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Our Auction Event Week takes place in Zürich 22, 25–30 November: Welcome!

In the latest GAZETTE (6–2024) we presented the article about Stamp Auction Catalogues. The article was prepared from the presentation we gave at the 3rd Crawford Festival in London. At the same event, a specialist panel with representatives from five different auction houses discussed about the future, and a concluding statement is:

“Specialist auction houses have a place, even though numbers are reducing. The industry is changing and not all auction houses offer the same service. If an item doesn't need a catalogue, it may not need an

auction house. Why not use eBay, and 'do it yourself' for less significant material?”

We are now calling again to an exciting Auction Event Week in Zürich from 22, 25–30 November. We are again entrusted to offer more than 7,000+ lots, which are presented in not less than 14 individual volumes. This number of volumes is a record for us and proves the statement from the stamp Crawford Festival that significant material need printed auction catalogues, being shipped to their destinations with buyers all over the world. No other auction house in our

enterprise offer the same, and thanks to your commitments to work with us, as buyers or consignors, our goal is to continue these performances going forward.

As you know, we print all our auction catalogues. Everything we offer is presented accordingly. Our special catalogues this time again are impressive. They reflect the diversities in both philately and postal history. The Name Sales are extending existing “rolls” with provenances at future auctions.

You Need to Find the Needle in the Haystack!

We present 14 volumes of catalogues (a “haystack”). In total it is 7038 lots! To find Your lots to buy (the “needle”): You Need to Find the Needle in the Haystack!

Use the Online Auction Catalogue and the Search Engine to find your areas of interests. Many areas appear multiple times in different volumes (special sale catalogues).



A very rare stamp: The 1880 1 s. orange-brown, Plate 13, wmk. Spray, lettered RB, an unused example of excellent centering and good colour, variety “Watermark Inverted”. Appears in sale 337. The ‘BESANÇON’ Collection. Lot #4055



The sole recorded usage of the US 1847 10 c. black to the Netherlands: Used 13 January 1848, tied by blue PAID handstamp, postmarked PHILADELPHIA, with sender's “Liverpool Steamer Caledonia / from Boston, Jan 15# route directive. AMSTERDAM arriving cds. Notes: Illustrated in “The United States 1847 Issues: A Cover Census” by Thomas Alexander. Provenance: Gross (2019); Hackmey (2010); LeBow (2004). Appears in sale 340. The Bouwe Brandsma Collection. Lot #6194

Beresford-Wylie	BESANÇON	Bollen	Brandsma	
Carnio	‘CRAIG Y PENMAEN’	‘DR THOMAS & Debney’		
Gillberg	Heimbüchler	Hørlyck	‘KOOYONG’	Miller
Moorhouse	Rietz	‘SAWAYA’	Schäfer Sr.	Simpson

If you want to meet with us and talk about your role as a buyer, or consignor, we will have a booth at the following exhibitions in the near future:

- 22–24 November

5–7 December

17–22 February

25–27 April

7–11 May

14–17 May
- CHICAGOPEX 2024, Chicago, USA

MonacoPhil 2024, Monte-Carlo, Monaco

URUGUAY 2025, Montevideo, Uruguay

WESTPEX 2025, San Fransisco, USA

EuroPhilEx BIRMINGHAM 2025, Birmingham, UK

BERNABA 2025, Bern, Switzerland

We advertise, sponsor and partner frequently more than most others in this industry



We are the international Show Partner to The Royal Philatelic Society London.



We have a booth and will organise **Corinphila & Köhler Summit Program** (19 February).



We are Sponsor to the exhibition.



We are the Main Partner to the exhibition.



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The future of the philatelic enterprise is important for us and for your collection too!

Through the Eyes of Corinphila’s Philatelists

Over the last six months, since our previous Auction Event Week, our philatelists have been working hard to describe the material for the 14 catalogues representing our next auction sale. Our traditional values mean that Corinphila always deploys the most appropriate resources, from our core team of senior philatelists and philatelists, to carefully work through all philatelic and postal history areas entrusted to us. The following snap-shots from our describing activities come from the last six months. On the following pages in this GAZETTE we present insights from the eyes of our philatelists.



The Corinphila culture among our philatelists is set by legendary Greg Todd. This year is the Silver Jubilee for Greg working at Corinphila.



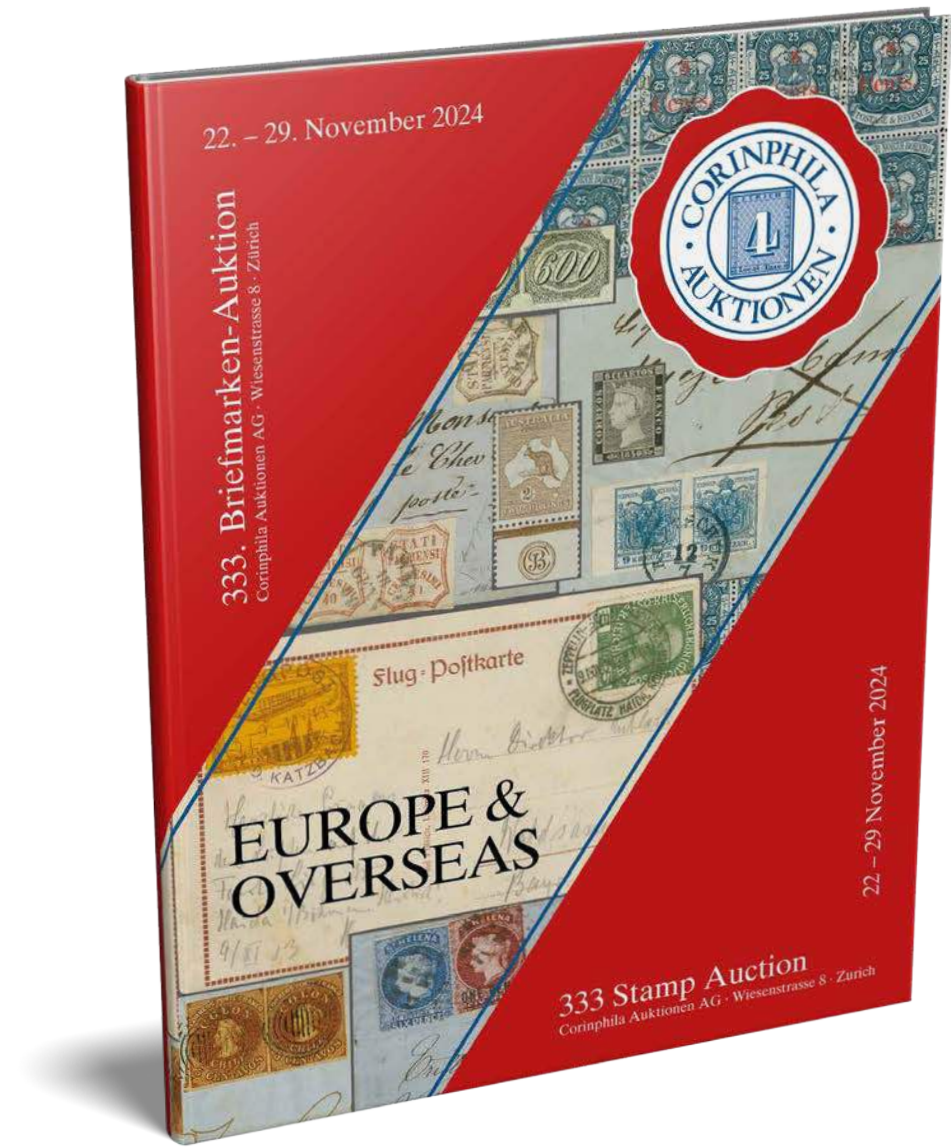
Tim Foster is a young Philatelist, and his performances are already speaking for themselves.



Thomas Berger is another Senior Philatelist who is close to being “Gre-gesk” (ref. Greg Todd) in his performances after many years with us.

The Auction Event Week

22, 25–30 November 2024



#333: EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

Friday 22 November at 11.00 h

Americas including the
Brian Moorhouse Estate

Monday 25 November at 11.00 h

British Commonwealth
North Borneo – The ‘PENMAEN’ Collection

Thursday 28 November at 09.00 h

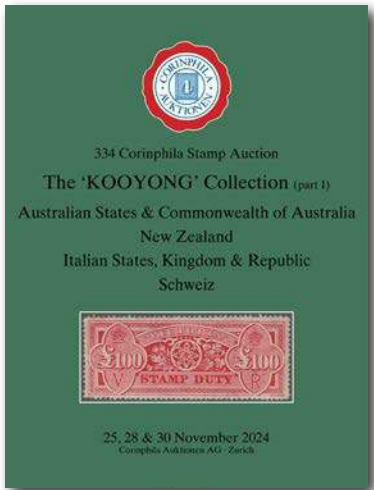
St. Helena – The Frank Gilberg Collection

Thursday 28 November at 13.30 h

Europe A–O
Die Sammlung Eckhard Förster – Zeppelin – Pionierpost (Teil I)
The Eric Keefe Collections – Finland – “Finnish Pre-Stamp Covers; Feldpost; Collection From the Period of Russian Rule over Finland; Finish Railway TPO Covers”

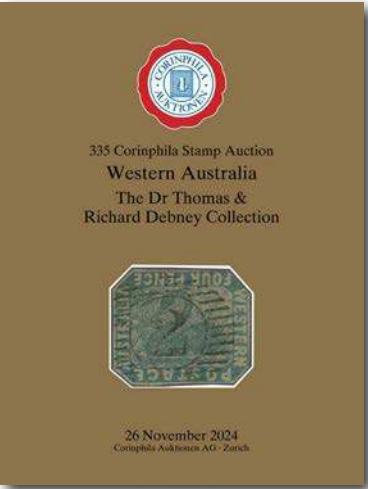
Friday 29 November at 9.00 h

Europe A–O
Spain 1850 – 6 cuartos black – Specialised Collection (part II)
The Mike Fulford Collection – Postal History of Smyrna
Asia, Africa, Collections & Accumulations



#334: The ‘KOOYONG’ Collection

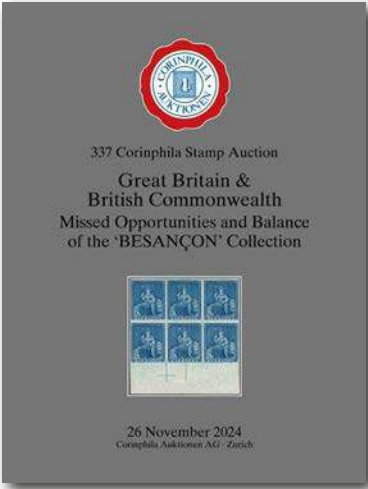
Monday 25 November at 09.00 h
Australia States & Commonwealth of Australia
and New Zealand
Thursday 28 November at 13.00 h
Italy States, Kingdom & Republic
Satuday 30 November at 11.00 h
Schweiz



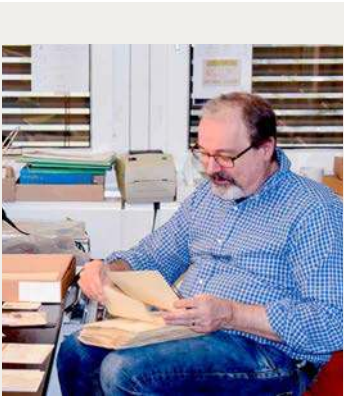
#335: The Dr Thomas & Richard Debney Collection
Western Australia
Tuesday 26 November at 09.00 h



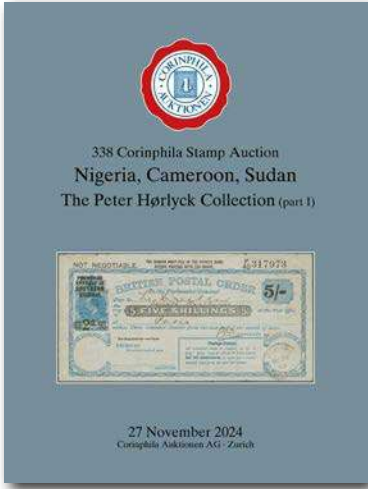
#336: Great Britain
Including The Ray Simpson Collection
Including The Jerry Miller Collection
Including The Åke Rietz
unsolds from June 2023
Tuesday 26 November at 13.00 h



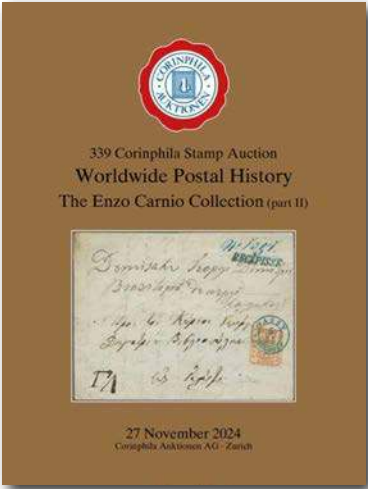
#337: The 'BESANÇON' Collection
Great Britain & British Commonwealth
Missed Opportunities and Balance
Tuesday 26 November at 15.30 h



Andrzej Zbojnowicz,
Senior Philatelist,...



#338: The Peter Hørlyck Collection (part I)
Nigeria, Cameroon, Sudan
Wednesday 27 November at 09.00 h



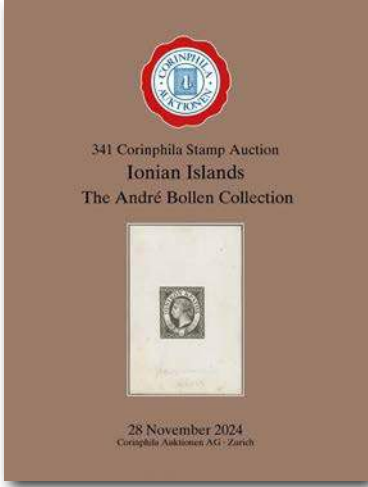
#339: The Enzo Carnio Collection (part II)
Worldwide Postal History
Wednesday 27 November at 11.30 h



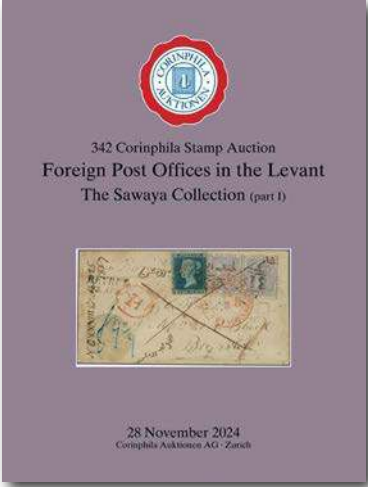
#340: The Bouwe Brandsma Collection
Incoming Mail to The Netherlands
From All Over the World
Wednesday 27 November at 16.00 h



...**Volodymyr Svystun,**
Philatelist and Logistics...



#341: The André Bollen Collection
Ionian Islands
Thursday 28 November at 10.00 h



#342: The Sawaya Collection
Foreign Post Offices in the Levant
Thursday 28 November at 12.00 h



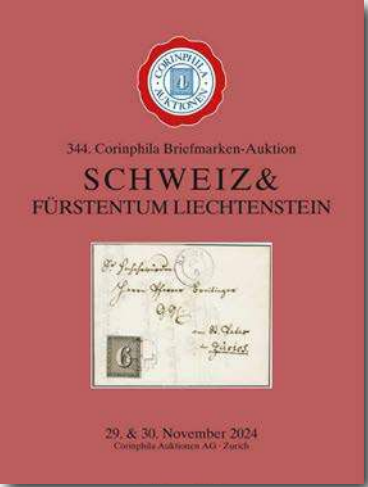
#343: Die Sammlung Richard Schäfer Sr. (part III)
Schweiz Bundespost –
Seltene Frankaturen 1849–1854
Saturday 30 November at 10.00 h



...**Chris Green,**
Senior Philatelist,...



