



France & Colonies Philatelist

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF THE COMMUNE REVOLUTION PARIS 1871

by Gardner L. Brown
 (cont. from FCP 221, p. 81)

Correction for page 67 and 68, FCP #221 (Chapter VII)

Orangerie at Versailles, 2 known.

Both covers carry a 15c typographed due stamp cancelled by a Versailles date stamp, 3rd distribution. The one shown in Figure VII-2 has a cancellation of May 29 and was addressed to Versailles. It was redirected to Paris and the correct 3 décimes due was added in manuscript. Figure VII-3 is the other side of this cover and gives the information that the writer is in the Orangerie.

CHAPTER VIII - CACHETS DE FORTUNE

Eleven French towns outside of Paris are known to have used unusual cancelling devices (or cachets), mostly during the period of the Commune Revolution. Nine of them were within 8 miles of the Paris walls. The two exceptions are Outarville, near Orleans, and Ste. Suzanne, close to Laval. The existence of these abnormal cachets probably has more to do with the just-finished Franco-Prussian War than the Commune Revolution, despite the dates of use. In fact, Yvert & Tellier (1) refers to them as being from towns evacuated by the enemy in 1871. In earlier days the Montmorency straight-line cancellation was spoken of as belonging to the Commune period. Hence, Commune collectors desire these rare covers although the catalogs now correctly refer to them as "Cachets de Fortune."

(1) "Catalogue Spécialisé des Timbres des France," Tome 1, Yvert & Tellier, Amiens, 1975.

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Very little has been written about them, and we do not have a reference other than the catalogs for our readers. They are not regarded as being of German manufacture as is the case with the Amiens, Epinal, and Rouen special cancellations or date stamps. The reason for their existence is not known to us.

The entire survey only documented 20 full covers and 13 of these were from Montmorency. Unaccountably four of the nine towns near Paris which used "cachets de fortune" are within 3½ miles of each other. They are Montmorency, Sannois, Enghien, and Deuil. We will discuss each in turn.

Montmorency:

Of the 13 known Montmorency covers, the information on 5 of them is sufficient to document they were brought out of Paris during the Commune to be posted in Montmorency. This makes them legitimate Commune covers. Of the other 8, we know that 2 of them were written in Montmorency. The one we happen to own (Figure VIII-1) is one of them. The date of April 20, 1871 is within the Commune time-frame.

The other letter written in Montmorency is most unusual:

1. It predates the Commune (March 12).
2. It is before the Germans had returned the control of post offices to the French in occupied areas which were not to be annexed (March 24). Therefore one might expect this would have been franked with an occupation stamp.
3. The cancellations are in blue.

An excellent color photograph of this cover is in the catalog for the Soluphil sale of November, 1983 (lot 4906). The 20c Napoleon lauré has two strikes crossed at an angle of about 30°. The date of 12 Mars '71 has been written in the circular date-stamp where the printed date should have been. The letter was addressed to Paris and there an unnumbered star was added. We assume the Paris clerk thought the stamp had not been properly cancelled!



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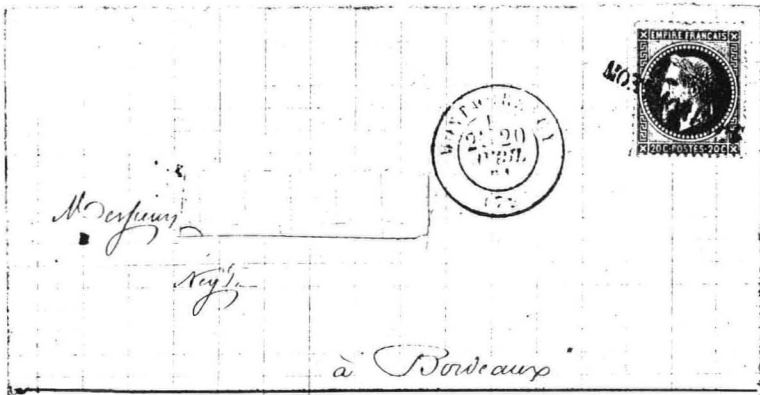


Figure VIII-1: Written in Montmorency and posted there April 20, 1871. For Bordeaux.

Montmorency is very close to St. Denis and St. Denis was part of Paris during the Siege. It was protected by the Fort de l'Est and Fort d'Aubervilliers. Paris balloon mail exists postmarked from St. Denis. This puts Montmorency, and the other 3 towns mentioned earlier, in a sort of "no-mans land." However, there is no philatelic evidence (2) that occupation stamps were ever sold in these 4 towns.

According to de Beaufond (3), the Montmorency straight-line comes in two varieties. We have seen only the simple straight-line, but it is known with the numeral 70 underneath. The number for Seine-et-Oise is 72 so the meaning of the 70 is unknown to us.

In addition to the 13 covers, the survey found 12 examples of the cancellation on single stamps and 4 more on fragments. Among the fragments were some interesting frankings, and it is too bad the entire covers do not exist. One was 20+80, another 30+30 and one 80+80, all being the lauré issue. Including all the stamps and covers only 4 were franked with the Siege issue, the rest being lauré.

