the new Group Type, though later use was not prohibited in any way. However, the Dubois consumption was not unrestricted during these 11 years, for the actual use was much less than the potential, first because there were large remainders of the previous issues used concurrently with it, next because overprints were made during the 1880's, and finally because the stocks on hand were largely overprinted in 1890-92 in anticipation of the definitive issues. Actually some colonies still retained considerable stocks of Dubois until 1894 (latest overprints), but little postal use is noted after 1892, except philatelic. The Dubois overprinted in wholesale fashion in 1891-92 were in some cases probably not just accumulated remainders from the past regular annual allotments to colonial postoffices, but extra supplies sent out or ordered from Paris in 1890-91 with the idea of overprinting in mind—St. Pierre at least, obtained and overprinted about 800,000 in this way, and we suspect Obock, Nossi-Bé, Diego Suarez, and Tahiti may have done likewise.

In the accompanying tables we present our estimates of quantities overprinted by denomination and colony. Quantities issued of the majority of the overprints are known from the official decrees[4,13] and we have roughly estimated the rest by correlating the catalogue prices with the known printings. Since about 2,700,000 of the total is covered by known printings, the error of our grand total (4,958,000) is not likely to be off by more than 500,000 or so. Note that the 20c red-on-green is the most overprinted value by far; this is explained by the fact that the reduction of the internal letter rate to 15c in 1878-1886 caught the postal system with big stocks of 20c that were no longer needed. The 25c yellow on the other hand figures very little (13,300) among the overprints as it was nearly used up before most of the overprinting took place. The 35c overprinted total 90,000, the other values running from 92,000 to 1,103,500. We will use these figures in the next Section to guide us in estimates of the Dubois totals printed.



Fig. 55. Guadeloupe local cover of 1893, the 15c rate franked with unusual combination of Dubois and overprinted Dubois; the Dubois stocks at the main office were all overprinted in 1891, but small offices may have still had some in stock in 1893. Moreover in Guadeloupe as in many other colonies the 2c and 4c Dubois were mostly used very late, if at all.

As for the overprintings by colony, it is not surprising that the larger colonies had more stamps to overprint and the smaller colonies less; only St. Pierre (with more than Martinique) is far out of line in this respect (see above). When Tahiti exceeds Indochina, and Obock, Diego-Suarez, and Nossi-Bé are only somewhat less, one wonders what it means; however, in this case Indochina's total is abnormally small for such a large colony. Of the older colonies only Mayotte refrained from making overprints in this period. It is interesting to note that some of the colonies which were not well established until the mid-1880's figure prominently in the overprint quantities: Obock, Diego-Suarez, Benin, Congo, Annam-and-Tonkin, and Madagascar—was it because they were stocked late and had little time or commerce to use them before 1892? Then why didn't Guinea, Ivory Coast, St. Marie and Cambodia overprint?

Dubois Stamps Overprinted: Estimated Quantities by Denomination—

Denomination	Quantities	
	Postage	Fiscal
1c	533,500	3,500
2c	403,000	
4c	221,000	
5c	493,500	10,000
10c	374,500	
15c	336,000	
20c	1,103,500	
25c yellow	13,300	
25c black	838,000	8,500
30c	120,000	10,000
35c	87,000	3,000
40c	151,000	6,000
75c	88,500	3,500
1fr	148,500	
Totals: fiscal	47,000	47,000
postage	4,911,000	
grand	4,958,000	



Fig. 56. Combination of Dubois and overprinted stamps making 50c double-rate, Martinique to USA, 1891.

Estimated Quantities Overprinted by Colony:

Colony	Quantities		
	Postage	Fiscal	
Guadeloupe	1,320,000		
Reunion	1,100,000		
St. Pierre-Miquelon	820,000		
Martinique	700,000		
New Caledonia	260,000		
Oceania (Tahiti)	135,000		
Indochina:			
Annam & Tonkin			98,500
Cochinchina			8,000
Total	116,850	28,000	
Guiana	105,000		
Obock	95,000		
Diego-Suarez	63,000		
Nossi-Bé	58,000		
Benin	38,000		
Congo	33,700	6,000	
Madagascar	29,400		
Gabon	20,300		
Senegal	15,000		
Soudan	1,950		
India*	——	13,000	
Totals: fiscal	47,000	47,000	
postage	4,911,000		
grand	4,958,000		

* In addition some 5, 10, 25, 40, 75c and 1fr were surcharged "PONDICHERY" in 1892 but never issued — we have no indication of the quantities involved (Marconnet).

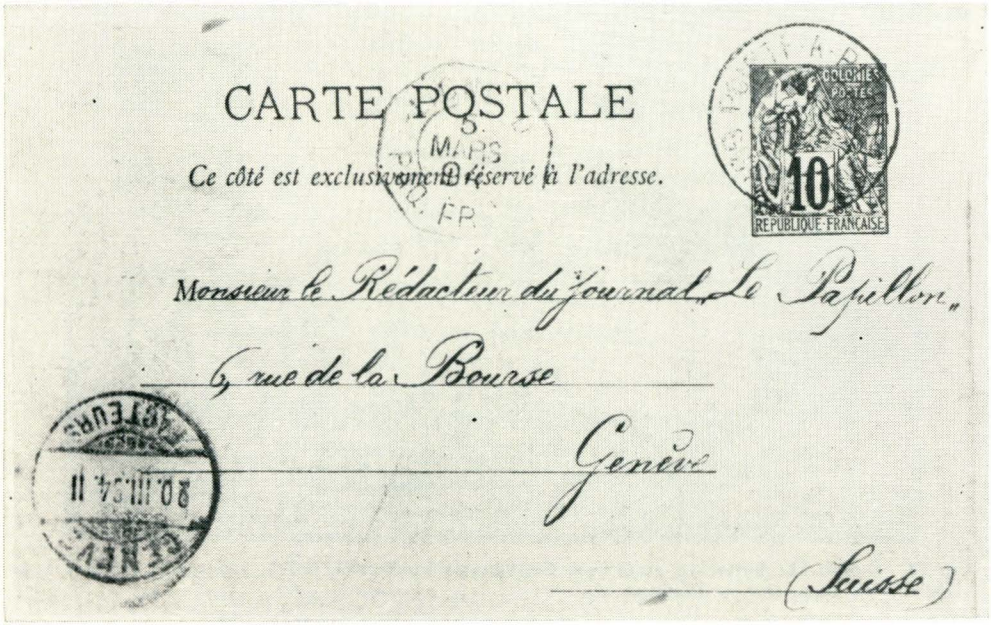


Fig. 57. Dubois 10c postcard used from Guadeloupe to Switzerland, 1894.

Quantities Printed and Their Distribution

Nothing documentary is know about the quantities printed. One can fairly assume that five to ten times as many must have been printed as overprinted, since it was mainly the last one or two year[2] allotments that were overprinted. Therefore the lower denominations (1-20c) were printed in amounts of 2 to 5 million each, the 25c's about 3 or 4 million each, and the rest about 500,000 to 1 million each.