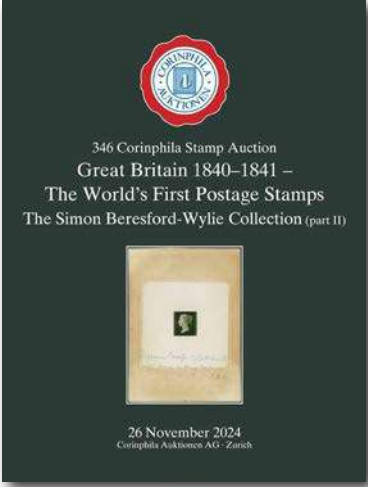
...and **Devlan Kruck,** Senior Philatelist. They all combine the **Corinphila** philatelic team with different capabilities, knowledge and experience.



#344: Schweiz & Fürstentum Liechtenstein
Friday 29 November at 14.00 h
Saturday 30 November at 11.15 h



#345: The Fritz Heimbüchler Collection (part II)
Brazil 1843–1870
Friday 22 November at 18.00 h



#346: The Simon Beresford-Wylie Collection (part II)
Great Britain 1840–1841 –
The World's First Postage Stamps
Tuesday 26 November at 11.00 h



“**Mr Corinphila Karl Louis**”, he is responsible for the strong home-market of Great Britain philately and related areas. With his Card Index, and the other Card Indexes we have, our companies are unique in being able to present the Philatelic Pedigree and Provenance for many of the items we are entrusted to offer.

The Mellingen Postage Fraud

From the very beginning of postage stamps, postal authorities all over the world have worried about being cheated out of their revenue by counterfeit stamps. This is of course all the more understandable if we consider how much higher the cost of sending a letter was in the 1850s in terms of real purchasing power and the relative novelty of the idea of monetary value being expressed by anything other than coins.

Thus, the worry of how to prevent forgeries was born with the postage stamp itself and from the corner lettering of the Penny Blacks through the red background-lines of the Zurich 4 and 6, embossing, silk threads, granite paper and watermarks to the multi-purpose luminescent tagging of recent years Post Offices have devised many ingenious tricks to differentiate a genuine stamp from a copy and more importantly to dissuade forgers from even trying their luck.

Though some instances of forgery such as the Italian States postal forgeries, the infamous Stock Exchange Forgery or indeed the remarkable surge of counterfeit stamps being sold to unsuspecting customers in the UK since the beginning of this year have become known, instances of postal skulduggery more often involve fraud than outright forgery, which is quite rare.

This is certainly the case in Switzerland, where no instances of postal forgeries are recorded, whilst the archives show a number of more general swindles, usually taking place far from the world of Philately and involving fictional money orders or dubious accounting practices. There is however also one striking case of fraud involving postage stamps that took place over more than a decade in the 1850s and 60s in the quiet medieval town of Mellingen (AG) on the Reuss.

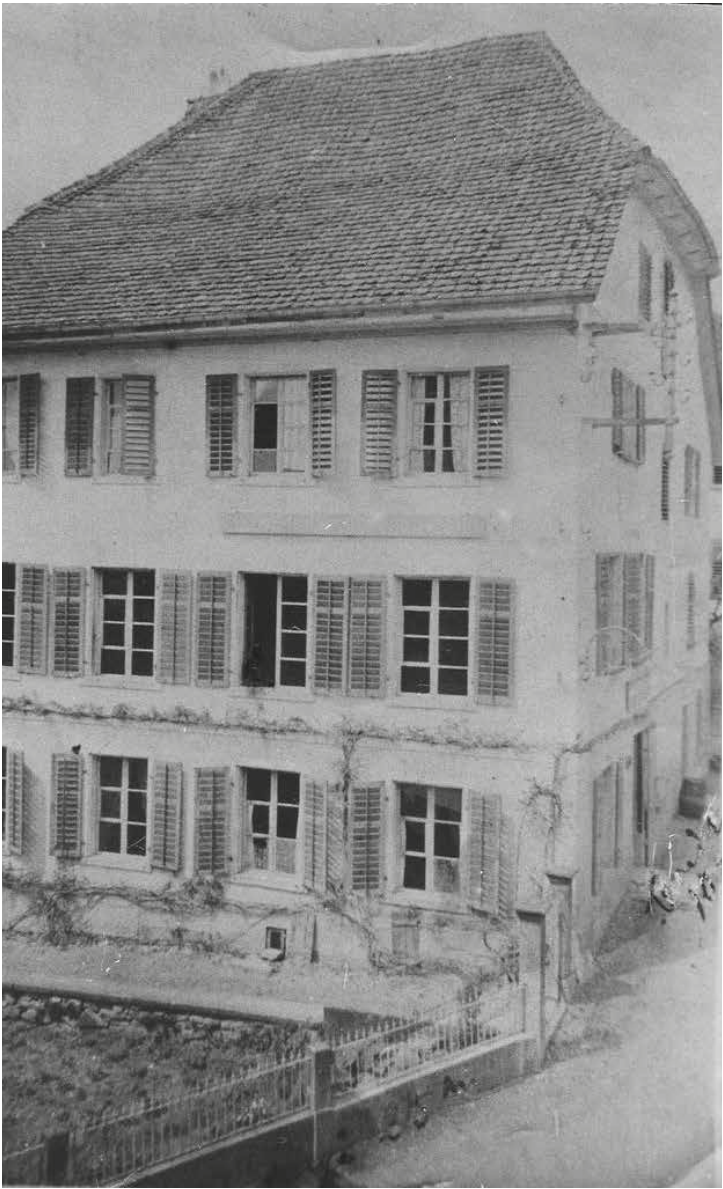
Located at an important junction between the old roads to and from Bern, Luzern, Zürich and Baden a first postal facility had been established there in 1805. In 1841 the Post Office in Mellingen was already considered one of the most important in the canton of Aargau and when Franz Xaver Wassmer was elected postmaster that year the Office was moved to the first floor of Wassmers Restaurant Rosengarten. After his early death in 1849 the responsibility for the Post Office passed on to his young widow Genoveva Antonia Wassmer, now managing Post Office, restaurant and family with all the difficulties that would imply.

After a full 15 years in office however, her postal career ended dramatically when she was dismissed by the Director of Posts for having re-used several postage stamps and

defrauding the Post Office for a total amount of 70 Rappen. The scandal must have shaken the little town to its foundations.

As well as some of the postal records one remarkable philatelic document survives to bear witness to the deceitful practice. This is a letter sent from Mellingen to the small westerly village of Büblikon on 8 November 1854. It is franked to the 5 Rp. rate for the first weight and distance steps with a bisected Sitting Helvetia 10 Rp. prussian blue, tied to the small folded letter by a neat strike of a light blue 'PD' as used in the postal district of Aarau (AW 357) in a shade matching the clear strike of the 'MELLINGEN 8.NOV.54' 'thimble'-type cds next to the stamp. Closer inspection of the stamp reveals two further strikes of a similar but not identical 'PD' (AW 354, as used mainly in the nearby town of Zofingen) in a much darker shade of blue, of neither of which there is any trace on the letter. So far, so fishy. What however really arouses suspicion is the fact that the light-blue 'PD' applied in Mellingen has been carefully positioned in a way in which it would have entirely covered the earlier cancellation, had it not been for the latter's much deeper shade of ink.

As it was at that time still uncommon for the public to buy



Restaurant 'Rosengarten' in Mellingen where the Post Office was located from 1841 to 1864.

their own supply of postage stamps this letter, like most others, would have been paid in cash at the Post Office counter and Genoveva Wassmer on receiving the payment instead of correctly franking the letter with an unused 5 Rp. stamp applied this used 10 Rp. stamp, carefully obliterating it to hide the original cancellation and thus being able to keep the 5 Rp. postage paid to her in cash without creating a discrepancy in the rigorously surveyed stock of postage stamps. This would have worked out all the easier as Büblikon lies within the distribution district of Mellingen Post Office and the letter would therefore have been distributed by Wassmer without ever falling into the hands of another postal clerk.

from Mellingen and indeed from Switzerland as a whole, the fact that it is dated over a decade previous to Wassmers dismissal for the same offences would indicate that she practiced this duplicity as a second source of income or in the very least as a way out of a tight spot on several occasions, if not continuously, over many years. In view of this letter now known to the philatelic world, though not then known to the postal investigators, it would seem that the total profit of the fraud is likely to have lain substantially above the 70 Rp. leading to her dismissal.

We are proud to offer this unique and fascinating piece of postal history in our upcoming auction. **Lot #8634** /TF



Letter from Mellingen to Büblikon fraudulently franked with a bisected, already used 10 Rp. stamp.

Though this is the only recorded example of such deceit

“ I chose **Corinphila** to sell this collection because they are the auction house who can reach the world which is a necessity for this type of collection.

Bouwe Brandsma ”

Incoming Mail to The Netherlands From All Over the World

The Bouwe Brandsma Collection

Bouwe Brandsma is a Dutch philatelist, who has received international recognition for his exhibits on the First Issue of the Netherlands, winning a Grand Prix National and two Large Gold medals at Bangkok and Washington, during 2002 and 2008. Bouwe also participated in the Champions Class in Singapore and Tel Aviv. He is considered to be the most important Dutch collector of his generation.

This prestigious collection illustrates the connection between Dutch trade and the economies of the world, but also mail which came from all over the world into the Netherlands. In his own words Bouwe provides us with some insights: “I started collecting postage stamps from the age of

8, of course initially this was from the entire world. After a while, I decided to focus upon the Netherlands and its Colonies. I amassed an impressive collection but in 1966 I sold everything because I wanted to marry my wife Gerda. In addition, I purchased the small glass business founded by my father, which was the start of our company. This company grew to 14 branches in the Netherlands with more than 500 employees. In 1993 we sold the company to Saint-Gobain, who are one of the largest glass producers in the world.

In 1968 I began collecting again and this provided me with a great means to relax after long and stressful days at work. I collected the Netherlands First issue, with the goal to only find the very best examples of the finest possible quality. This was

a difficult and time-consuming task, and I can tell you that I studied a lot of auction catalogues to find the best ones. However, after selling the company I had a greater opportunity to buy the best pieces of Dutch Philately.

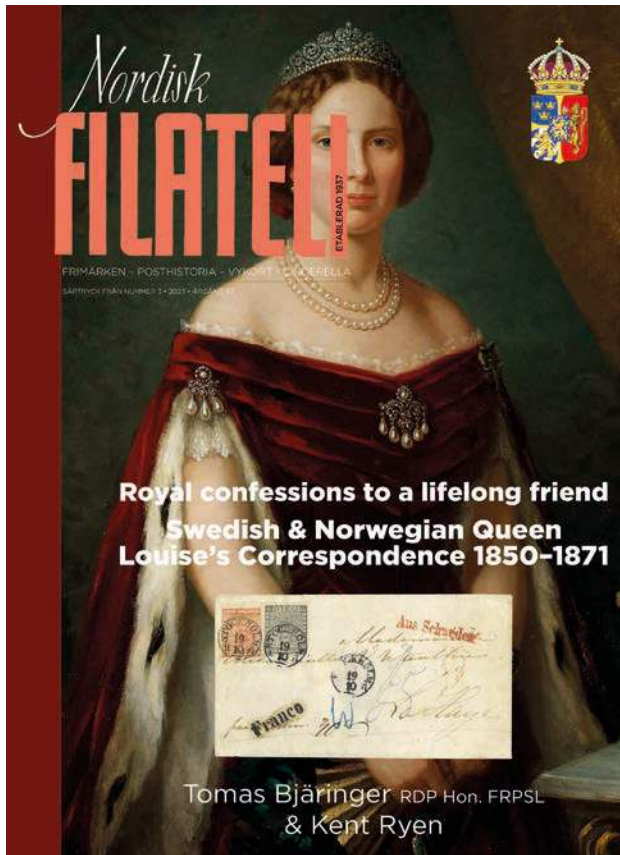
I chose **Corinphila** to sell this collection because they are the auction house who can reach the world which is a necessity for this type of collection. In addition, they possess a lot of knowledge in-house and so will be able to describe the material in a manner that will maximise opportunities to reach collectors from a broader sphere of postal history and not just Dutch philately.”

Corinphila is excited to have the opportunity to sell; **Incoming Mail to The Netherlands From All Over the World.**

JH & CG & DK



Bouwe Brandsma with his wife Gerda.



The census book (196 pages) about the Queen's Letters was published in 2023 by Kent Ryen and Tomas Bjäringer RDP Hon. FRPSL. As a private Royal correspondence, it is unique in the world. The book “**Royal confessions to a lifelong friend**” is the result of 45 years of accumulation of census information by the two authors together. The book is available at sale from the publisher **Nordisk Filateli AB** at nordisk@filateli.se.



1857 (November 2): “Drottningbrev” (Queen’s Letter) double rate to the Hague, franked with two 1855 6 sk. gray single examples, 24 sk. vermilion horizontal pair, tied to 1857 cover by Stockholm cds.
Provenance: Derichs auction #56, 1967, lot 212; Stanley Gibbons, London, 19 April 1968, lot 257 (illustrated on the front cover of the catalogue); Collection Lauson H. Stone, DF, Zurich, 1992, lot 80058; Collection Ingvar Petterson, DF, Geneva, 2007, lot 10115.
The so-called **Queen’s Letters** caused quite a sensation when they first emerged from obscurity and received publicity in 1968. They involve a collection of classic, Swedish covers from the **Skilling Banco** and **Vapen** periods, as well as a number of stampless pre-philatelic covers, all written by Crown Princess and later Queen Louise of Sweden and Norway and sent to her governess Victoire Wauthier in The Hague. **Lot #6150 (also #6149, #6151 – 6152).**



Western Australia

The Inverted Swan

One of the World's First Inverted Errors



Robert Blake Yardley (1858–1943) was a British Barrister and philatelist who signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1921. He was President of The Royal Philatelic Society London 1931–1934, and held this stamp for 11 years (1933–1942). Photo: The Spear Museum of Philatelic History at the RPSL.

In 1854, Western Australia issued its first stamps, featuring the colony's symbol, the black swan. While the 1d black was engraved in Great Britain by Perkins Bacon, other values were produced by Horace Samson in Perth using lithography, and with different frames around the swan design for each value.

In January 1855 the additional 4d stamps were needed. When the printing stone was brought out of storage, two of the impressions had been damaged, one was accidentally redone upside-down. The stone's block of 60 was transferred four times to make the printing stone, and 97 sheets were printed before the mistake was discovered and corrected, resulting in a total of 388 errors being printed. The tilted frame variety occurs four times on the printing stone of 240.

This is one of the world's first invert errors. Technically, it is the frame that is inverted, not the image of the swan, but it has become commonly known as the Inverted Swan. No unused copies are recorded. The Inverted Swan on offer at **Corinphila** in November is registered as number VIII in the Encyclopedia of Rare and Famous Stamps (Williams 1993). The provenance goes back to 1913 when M. Kurt Maier bought the stamp in a

collection and sold it onward to H.P. Manus. Plumridge in England sold it at auction 7 July 1933 to Richard Roberts, who sold it onward to a continental dealer the same year. Again, the same year it shifted hands to Robert B. Yardley, who kept it eleven years until H.R. Harmer Ltd in London sold it as lot #469 at the fifth Yardley sale in London to Noël Calnan. On 20 October 1964 Robson Lowe auctioned it again as lot #193, and it was sold to a collector in England who kept it until 15

June 1989, when the current owner bought it at Christie's Robson Lowe in New York as Lot #3454 on 15 June 1989.

Of the 13 genuine examples recorded*, only 6 are with collectors – including one extraordinary collection that contains no less than 4 examples (Nos. IV, VII, XI and XII in Williams 1993). Thus, just two examples can be possibly “available” on the philatelic market. Here-with the opportunity arises to buy one of these TWO.