Deuil:

The survey found two covers and one single stamp with this cachet de fortune. The stamps were cancelled with a straight-line Seine-et-Oise and the straight-line Deuil (Figure VIII-2) is added at the side instead of a date stamp. Only one cover appeared to be really legible. It was written in Paris April 12 and was taken to Deuil to post and the manuscript date April 20 was added next to the Deuil handstamp.

Sannois:

Our survey did not unearth any covers, but we did find 5 stamps cancelled with the date stamp as shown in Figure VIII-3. The illustration is from reference 1 and shows a date of June 2. The ones we found were from May 5 (date block inverted), 26 and 29, July 8 and one was 21-70 with the month omitted.

The denominations of the stamps were unusual. There was a 1c and a 5c with the other 3 being 10c.

Enghien:

No examples of this cancel were found in our survey but Yvert states it is a straight-line cachet. No illustrations were found in the literature.

(2) Schott, Ch., "Catalogue des oblitérations d'Alsace-Lorraine, 1848-1871." Strasbourg. 1972.

(3) de Beaufond, E.H., "Catalogue des Oblitérations des Timbres de France, 1849-1876," Yvert & Tellier, Amiens 1947.

DEUIL

Figure VIII-2: Straight-line Deuil used in lieu of date stamp. Stamps cancelled with straight-line Seine-et-Oise. Illustration from reference (1).

Figure VIII-3: Appears to be normal Sannois date-stamp but was used to cancel the stamps. This was also common practice in Versailles during the Commune. Illustration from reference (1).

**Artenay:**

This is the town near Orleans. Three letters are known, all with the stamp cancelled with the normal GC lozenge 179. In place of the circular date-stamp is a straight-line Artenay with no date. One of the covers had a manuscript May 13 next to the cachet.

Villeneuve St. George:

Two covers are known with the stamps cancelled as in Figure VIII-4. One was dated in Crosne (next door to Villeneuve) on May 13 and the date for the other is not known. In addition, a single stamp is known plus two fragments. One of the fragments is a band of 4 stamps used on a circular.

Longjumeaux:

The survey found only a single stamp with a circular date stamp of the type as with Sannois but without the date center. It was on a 20c Type 3 Bordeaux Issue.

Chelles, Outarville, Ste. Suzanne:

No examples were found of these cachets which are all described as being of the straight-line variety.

Versailles:

Of the towns known to have used cachets de fortune, Versailles is the only one known (2) to have had a German post office. Occupation stamps are known cancelled there.

Three different types of cachets are known, but only one of them was found in our survey. Two single stamps were offered for sale cancelled with the device shown in Figure VIII-5. One was on a 4c stamp, the other on a 10c Siege Issue.

Yvert (1) also describes a cancellation like VIII-5 but with an interior circle and one similar to VIII-4.

In addition Robineau (4) has classified as cachets de fortune two examples of the Versailles Poste-Quartier, Distribution type struck in blue.



Figure VIII-4: Illustration from reference (1).

Figure VIII-5: One of three cachets de fortune used in Versailles. Illustration from reference (1).



(4) Robineau sale 65, April 1964, lot 165 and sale 110, June 1974, lot 1609.

CHAPTER IX – SIGNIFICANT NEW MATERIAL

Over the months it has taken to write about this subject we have become aware of some significant covers which were new to us. We have organized them herewith to correspond with our earlier chapter titles.

The Beginning and the End:

Figure IX-1 shows a cover with a manuscript Paris date of April 3 and a Paris date stamp of April 6. The backstamp shows it did not arrive in Toulouse until May 29. A good example of mail which did not make it out of Paris until after the Revolution.

Figure IX-2 appears to be unique. We have folded it out to show the Paris date of April 8. It didn't get to the Paris to Marseille train until May 29 and was delivered in Dijon on May 30. The unusual part about this cover is the straight-line Chapelle St. Denis handstamp which starts in the word Cote and ends in 'Negociant. For better viewing we show a tracing of it in Figure IX-3. We know of only one mention of this handstamp (1) which was used in place of the date stamp during the Commune. The reference mentions the use of this on a Paris for Paris letter with the stamp cancelled with the usual GC 892 lozenge.

The fact the letter has no stamps and no tax markings remains unexplained.