We do not question that all colonies probably received the Dubois, even Côte d'Or (Ivory Coast), Rivières du Sud (Guinea), Sainte-Marie-de-Madagascar, and Cambodia, which do not show among the overprinters. Whether they all received every denomination is another matter. When we study the denominations overprinted colony by colony, it appears that only New Caledonia overprinted all stamps including the 25c yellow; Benin, Guadeloupe, Guiana, and St. Pierre overprinted all but the 25c yellow. Reunion did not overprint the 10c, 25c yellow and 30c; not Tahiti the 30 and 40c; Obock the 20, 25c yellow and 30c; Diego-Suarez the 25c yellow and 40c; Nossi-Bé the 5 and 25c's. The rest of the overprinting colonies treated only a few values, but as we know that these colonies used some or all of the other values, no inferences can be drawn from their overprints. In the case of Guadeloupe, the 30, 35 and 40c were never put on sale though they were overprinted and therefore must have been on hand—could some of the other colonies have done likewise with values they had little or no need for?

Guadeloupe.—We think the proportion of the total sent to Guadeloupe may have been as great as ⅛th (compared with 1/10th for Sage), and perhaps a fourth of these in turn were never sold there as such but overprinted during 1889-91. The fact that Guadeloupe overprinted more than any other colony does not mean it stocked or used the most; a larger part of its allotment was overprinted than in case of most other large colonies (Martinique, New Caledonia, Indochina, e. g.), owing to the overages of Ceres and Sage and withholding of the 30, 35 and 40c from sale. Martinique certainly used more than Guadeloupe, though it overprinted less, and may have even stocked less.



Fig. 58. Dubois 25c lettercard used from Guadeloupe to Holland, 1890; the sealed margins have been torn off along the perforations.

Some Dubois values, the 15c and 75c at least, apparently were not sold in Guadeloupe before 1885 or 1886, presumably owing to the Ceres and Sage held over; but there is no reason to doubt that the 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 20 and 25c were put on sale when first issued in 1881, even though for the next several years Ceres or Sage of these values also were still on hand and sold. Until 1885 the Ceres and Sage remainders were being used equally if not more frequently than these Dubois. The small Guadeloupe overprinted issue of 1884 (on Sage stamps) did not see much postal use although it was justified in the Governor's decree by an alleged shortage of 20 and 25c Dubois.[4,9] In 1889 Guadeloupe began overprinting Dubois stamps in large quantities, again allegedly because of temporary shortages of certain Dubois denominations, but actually we believe[8] more from political and commercial (i. e., philatelic) motives.[12] The 20c was overprinted first, because a change in the internal letter rate to 15c in 1886 had left little further need for it. Then later in 1889 the 1c, 30c, and 40c were overprinted; the 1c was probably overstocked, but the 30 and 40c were values which had never been put on sale unoverprinted. It is interesting to note that the new values created by the 1889 overprinting were 5, 10, 15, and 25c (these already existing in the Dubois) and a 3c which did not exist in the Dubois set. We have not noted any evidence that the Dubois 5, 10, 15 and 25c were short in early 1889; and we believe that creation of these commonly-used values by surcharging only served to reduce the quantities of the equivalent Dubois values that had to be ordered for next year's needs. In fact, a large part of these overprints went into philatelic channels and the Dubois continued to meet most postal requirements. Early in 1891 the 10c and 1Fr were overprinted with new value of 5c; this overprinting is in the same category with the 1889 one—the 1Fr being one of the values hardly used at all in unoverprinted state.

Finally, later in 1891, the entire stock of *all* the denominations on hand (no 25c yellow) was converted by overprinting without change of denomination, ending the use of Dubois in the colony. This issue was extensively used for regular postal purpose as no other stamps were available until late 1892, when the Group type arrived. The postoffices undoubtedly had been holding for years part of the stocks overprinted in 1891, but they also must have obtained additional Dubois supplies of some values (from late printings) even after the same values had been overprinted in 1889-90. The overprints of 1891 are found on nearly all the shades and thus may have included remainders of all printings sent to Guadeloupe between 1881 and 1891 except the 25c yellow.

Adding up these various considerations one can readily understand why the Dubois issue is hardly any commoner from Guadeloupe than the Sage issue.

In the appended Synoptic Table note that the 30c, 35c and 40c are not found used at all, while the 75c and 1Fr are very rare.

SYNOPTIC TABLE OF THE ALPHÉE DUBOIS ISSUE (1881-91) OF FRENCH COLONIES AS USED IN GUADELOUPE

DENOMINATION	APROX. DATE OF PRINTING	COLOR OF STAMP & PAPER (SHADES)	GPE (1) SCARCITY
1c	(EARLY 1881)	BLACK ON DUSKY GRAY-BLUE	3
		" ON LIGHT GRAY-BLUE	2
		" ON LIGHT BLUISH-GRAY	2
		" ON BLUISH-GRAY	2
		NOTE; GREENISH PAPERS ARE CHEMICAL CHANGELINGS	
		VARIETY; IMPERFORATE, WITH GUM (IN PAIRS)	—
2c	(EARLY 1881)	DARK REDDISH-BROWN ON LIGHT YELLOW-BUFF	3
		REDDISH-BROWN ON VERY LIGHT to PALE YELLOW-BUFF	2
		LIGHT REDDISH-BROWN ON PALE YELLOW	2
		BROWNISH RED ON VERY PALE "CREAM"	6
4c	(EARLY 1881)	BROWNISH-LILAC ON VERY PALE GRAY-BLUE	4
		DEEP BROWNISH LILAC ON PALE BLUISH-GRAY	6
		DARK BROWNISH LILAC ON VERY PALE GRAY	4
5c	(EARLY 1881)	GREEN ON VERY LIGHT GREEN	2
		GREEN ON PALE GREEN	4
		GREEN ON LIGHT GREEN	1
		DEEP GREEN ON GREEN	1
		VARIETY; MILLÉSIME "1"	? (VERY RARE)
10c	(EARLY 1881)	BLACK ON LIGHT LAVENDER	1
		BLACK ON LIGHT GRAYISH LAVENDER	1
		BLACK ON PALE ROSE-LILAC	3
		NOTE; GREENISH PAPERS ARE CHEMICAL CHANGELINGS	
		VARIETY: TRANSPARENT PAPER	— ?
	1886 OR '87	VARIETY: IMPERFORATE (USED)	—

NOTE (1): SCARCITY POSTMARKED IN GUADELOUPE RELATIVE TO OTHER PRINTINGS, SHADES AND DENOMINATIONS ("1" = THE COMMONEST)