Lot #3559

✓ JH & GT



*Previously it was 14 genuine examples recorded, only 7 with collectors. However, following a Stampboards.com thread (2018), one of the 14 was questioned (recorded as #XV in Williams 1993) by members of the Western Australia Study Group in Perth and now 13 genuine examples are accepted.

Western Australia

The Dr Thomas and Richard Debney Collection

This collection has been over 65 years in the making. It was begun in the late 1950s, when Dr Thomas' elder brother, Dr Frank, settled in Perth, Western Australia in 1950 with his family, to be joined by brother-in-law, Kenneth Parry, in 1960. After some success in regional

competitions including winning the Sidebottom Trophy at the Yorkshire Philatelic Association Convention in the early 1970s, STAMPEX 1977 was entered. The exhibit was awarded a gold medal and won The Silver Mailcoach for the best exhibit in the exhibition.

Internationally the highest award was a gold medal at CAPEX 1978, Toronto, some 11 years before the Inverted Frame was acquired in 1989.

The collection has been shown before The Royal Philatelic Society London and at The Collectors Club in New York. Dr. Thomas died in January 1998 and the collection was continued by Richard, a professional philatelist since 1976. It was considerably expanded, especially the most interesting issue, the 1854 Lithographed Issue where over 40 per cent of the items were added since Dr Thomas' death.

✓ JH & GT



Foreign Post Offices in the Levant

The SAWAYA Collection (Part I)

Fuad Sawaya currently serves as Vice Chairman and Global Head of Consumer Investment Banking at Canaccord Genuity, a globally renowned full-service investment bank. With over three decades of passion, energy, and industry experiences, Fuad has been instrumental in guiding some of the most respected Consumer Branded companies in the US and abroad. His strategic insights have enabled public companies, private equity portfolios, and family businesses to achieve their long-term value creation strategies.

Inspired by visionaries like Steve Jobs, Fuad established Sawaya Partners in September 2001. Recognizing the need to differentiate as a boutique firm amidst a sea of large investment banks, he embodied Jobs’ mantra to “think different.” Fuad advocated a business model that prioritized building deep, long-term relationships over mere transactional interactions, thus fostering a trust-driven environment anchored in integrity and dedicat-

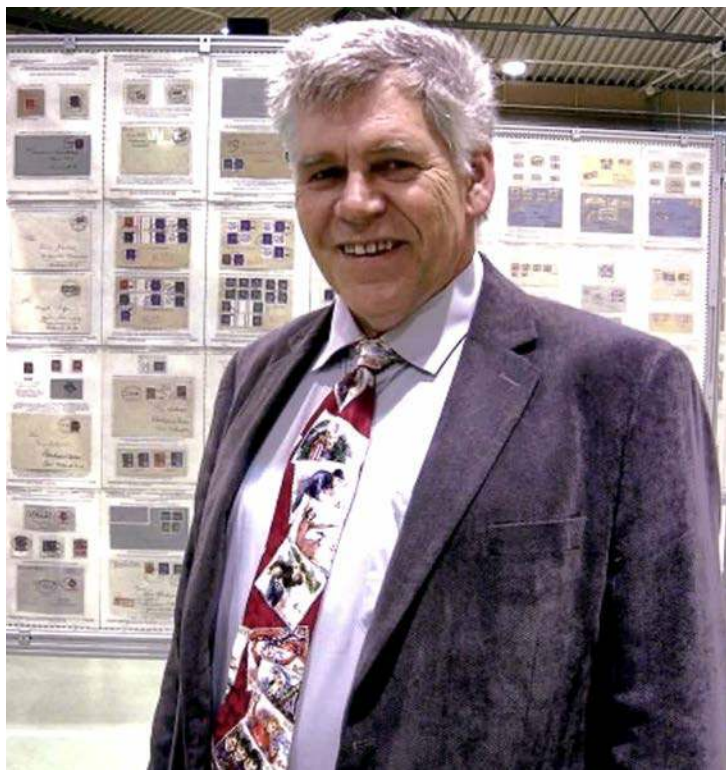
ed service. He also understood the importance of fostering a collaborative and nurturing corporate culture, one that promotes employee well-being and professional growth without compromising on integrity, expertise, and trust.

For the past 40 years, Fuad has channeled his passion for stamp and postal history collecting as a way to preserve and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of Lebanon and the Middle East. Since moving to the United States from Lebanon in 1984, he has viewed his collection as more than a hobby – it is a bridge to the past, a reminder of the beauty and history of a region often overshadowed by the news of conflict. Through his collection, Fuad finds a deeper connection to the history of Lebanon, a land marked by the passage of many foreign powers, and a source of pride that contrasts the narratives of destruction with one of enduring richness and cultural significance. /JH



St Helena

The Frank Gilberg Collection



1864: 1 d. lake, wmk. Crown CC, Thin Bar surcharge, perf. 12½ (A), a single used example in combination with 1871 6 d. dull blue, tied to 1874 cover to Nantes, France carried on the “European”, tied by segmented square cork cancels in black. “ST. HELENA” despatch cds (July 11) in black with manuscript “3” pence credit alongside. “London / Paid” transit in red (Aug 1) and oval framed “PD” applied in red. Provenance: Collection Stefan Heijtz, Grosvenor, London, 1 March 2018, lot 1329. **Lot #1628**

We are pleased to present **St. Helena – The Frank Gilberg Collection**. Frank Gilberg is the past president the Norwegian Philatelic Federation. His collection of St Helena was recently exhibited in Scandinavia to some acclaim. The collection starts with the first stamp

issue in 1856, and end with the 1934 Centenary of British Colonization: Issue 1856–1894, the 6d Queen Victoria in one plate with surcharge to different values; The Boer War 1899–1902; Issue 1890–1897 Queen Victoria the key plate; Issues 1902–1911 Edward VII;

Issues 1912_1935 George V with the 1922 Colony’s Badge issues; Issue 1934 Centenary of British Colonization. The collection comprises choice items on and off cover.

/JH & GT



The SAWAYA Collection

— On the way —

In the 1830s the ancient silk road was still an important commercial trade route from Central Asia to Europe. Aleppo in Northern Syria was situated at a place where the goods from the East could go to the north to Constantinople or to the south in direction to Cairo. It was the principal clearing centre for European trade with the Levant and in addition a centre for the textile industry. The classical region of Syria in general was a major hub for the trade between East and West. Corinthila will sell in three auctions the peerless collection of Fuad Sawaya from New York who has acquired in the last 30 years all the key pieces to document this unique trading position of Syria in general and Aleppo in particular. This presentation will focus on Aleppo giving a brief survey how and when the Western powers, in particular Austria, France, and Russia used shipping and consular postal services to put their feet into this booming market and

to promote the commercial success of their citizens. Even after the establishment of the Suez Canal route in 1869, the prominent mail traffic to Aleppo showed its importance for trade with the East.

The 1830s have been a moved decade for Syria. Muhammad Ali Pasha of Egypt attempted to modernize Egypt by instituting dramatic reforms in the military, economic and cultural spheres. Militarily, he waged war against the sultan and captured Syria bringing fresh wind in the trade opportunities there.

The first foreign shipping company which showed presence in Aleppo was the Austrian DDSG which was originally founded to provide transport and postal services on the Danube and some of its tributary rivers. However, already in the 1830s it extended its services far beyond that river into the Black Sea and even into the Marmara and Aegean Seas. With a first journey on

1 June 1839, the vessel ‘Seri Pervas’ was running the line from Smyrna down to Alexandretta, from August 1839 further via Beirut & Jaffa down to Alexandria. But already in July 1840 during the second Egyptian - Ottoman War and finally with a severe accident of the ‘Seri Pervas’ the history of this line found its end. In 1845 all DDSG agencies outside the Danube were taken over by the Austrian Lloyd, the two companies were dividing ‘the world of shipmail’ between themselves.

The first French Post Office in Aleppo must have been opened at about 1845 after Syria came back under Ottoman control. From the first years only one cover is known (Lot #TBD), before in 1855 the “POSTE FRANÇAISE / D’ALEP” handstamp was introduced (Lot #TBD). It is thought that this distinctive postmark was introduced after the Austrian Lloyd opened its office in Aleppo (see below).

Due to economic problems, it took a full decade until the Austrian Lloyd ran its own Syrian coast shipping line aside the direct one to Alexandria and opened an agency in Aleppo. One of the many peculiarities of the post offices in this city is the use of the only bilingual Arab - Italian handstamp in use in the Austrian Levant which can be found only from 1855/56 (Lot #TBD). It clearly functioned as a temporary arrival and despatch postmark. Thereafter in 1857 the sunburst handstamps came in use until the closure of the Lloyd office in 1862 (Lot #TBD).

The existence of a Russian Post at Aleppo remained unsuspected for a long time. Nearly all letters were transported by the Turkish post from Aleppo to Alexandretta harbour, where they were transferred to the Russian ROPiT postal services. Vice versa, incoming mail was charged and Turkish postage due was added. However, four ingoing covers are described

which were struck upon arrival in Aleppo by a two-line “POSTE-RUSSE / d’ALEP” handstamp, all on the two dates of January 22 and January 28, 1869. These covers establish that some sort of a Russian post was functioning in Aleppo. Interestingly, this cancellation looks were similar to the French “POSTE FRANÇAISE / d’ALEP” and may have been manufactured by the same local craftsman. All four covers show a taxation of ‘1’ piastre in red crayon.

In a period between spring 1869 and 1881, ingoing mail to Aleppo was charged Turkish due for the last part of the journey from Alexandretta while outgoing mail was bearing Turkish definitives which were supplemented by foreign adhesives for the journey from Alexandretta towards its destination. These mostly attractive mixed country combination covers are a collection area by their selves (Lot #TBD).

/TB

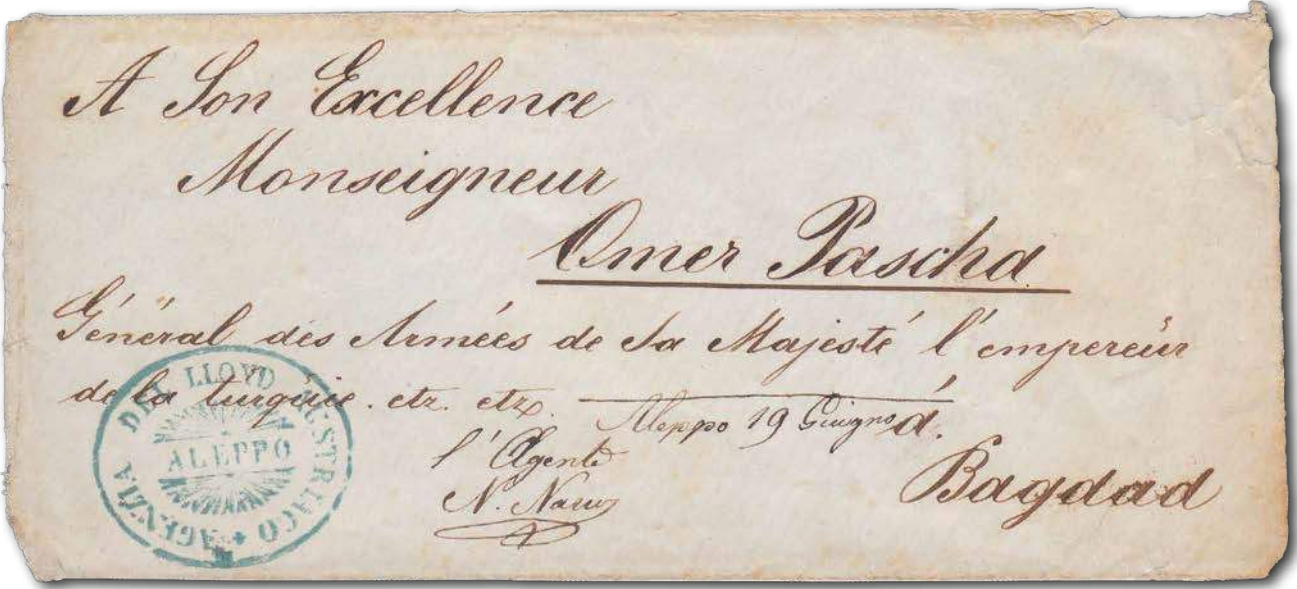


1840 cover delivered by **Egyptian Governmental official post** from Aleppo to Alexandria with manuscript note in Italian on obverse “By the Post of the Government – Postage Paid – The Sardinian Consul in Aleppo”. On the reverse in Arab “POSTAGE PAID 2”. One of three letters known with the postage fee paid, a real gem of Arab and Egyptian postal history. **Lot #7002**



Austrian DDSG P.O. in Beirut 1839 (Sept 14): Entire letter from Beirut to the Sardinian Consul in Aleppo, struck by extremely rare “**D.D.S.G. / BAYROUTH / P.P.**” handstamp in black. The present BAYROUTH cover is one of three recorded with this handstamp, it shows the earliest postmark recorded from any postal service used in Beirut, much earlier than any French or Russian service available. **Lot #7006**

Envelope sent approximately in 1857 from Verona via Aleppo to Omer Pasha in Baghdad, struck in transit with clear rare “AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO / ALEPPO” sunburst handstamp in blue, handwritten “Aleppo 19 Giugno / l’Agente N. Nau” forwarder note alongside. A most interesting cover via the Lloyd P.O. in Aleppo on its way via the desert to Baghdad. The addressee Omer Pasha (1806-1871) was an Ottoman field marshal and governor. Born as Mihajlo Latas, an ethnic Serb and Orthodox Christian in Janja Gora, at the time part of the Croatian Military Frontier of the Austrian Empire. Like his father, he initially served as an Austrian soldier. In 1823 he fled to Ottoman Bosnia and converted to Islam; he then joined the Ottoman army, where he quickly rose through the ranks. He was a commander in the Crimean War of 1853-1856 and was noted especially for his excellent strategic skills. In 1857-59 he became Governor of Baghdad. The sender Theodor Lattas, K.K. Oberleutnant in the Erzherzog. Leopold 53. Infanterieregiment in Verona was presumably a relative of Omer Pasha who stayed in Austria and made his career in the army on that side of the border. **To be offered in one if the future SAWAYA sales.**



The SAWAYA Collection

to Aleppo



1855 double rate Letter sheet from Marseille to Aleppo, bearing Napoléon imperforated, a single example of 40 c. orange and 80 c. carmine, two singles examples, tied by bold Petits chiffres '1896' numeral of Marseille. The 40 centimes tied in addition with clear and very rare bilinguaL "L + A / An Djanibi Postai Nemce Haleb 1855" (Lloyd Austriaco from the Austrian Post in Aleppo 1855) handstamp in bluish black. Marseille despatch cds alongside, reverse with "BEYROUT SYRIE" transit cds. A unique cover due to the combination of adhesives with this rare handstamp, interestingly processed by the Austrian not the French office in Aleppo. **To be offered in one if the future SAWAYA sales.**



1846 Entire letter from Aleppo via Beirut to France, manuscript "Alep, 28 avril 1846" on obverse, "BEYROUT SYRIE 6 MAI 46" cds alongside. The cover slitted and purified, "PURIFIE LAZARETH / MARSEILLE" handstamp on reverse. A unique cover from Aleppo, a major item for a large Syria collection. **Lot #7041**



1871 Combination Envelope from Aleppo via Alexandretta to Rome, bearing for the part of the journey beyond Alexandretta Napoléon laureated 40 c. orange and Siège 20 c. blue, tied by indistinct Gros chiffres '5079' numeral of Alexandretta, a matching "ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE" cogwheel cds and framed PD in black alongside. "BEYROUT SYRIE", "ALEXANDRIE EGYPTE" and BRINDISI transit, as well as ROMA arrival cds's on reverse. Reverse bears for the part of the journey from Aleppo to Alexandretta Turkey Dulos 1 pi. yellow and 20 pa. green, tied by triple-framed Arabic HALEP despatch handstamp with bilinguaL ALEP despatch. A most attractive combination cover. **To be offered in one if the future SAWAYA sales.**