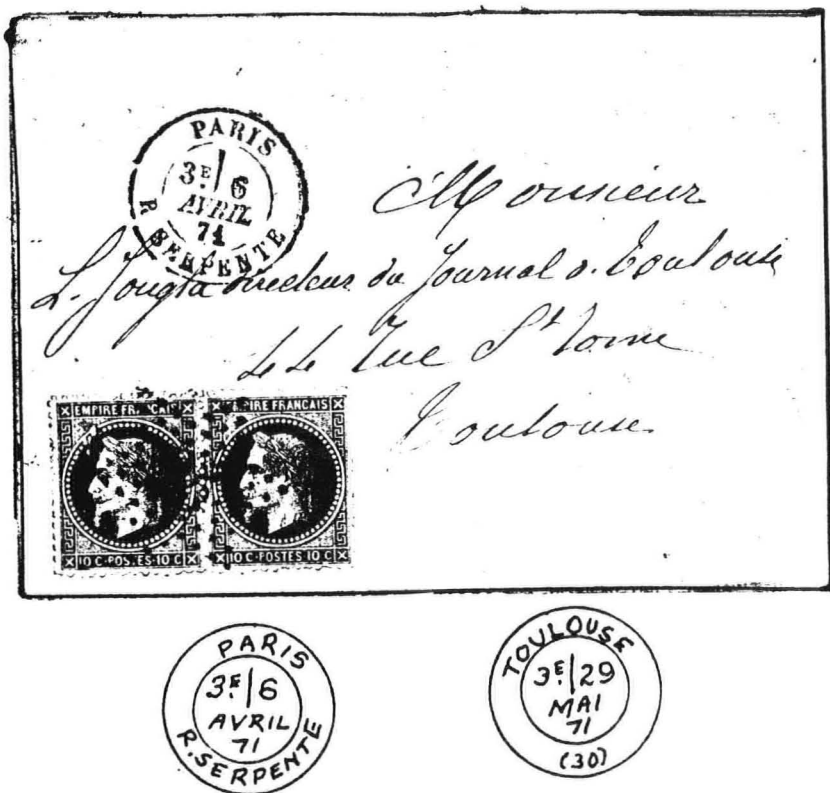
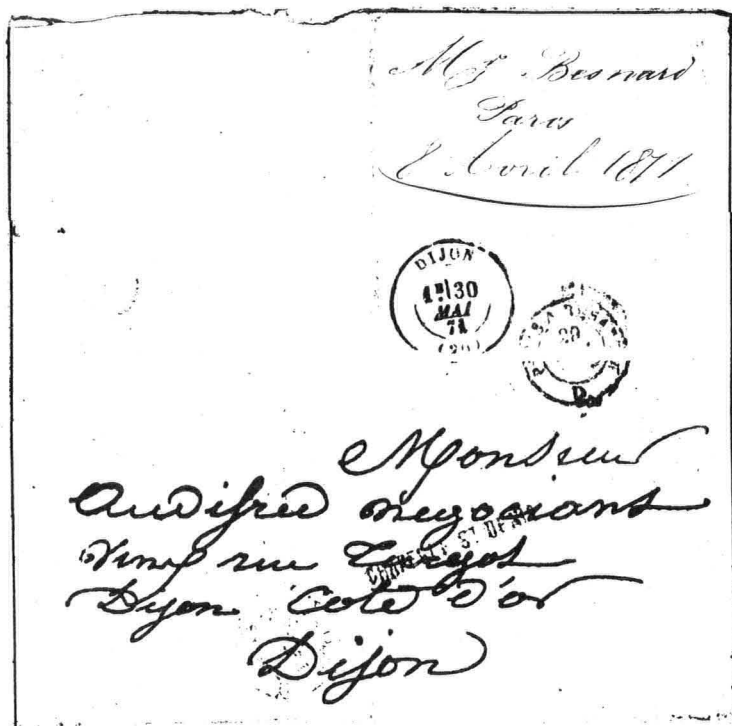


Figure IX-1: Cancelled in Paris but not delivered until after the Revolution.

(1) "Marianne Catalogue," Storch, Françon, Brun, 1983-1984.



Paris 8 avril
 Cher Monsieur
 Vous m'avez fait savoir
 par votre lettre du 30
 que vous en aviez eu suite
 J'ai payé comme
 indication entendue
 J'ai l'honneur
 de vous saluer
 De Besnard

Figure IX-2:

Written in Paris April 8
 but not delivered until
 May 30. Rare straight-line
 Chapelle St. Denis used in
 lieu of date stamp. Cachet
 begins with word "Cote"
 and ends in "Negociant."

CHAPELLE ST DENIS

Figure IX-3: Tracing of Chapelle St. Denis cachet.

Mail From Paris:

The recent Holder sale (2) adds new information about the postal involvement of the British Embassy. We illustrate it in Figure IX-4, courtesy of Albert Schneider. In the upper left corner are the words, "per favor of the British Embassy." The stamps were cancelled with a Versailles date stamp May 2 and arrived in Plymouth, England May 3. We quote here the unsigned letter in its entirety because it will be of interest to students of the Franco-Prussian War as well as those whose interest lies mostly in the Commune:

Hotel Byron, April 27th, 1871 10 pm

"I found on taking my letters to the Embassy that 10:30 am was the latest for posting so write such particulars as I have heard and seen. A heavy cannonade has temporarily silenced Fort Issy and I have today been at Point de Jour looking at the new batteries that did the work - which by the way are much bothered by the gun boats which shelter themselves, as in the embassies, under the 2 storied railway bridge there. The firing was very heavy at midnight and also at 5:30 this morning waking me up. This afternoon there was a furious cannonade at Maillot and Ternes in Neuilly the mitrailleuse was grating furiously and continuously. I estimate over 1500 explosions took place in an hour most of these between 3 and ½ past 3. I went to all the gates on the west where the fire was only moderate and was able to peep from a safe place. I could only see smoke and a flash now and again, of course I could only imagine some stratagem was being attempted and discovered. I cannot imagine where the correspondents are. I have enquired and cannot hear of any here nor do I meet any body near the firing points looking like a countryman. I also note many inaccuracies in the papers which reach here from London. On a visit to the ambulance I find 13 dead this day the wounds not so bad as yesterday - one of them is a shell fragment gatherer a boy of 12 who had paid for his temerity at the Porte Maillot. A bomb came up to the Arch at 3 this afternoon but hurt nobody. Just now the cannonade at Issy, I think by the sound, is very heavy. Valerien is also firing at Point de Jour. Every body looking for a speedy end but I fancy it will be some time yet. They say here every soldier is asked before he is rearmed on arrival from Germany if he will do his duty, if he hesitates he is not obliged to serve. It seems to me in my frequent looks at the principal position that 5000 good troops could easily take it, but Versailles seems to prefer wasting life in a desultory way instead of being short, sharp and