The second part of this table follows on the next page

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15c	Early 1881	Blue on very pale blue	1
	1883 ?	Deep blue on very pale blue	3
	1885-6 ?	Blue on very pale yellowish-white	1
	1889-90	Light blue on very pale blue	1
20c	(Early	Brick red on light yellow green	2
	1881)	Deep brick red on yellow green	1
		Brick red on yellow green	1
	1884-5	Brick red on very light yellow green	3
25c	Early	Light yellow brown on very light yellow	1
	1881	Yellow brown on light yellow	1
		Yellow-brown on dusky yellow	1
		Variety: Imperforate, with gum (in pairs)	—
25c	Early 1886	Black on very pale lilac rose (thin paper)	2
	1887-'88	Black on very light lilac rose	2
30c	(Early	Brown on pale brown	—
	1881)	Light brown on very pale brown	—
		Variety; Imperforate, with gum (in pairs)	—
35c	(Early	Dark violet on strong yellow	—
	1881)	Dark violet on dark yellow	—
		Variety; Imperforate, with gum (in pairs)	—
40c	(Early	Deep orange red on very pale to pale yellow	—
	1881)	Orange red on very pale to pale yellow	— ?
		Variety; Imperforate, with gum (in pairs)	—
75c	(Early	Bright rose on very pale rose	— ?
	1881)	Rose On very pale rose	60
		Variety; Paper Tint Printed On Back	—
1 Fr.	(Early	Olive green on very pale olive	160
	1881)	Weak olive green on very pale olive	160
		Variety; Imperforate, with gum (in pairs)	—

Note (1); Scarcity Postmarked In Guadeloupe Relative To Other Printings, Shades & Denominations ("1" = Commonest) L.F.G.

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NOTE: The Postage Due Stamps of 1884-1893-1905 (Scott Nos. J1-J34) have already been discussed in our article in this journal, vol. 25, no. 3, 1946, pp. 115-122. Some notes on the use of these in Guadeloupe will appear elsewhere.

CHAPTER VI.

THE SEMI-POSTAL ISSUES OF 1943-44 (SCOTT'S Nos. B1-B8)

The Free-French Administration (Comité Francais de la Libération Nationale—France Combattante) issued in late 1943 and early 1944 eight semi-postals with very high surtaxes for the benefits of patriots, combattants, refugees and aviation. They were printed by lithography, Scott B1 in England and the rest by V. Heintz in Algiers. There are five designs, one, of which served for three and the rest for a single denomination. Actually only one of the designs (Scott B2) is inscribed "France d'Outre-Mer"; most of the set is, therefore, not specifically colonial except in a *de facto* sense, since at the time of issue the motherland was yet to be liberated. The stamps were sold by the Free-French Committee headquarters in England and elsewhere, then later in France. Whether they were ever on sale in some or all colonies is not known to us. Practically all cover and used copies seen are philatelic, and we suspect these stamps (on or off cover) were generally sent to the colonies by philatelists and philatelic merchants rather than purchased in colonial post offices. The panes of Scott B1 were bordered with a wide selvage imprinted with a large cross of Lorraine opposite each stamp; it had no franking significance but was frequently used se-tenant.

(The End)

INDORE (Continued from Page 173)

Fig. 3. An issue No. 6 of the 4th year dated Monday, 17th July, 1876, four weeks later to the previous exhibit, a fortuitous acquisition. To me this infers that the original collector of the pieces thus hoped to record the paper's progress for posterity. Well, this will now be done. Here we have an entirely new format with the main headlines on front page changed to English, the Marathi equivalent being given below, expressed in the Asadha Vadya era, year 1286.

Fig. 4. This is dated Monday, 25th June, 1877, a year later. Incidentally, the publishing year of the "Gazette" is from July to June inclusive. The new format continues with the impressive addition of the coast-of-arms of the Holkar dynasty. There is one change in the English heading: SIRCAR hitherto so spelled, is now written SIRKAR. I mention this as showing how punctilious the editorial staff had become, as also in the shapes of the Marathi numerals. Experts on first viewing the postmark year-dates on a few of my "1889 Provisionals" pieces placed them in the "sixties" which has some significance being further proof of the prevailing vagueness of the "written word" of the period, to say the least.

Fig. 5. This issue is dated Monday, 22nd August, 1881, and is important. It carries a sizable remains of a postal-label with, on the lower line, the Marathi for Rampura. (See also comment Fig. 20). I have ventured to put up this problem to the Marathi expert—who helped me previously—with a suggested reconstructed sheet of postal labels each bearing on their right and at foot a straight line. These lines were perhaps for the purpose of facilitating separation of each label.

Speaking generally, I continue to hope that the help for which I have asked may be accorded me, with perhaps further documentary evidence. The build-up can be but gradual and I am personally much handicapped by not being able to run up to town except on very rare occassions.

In conclusion, I feel that the time has come for me to confess to a feeling of despondency at the attitude prevailing to the stamps of the—at one time—very important Indian State of Indore. A State—the centre of a network of "intelligence" both Military and Political—which well played its part in preventing an earlier disintegration of the Indian Empire, at least postponing it for the best part of a century.

THE CLUBHOUSE

Meeting of March 18, 1959

Liberia

Wednesday evening, March 18th, saw the third and final showing of *General Cornelius W. Wickersham's* large Liberia holdings. The exhibition and lecture rounded out and complemented the two previous showings in past years of earlier Liberian material. This last section, comprising the issues of 1909 to 1919, encompassed general, registration and official stamps, including full sheets, large blocks, and many extreme rarities. In addition, General Wickersham showed postage dues and some very interesting covers, spanning both the 19th and 20th centuries.

The General prefaced his talk with a brief sketch of this fascinating African country founded 130 years ago as a refuge for emancipated African slaves from the United States, and touched on its strange culture composed of native African and American ideas. Since the vast majority of the towns and population lie along the coast, it was pointed out, town marks emanating from anywhere in the interior are quite scarce and are difficult to find.

Beginning with the very beautiful pictorial issue of 1909, the General showed in addition to full sheets, some quite remarkable die proofs and plate proofs also in sheet form. Many of these proofs contained the original written notation by the Liberian postal authorities in their margins.



Fig. 1. The 24c of 1880 used on cover March 19, 1889 to Freetown, Sierra Leone.