1865 Quadruple rate Letter sheet from Aleppo via Alexandretta to Marseille, bearing a strip of five Napoléon perforated 40 c. orange, tied by Gros chiffres '5079' numeral of Alexandretta, a matching "ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE 13 NOV 65" cogwheel cds, two line "POSTE FRANÇAISE / D'ALEP" despatch handstamp in blue alongside. A most attractive presentation of the 200 c. rate for a quadruple cover. **To be offered in one if the future SAWAYA sales.**



In a period between spring 1869 and 1881, ingoing mail to Aleppo was charged Turkish due for the last part of the journey from Alexandretta while outgoing mail was bearing Turkish definitives which were supplemented by foreign adhesives for the journey from Alexandretta towards its destination. These mostly attractive mixed country combination covers are a collection area by their selves. **To be offered in one if the future SAWAYA sales.**

“CRAIG Y PENMAEN

Collection of North Borneo”

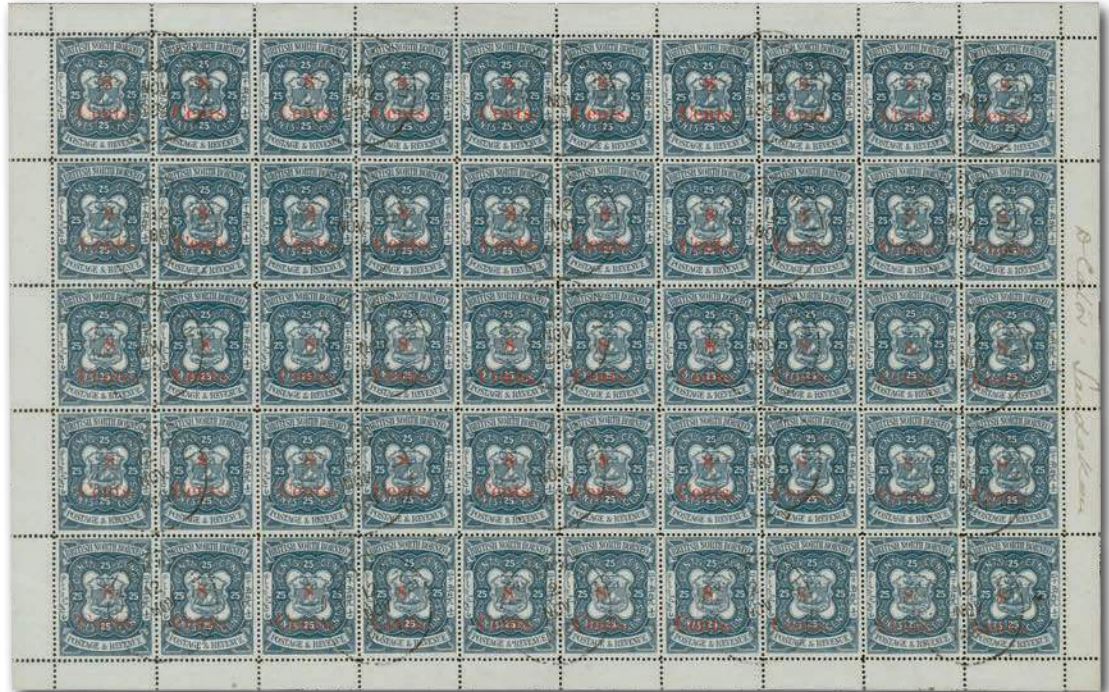


“Craig Y Penmaen” literally translated from the Welsh means “The Headstone Rock”. It is a small mountain in Wales originally belonging to the Crown Estates who sold it in 1986 to a University Professor who wished to preserve its outstanding beauty, ecology and flora and fauna. It is surrounded by old stone walls which keep out the sheep (in Wales 5 sheep for every person). In 2005 the collector purchased Craig Y Penmaen to continue its preservation and visit it occasionally. It is visited by deer, hares, predatory birds such as Buzzards, Goshawks and Peregrine Falcons which use the thermal air currents from the rock to effortlessly fly around the area. In spring the ground is carpeted with white wood anemones as well as bluebells and other flowers. The collection was started relatively recently inspired by the attractive designs of the early pictorial issues but the collector soon realised the size of the undertaking of North Borneo so is now reverting to expanding on his already substantial St Helena collection.

The Southeast Asia region has always captivated the minds of philatelists the world over. North Borneo, nestled amongst Singapore, Malaysia, Cambodia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Indonesia, has a great deal to attract the specialised collector, with popular stamp designs and its social history, which is aptly reflected in many of the pictorial issues from a period when the British North Borneo Company and later British Protectorate reigned supreme.

this sale is the many Proofs and Specimens which have been thoughtfully assembled to provide added detail and depth to the finished articles. In particular, the comprehensive and delightful focus upon the 1931 50th Anniversary of the British North Borneo Company set of eight stamps. These perhaps more than any other issue stand out as the most authentic overview capturing the essence of the place and time.

As well as completed Die Proof and Specimen examples, there are a range of progressive Die Proofs, frames, vignettes in varying stages of development and unissued colours. The most eye-catching item is a delightful stamp size hand-painted essay of the \$ 5 in black & purple inset on thick card. From the same series an enormously popular stamp is the 6 c. black & orange which features a wonderful image of the Orangutan and arguably the Die Proof, of the vignette only, is a contender for the best portrait of any animal on a stamp. Although, the legendary Clouded Leopard on the 25 c. black & violet is definitely a close second as is testified by the beautiful Proofs and examples on offer.



1892 (Mar-Nov): 8 c. on 25 c. indigo, surcharged in red (Type 23), complete sheet of fifty (10 x 5), cancelled by Sandakan cds in black (12 Nov 1894). Manuscript inscription in right side margin ‘D. Cator, Sandakan’. Lot #1434

One of the most important elements of this collection is the Printer's archive which comprises marginal sheet blocks of twenty of every value in this 1931 Anniversary set as imperforate Die Proofs of the frame, the completed design and perforated blocks of the completed stamps. It is a rare and inspiring lot and together with the other material on offer, which includes earlier designs, issues and sets, as well as latter material, it is quite an extraordinary assembly and a unique opportunity to acquire items which artfully depict the history of this fascinating country.

ORANGUTAN OR LEOPARD?

Orangutans are among the most intelligent non-human primates and their distinctive features make them highly likeable creatures and in the world of thematics a desirable collectable animal. Whilst they used to be found across Southeast Asia and China they are now confined to parts of Borneo and Sumatra. The featured portrait is from the North Borneo 1931 50th Anniversary 'Orangutan' 6 c. black & orange is probably one of the best animal portraits if not the most iconic. It brings to mind the 70s Clint Eastwood film 'Every Which Way But Loose', in which an orangutan called Manis played Clyde, Eastwood's sidekick. Very endearing and humorous although

if reports of his treatment on set are true it is no wonder the practice of using orangutans in movies has stopped.

The visually appealing Die Proof shown is from a printer's archive for the issue which celebrated the anniversary of the British North Borneo Company. It's an impressive collection with the complete set of eight values 3 c. to \$ 5. The decision to focus upon the orangutan was actually a close run call because this issue also features the 25 c. 'Clouded Leopard', which is another popular animal portrait which we illustrate here and will let you decide which you prefer.

These are part of **lot #1456** *Waterlow Printer's Archive from the 1931 Anniversary of British North Borneo Company issue. Complete set of eight values 3 c. to \$ 5 in matching bottom marginal blocks of twenty (10x2) with printer's imprint 'Waterlow & Sons Ltd, London Wall, London E.C.'.* A spectacularly eye catching assemble of twenty-nine bottom corner marginal blocks (29). Rare and extraordinary lot from the printer's files.

✓JH & DK



South & Central America Stamps & Postal History

from the **Brian Moorhouse Estate**

Despite Brian's premature death in 2017 the 'Moorhouse' name remains synonymous with South & Central American stamps and postal history. Brain established himself as a legendary dealer and expert of this region and his certificates today are as highly regarded by professionals and collectors as they were when he signed them.

Over the last seven years **Corinphila** has had the pleasure of offering the internationally recognised Moorhouse collections, as well as offering select items which were part of his overall Estate. This included important, unique and rare material that had been carefully selected for acquisition and which reflected Brian's technical knowledge. Brian had a gift for finding key items, which he knew one day would be the piece a collector needed to complete or improve a collection or exhibit. What is being offered now is the stock which Brian selected, catalogued and described and

in essence represents his 45 years in the trade.

The Main Catalogue includes 500+ lots **ex Brian Moorhouse Estate** with classic stamps, as well as later issues, with many Proofs, Essays, Specimens, multiples, blocks and sheets as well as usages, covers, cards, fiscals and the more specialised back of the book material. The countries included are like an A to V of Latin America, with interesting and varied lots from; Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Particular attention should be paid to the Colombia offering which comprises material from famous sales, such as the 'Esmerelda' collection. There is also a good quantity of Chile, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Venezuela. The strategy for the lotting has been to make groups, assemblies and collections in the majority of cases, as a deliberately means

of engaging with bidders and buyers from as broad a section of the collecting community as possible. This is in order to enthuse, inspire and encourage established philatelists and dealers in the Latin America region to not miss this opportunity to acquire fine and unusual material which has not been available for almost a decade, and in some cases longer. It is also hoped that this offering will attract new collectors into the market and help invigorate what has always been a healthy and dynamic sector. These sentiments formed part of the business Brian built-up and many of the key collectors in this area point to Brian as someone who not only inspired them but helped them on their journey.

Perhaps the material which follows will see Brian continue this legacy even in his absence.

✓JH & DK

The Ray Simpson Collection of Great Britain Victorian Mixed-Franking Covers

By Michael Maassen



Lot #4003



A 'mixed franking' of a special kind: two single 1d. Reds and a diagonally bisected 1d. stamp on a letter from London to Paris dated 30 December 1876. Lot #4013



Beautiful multicoloured franking on a parcel label from Emsworth, which was attached to a parcel. The 4d. Green of 1884 is extremely rare in combination with the "Jubilee" issue of 1887. Lot #4047

The Port of London, 1842
(by W.H. Bartlett, from Wikipedia).



When the book 'Great Britain Victorian Mixed-Franking Covers Illustrating Postage Stamp Development' by Ray Simpson & Karl Louis was published in 2020, it was clear at first sight that a work of research and documentation had been created that went far beyond a description of rare stamps and covers. Thanks to the knowledge and expertise of the authors, a publication had been created that looks at mixed frankings of the Victorian issues of Great Britain (including postal stationery) within the context of the development of the postage stamp, and against the background of the changes and developments of the time - beginning with the world's first stamp, the 'Penny Black', up to the end of the 19th century.

Many of the items shown in the book come from Ray Simpson's private collection, which will be offered as part of the forthcoming **Corinphila** series of auctions at the end of November. These covers show a complex approach to collecting, but also the possibilities offered by mixed frankings. Interpreting the special features of the possible combinations in detail on the basis of selected items, and viewing them in the context of (philatelic) history is a challenging endeavour, which this collection achieves with flying colours, and in so doing it fascinates the observer.

In the beginning there was the postage stamp ... The starting point was the 'Penny Black', the world's first postage stamp, which still exudes a special fascination today. At the same time, the first item of postal stationery, the 'Mulready' envelopes and letter sheets, were introduced, which arrived at post office counters at the same time. And so the starting signal was given for the first British mixed frankings, which were to be followed by many more.

With the stamp and postal stationery issues that followed over the years, not only did the appearance of the stamps change, but the progress made in the area of production can also be clearly documented. To this day, the introduction of perforation is inextricably linked with the postage stamp, and a wide variety of combinations of imperforate and perforated issues are possible.

In addition to printing and production-related matters, the changes to the design are also an exciting area. The depictions of Queen Victoria were adapted with almost every new issue or series. The various combinations offer a wide range, with mixed frankings of several different issues, values and colours on one item being particularly rare and attractive.

It is easy to see that aspects of postal history are just as important as the philatelic aspects when looking at these items. In many cases, it is almost essential to look beyond the stamp to the history of the post and of communications in order to fully appreciate the individual items. Every cover is part of a story and the correct classification and consideration in its particular context is what makes this collection so exciting.

Almost every cover is a reflection of the development of the postage stamp and the covers document various aspects of postal and philatelic history. In this respect there should be something for everyone, from lovers of British classics to postal historians and from ordinary collectors to postal stationery specialists.

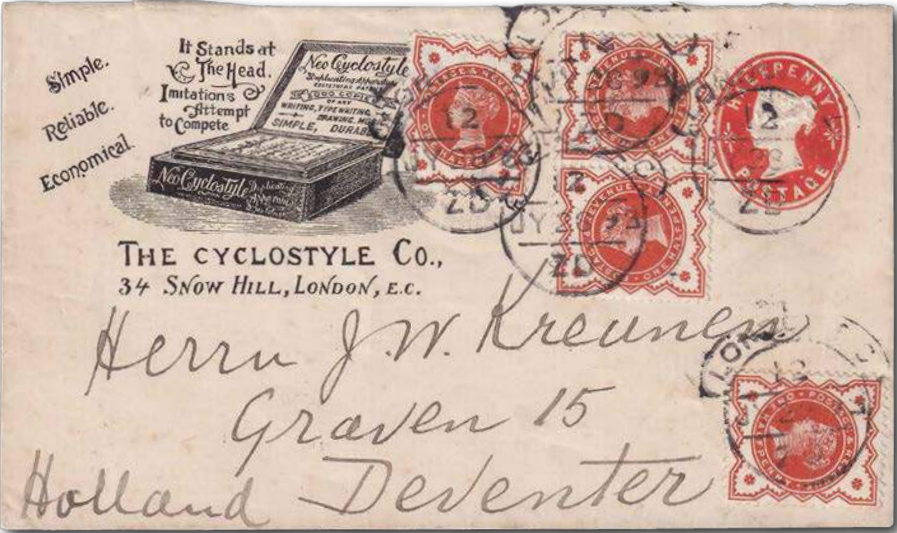
The Royal Exchange, London in 1844 (from Wikipedia).