Figure IX-4: From Paris to England by favor of the British Embassy. Collection Schneider.

(2) "Etude Jutheau" Public Sale, June 27, 28, 1990. Lot 613.

decisive. Paris is looking very pretty so far as vegetation goes. All the horse chestnuts are out in bloom and really very few trees are gone. I am told all the partially decayed and badly shaped trees have been removed and then only as a judicious thinning. It is not so in the Bois which has suffered very much.

"April 30th. The cannonade has been very severe against Issy and Vanves these 2 days and nights and about twice a day for 2 days past there have been about 2 skirmishes at Neuilly or Levallois daily, the firing at such times is very heavy but still they only end in a loss of life which seems to leave both sides where they were as no position has been gained by either. From the heights of Montmartre you can take it in very well and see the armour plated engine steam out and fire, on the railway line. There is always a great crowd here as it commands nearly the whole area of the present struggle. The Versaillois generally aim very bad their bombs from Neuilly exploding 300 feet over the Porte Maillot, and on Saturday they bombarded the Arch again, and the Champs Elysées being crowded with people one passed me like a rocket and burst half way down the avenue causing loss of life and severe wounds to several. 50 seconds after another struck a house nearby and the sound of falling glass and stonework was not pleasant 10 yds. off. Today I have been to Versailles by way of St. Denis passing the redoubts made by the French at points on the road they have made the bomb proofs very large covering the open side with railway bars which form safe splinter proofs. You pass through Colombes and Nanterre where you come near the zone of the Prussian destruction. The places here and at Malmaison swarm with troops and artillery. This beautiful neighborhood has suffered much but the trees in leaf hide much of it and the owners have begun to repair. You now pass Prussian redoubts and loopholed walls. The woods near Celle St. Cloud are much cut down but the Prussian officers I suppose have judiciously left large trees all over the place destroyed so as not to completely destroy the effect. You catch a fine view here of St. Germain and the Seine the whole is really charming at this season. Versailles is a sight to see, the town and neighborhood swarm with camps, troops and artillery. I counted 30-40 pounder siege guns, and 50 field and mountain guns with no end of ammunition wagons drawn up before the chateau. Painted notices direct you to the different bureaux of the ministers--Finance, Intérieur, etc. Also members' entrance to "National Assemblée." The place where the King of Prussia lived is the handsome new prefecture in the Route de Paris and Bismark's in the rue Plessis. Deputies are walking about with their families and the whole place is very gay. I paid a flying visit to Garches and St. Cloud, but they only present the same dreary monotony of destruction I have seen so often during this war. The day was quiet so far as the guns went. I rode back to Courbevoie in an artillery wagon which was carrying a large number of percussion fuses and springs for them, and at 7:45 a tremendous cannonade broke out as I passed through Argenteuil to St. Denis. Here there are no less than 3 bridges destroyed one of which is temporarily restored but the long iron girder railway bridge lays in a long irregular string in the river except where one of the 5 spans has been removed for navigation. This bridge is on iron columns filled with concrete and it is curious to note the way it was destroyed. St. Denis has suffered much, churches, houses and pavements smashed by bombs. The cannonade this evening was the heaviest I have heard and they were at it until far into the night when I am writing this. They are threatening to stop the railway so I am about to leave, as the thing may drag on for weeks."

While this letter is very long we think it important as it gives an idea about the trip from Paris to Versailles and back again.

Figure IX-5 illustrates the only known outgoing letter from the Huillard and Marquet concern in Paris. Since their incoming mail was handled by M. Grelly of Montreuil sur Bois (near Vincennes), it is only reasonable to assume M. Grelly took this letter out on his return trip home and posted it at Vincennes. This will be mentioned again later as 4 Grelly (Huillard) letters are to be covered in this chapter.

A novel method of getting mail out of Paris was mentioned in a recent Soluphil sale (3). Writing to Argenteuil the author said his letter was going by water. It was posted in Rouen May 1 and arrived on the third. It would seem apparent it went down the Seine to the port of Rouen by boat. As mentioned before he gives the name of M. Weiss in Auber-villiers for return mail.

We can now add the following to our list of posting places for Paris mail: Auxerre to Paris train (Figure IX-6) Villemonble, now spelled Viullemombe (Figure IX-7); Le Mensil-St. Denis, now known as Mensil-en-Thelle, Andressy and Brunoy.