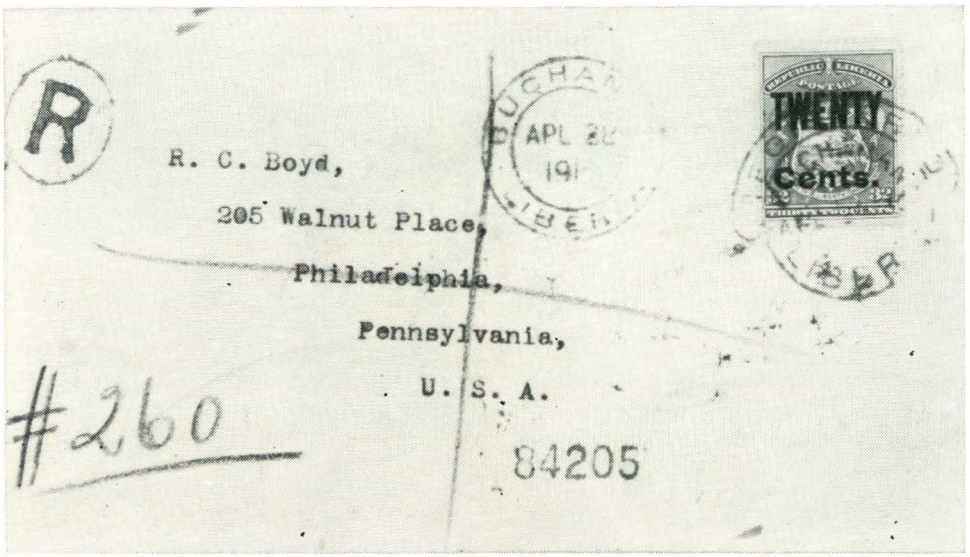


Fig. 2. The 1903 Provisional, 20c on 32c greenish blue, on a registered cover from Buchanan postmarked Arpil 28, 1912 to Philadelphia, Pa. (Photos by Boutrelle)

Among the many remarkable pieces in the frames were such curious and interesting items as a sheet printed on both sides of the 8 cent value and many strange printing varieties. They were all the more unusual because these were printed by none other than the extremely careful and accurate Perkins Bacon Co., printers and engravers of some of the finest British stamps.

Moving on through the other issues, the General pointed out such extraordinary errors as a block of the 1918 Red Cross issue with the red of the red cross omitted, another with an extreme shift of the red, a curious block in which the left hand stamps had no cross and the right hand stamps no overprint, plus such varieties as a double red cross, no frame, inverted surcharges and others.

While discussing the Registration stamps of 1919, the General called attention to such anomalies as reversed die proofs, the largest tete-beche in the world, gutter vignettes, misplaced centers, a printing in which the frames appear on the back of the sheet of stamps. Next, a most unusual plate, used to put the watermark in the paper used for the postage dues, was shown as well as die proofs on these issues. General Wickersham noted that covers bearing these stamps are ultra rare, never having seen or heard of any. However, it is his belief that they must exist.

Among other strange errors in the frames was a large block of the 1910-12, 10 cent triangle with the "3c Inland Postage" overprint to be found in every conceivable position. The surcharges appear across the stamps, on back of the stamps, diagonally, and sometimes not at all.

Bringing the General's talk to a close was his display of representative covers of both the 19th and early 20th centuries. As was pointed out, postally used covers from this country are truly difficult to come by and these were unusual as well as scarce. (Figs. 1 and 2) Among them was a fine combination cover utilizing the 1885 numerals with a paid Liverpool Packet cachet to the West Indies. Another of much interest bore official stamps which were overprinted with the word "ordinary" by handstamp. Hardly ever seen on cover, these overprints were utilized to get rid of a surplus stock of official stamps through the regular mails. (Fig. 3)

Following the lecture General Wickersham was presented with a certificate of

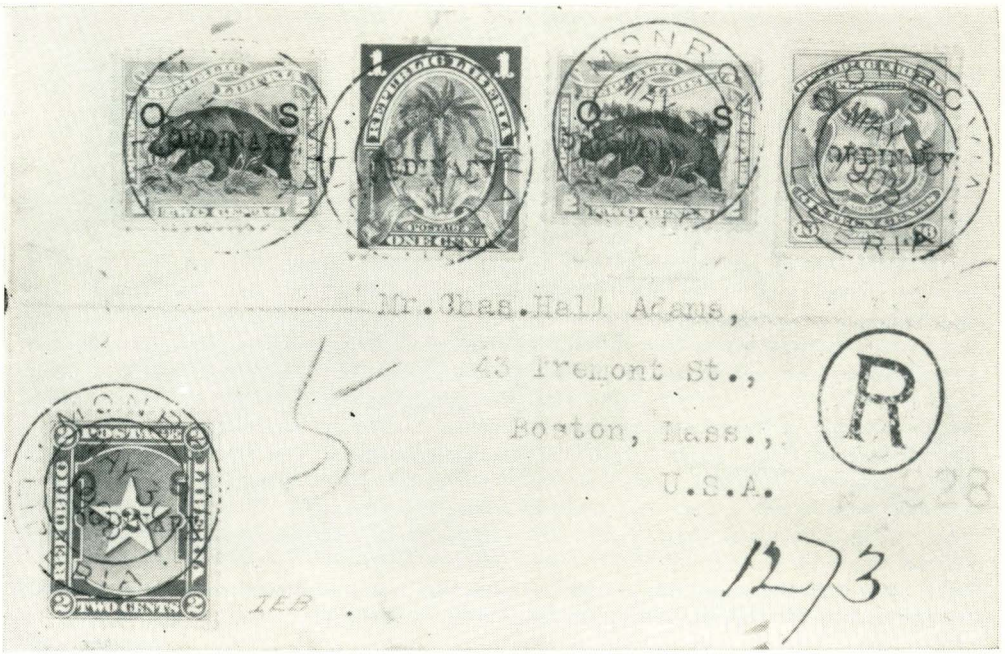


Fig. 3. The "Ordinary" overprints, three on the official stamps, on a cover from Monrovia May 30, 1903 to Boston, Mass. The second stamp from the right on the top has a "double overprint."

appreciation by President Haverbeck for what certainly made a fitting climax to a most comprehensive series of talks on one of the more curious and certainly fascinating of stamp-issuing countries. *(Ira Zweifach)*

Meeting of April 15, 1959

Annual Competition and Awards Night

The planning for this evening started far in advance, while the actual work began as early as February. The *Program Committee under the Chairmanship of Louis Stich* commenced processing Entry forms and shortly thereafter the actual exhibits began arriving. The week of April 13th to 17th was to be Open House, so members had to volunteer to act as host or hostess while the Exhibit Hall was open daily. *Mrs. Rae Ehrenberg* efficiently attended to this. On Sunday, April 12th, *The Program Committee* met to mount *52 collections*. This hard work was completed in five hours time. The same dedicated group of volunteers returned on Saturday, April 18th to dismount, rewrap the exhibits and see that all were ready to be returned to their owners. The whole operation from the first mail notice to all members until the exhibits left the clubhouse required hundreds of hours of co-operative work by a few members.

The exhibit was opened on Monday, April 13th and many members and visitors came to view the frames during the week. *Mrs. Rae Ehrenberg, Messrs. Alan R. Fernald, Edwin E. Elkins, Henry M. Goodkind* and *Fred Kahn* acted as the hostess and hosts.

The main ceremonies took place on Wednesday, April 15th. 1958 had seen one of the largest crowds ever to come to 22 East 35 Street. But this year's turnout exceeded the last one. From the time that the exhibit opened at 1 p. m. until the last person departed late in the evening, well over 150 people viewed the exhibits and stayed for the formal ceremonies that took place on the second floor lounge, starting at 8 p. m.