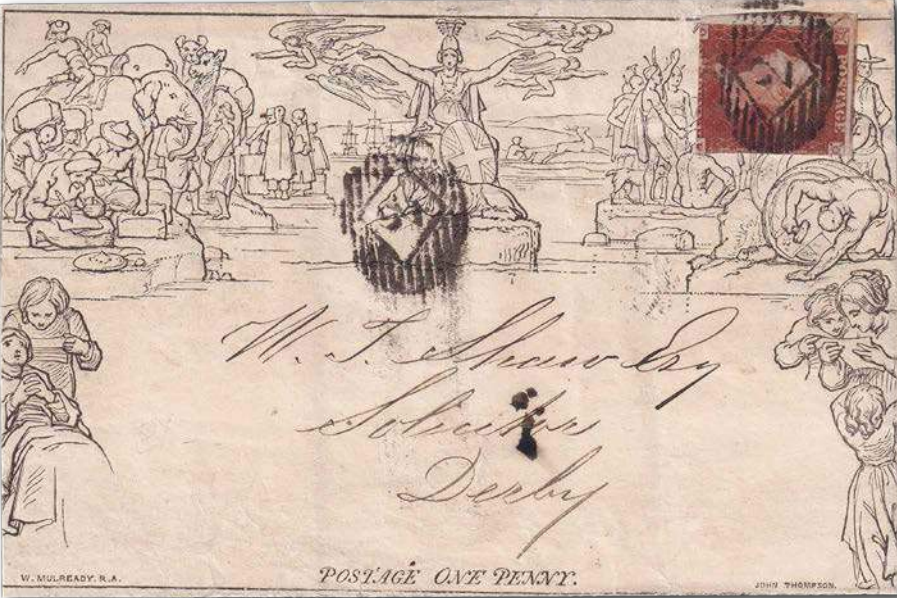
Mixed franking of the two 2d Blues of 1855 and 1858, used on a letter sent from Shrewsbury to Warrington in 1860. One of five recorded covers with this combination of issues, but a unique example in which a 2d Blue from Plate 4 was used together with one from Plate 7. **Lot #4008**



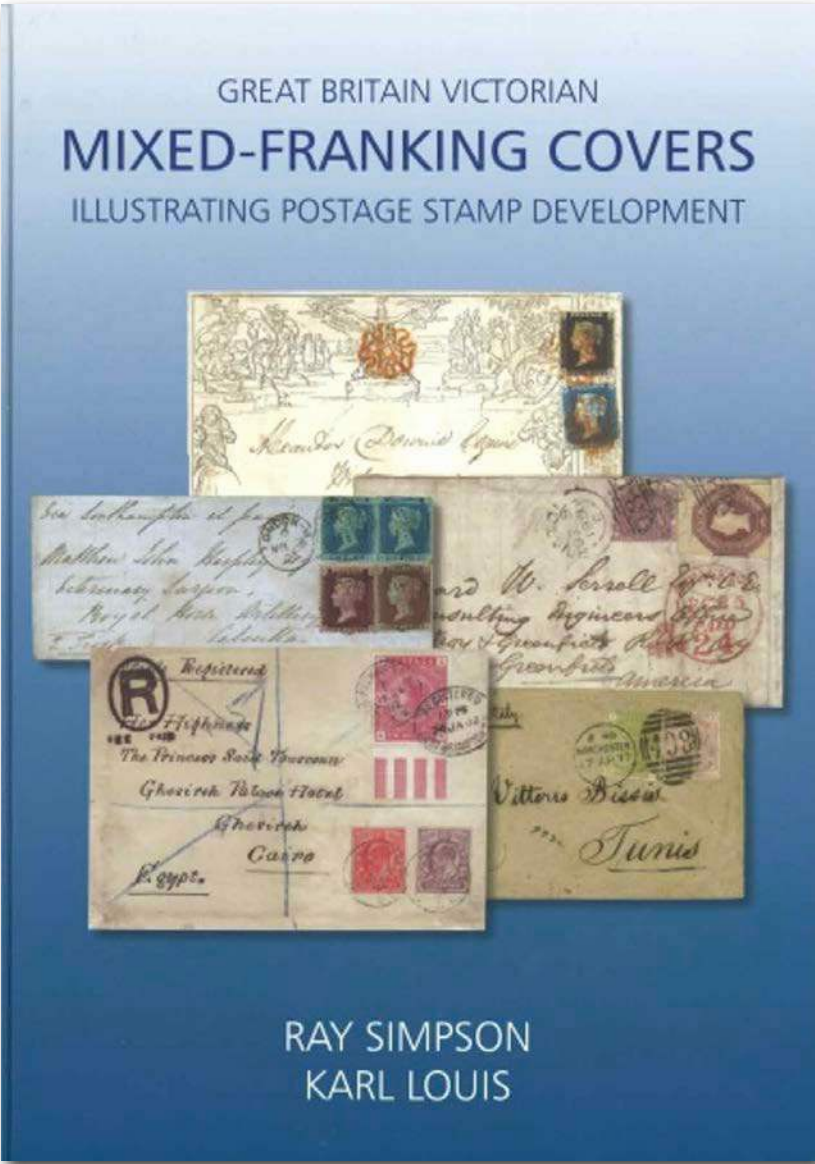
A spectacular franking. A letter sent to Canada in 1865, correctly franked with 1s. 10d. This is the largest number of different values and colours known on a pre-UPU letter. **Lot #4014**



Illustrated ½d. Vermilion postal stationery envelope printed with “The Cyclostyle Co.”, franked with stamps of the same value from the 1887 “Jubilee” issue, the ½d. Vermilion, sent to Deventer, Netherlands, dated 28 July 1893. **Lot #4050**



The world’s first postal stationery item, a 1d Mulready envelope of 1840, with a ‘Penny Red’ (1d. Red-Brown of 1844) dated 24 March 1845. 1d. Mulready postal stationery envelopes in combination with the 1d. Red, used after 1844 with a numbered cancellation, are very rare. According to Karl Louis’ card index, only seven such items are recorded. (From **Corinphila**). **Lot #4001**



Recommended book: ‘Great Britain Victorian Mixed-Franking Covers Illustrating Postage Stamp Development’ by Ray Simpson & Karl Louis. This work is not only recommended for lovers of the (classic) stamp issues of Great Britain, as the development of postage stamps, philately and the postal system is reflected in the various aspects of mixed frankings, the background to which is considered and explained in detail. Ray Simpson’s collection will be available from **Corinphila** from November 2024. The book is available at a price of £75 (plus £12 postage) from MJ Publications, 3 Cottesmore Avenue, Melton Mowbray, LE13 0HY, England, email: MJ Publications, Internet: www.mjpublications.com

Great Britain – Experimental Machine Cancels 1857–1901

The Jerry H. Miller Collection

Great Britain was the first country to introduce machines to postmark and cancel mail items. There were two main types of machine; a) a feed, cancel, exit machine, and b) mechanically assisted hand cancellers which cancelled the stamp only. However, to get to the point where machines could assist with the increasing number of mail items being processed, an effective solution had to be identified, evaluated, tested and selected. To this end, the London General Post Office between 1857 and 1912 tested eighteen machines, many of which were of non-British manufacture.

The collection offered in this sales illustrates, through postal history items, most of the early trials undertaken by the London General Post Office using machines from; Pearson Hill, Charles Rideout, Azemar (Hinrichsen), Sloper, Hoster, Ethridge, Malin, International (Hey - Dolphin), Imperial, Empire, Bickerdike, Boston, Colombia, Krag and Wilkinson. Because many of these trials were short lived, much of the material available is scarce and in some cases rare with one of less than a handful known.

Several of the cancels hold iconic status in the sphere of postmark collecting, none more so than the Pearson Hill ‘Opera Glass’. It is not the rarest of the machine cancels, with there being eight recorded examples on cover, but it is the most sought after by far. Similarly, the Pearson Hill ‘Twin Circle’ Trial Machine cancel, sometimes referred to as the ‘Creswell’ cancellation, which was the first type of parallel motion used, is also highly coveted on account of its visual appeal.

The better known London cancels produced by Hill’s second machine are more prevalent in number, but are extremely popular due to their visual appeal, albeit they are relatively speaking uncommon. The better known

trial machine postmarks, such as the Hoster, have an almost cult following especially for the rare examples, which also have other attractive traits. The very rare ‘Bedford St. Bow WC’ Hoster and the ‘Dot Matrix’ Hoster Trial Machine cancellations, along with the ‘N.B.P.

Hoster’, offers the collector an unusual visual spectacle coupled with scarcity. Some of the Codes are extremely hard to locate. The Malin cancel is as elusive to find on cover as it is to find information in the British Postal Archives about the machine and its use.

As well as circulated covers, there are two proof impressions of the 1897 ‘Imperial Victoria Jubilee Flag’ which are seldom seen or offered for sale. The ‘Empire Machine England Flag’ Trial cancellation is the postmark which reflects a patriotic era. It is one of just five known

and dated on the last day of the trial. This sale provides the postmark collector and postal historian with an exciting opportunity to acquire material not always readily available and which tells an important story in the early development of postal mechanisation. /DK



1857 (Jan.): 4 d. rose-carmine, white paper, wmk. Large Garter, perf. 14, used on a cover, London to Paris, dated 16 December 1857, tied by the Pearson Hill Experimental second Trial Machine cancel in black (Dubus 2), Machine ‘A’, Code ‘A’. Rare; only four known foreign destination examples. **Lot #4064**



1858 (Feb.1): 2 d. blue, plate 6, Die I, perf. 16, Alphabet III, wmk. Large Crown, two singles and a horizontal pair, used on cover, London to Hamburg, Germany, dated 23 March 1858, tied by the rare Pearson Hill Experimental ‘Duplex’ Machine cancel in black, First Trial (Type I), Machine ‘C’, Code ‘C’ (Day Code B), with ‘P.’ oval in red alongside. Rare; according to the collector, the only recorded example of this Trial cancel on cover. **Lot #4068**

The Catalogue is born

Classici d'Italia – Catalogo di Posta e Francobolli

Laser Invest (Italy) with offices in Milan and Porto Mantovano performs with its editorial expertise their new catalogue. There are many innovations compared to catalogues from “past time”:

1. The bilingual Italian-English text, which truly helps everyone.
2. The in-depth postal history analysis for each issue, which includes not only the philatelic technical data but also the historical details necessary for studying correspondence.
3. The cataloging of all postal value documents issued, from stamps to postal stationery, and even International Reply Coupons.
4. The creation of a single chronological sequence that

allows a deeper understanding of the rates for different issues.

5. The essential cataloging, allowing beginners to start a collection without the fear of being unable to continue due to exorbitant prices or the numerous variants, often invisible to the inexperienced eye.

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JH



By Franco Filanci & Domenico Tagliente, created with the collaboration of dozens of philatelic specialists' expert in their fields.

44 STATI PREUNITARI

1° GIU 1852 – Giglio borbonico coronato tra greche
Bourbon fleur-de-lis

A. Paolo Toschi – S. tipografia, Stefano Rossi Ubaldi, Parma – Fig. 20 – 80x4
Q. 96.000 (5 c. giallo), 160.000 (15 c. rosso e 25 c. nero), 80.000 (25 c. bruno)
e 130.000 (40 c.) – Val. 31 luglio 1859

greca normale

greca larga

stampa in nero print in black

PR 1 5 c. nerogiallo, giglio borbonico 100,- 75,- 200,-
a. nerogiallo verdino 750,- 150,- 500,-
PR 2 10 c. nero, idem 100,- 75,- 200,-
a. una greca laterale larga 175,- 150,- 500,-
b. entrambe le greche laterali larghe 300,- 350,- 900,-
PR 3 15 c. nerolrosa, idem 2.000,- 50,- 125,-
a. una greca laterale larga 2.500,- 75,- 150,-
b. entrambe le greche laterali larghe 3.000,- 100,- 250,-
PR 4 25 c. nerovioletto, idem 7.500,- 150,- 450,-
a. una greca laterale larga 175,- 500,-
b. entrambe le greche laterali larghe 350,- 750,-
PR 5 40 c. nerolazzurro, idem 1.500,- 200,- 750,-
a. nerolazzurro chiaro 500,- 1.500,-
b. una greca laterale larga 300,- 1.750,-
c. entrambe le greche laterali larghe 400,- 2.000,-

stampa a colori colour printing

PR 6 5 c. giallo arancio, idem (31.12.1853) 5.000,- 200,- 750,-
PR 7 15 c. vermiglio, idem (31.8.1853) 6.000,- 150,- 400,-
a. una greca laterale larga 175,- 550,-
b. entrambe le greche laterali larghe 250,- 900,-
PR 8 25 c. bruno rosso, idem (28.5.1855) 250,- 900,-
a. una greca laterale larga 275,- 1.000,-
b. entrambe le greche laterali larghe 350,- 1.200,-

Questi francobolli furono inizialmente impressi a colori come previsto dai decreti ma ci si fermò al 25 cent. visti i pessimi risultati, se si esclude il 10 cent., a causa degli inchiostri colorati che rendevano impastata la vignetta. Pertanto si decise di usare carte colorate in alternativa al colore di stampa, sostituendo per necessità solo il rosso bruno con carta violetta. Quanto già stampato, e accantonato, venne però poi messo ugualmente in distribuzione. Le tirature in nero su carta colorata risalgono sia al 1852 che al 1855.
5 cent. singolo isolato 2.500,-
10 cent. singolo isolato 3.500,-
ricevuta di ritorno, minimo 2.500,-
campione senza valore, minimo 250,-

These stamps were initially printed in color as prescribed by the decrees, but the process was halted due to poor results, as the colored inks interfered with the vignette. Therefore, it was decided to use colored paper as an alternative, but what had already been printed and set aside was nevertheless distributed. The printings in black on colored paper date back to both 1852 and 1855.

coppia tête-bêche pair

PR 3g 15 c. nerolrosa (pos. 9 del III gruppo) 1 nota 2 note 4 note

prove usate per posta proofs used by post

PR 3g 5 c. nero, con o senza stampa al retro 9.000,- 1 nota
PR 3g 10 c. nero, con o senza stampa al retro 7.500,-
PR 3g 15 c. nero, con o senza stampa al retro 9.000,- 1 nota
a. con cifra 5 corretta a penna 1 nota

Si tratta di prove risalenti probabilmente al 1855 usate per posta come 10 cent.: si riconoscono dalla carta a mano, più spessa e rugosa.

Un insolito uso di francobolli parmensi in base al tariffario di un paese vicino: una coppia del 5 cent. usato per comporre i 10 cent. richiesti dalla normativa postale piemontese per la lettera diretta a un militare

30 GIU 1857 – Scudo con giglio borbonico
Little fleur-de-lis within a shield

S. tipografia, Stefano Rossi Ubaldi, Parma – Fig. 72 –
Q. 64.800 (15 c.), 432.000 (25 c.) e 216.000 (40 c.) – Val. 31 luglio 1859

40 40 40

0 larga 0 stretta cifre rifatte

PR 9 15 c. vermiglio, scudo (28.2.1859) 150,- 100,- 450,-
PR 10 25 c. bruno lilla, idem (3.7.1857) 350,- 75,- 150,-
PR 11 40 c. azzurro, idem 50,- 100,- 650,-
a. cifra 0 stretta (20 posiz. su 72) 65,- 250,- 750,-
b. cifre reince a mano (pos. 54) 750,- 3.000,-

Essendo le precedenti tavole ormai logore, per risparmio si decise di utilizzare le tavole approntate per prime a fine 1851 e scarate da Carlo III a causa della dicitura superata e del disegno troppo facile da imitare. I valori ducali usati dopo la partenza della duchessa, dal 9 giugno al 31 luglio 1859, valgono 5 volte.
Since the plates of numbers 1-5 were now worn out, for cost savings it was decided to use the plates prepared first at the end of 1851, which were rejected by Carlo III due to the heading and the design being too easy to imitate.

20 c. sardo su lettera da Parma o da Piacenza nell'agosto 1859 500,- 3.500,-
altri valori o altre località dell'ex-ducato, minimo 1.000,-
20 c. sardo da Parma o Piacenza, settembre-dicembre 1859 250,- 1.500,-
altri valori o altre località dell'ex-ducato, minimo 500,- 5.000,-
10 cent. sardo su lettera del 1859 dal Parmense diretta a militare

1° AGO 1859 – La contestata adozione dei francobolli sardi
The contested Sardinian stamps

Introdotti a seguito dell'allontanamento da Parma della duchessa, il 9 giugno 1859, e dell'arrivo di un governatore e di funzionari piemontesi, causano immediate e vive proteste da parte di Napoleone III perché sottomettono l'annessione del ducato al regno dei Savoia, a spese della reggente Luisa Maria di Borbone, sua parente. Tuttavia i cinque valori con effigie a rilievo, pur sostituiti in tutta fretta dai seguenti, continuano a essere usati fino al quasi esaurimento della provvista inviata da Torino.

20 c. sardo su lettera da Parma o da Piacenza nell'agosto 1859 500,- 3.500,-
altri valori o altre località dell'ex-ducato, minimo 1.000,-
20 c. sardo da Parma o Piacenza, settembre-dicembre 1859 250,- 1.500,-
altri valori o altre località dell'ex-ducato, minimo 500,- 5.000,-
10 cent. sardo su lettera del 1859 dal Parmense diretta a militare

Introduced following the departure of the duchess from Parma and the arrival of a governor and Piedmontese officials, the Sardinian stamps immediately caused protests from Napoleon III, demonstrating the annexation of the duchy to the Kingdom of Savoy, at the expense of the regent, his relative. However, the five denominations, although hastily replaced by the following ones, continued to be used until almost depleted.