In addition we know of 2 examples of mail from government organizations in Paris which bear the red cursive handstamps which entitle them to free-franking. One is from the Caisse d'amortissement (Figure IX-8). It was posted in Versailles April 6. The other was from



Figure IX-5: 9 covers are known sent to Huillard & Marquet care of Grelly in Montreuil s/Bois (near Vincennes). This is the only cover we have seen going from Paris to be posted in Vincennes, obviously by Grelly.

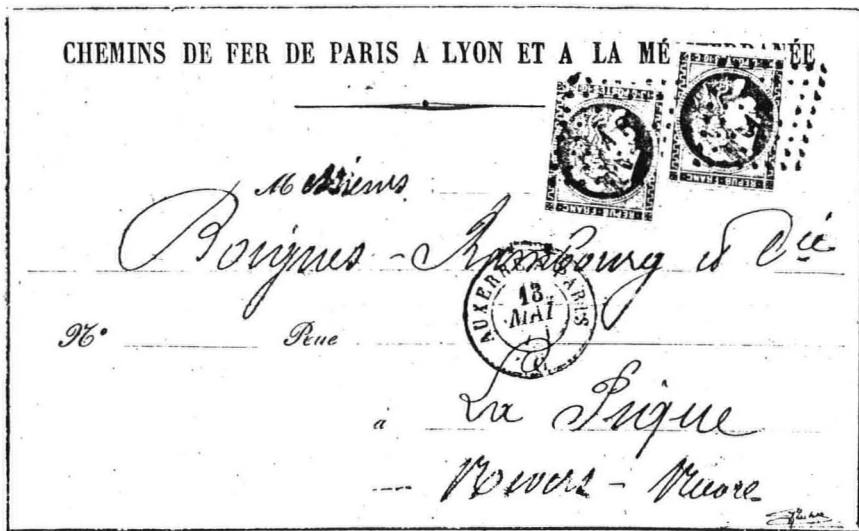


Figure IX-6: From Paris and posted on the Auxerre to Paris train.



Figure IX-7: Tracings of the cancellations on the Paris cover posted in Villemonble, now spelled Villemomble.

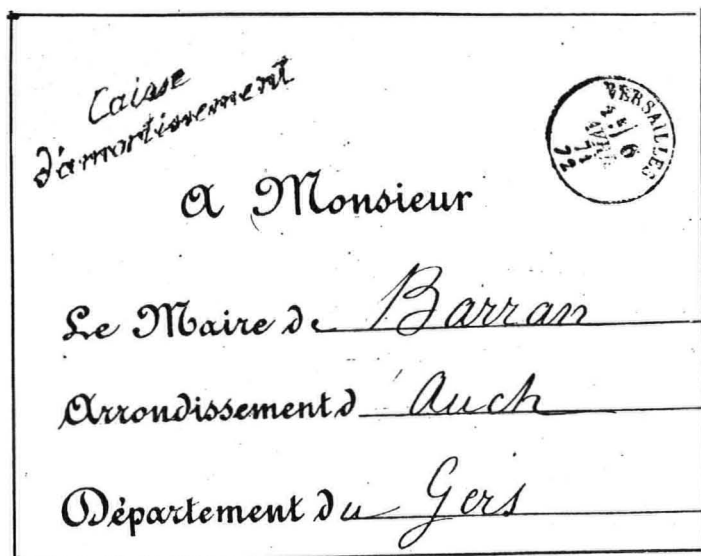


Figure IX-8: Red cursive "Caisse d'amortissement" allowed for free-franking. Brought from Paris to mail at Versailles.

the Ministère des Finances. The date of the Versailles handstamp is illegible but it has an arrival backstamp of Grenoble, May 19.

Mail Into Paris:

In Chapter IV we listed two covers handled by the Bureau de Correspondance agency. One more has surfaced (Figure IX-9). Whereas the others used a printed Bureau de Cor-



Figure IX-9: From London to Bureau de Correspondance, Bureau Restante in St. Denis to be delivered to Mr. Wiese, 86 rue de Richelieu in Paris. 10c French stamp cancelled by this agency with a blue rectangle.

responsance envelope, this one is handwritten. The agency cancellation on the stamp is an 11x14mm rectangle in blue. It appears to have a design inside the rectangle, but this is not legible.

We also listed one letter handled by the Choudens agency. The Levett exhibit (Philex-France '89) showed two more. Both were addressed to Erard in Paris. Both had a 10c Siege Issue cancelled in Paris, one April 29, the other May 2. The April letter had an oval Choudens cachet on the back, the other a Choudens sticker.

We now know of two more letters addressed to Bac making the total of 20 covers. One was posted in Chalons-s-Saone April 21. It was addressed to Paris but was forwarded in Versailles to St. Mandé. The other was from Chatillon s/Seine May 23 and was addressed directly to St. Mandé. The Paris address of G. Bac was 12 rue Portefoin. We have just noticed the letter from La Roquette prison which we showed in Figure VII-1 is addressed to M. Barque, porte au foin 12. Coincidence??