The meeting opened with the Program Chairman, Louis Stich presenting *Certificates of*

Appreciation to the members of the Program Committee, who well deserved this token recognition for all their hard work. These were presented to *Messrs. Bernard T. Aronstein, John L. Briggs, Jr., Henry M. Goodkind, Nathan Hals, Fred Kahn, Maurice Tripet, Sol Whitman* and *Mrs. Rae Ehrenberg.*

The next event of the evening was the presentation of *The Collectors Club Medal* for the best display and lecture during 1958. The recipient chosen by the vote of the members of *The Program Committee* was *Malcolm G. O'Reilly* for his "Irish Stew" as described in Vol. 38 page 75 of this magazine.

THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST MEDAL for the best article published in this magazine in 1958 was to have been presented by Mr. John R. Boker, Jr., the Chairman of *The Awards Committee.* In his absence, *Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs,* a member of *The Editorial Board,* presented this medal to our *President, Harrison D. S. Haverbeck* for his articles on *The India Feudatory States.* Mr. Bogg's remarks about Mr. Haverbeck were enjoyed by the large audience for their informality. Since these two philatelists have been close friends for so many years, the anecdotes related were very well received. The story of how they first met over twenty years ago, when Mr. Boggs was working for Eugene N. Costales on Nassau Street, and a young man walked in asking if he could buy India and Tibet stamps, is a joy to hear. Philately should record more of these human interest stories—how well-known philatelists started collecting, their contacts with others over the years and some amusing anecdotes definitely should escape into print upon occasion. This would make stamp publications more lively reading.

Next came the annual practice of presenting the handsomely bound leather book with names stamped in gold on the complete Vol. 37 of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST to the members of *The Editorial Board,* for their conscientious work and writings during 1958. The editor presented these to Messrs. *Boggs, Haverbeck, Edwin Mueller* and *Stich.* The volume for *Henry M. Goodkind,* the editor, was handed to him by President Haverbeck along with some very complimentary remarks about the achievements made by Mr. Goodkind since THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST began to be edited by him. The presentation of the 1958 volume marked *the tenth* presented to Editor Goodkind and *The Editorial Board,* one that has served with almost the same members since 1948.

Then came an unannounced portion of the Award Program that took all the recipients completely by surprise. Some years ago, The Board of Governors unanimously passed a resolution that the president may recommend special award to any member, who in the opinion of the officers, has rendered exceptional service to The Collectors Club. There have been members on *The Program Committee* for many years, who have not only acted as hosts and hostesses, but before every regular meeting assist the exhibitor in mounting his material and then when the lecture has concluded, help with the dismounting. The same few people have done this most helpful voluntary work for years without urging. Therefore, with most appropriate prefactory remarks for the club's deep appreciation for these continual services, the president presented *Collectors Club Medals* to *Fred Kahn* and *Mrs. Rae Ehrenberg,* engraved trays to *Maurice Tripet* and *Sol Whitman.* Finally, a handsome, engraved vacuum-lined ice-bucket was tendered to *Stanley R. Rice* not only for his work as *The Chairman of the Entertainment Committee,* but also for his unpublicized philanthropy to assist in financing some of our more expensive publications and renovations in the Exhibit Hall. (See illustrations).

Because *Past President Jacob S. Glaser* was in Florida at the time of the Annual Meeting in January, when the framed specially engraved *Honorary Membership* scrolls were presented, the president handad Mr. Glaser's frame to him at this gathering of April 15, 1959.

This concluded the Awards part of the evening.

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Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield, Chairman of the Board of Judges for the 1959 Collectors Club Members Competition, was called upon to announce the winners. The other members of this judges' panel were Messrs. *Herbert J. Bloch, W. S. Boggs, Albert H. Higgins* and *Stanley R. Rice.* They had been instructed to select *one Grand Award,* six *Major Awards*

of Equal Merit of silver trays (see page 74 of Vol. 38 No. 2 of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST) and as many *Certificates of Merit* as they deemed appropriate in view of the quality of the exhibits.

The 1959 exhibits were of high calibre. Most all, who viewed them, were unanimous in their praise, stating that quality-wise this year's surpassed those of 1957 and 1958. It was not only the material itself that caused so much favorable comment, but the attractive manner in which most of the exhibitors wrote up their album pages. The recent popular tendency for gaudy art work dwarfing the stamps was lacking. As a rule, the write-up was limited to a necessary minimum. The exhibitors wisely allowed their stamps and covers to "speak for themselves".

Another factor obvious to those examining the exhibits was the number of covers shown. There is no doubt that as each year passes, more philatelists are seeking stamps on covers. Also when developing a country's collection, this commences with interesting old, historical covers from the pre-adhesive stamp period.

The following are judges' decisions. The seven exhibits that garnered the major awards are described in more detail:

GRAND AWARD

Hong Kong and Treaty Ports. George E. Burghard, New York, N. Y.

Most of the material shown in the best collection on exhibition had been displayed by Mr. Burghard on November 10, 1958 and was described in detail on pages 43 to 48 in the January 1959 number of this magazine.

The outstanding Macao cover mailed February 6, 1871 to Lisbon, Portugal with 31 copies of the 96c; the very scarce 1870 4c Crown C. C. perforated 12½ and the only known 96c olive bistre on cover were shown. Pre-adhesive postmarks of "China" 1834 and 1835, the large "Macao" circular and others plus the Shanghai, Nagasaki and Hiogo cancellations on stamps completed this exhibit that the judges selected as the best in the show.

MAJOR AWARDS (of Equal Merit)

Bremen Covers showing the Rates of the Postal System. Arthur Salm, Chicago, Ill.

Nine exceptionally fine covers comprised this exhibit. The 5gr. rose of 1856 used from Bremen to Hamburg, the 7gr. yellow of 1860 (Scott Nos. 2-3), the 5sgr. green (Scott 4) on cover to London dated July 12, 1865 were shown. With the 1861-63 issue, the 2gr. red orange (Scott 5a) and the 10gr. black (Scott 7) on a cover from Bremen to the United States dated July 28, 1866 attracted attention. The balance of this exhibit showed the perforated stamps of 1866-67. For instance, the 7gr. yellow (Scott 12) was shown on a cover with the local rate. The stamp was with rough rather than smooth perforations.

United States Die Proprietary Revenue Stamps. Morton Dean Joyce, New York, N. Y.

Rare stamps dominated this showing. There was the 1c blue of the Maryland Match Co.; the Wilmington Match Co.—one of the two unused o. g. copies known; the 4c of 1863 J. C. Ayer fancy stamps, red, purple, green and vermilion; the stamps of Dr. Jack Kerr, Ring's Vegetable Ambrosia, Wm. Swain, George Tallcot, Thomas E. Wilson M. D., the 3c blue perforated of George W. Laird and Cateson, Brotz & Co.