136 REGNO D'ITALIA

5 NOV 1934 – Volo speciale Roma-Mogadiscio
per il compleanno del re in visita in Somalia
*Special flight for the birthday of the King
on official visit to Somalia*

A. Giuseppe Rondini – S. rotocalco – W. corona – D. 14 B – Fig. 50x2 –
Q. 75.000 e 5.000 (servizio) – Val. solo per il volo speciale del 10 novembre 1934

posta aerea air mail

675 1 L. violetto, re Vittorio Emanuele III 5,- 25,- 100,-
676 2 L. celeste, idem 5,- 50,- 125,-
677 4 L. mattone, idem 5,- 75,- 250,-
678 5 L. verde, idem 5,- 150,- 300,-
679 8 L. carminio, idem 20,- 275,- 1.450,-
680 10 L. seppia, idem 35,- 300,- 1.000,-
la serie di 6 francobolli 70,- 750,- 2.000,-

servizio di Stato official air stamp

681 10 L. ardesia e oro, idem (Coroncina) 1.000,- 7.500,- 17.500,-

Furono in vendita solo il 5 e il 6 novembre nelle principali città, e corrispondevano alle speciali soprattasse aeree di cartoline e lettere per la Libia (1 e 2 L.), l'Eritrea (4 e 5 L.) e anche la Somalia (8 e 10 L.) con cui fino al novembre 1935 non vi fu un servizio aereo regolare. Il dispaccio caricato da Francis Lombardi a Roma fu di 88 kg, tutto annullato con i bolli speciali della Crociera.
The gold of the "Coroncina" (little Crown) was achieved by spreading gold powder on a still-wet transparent ink print, using the same method as Maitre used for the 3 lire stamp in 1861.

varietà note known varieties

Non dent. su un lato (2 L.)

23 APR 1935 – I Littorali della cultura e dell'Arte,
Roma aprile-maggio
Fascist university contests of culture and art

A. Franco Garelli – S. rotocalco – W. corona – D. 14 B
Fig. 50x2 – Val. 31 dicembre 1935

682 20 c. rosso, littore e arco mussoliniano 1,- 1,5 10,-
683 30 c. bruno, aquila, libro e moschetto 3,- 3,- 35,-
684 50 c. violetto, Curtatone e Montanara 1,- -5 10,-
la serie di 3 francobolli 5,- 5,-

I Littorali dello Sport, e poi della Cultura, dell'Arte e del Lavoro, erano manifestazioni culturali, artistiche e sportive annuali, iniziate nel 1932 e destinate ai giovani universitari fascisti per la conquista del titolo di Littore.
The "Littorals of Sport, Culture, Art, and Labor" were annual cultural, artistic, and sporting events aimed at young fascist university students to compete for the title of "Littor".

1° LUG 1935 – Pro Opere previdenza della Milizia Volontaria
Sicurezza Nazionale, 5ª emissione
For the fascist Militia, 5th issue

A. Corrado Mezzana – S. rotocalco – W. corona – D. 14 B – Fig. 50x2 –
Q. 140.000 – Val. 30 giugno 1936
Sovrapprezzo pro Opere Previdenza Milizia Volontaria Sicurezza Nazionale

685 20 c. + 10 c. rosa, il giuramento 10,- 20,- 30,-
686 25 c. + 15 c. verde, i 10 gagliardetti 7,5 10,- 30,-
687 50 c. + 30 c. violetto, il sacrificio dei martiri 7,5 10,- 75,-
688 1,25 + 75 c. azzurro, sfilata 7,5 30,- 125,-

posta aerea air mail

689 50 c. + 10 c. bruno, l'ala dell'idea fascista 10,- 30,- 100,-
la serie di 5 francobolli 40,- 100,- 200,-

Quotations & Slogans: 20c. Wood feeds the fire that consumes it (Leonardo) – 25c. We must be proud of this magnificent Militia (Victor Emmanuel III); 50c. Tell the people how sweet the pride of spilled blood is (Carlo Delcroix); air 50c. Following in the footsteps of the ancient legions. 5 L. The path should be further ahead.

1° OTT 1935 – 1° Salone aeronautico internazionale,
Milano, 12-28 ottobre
1st international aeronautical show

S. rotocalco – W. corona – D. 14 B –
Fig. 50x2 – Val. 30 settembre 1936

690 20 c. rosa, la potenza dell'Ala Littoria 25,- 2,- 20,-
691 30 c. bruno, idem 50,- 2,- 80,-
692 50 c. violetto, Leonardo da Vinci 75,- 2,- 50,-
693 1,25 azzurro, idem 75,- 4,- 100,-
la serie di 4 francobolli 225,- 10,- 300,-

Il nome del Salone è diverso nei due bozzetti, forse per imperio grafiche di spazio, e in uno solo è indicato che si tiene a Milano.

Le inique sanzioni colpiscono il nuovo Impero romano

Il sogno di Mussolini di un nuovo Impero romano è noto, ma in giro per il mondo gli Imperi sono pochi. Perciò le mire espansionistiche italiane si volgono verso l'Etiopia, un po' per rifarsi della disfatta di Adua del 1896, un po' per ampliare i territori coloniali nel Corno d'Africa, e un po' anche perché a capo vi è un Negus neghesti, cioè Re dei re o Imperatore. Così nell'ottobre 1935 l'Italia attacca l'Etiopia ottenendo per prima cosa quelle sanzioni economiche decise a maggioranza assoluta dalla Società delle Nazioni che la propaganda fascista definisce "inique sanzioni" e che in realtà fanno stringere gli italiani attorno al loro Duce. Ci vorranno sette mesi per occupare l'Etiopia, anche se per abbattere ogni resistenza occorreranno ancora anni, e persino l'uso di armi chimiche, all'epoca già vietate. Ma alla fine Vittorio Emanuele III potrà assumere il titolo di Imperatore mentre Mussolini parlerà di "rinascita dell'Impero sui colli fatali di Roma".

The unfair sanctions hit the new Roman Empire

Mussolini's dream of a new Roman Empire is well-known, but empires are scarce around the world. Therefore, Italian expansionist ambitions turn towards Ethiopia, partly to avenge the defeat at Adua in 1896, partly to expand colonial territories in the Horn of Africa, and partly because the leader there is a Negus neghesti, meaning King of Kings or Emperor. So, in October 1935, Italy attacked Ethiopia, leading to the first economic sanctions imposed by an absolute majority vote in the League of Nations. Fascist propaganda referred to them as "unjust sanctions," although in reality, they only served to rally Italians around their Duce. It would take seven months to occupy Ethiopia, even though it would take several more years and even the use of chemical weapons, which were already prohibited at the time, to completely suppress all resistance. In the end, Vittorio Emanuele III could assume the title of Emperor, while Mussolini spoke of the "rebirth of the Empire on the fateful hills of Rome".

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES, AUSTRALIA COMMONWEALTH, NEW ZEALAND,
ITALIAN STATES, ITALY KINGDOM & REPUBLIC, SWITZERLAND

THE ‘KOOYONG’ COLLECTION

Part I



Victoria Stamp Duty. 1885 (January):
£25 deep green; 1890 (October): £50
black violet; 1895 (May): £100 scarlet red,
unused world-class rarities.
Lots #3104–3106



At the upcoming two sales, November 2024 and June 2025 respectively, we will offer a complete, all unused, single stamp collection, known as **The ‘KOOYONG’ Collection**. It comprises the following philatelic areas:

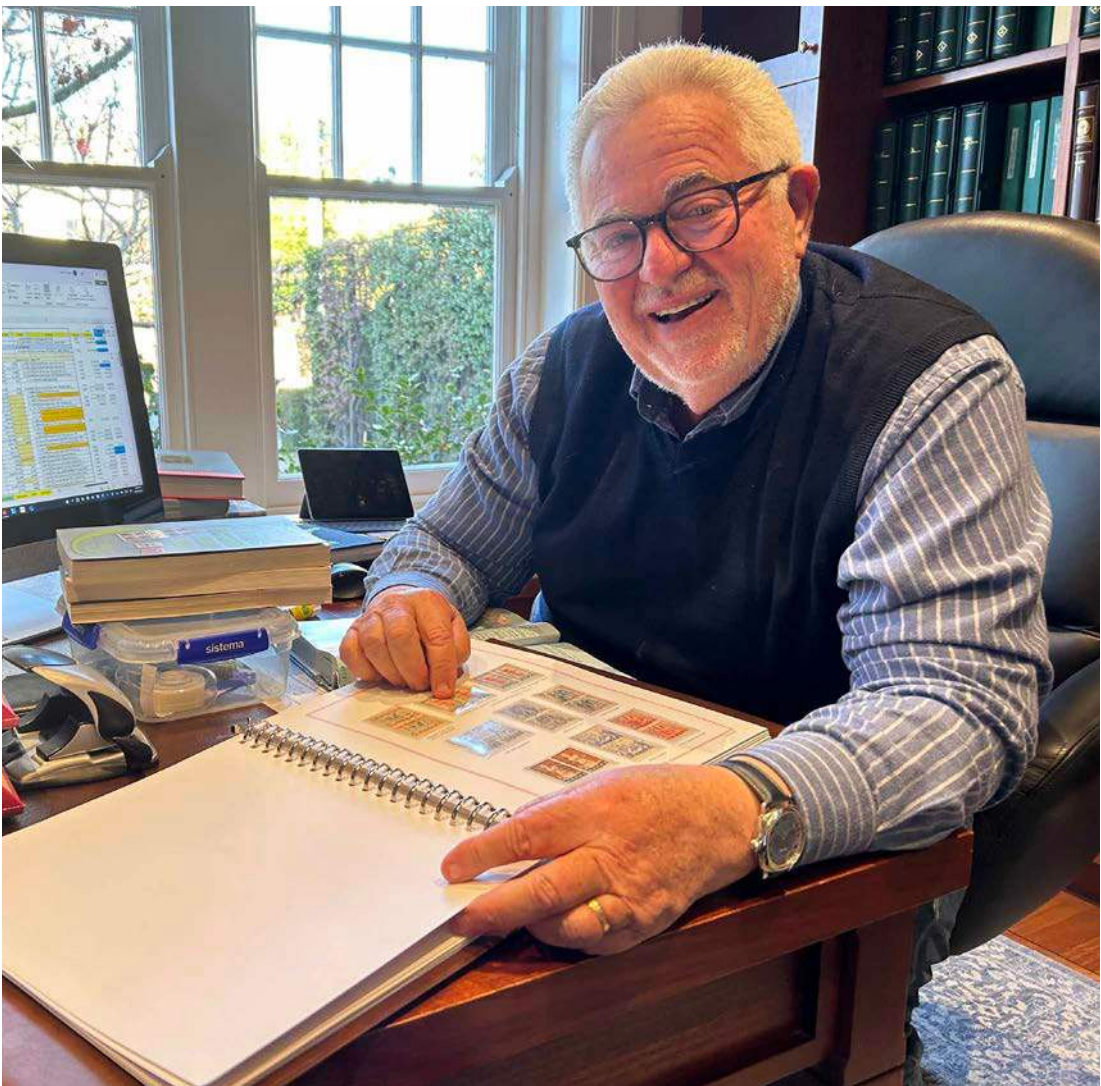
PART I, 25–30 NOVEMBER 2024

- Australian Colonies 1850–1912
- Australia Commonwealth 1913–2012
- New Zealand 1855–2012
- Italian States 1850–1862
- Italy Kingdom & Republic 1862–2012
- Switzerland (Helvetia) 1843–2012

PART II, 2–7 JUNE 2025

- Italian Colonies & Possessions
- Great Britain 1840–2012

Kooyong is believed to be an Aboriginal word for camp or resting place or possibly derived from the word ‘guyun’ meaning fighting spear. More importantly it relates the first stamp acquired to this collection by collector himself – Jack Gringlas. Jonas Hällström was fortunate to spend two days in Melbourne together with Jack, handing-over the for the upcoming sales 2024–2025. JH



Jack Gringlas has accumulated **The ‘KOOYONG’ Collection** for over 40 years and his accuracy and structure with which the different areas are documented and presented is impressive.

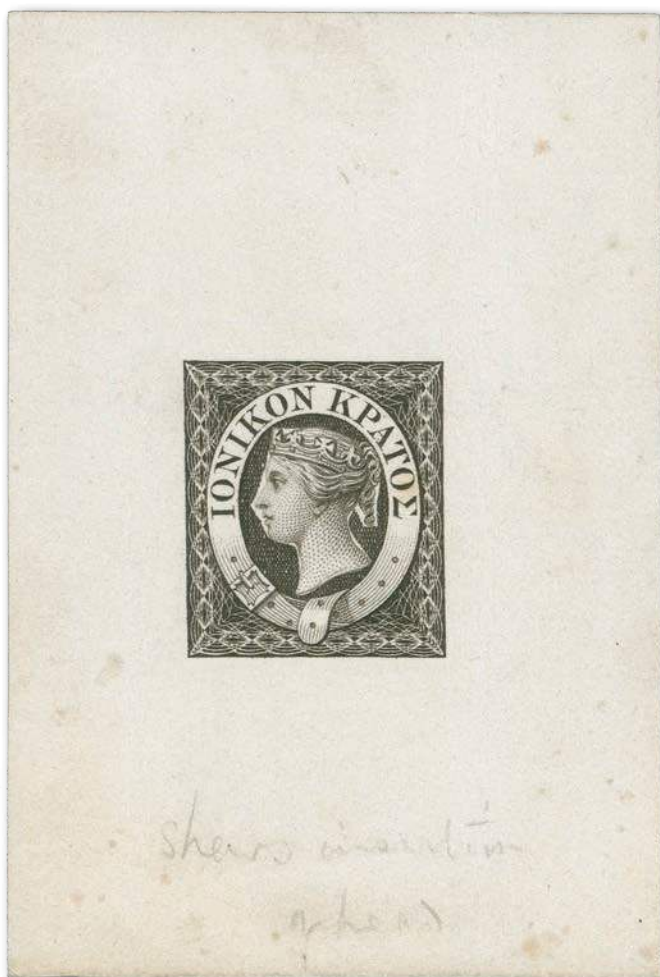
Ionian Islands

The André Bollen Collection

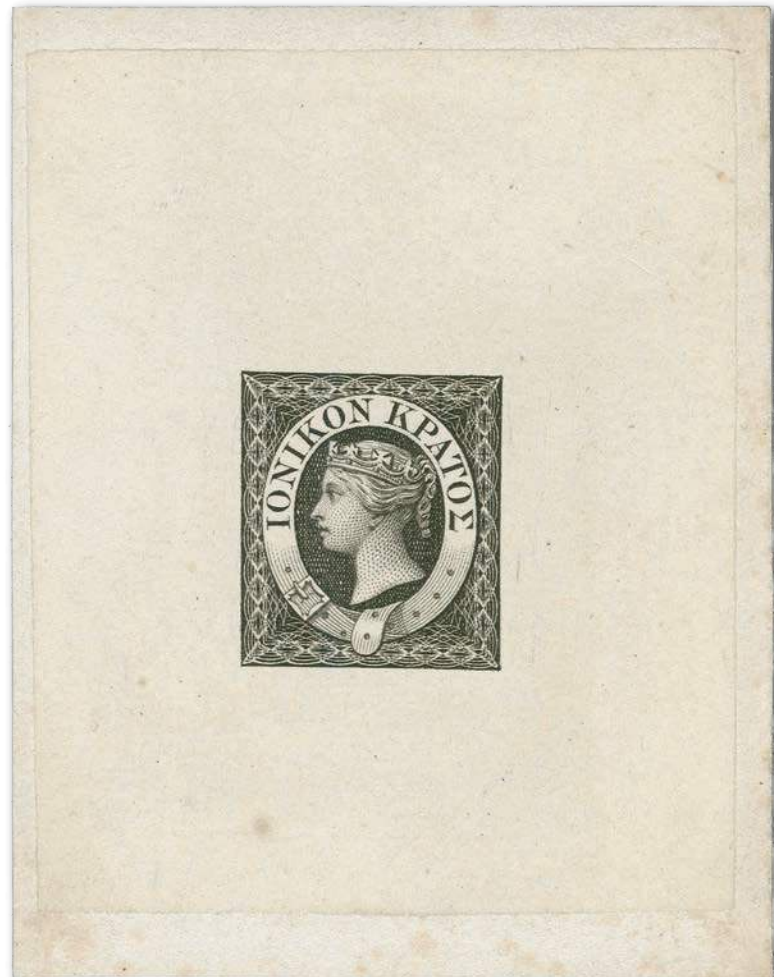
André Bollen (b. 1936) is retired from a shipping career. He joined his father's port business in 1953. Following probation periods in France (Fontainebleau) and London (Finzi Layman in the City), he travelled extensively to obtain stevedoring businesses from shipping lines calling at Antwerp, i.e. to Iran, Bangladesh, Ceylon, Malta, Cameroun, Kenia, Israel, Greece (with seven from the then nine shipping lines calling at Antwerp). He served as president for the stevedoring community in the port of Antwerp and retired in 1998 to realize his dream (books and publishing). After 45 years the stevedoring business was sold, and he started then to publish books. (Pandora Art Books).