From the Huillard/Marquet correspondence we have found 4 more covers. One is a simple Paris-for-Paris letter and another we have already illustrated in Figure IX-5. The other two were sent to Grelly in Montreuil s/Bois, near Vincennes. Figure IX-10 shows the one from Strassburg which was cancelled April 20, although the date to the left of the stamp looks more like April 10. There is no Vincennes arrival marking but the manuscript R16 was the usual manner of Huillard in noting the arrival date. The other letter was from Caen, the letter being dated May 9. It was franked by two 20c stamps due to confusion about the postal rate. This brings the total known from this correspondence to 11.

Figure IX-11 is a Correspondence Card from a French soldier who was a prisoner of the Germans. The German postmark is May 31 which is a bit late for the Commune, but it was sent to Monsieur Desloop in St. Denis to forward to Mme. Bauduer. Since no Paris address is given, we assume the recipient was a family friend.

Finally we show (Figure IX-12) a letter addressed on a printed form to a member of the National Assembly with their special date stamp of May 5. We classify it as Mail-Into-Paris because Rue du Bac is a Paris address.

Paris For Paris:

We have found three more covers with an anchor cancellation bringing the total known from this survey to 16. One is from the Holder sale, dated 1 Paris 1 May 18 to a soldier at Passy. Another was in the Roumet sale of Oct., 1990 and was dated Paris 60 for M. Berger. The third carries the date stamp of 4 Paris 4 May 16 and is addressed to Neurmerik.

Finally we have a rare "Bloody Week" cover (Figure IX-13). It carries the cachet of the Ambulance, Militaire Annex with no other markings to indicate free-franking. It was postmarked at the main post office May 23, the last day of its operation under the Com-



Figure IX-10: Doubly-franked letter from Strassburg to Huillard & Marquet via Grelly. 2 décimes French tax.



Figure IX-11: From prisoner of war to Mon. Desloep in St. Denis to transmit to Mme. Bauduer. Posted after the Revolution but the prisoner did not know that. Gives us an additional agent in our listings.

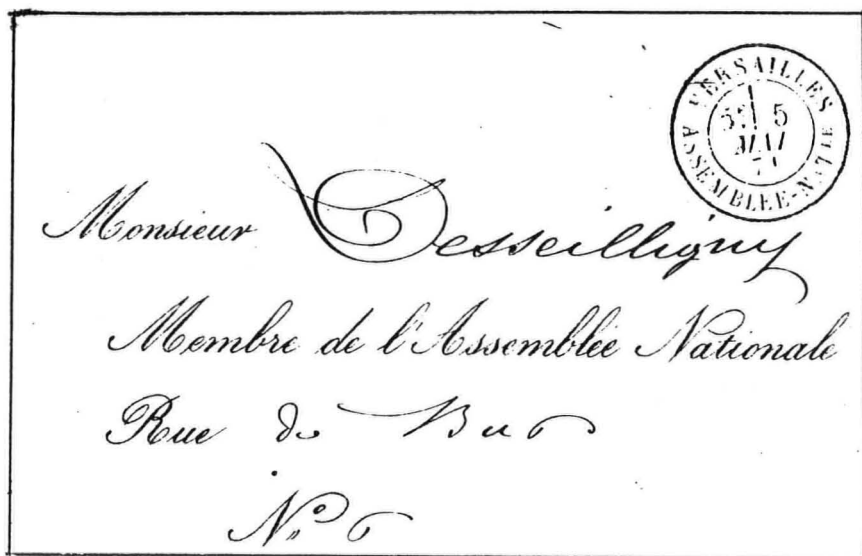


Figure IX-12: Special National Assembly date stamp and addressed to a Paris address. Since the Assembly was meeting in Versailles, this seems a little strange.