19th Century Bulgaria. Herbert P. Woodward, East Orange, New Jersey.

This exhibit came close to gaining the Grand Award. In one frame was found stamps—unused, singles and multiples, cancelled errors and varieties, used on covers, Fiscals, Postage Dues and Local Posts, a comprehensive philatelic bill-of-fare.

The first issue of 1879, 1881 and 1882 had some outstanding pieces. Beautiful copies of the rare errors (Scott 7a and 12a) and the color error of 1882 (Scott 13a); the scarce surcharges of 1884-85 including the high denomination 50 on 1 on a cover; both French and Turkish Posts used in Bulgaria and finally two Danube Steamship Company covers used at Sistov were shown.

Semi-Official Air Mail Stamps. R. H. Shrady M. D., Englewood, New Jersey.

The two United States rarities, the 1877 Buffalo Balloon and the 1914 Vin Fiz Flight stamps on a postcard; Australia's Ross Smith vignette both unused and on cover; Canada



Some of the Award presentations on the night of April 15, 1959 at 22 East 35th Street, New York City.
1) George E. Burghard (right) receiving the silver tray for the Grand Award of the best exhibit from President H. D. S. Haverbeck (left). 2) Mrs. Rae Ehrenberg receiving the Collectors Club Medal for her services. 3) Maurice Tripet and 4) Sol Whitman being presented with silver trays for their outstanding services to the Program Committee. 5) Jacob S. Glaser showing the audience the framed scroll presented to him for his Honorary Membership in the Collectors Club. 6) Stanley R. Rice (left) receiving the silver ice bucket for his distinguished services to the club as it was presented by the president and 7) Malcolm G. O'Reilly accepting the Collectors Club Medal for the Best Exhibit and Lecture during 1958. (Photos by Boutrelle).

London-to-London stamp, one of the few known unused copies; French Guiana's 1921 T. A. G. stamps used, unused blocks of four and two examples used on cover; the first air mail (non-official) stamps of the world, Germany's 1912 Bork-Brueck, three copies, one on a cover and a very scarce complete New Zealand Great Barrier Island flimsy with a copy of the 1899 overprinted "Pigcongram" stamp comprised the fine material of this exhibit.

United States 1857-60. Barrett G. Hindes, San Francisco, Calif.

Each denomination of our first perforated issue was shown by attractive single on covers and some large multiples. Often the copies were noted with their position numbers in the sheets. Outstanding was the 90c cover of September 11, 1860 from Boston Mass. to China. This is recorded as the earliest known use.

Israel. The Safad Stamp of the Interim Period. Martin G. Taub, New York, N. Y.

This marks the first time that an Israel exhibit has won a major award in The Collectors Club competition. Israel, being a newer country, faces severe competition in an "open" exhibit such as this with some of the finest 19th and 20th century material. This award demonstrates the philatelic stature that Israel is gaining.

These Safad Interim issues are not too well known except perhaps to Israel specialists. Different from other similar issues, there is no suspicion about much philatelic complicity with the Safad stamps.

Mr. Taub displayed these with fine taste. He showed singles, unused and used, tete-beche pairs, forgeries, large multiple pieces, proofs and scarce usage on covers.

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

Because of the high quality of the exhibits, the judges prudently decided that *twenty-one* Certificates should be awarded to fine collections, many of which ranked only a shade below, in their estimation, the top calibre of the seven exhibits that gained trophies. All Certificates were awarded with equal merit as follows:

United States Department Stamps. Mrs. Rae Ehrenberg, New York, N. Y.
Central and So. America Pre-Adhesive Stamp Covers. Max H. Bass, Great Neck, N. Y.
Yemen, The First Issue. Emmett Peter, Jr. Leesburg, Fla.
Maldive Islands 1906 Edward VII Provisionals. John F. Field, San Fernando, Calif.
Poland Number 1. Wladislaw Kolakowski, Great Neck, N. Y.
Gibraltar Used in Morocco 1886-98. Irwin M. Yarry D. D. S., New York, N. Y.
Philippines 1944-45 Victory Provisional Issue. Professor Idus Murphree, Athens, Ohio.
United States Stamps Used by French Navy in World War II 1943-45. Maurice Tripet, New York, N. Y.
Uruguay. The First Air Mail Issue. Philip Silver, Brooklyn, U. S. A.
Mexico 1928-9 Tejeria-Tapachula Air Mail Issues. A. Swoboda, Ridgefield Park, N. J.
Chile 1900-05 Provisionals. John F. Rider, New York, N. Y.
Austria 1867 Issue. Alexander Levine M. D. Jersey City, N. J.
Hawaii, 1859-65 Numeral Issue. John L. Norbeck, Minneapolis, Minn.
Alaska Postal History. James J. Matejka, Jr. M. D. Chicago, Ill.
Austria 19th Century Cancellations. Herbert Dube, Toronto, Canada.
Germany. 1872 Empire Issue. Matt C. Dillingham, Menlo Park, Calif.
Colombia 1863 Bolivar and 1868 Antioquia. John N. Myer, New York , N. Y.
Haiti, 1906 "Gold" Issue. F. B. Sellers, Tarrytown, N. Y.
New Hebrides. Locals, Provisionals, Fakes. Nathan Hals, New York, N. Y.
Nepal, Postal Cards. Mac L. Ricketts, St. Petersburg, Florida.
United States. 10c Jefferson 1870. Allen H. Seed, Jr., New York, N. Y.

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With the announcement of the awards, the members and their guests were invited into the Library, where Mrs. Eldridge and Mrs. Pritchett had arranged some light refreshments to top off the evening. This proved exceedingly popular, so that most, who had attended, stayed on gathering in small informal groups in the Library discussing philately, the judges' decisions, showing to others some newly acquired material and generally acting like all stamp collectors do.

Perhaps the most significant remarks about the evening of April 15, 1959 were those overheard when a member and his wife were leaving the clubhouse. She turned to her husband, saying:

"John, 1 am so glad I came. You know stamp collectors are really nice people. You should arrange to come down here for more meetings and contacts with your stamp friends."

To which the husband replied:

"I've been wanting to do this, but I rather sensed that you did not approve of my leaving you at home to attend the meetings at The Collectors Club. I am so pleased that you have changed your views".

COMING 1959 MEETINGS

SUMMER RECESS

September 16th — *STEPHEN G. RICH MEMORIAL*—Dedication of the new frames, exhibit of bequests and other appropriate services

October 7th — *TIBET*—H. D. S. Haverbeck

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following;

Filatelia Costarricense, Volume 5, No. 20. Gift of Mr. Fernan Rodriguez-Gil.

Bournemouth Stamp Auction Catalogues and Prices Realized 1958. Gift of Mr. George R. Wren.

The Numeral Cancellations of the British Empire, compiled by Rev. H. H. Heins. Publication of Robson Lowe Ltd., London, England. Courtesy of the publisher.