Corinphila is privileged to offer the wonderful **Ionian Islands Collection** formed by André Bollen. This sale we believe to be the finest showing the seven Ionian Islands's Postal History: the islands of Corfu, Paxos, Lefkas (Santa Maura), Ithaca, Cefalonia, Zakynthos (Zante) and Kythira (Cerigo). The collection won the national Grand Prix in 2016.

/JH & GT



British Protectorate Stamp Issue 1859: Perkins Bacon Die Proof struck on white card (49 x 73 mm.), engraved in black with the head plate added into the vignette, with pencil notation "shews insertion of head" below. This being a working Proof. Unique and most attractive. **Lot #6611**



British Protectorate Stamp Issue 1859: Perkins Bacon Die Proof struck on India paper adhered to cream card (58 x 74 mm.), engraved in black with the head plate now completed. **Lot #6612.**

End-State with

BESANÇON

The 'BESANÇON' collection is a marvellous 'traditional' collection of this popular collecting area, with essays, proofs, issued stamps, large multiples and covers. Throughout it is interspersed with 'philatelic gems' handpicked by a philatelist who possessed an eye for rarity and quality. Leafing through the album pages it is apparent that aesthetic appeal was one of the dominant buying motives.

The collection was formed over many decades and boasts exemplary philatelic pedigree with material obtained from the famous collections formed by; Philipp von Ferrary (1921), Arthur Hind (1934), Alfred H. Caspary (1958), Marquess of Bute (1959), Maurice Burrus (1962/64), Alfred F. Lichtenstein & Louise Boyd-Dale (1969), Col. J.R. Danson (1977), Col. H.E.

Hebbert (1977), Dr. Conrad Latto (1997), Dr. G.H. Jonkers (1999), William Frazer (2004), Sir Gawaine Baillie (2005) and Sir John Inglefield-Watson (2007). It also comprises material obtained from the more recent 'pseudonym' sales, such as; Switzerland, Classic France, Australian States, Cape of Good Hope, British West Indies, Pacific Islands, Ceylon & Maldive Islands, British West Africa, British Central & East Africa, Ascension, Seychelles, Bushire and Great Britain, also sold by **Corinphila**.

In short, 'quality' was of paramount importance and sale **337. Great Britain & British Commonwealth Missed Opportunities and Balances of the BESANÇON Collection** will be the final milestone and end-state of this fabulous saga of this Name Sale.

/JH & DK



THROUGH THE EYES OF CORINPHILA'S PHILATELISTS

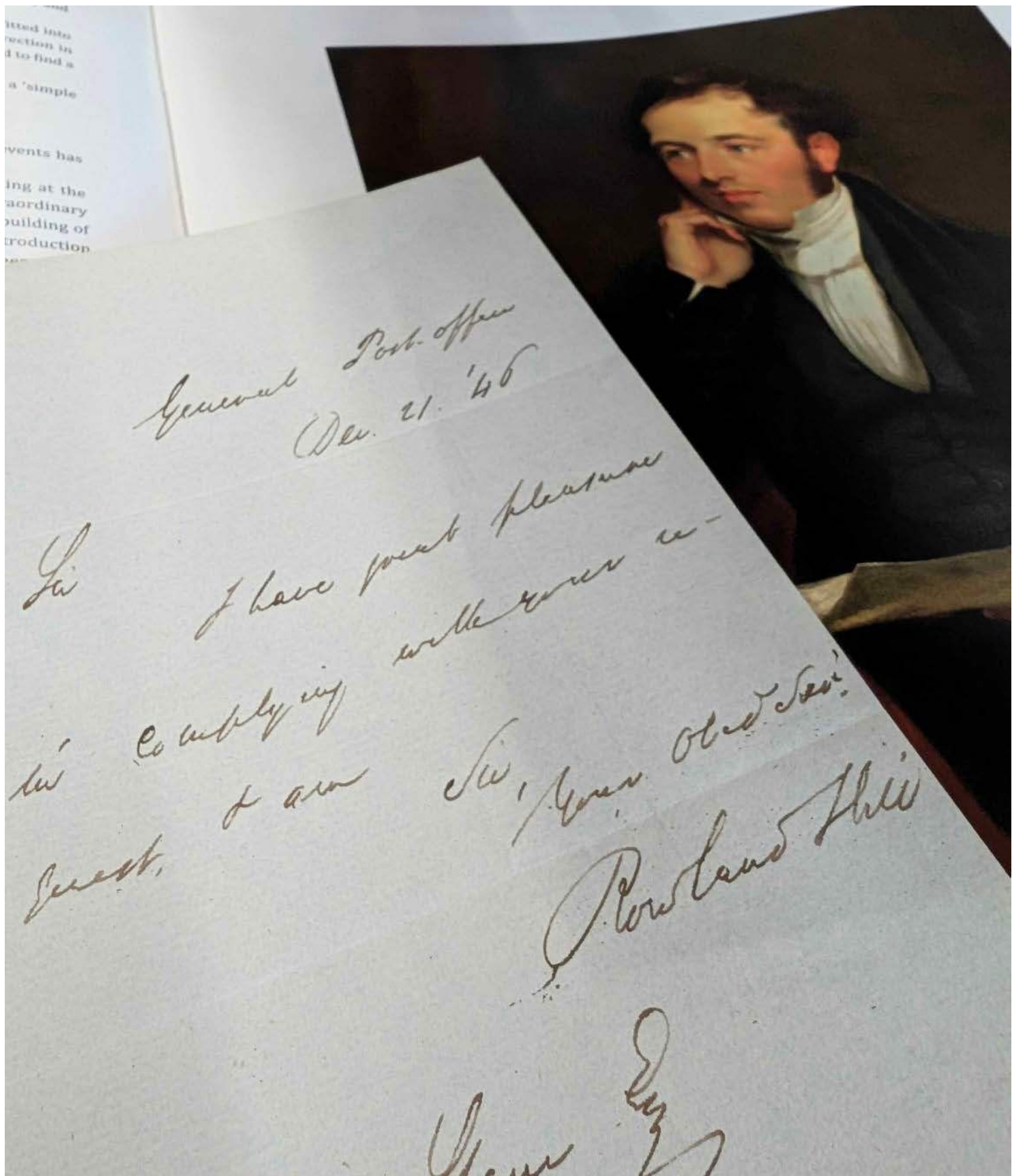
Portrait of Sir Rowland Hill 'The Letter Writer'

Here's an alternative portrait of the man who is synonymous with the postage stamp, as much as modernising the postal service. We discovered this letter whilst sorting through a remainder album, which contained an assortment of circulated covers and cards from early Queen Victoria through to King George VI. Sent from the General Post Office, dated 21 December 1846, it is clearly signed by Rowland Hill at the base. The letter reads: "Sir, I have great pleasure in complying with your request and am, Sir, Your obedient Servant."

Whilst the contents has no postal relevance, it has been sent at a noteworthy time in the career of the man who architected the Postal Reform. It is often forgotten that despite his achievements during 1839-1841 Hill was not always a popular figure with a certain section of Lords, influential figures and politicians.

When the Conservative Party won the election in 1841 Sir Robert Peel took up office again on 30 August 1841 and served until 29 June 1846 and as a consequence, Hill was pushed out of the post office in July 1842. This was a controversial decision and must have been a humbling and frustrating moment for the 46 year old Hill. However, he found employment with the London and Brighton Railway company who named him a director and later chairman of the board, from 1843 to 1846. He achieved much at the railway firm in this interlude from the world of stamps, such as lowering fares and improving the passenger experience.

However, in 1846 his return to the GPO came about when the Conservative Party split over the repeal of the Corn Laws and as a result was replaced



by a Whig government led by Lord John Russell. Hill was appointed Secretary to the Postmaster General, a role he had just taken-up at the time of writing the featured letter.

The image used as a backdrop to the letter is less associated with Hill because we more often see Sir Rowland Hill as an older gentleman with thinning combed over hair and

a grey beard sitting at a desk with a quill in his right hand. But this one here is an image of the man captured during his earlier career. In this way, it is a portrait not so much of a man

who modernised the postal service and who is synonymous with stamps. It is a portrait of Rowland Hill the letter writer! **Lot #4134**

THROUGH THE EYES OF CORINPHILA'S PHILATELISTS

An image of Pearson Hill through the Opera-Glass

Coincidentally, the son of Rowland Hill, Pearson Hill, features in a number of items from the Jerry H. Miller Collection **Great Britain – Experimental Machine Cancels 1857–1901**. In 1853, Pearson Hill, became involved with trying to resolve the problem of effectively and efficiently postmarking the in-

creasing number of mail items being processed by the General Post Office in Great Britain. By 1857 he had developed and patented the first rapid post-marking machine which among other machines was tested by the London GPO.

One of the most iconic of the machines produced by Pearson

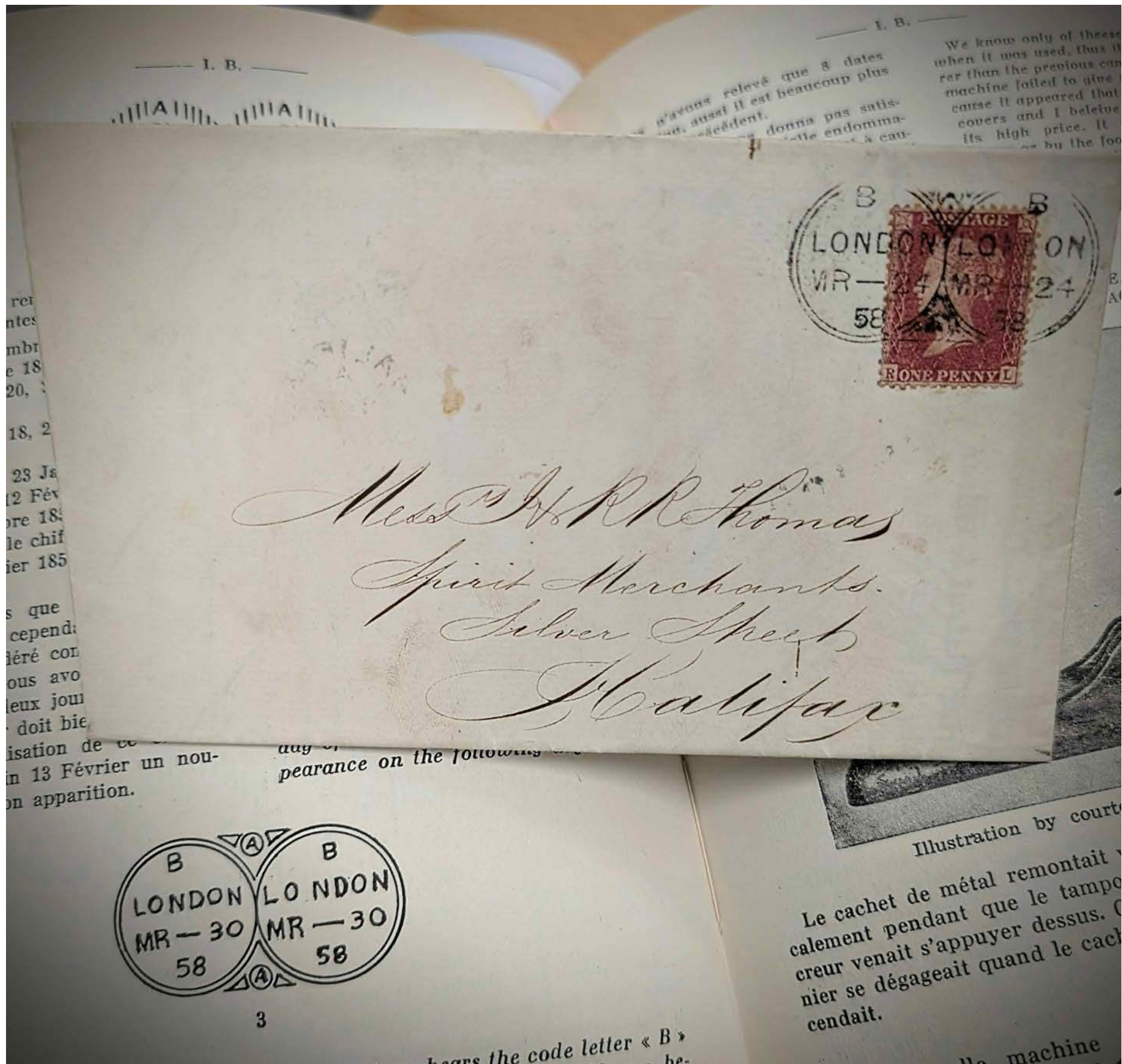
Hill is the so-called ‘Opera Glass’ Machine cancel. The illustrated cover is franked with a 1 d. red sent from London to Halifax dated 24 March 1858 tied by a fine strike of this rare Pearson Hill ‘Opera Glass’ Trial cancel in black (Dubus 3), Machine ‘A’, Code ‘B’. As was common there is an offset strike of the same cancel on the reverse. This item

is one of the five such examples recorded on cover.