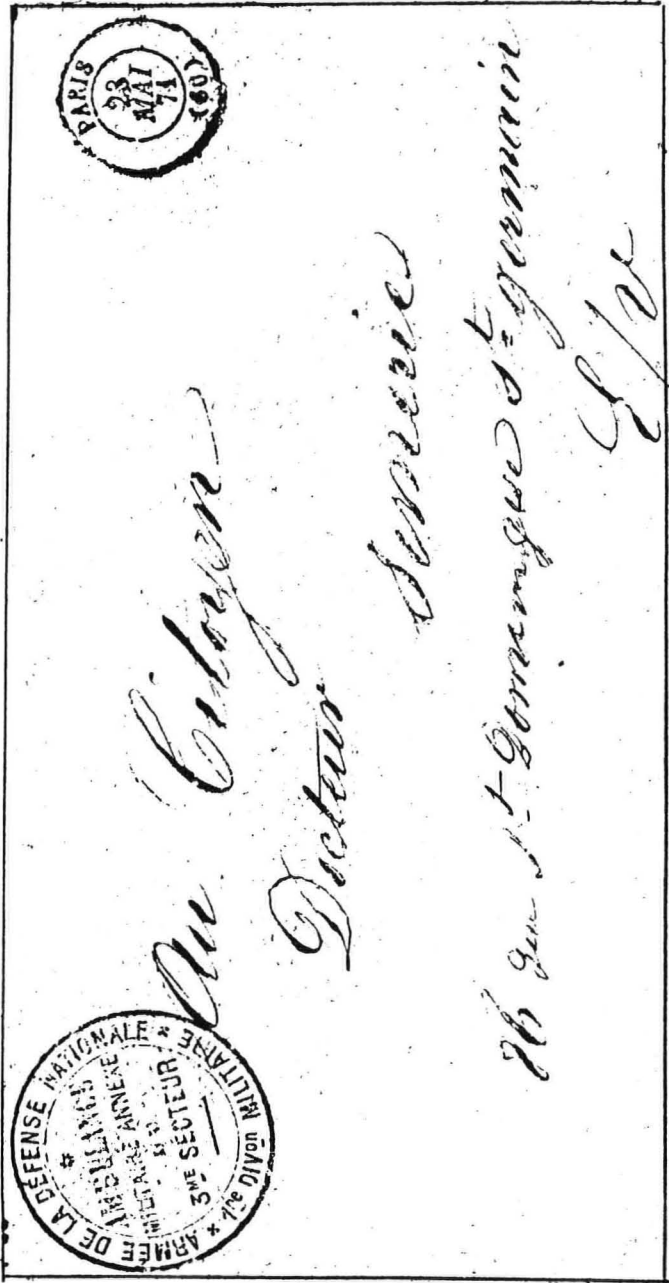


Figure IX-13: Bloody Week cover cancelled at the main post office the day before it was recaptured.

mune personnel. It should be compared with Figure II-7 which was postmarked there May 24.

Prisoner's Mail:

In Chapter VII we illustrated the Bon-à-Delivrer/Verifié cachet (Figure VII-11) which we knew about from Parlange, but had never heard of one being sold. Now we own two, one of which is pictured in Figure IX-14. Neither cover has a good strike of this handstamp.

Finally, at PhilexFrance '89 we were able to see the Emile Fortin cover described by Chanaryn and now owned by John Levett (see Chapter VII). From the illustration by Chanaryn we were not able to determine the denomination of the 2 stamps on the envelope. They are a 15c Peace and Commerce and a 40c Siege Issue.



Figure IX-14: From Paris to a prisoner on board a ship at Cherbourg. Even though the Bon à Deliverer/Verifié strike is a poor one, it is one of the only two we have seen.

(to be continued)

THE EARLY CIVIL POSTMARKS OF ALGERIA

by Lawrence H. Lambert

This article presents a summarized classification and chronology of the earliest French postmarks of Algeria. It deals only with the marks which serve to identify individual post offices. Specifically, these marks are the post office name stamp, with or without a date, and the numeral killer cancel. The period begins with the French Occupation in 1830, and extends to the departmentalization of Algeria in 1875.

French intervention in Algeria took root in the seventeenth century, when Algiers became one of the early strongholds for Barbary Coast pirates. Several European naval expeditions against these pirates, including both the French and the English, met with little success. Serious trouble between France and Algiers began in 1827, when the Dey of Algiers struck the French consul across the face. This led to a French blockade of the city of Algiers, which proved to be ineffectual. A second outbreak occurred in 1829, when a French ship carrying a flag of truce was fired upon in the harbor of Algiers. Following this second insult, a French expedition was mounted, and on June 14, 1830, French troops landed near Sidi Ferruch. On July 5, 1830, Algiers capitulated.

The French Occupation which immediately followed was a limited one, involving only the principal seaports. With political unrest in France, the French troops in Algeria remained in a defensive position; by 1835, the French dominion still extended to only a few coastal towns. However, the Algerian natives continued to attack; and thus provoked, the French were gradually motivated to conquer the whole of Algeria. The conquest was not completed until 1847, with the surrender of Abd-el-Kader. Subjugation and insurrection in the interior continued as late as 1871. The occupation of the oases of the Sahara took place 1891-1906.

From as early as the middle of the nineteenth century onward, Algeria was treated as an integral part of France, and not as a colony. For this reason, Algeria's early postal history is closely linked with that of France. Post office circular date cachets and killer cancels were duplicates of the types used in France. Particularly for the classic period, the student and collector of French postal history can hardly be neglectful of the postal history of Algeria.

At the same time, Algerian postal history can stand alone as a special study area, and has interest and complication enough to provide a lifetime of enjoyment. Unfortunately, the study of Algerian postal history in the United States is not popularized or encouraged. This is due to the facts that there are no writings in English which could be considered as covering the basic topic, and that archival material is in France, as are most of the important collectibles. Thus, most of us find it difficult to structure our studies and to make any progress or contribution.

Of primary importance to the structured study of postal history is a classification of the postal markings. For Algeria, post office cancellations on the stamps and covers have long been classified into standard types. Each cancel type is unique to a particular class of postal facility and, loosely, to a particular period of time. In this article, the cancel nomenclature developed by Langlois and Bourselet is used in preference to the numerical system used by most French authors, because it provides a better mechanism for inter-relating types and sub-types, as well as a better basis for extension.

The earliest French postal marking used in Algeria was a military mark, ARMÉE EXPÉDRE D'AFRIQUE. This mark dates from 1830 and was used for civil mail as well. The mark is known surmounted by a letter A through E, and F supposedly existed. The color is commonly black but A is known in red and B and E in blue. It is also known with the letters P.P., or CHARGÉ, below. The letters A through E on this mark are known to have been used at certain cities during certain periods of time. Thus, the city of origin can usually be determined from the mark. A copy of this mark with A above, in three lines, is shown on cover in Figure 1. Though replaced by a civil postmark in 1835, this military mark continued to be used at least until 1836. Covers bearing this mark are somewhat rare, but obtainable.