Edwin Mueller's Handbook of Austria and Lombardy-Venetia Cancellations 1850 to 1864 Issues, Section 2. Published by Mercury Stamp Company, New York, N. Y. Gift of the author.

A Glossary of Abbreviations found on Handstruck Stamps, compiled by Leslie Ray. Publisher Robson Lowe Ltd., London, England. Courtesy of the publisher.

Chillicothe, Ohio. A Postal History by Robert D. West. Published by The Chillicothe Philatelic Society. Gift of the author.

Pakistan Overprints on Indian Stamps 1948-1949 by Col. D. R. Martin. Publication of Robson Lowe Ltd., London, England. Courtesy of the publisher.

World's First Air Stamp Italy 1917 by L. H. Harris. Published by European Philatelic Library, Filey, Yorkshire, England. Gift of the author.

L'Officiel de la Philatelie, Volume 1, No. 1 — Volume 9, No. 94. Gift of Lt. Jerome C. Jarnick.

L'Obliteration, Volume 1, No. 1 — Volume 5, No. 54. Gift of Lt. Jerome C. Jarnick.

Le Monde des Philatelistes, Volume 1, No. 1 — Volume 9, No. 91. Gift of Lt. Jerome C. Jarnick.

La Revue Aeropostale, Volume 1, No. 1 — Volume 3, No. 14. Gift of Lt. Jerome C. Jarnick.

Covers, Volume 8, Nos. 5 and 8; Volume 10, Nos. 1-12; Volume 11, No. 1. Gift of Lt. Jerome C. Jarnick.

The Arctic Philatelist, Volume 1, Nos. 1-3. Gift of Lt. Jerome C. Jarnick.

About "Secret" or Cancellation Marks on United States Stamps by Cyril F. dos Passos. Reprint from The Essay-Proof Journal. Gift of the author.

The 15c Webster (1870-1873) Essays and Proofs by Cyril F. dos Passos. Reprint from The Essay-Proof Journal. Gift of the author.

Further Notes. The 10c 1861 Type II with 'Tag' Markings by Cyril F. dos Passos. Reprint from The American Philatelist. Gift of the author.

Catalogue/Album of the Manitoba Law Stamps, compiled and published by K. Bileski, Winnipeg, Canada.

Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue 1935. Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Ltd., New York. Gift of Mr. Kevin P. Rogan.

Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue 1940. Scott Publications, Inc., New York, N. Y. Gift of Mr. Kevin P. Rogan.

The American Philatelic Society Yearbook 1947. Gift of Mr. Kevin P. Rogan.

Catalogo de los Sellos Postales de la Republica Argentina, Tomos I y II, Sixth edition, edited and published by Victor Kneitschel, Buenos Aires, Republica Argentina. Leather bound volumes. Gift of the author.

Cumulative Index to Philately from Australia, Volumes 1-10 (1949-1958). Compiled by H. L. Chisolm. Publication of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia. Gift of the Society.

Date Line Covers by N. C. Baldwin. Reprint from The Aero Field.

Siege of Paris 1870-1871 by John C. W. Field. Reprint from The Aero Field.

Official Transpolar Air Mail Flights by J. Wotherspoon. Reprint from The Aero Field. Gift of the publisher.

Philatelic Literature. Gift of Mr. Sol Whitman.

Neues Handbuch der Briefmarkenkunde: Reihe A, Lieferung 3, Inhalt: Madagaskar 1889-1902. Edited and published by Arbeitsgemeinschaft Neues Handbuch der Briefmarkenkunde E. V., Frankfurt a M., Germany. Courtesy of Mr. Fritz Billig.

Philatelic Literature. Gift of Aero Philatelists.

American Air Mail Catalogue, Volume Three. Publication of The American Air Mail Society. Courtesy of Mr. L. B. Gatchell.

A Specialized Priced Catalogue of Indian Stamps, compiled and published by Jal Cooper, Bombay, India. Gift of the author.

Map of Castles and Manors in Czechoslovakia, published by the Institute of Cartography and Printing, Prague, Czechoslovakia. Gift of Mr. Ira Zweifach.

Catalouge des Timbres-Poste Iraniens emis depuis l'avenement au trone de Sa Majeste Imperiale Mohamad Reza Chah Pahlavi. Issued by Ministere des Postes, Telegraphes et Telephones d'Iran. (French)

Edwin Mueller's Handbook of Austria and Lombardy-Venetia Cancellations 1850 to 1864 Issues, Section 3. Publication of Mercury Stamp Company, New York, N. Y. Gift of the author.

First Official Issue of Postage Stamps of the Second Austrian Republic by Robert Zehenthofer. Published by the Austrian Stamp Club of Great Britain.

The Costa Rican Philatelist, Volume 4, No. 1. Gift of Mr. Alvaro Bonilla Lara.

Philatelic Journals. Gift of Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs.

Bolaffi's Roman States and Vatican City Specialized Stamp Catalogue 1959. Published by Societa Culturale Opere Tipografiche, Turin, Italy. Courtesy of the publisher.

Billig's Specialized Catalogues, Volume 9. Canada the War Tax Stamps by the War Tax Study Group, Hans Reiche, Chairman. Publisher, Fritz Billig, Jamaica, N. Y. Gift of Mr. Hans Reiche.

Prince Edward Island by Leslie G. Tomlinson and Nugent M. Clougher. Publication of The Postal History Society. Courtesy of Major A. E. Hopkins.

Waikato Maori War of New Zealand 1863-1864 by R. M. Startup. Reprint from the Bulletin of the Postal History Society. Courtesy of Major A. E. Hopkins.

At the Board of Governors Meetings held in May and June, 1959, the following new members were elected:

4618 Kunihiko Urushihara, Tokyo, Japan. Collects Japan, First Day Covers, 19th Century Covers and Stamps.

4619 Ludwig P. Raubenheimer, Cranford, N. J. Collects United States, Scandinavia, Used Air Mails of the World.

4620 Arthur C. Scarlett, Williamsville, N. Y. Collects 19th Century United States, Tibet, Literature.

4621 Emory Soule Todd, Bala-Cynwyd, Pa. Collects United States 19th Century Fancy Cancellations.

4622 Robert M. Zanville, Toledo, Ohio. Collects United States, United Nations, Newfoundland.

4623 H. J. Robitshek, Green Bay, Wisc. Collects United States, Holy Land from 1918.

4624 Carl H. Losse, Milwaukee, Wisc. Collects United States, Canada.
4625 A. C. Luettich, Santa Barbara, Calif. Collects United States and Possessions.
4626 Ray L. Newburn, Jr., La Crescenta, Calif. Collects United States First Day Covers, 1957 Revalued Postal Stationery, Germany.
4627 R. A. Whitney, Decatur, Ill. Collects Classic 19th Century, Tibet.
4628 Jerome Wolf, Bloomfield, Conn. Collects United States Plate No.
4629 Josef von Sternberg, Los Angeles, Calif. Collects China, Japan E. J. Occupation, German Colonies.
4630 J. T. Edgar, Stratford, Conn. Collects British Inland Air Mails, United States Nos. 319-322, and 5c stamped envelopes.
4631 James E. Pirie, La Vernia, Tex. Collects China, Mexico.
4632 Howard W. Phillips, Bronx, N. Y. Collects United States.
4633 Paul Goldschmidt, London, England. Collects Air Mails, Essays, Proofs, Specimens.
4634 Enrique J. Alfau, Ciudad Trujillo, Dom. Rep. Collects Dominican Republic.
4635 Cyril V. Gross, M. D., Canton, Ohio. Collects United States, Gold Coast, Israel-Palestine.
4636 Kenneth E. Keister, Elyria, Ohio. Collects United States, Confederate, Steamship, Austria.
4637 Hugh Morrison, New London, Conn. Collects United States, Naval Covers; British Colonies.
4638 Philip T. Manly, Santa Fe, N. Mex. Collects Territorial covers.
4639 Captain W. V. Combs, San Francisco, Calif. Collects United States Departmental Specimens.
4640 H. Chilton Cook, Jr., Alice, Tex. Collects Rotary International, Cook Islands, Andorra, United States.
4641 Glen M. Dodd, San Diego, Calif. Collects United States, United Nations, Israel, Ryukyus, Japan, Philippines, Indonesia, India, Greece, Italy, Central Europe, Scandinavia, Germany, AMG.
4642 G. S. Knoth, Miami, Fla. Collects United States and Literature.
4643 Norman Elliott, Los Angeles, Calif. Collects United States, Confederate States.
4644 Bernard S. Schwartz, New York, N. Y. Collects Early History of Postal Routes.
4645 Morris Everett, Chagrin Falls, Ohio. Collects Confederate States, United States Railroad Covers 1839-61.

UNCOMMON USAGE (Continued From Page 158)

The postage fees for military mail were the same as in France proper: 20 centimes for prepaid letters, 30 centimes for postage due, 10 centimes for mail within Syria.

Naval mail went directly by boat to Marseille, without going through the Beyrouth Post Office, receiving the cancellation, "Escadre de la Mediterranee".

The illustrated cover with a common stamp of France shows use during the 1860-61 period of occupation by the French Forces in Syria-Lebanon. *(Fred C. Brock M. D.)*

BOOK REVIEWS (Continued From Page 178)

information to which should be added the classic works of Alcock & Holland, Hendy, and Seymours on British postal history and markings.

The main fault of this book is the lack of illustrations, which could have explained the complicated key of symbols. The three illustrations of the three standard British types is so meager for the 4,000 listings that it becomes difficult for the newer collector to decode them. Errors noted by this reviewer are few, while mention of rarity concerning just two items with no comments upon all the others can well be omitted.

This bold attempt at a very purposeful and useful project is most helpful to the student of postal markings as a ready reference list to be had for a very modest cost. To one who may not have access to the above-mentioned handbooks or other reference material, it furnishes a mine of valuable information. *(Dr. Irwin M. Yarry)*

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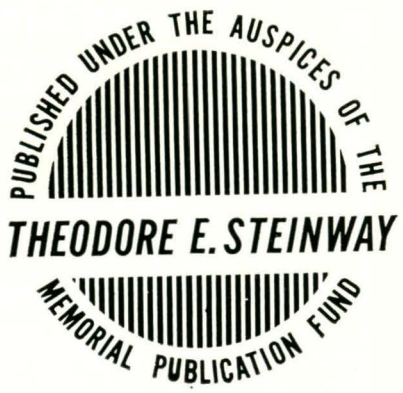
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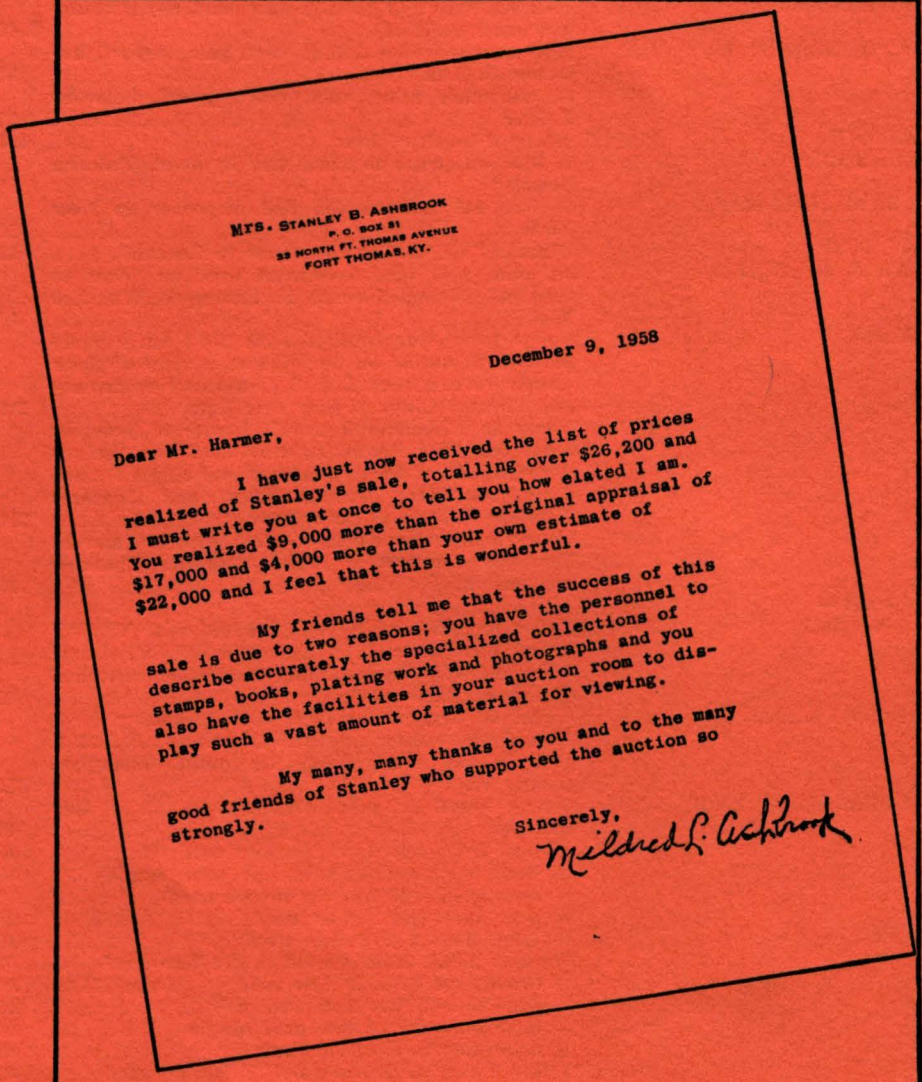
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