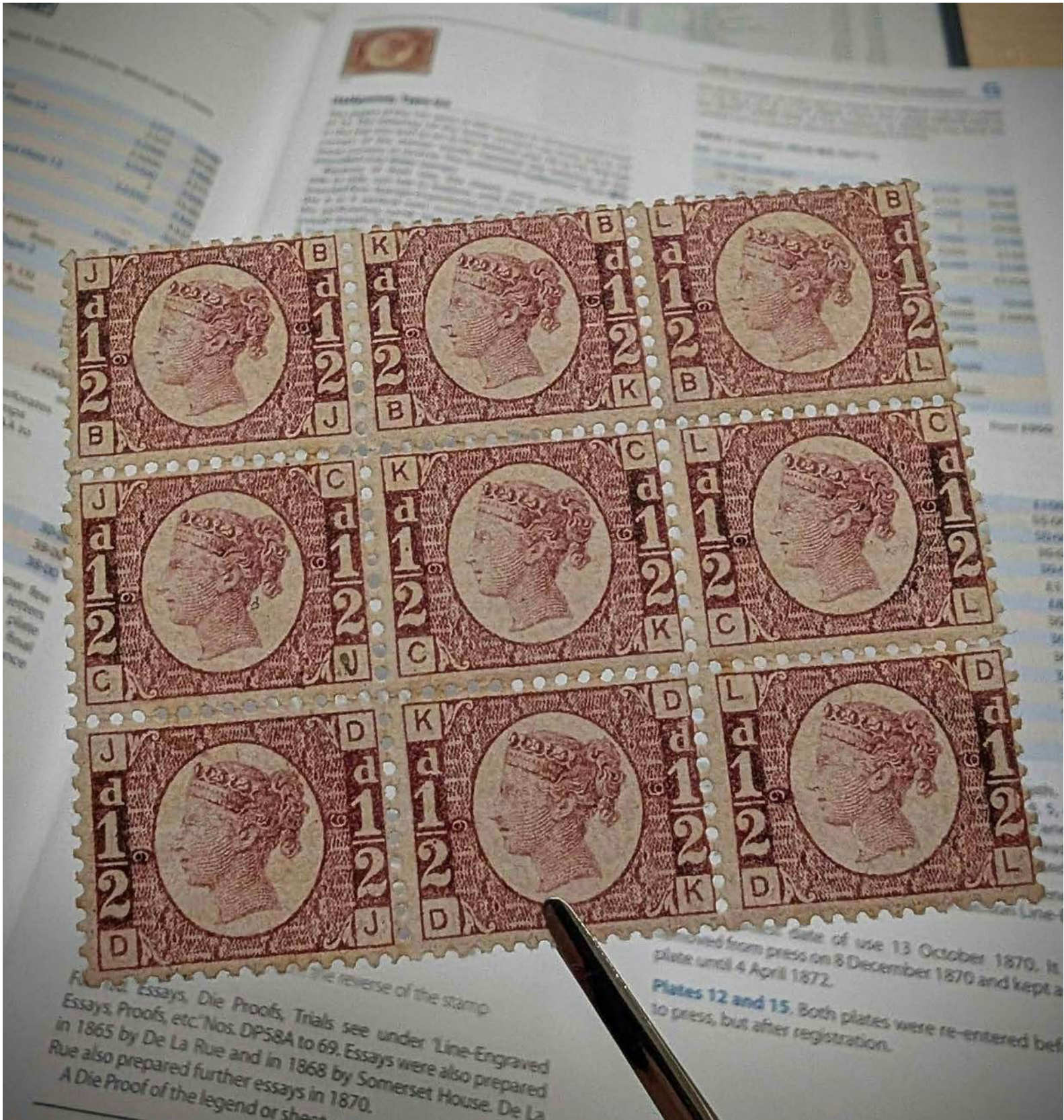
This particular cancellation whilst short-lived was an improvement from Hill's first machine which used rubber for the stamping die and would wear causing poor strikes. This distinctive postmark is recorded used between 21 March

1858 until 23 April 1858 and although attractive again began to deteriorate and needed to be improved. Hill moved onto a ‘Twin-Circle’ cancels which again is rare and another attractive cancel on cover. These two trial postmarks, along with Hill's other Trial Machine cancels, can be found on covers in this sale. **Lot #4065**

DK



THROUGH THE EYES OF CORINPHILA'S PHILATELISTS



Block of Nine of Plate 9 is a Possible Starting Point

You might hear it said by a seasoned collector, or probably more frequently mentioned by the decorated exhibitor, that the best place to start any new collecting area is with the key items, or in some topics the rarest or most difficult to find item. You don't want to spend years assembling all the material you need only to stumble at obtaining that one piece which completes the picture. Much better, apparently, to get the

pivotal item or items and then build the exhibit and narrative from there.

Here's a possible starting point for an exhibit on the Great Britain Line Engraved 1870 Bantam ½ d. issues. The illustrated piece is an unused block of nine, from plate 9, which surely if you were forming an exhibit on unused examples, and especially multiples, from the 15 plates (1-20 excluding 2, 7, 16-18) this would be the

hardest block to locate? Its more than fine appearance is complemented with the large part og. with most stamps being unmounted and it is a great rarity cataloguing at £54,000 for nine singles. Certainly an eye catching centrepiece being the largest mint block from plate 9 in private hands.

Looking at auctions from the past it was once in the collection of Herbert Frederick

"Johnny" Johnson (1884–1966), who was a larger than life British stamp dealer and philatelist, and a more than notable figure in the early years of the Junior Philatelic Society which subsequently became the National Philatelic Society. He was a colleague of legendary philatelic writer Fred Melville. Johnson is not known for his own books but was involved in promoting philatelic literature and assisted Dr Harry Osborne with his book; 'British

Line-Engraved Stamps - Two-pence Blue, Studies of Plates 1 to 15' and J.B. Seymour with 'Stamps of Great Britain, parts I & II'. This example is part of 337. Great Britain & British Commonwealth Missed Opportunities and Balances of the BESANÇON Collection. Lot #4517

DK

THROUGH THE EYES OF CORINPHILA'S PHILATELISTS

When No Gum has a (War) Story Attached



The 4th Marquess of Bute, John Crichton-Stuart (1881–1947), was a Scottish peer born in Chiswick, London. He is a well known stamp collector who had in his possession many fine and rare items. One of them, this featured 1914 GRI 3 d. on 25 pf. black & red on yellow, is the famous unused example of the variety “Comma after ‘I’ in G.R.I.”. It is believed to be the sole recorded example of this stamp, the back is signed Peter Holcombe and it is accompanied by a certificate from the same.

Like other stamps from the collection of the Marquess it has no gum. In fact, auction descriptions, when referring to material from his holding, often state “..unused without gum (due to provenance).” According to records the stamps lost their gum on the night of 24 September 1940, when the vault at Chancery Lane Safe Deposit, where the Marquess’s valuable collection had been stored, was flooded during a German air raid. It’s remarkable this example survived given the events surrounding its ungumming. This example is part of 337. **Great Britain & British Commonwealth Missed Opportunities and Balances of the BESANÇON Collection.** Lot #4882

DK

BREAKING NEWS

The ‘Huntingfield’ Block sold for CHF 200,000!

Following the last auction (lot #200) we sold **AUSTRALIA’S UNISSUED EDWARD VIII STAMP 1936**, possibly the greatest rarity in Australian philately and known as **The Huntingfield Block** in a Private Treaty transaction for CHF 200,000.

THROUGH THE EYES OF CORINPHILA'S PHILATELISTS

Either end of the 20th Century and what might have been in between



THROUGH THE EYES OF CORINPHILA'S PHILATELISTS



Alfred F Lichtenstein (1876–1947)



John Boker Jr. (1913–2003)

There is no shortage of articles written about Alfred F. Lichtenstein. The Collector's Club of New York named Lichtenstein 'the Outstanding American Philatelist' of the first half of the 20th century. His daughter, Louise Boyd-Dale, although a top-class philatelist, is perhaps not as famous albeit she is just as well decorated and respected. One of the reasons for this may be her premature death in 1967 aged 54. It's an age that many philatelists are just getting into their stride. Something else which is not written about too often is the rather staggering feat that both Lichtenstein and Boyd-Dale signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, in 1927 and 1956 respectively. A father and daughter RDP is quite an accolade. It hasn't been repeated. Their lasting legacy is the material from the famous Dale-Lichtenstein collections.

The featured 1881 Perkins Bacon ½ d. imperforate Plate Proof block of four is one of those examples and indeed one of a number of items which form part of an impressive collection contained within a hefty green album of St Vincent. If our father and daughter RDPs aren't enough

in the same album are items with the philatelic pedigree of Claude Cartier and J.L. 'Bobbie' Messenger, the latter who also signed the Roll in 1979.

To put Boyd-Dale's achievements into perspective the legendary philatelist John Boker Jr. signed the Roll in 1964, eight years after Boyd-Dale. Yet they were both born in 1913 in New York. Rather fittingly, Boyd-Dale was awarded the Lichtenstein Medal in 1962, five years before Boker. However, Boker, as with Lichtenstein, is better known. The Collectors Club of New York described Boker, in 1996, as the 'outstanding philatelist of the last half of the twentieth century.' There is no doubting Lichtenstein and Boker are worthy of the titles mentioned. However, it does make you ponder what Boyd-Dale might have been described as, had she lived as long as her father (70) or Boker (90). **Great Britain & British Commonwealth Missed Opportunities and Balances of the BESANÇON Collection.**

Lot #4871

DK



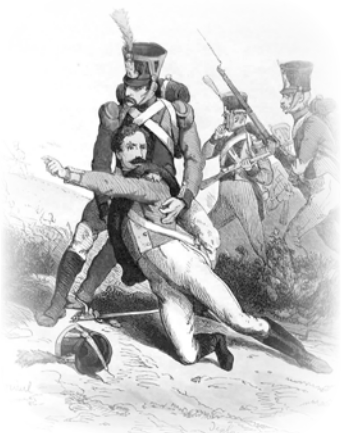
Louise Boyd Dale (1913–1967)

From a Mercenary's Pocket

Intriguing not least for their similar dates of 19 March 1855 & 1856 and visually not unappealing despite a number of stains which contribute to their well-travelled appearance, it is the address of the two folded letters sent from Schwyz in central Switzerland to Dijon and Besançon respectively that catches our imagination.

Directed to 'Monsieur Hector de Réding-Biberegg, Officier au 1er Régiment de la 2me Légion étrangère au service de France' they cannot fail to conjure up romantic images of ancient forts and lonely outposts in the sand swept deserts of North Africa as well as reflections on their journey in a soldier's kit-bag or tunic pocket, a treasured link to home bringing news from loved ones or, in view of the dates, perhaps birthday greetings from far-away home.

More linked in reality to the Crimean War than the Arab deserts, these letters are a testimony of the age-old mercenary tradition in Switzerland. Dating back to the 13th century when young men, especially from large families, started travelling abroad to seek their fortune in various baronial armies, it was after the Swiss defeat in the Battle of Marignano (1515), when the confederation had to accept the end of its ambitions in power politics and its own need for military personnel drastically decreased, that the mercenary business began gathering pace.



Swiss soldiers of the French "Garde Royale" going into battle (1812).

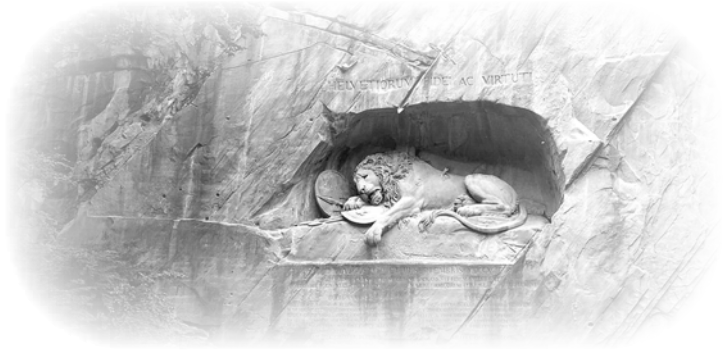
Developing a reputation as formidable fighters and terrifying enemies in conflicts such as the Burgundian Wars of 1474-77, the Swiss mercenaries with their pikes and longswords were soon coveted by monarchs across Europe. From the 15th century onwards, influential families would recruit young men from the farms and villages surrounding their estates to form a company or battalion which would bear their name and be placed under their command. The family would then enter directly into contract with a European monarch who would pay them a fixed amount for their service while the regiment owners would be responsible for providing rations and paying their men according to the individual recruitment contracts signed with each of the often utterly illiterate recruits.

While the regiment-owners were able to amass large fortunes over the generations and returned home with honours and titles from the monarchs they had served to settle down to a quiet life as the local squire for most private soldiers the experience was more difficult, with many of them famously suffering from homesickness (which became known as 'La maladie Suisse'), returning with severe injuries and up to a third of private soldiers losing their lives in battle. This together with experiences like the Battle of Malplaquet in 1709 where mercenaries fought on both sides and some 8000 Swiss were killed, largely by each other, lead the business of 'Fremde Dienste' or Foreign Service to become more and more controversial and finally to be forbidden by law in 1859.

While even before the ban in 1859 the numbers of mercenaries steadily decreased throughout the 19th century, largely due to economic and social change, foreign military service remained an important and broadly accepted part of rural life in Switzerland and stayed

present in the minds of most European military commanders. And so, in 1855, with the Crimean War demanding more and more men, France decided to turn to the age-old solution of employing foreign mercenaries and by Imperial Decree of January 17, 1855 Napoleon III established the Second Foreign Legion consisting of two infantry regiments to be recruited in Switzerland. Command of the 'Swiss Legion' was transferred to Ulrich Ochsenbein, a former member of the Swiss Federal Council (national government) and personal friend of Napoleon III, who had been exiled in Switzerland.

Hector von Rechung-Biberegg who slemmed from one of those old, regiment-owning families of great influence, who over the generations had not only produced a long line of mercenary officers including Theodor von Reding-Biberegg who had been a Spanish General in the Napoleonic Wars, but also a range of clerics, abbots, officials, politicians and national heroes. Like Alois von Red-



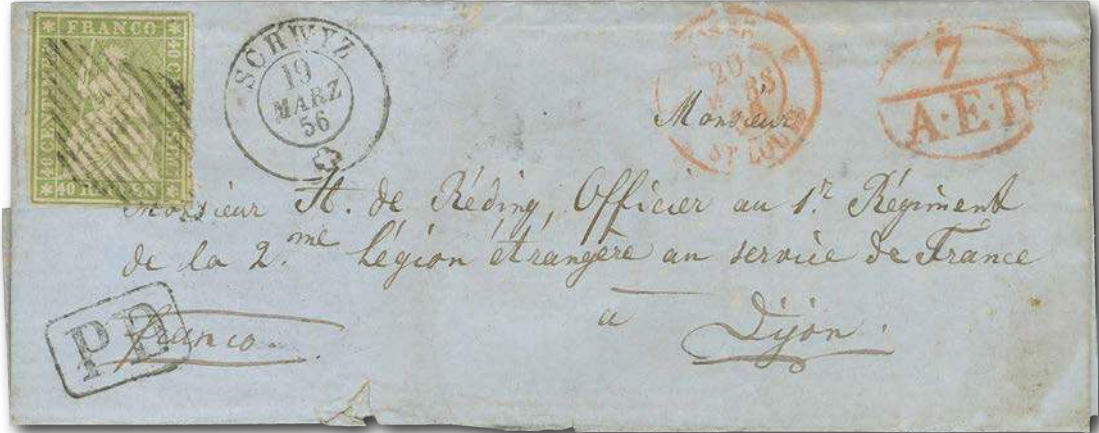
The "Löwendenkmal" in Luzern was erected in 1821 to commemorate the 760 Swiss Guards who were killed when the Tuileries Palace in Paris was stormed during the French Revolution in 1792.

ing-Biberegg who in 1798 had lead the unsuccessful uprising in against the French Invasion in central Switzerland. He must have joined the 'Swiss Legion' at Besançon sometime between January and March 1855, where he became a junior officer in the 1st Regiment under the command of the Swiss-born Colonel Buonaventura Meyer and would have prepared to go into active service in the Crimea.

However, after deployment had been slowed down by recruitment-problems, mainly caused by the establishment of a British 'Swiss Regiment' paying a higher recruitment premium, the Crimean War ended before the Swiss Legion left France and on June 25,

1856 it was officially disbanded. While Ulrich Ochsenbein and seventeen of his officers retired with one year's pay, most of the officers and men were incorporated into a new '1er Régiment Etranger' and subsequently saw action in Algeria and Italy. With the mercenary ban of October 1859 the regiment began losing it's Swiss character and evolving toward the Foreign Legion of the Arab Deserts that so shapes our image of this unit.

We are proud to offer these two fascinating historical documents which reflect the slow end of the Swiss mercenary tradition and the effervescent Swiss Legion in our upcoming auction. **Lot #8638** /TF



Two letters addressed to an officer in the Swiss Foreign Legion.

EDITORIAL

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PS.

If you have decided to contact **Corinphila** for your consignment, our **Auction Event Week** for the spring takes place from 2-7 June. **The latest date for consignments is 7 March 2025.** Reach us always at www.corinphila.ch. Contact us by phone at + 41 44 389 91 91 or by e-mail at info@corinphila.ch.