In 1835, a double-circle cachet with date, of medium size, Type A, came into use. The name of the office was at the top, and at the bottom, in parenthesis, was the label POSS. D'AFR. This cachet was used at five offices, Algiers, Oran, Bone, Bougie (Bugie), and beginning in 1838, Constantine. The cancel for Bugie had the letters F and R transposed, and

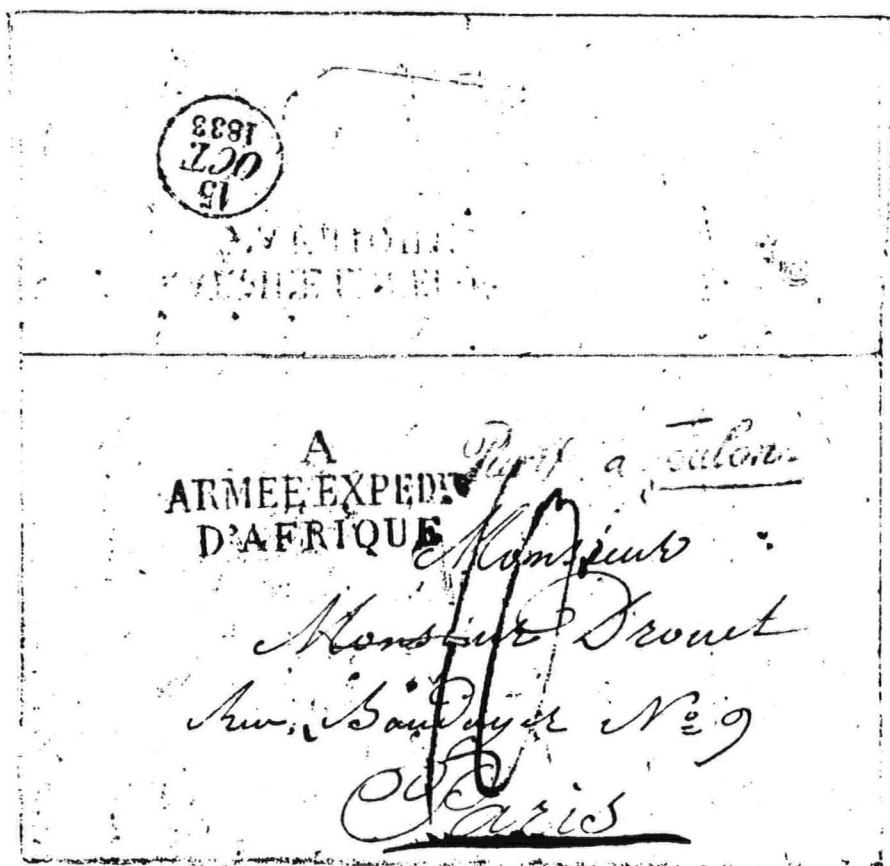


Figure 1: Cover showing the earliest French postal marking used in Algeria. The Paris receiving cancel shown on the folded up reverse is in blue. This cover was disinfected, hence the weakly struck PURIFIE A TOULON in vermillion and the knife slits showing on both the face and the reverse.

read POSS. D'ARF. These cachets were in general usage for about five years; however, usage at Oran continued until 1853. Covers with cancel Type A are only a little less scarce than the earliest mark. An example of cancel Type A, along with all other standard types to which this article refers, is shown in Figure 2.

In 1839, offices began using a small double-circle dated cancel, Type C. On this cachet, the name of the post office was at the top, and appearing at the bottom, after nearly ten years of Occupation, was the first official postal usage of the name ALGERIE. At post offices providing the most services (**Recettes**), this was the only cachet in use for nearly 30 years, until 1868. Due to a long period of usage by a relatively large number of the biggest post offices, cancel Type C is easily obtained on cover.

The earliest postal marking for offices having a lesser status than **Recettes**, **Bureaux Distribution**, was a straight-line mark, in two lines, Type B, showing the office name on the first line in slant letters, lower case except the initial capital; and on the second line, ALGERIE. This mark is often accompanied by a circular postmark bearing only the date. Type B was first used in Algeria about 1840, with the opening of the first two **Bureaux**



PC



A



GC



C

Lambèse
ALGERIE

B



C2



E



D



E2



E4

OUED ATHMENIA

S



E3

Figure 2: Early cancel types of Algeria.

Distribution, Mers-el-Kebir and Setif; though its usage at Setif is not documented. About 25 post offices used cancel Type B during the 1840's and early 1850's. Type B was used by secondary offices sometimes serving less than 300 Europeans. Thus, they are rare on cover.

It was not until 1854 that a circular cachet with date, Type C2, came into use for the Bureaux Distribution, superseding Type B. Type C2 was exactly like the Type C being used by the Recettes, except it had additionally a circle of dots around the outer edge. Nearly as many offices used Type C2 as used Type C; however, due to the smaller size of the Bureaux Distribution and the shorter period of usage, Type C2 is much more scarce, and difficult to obtain on cover.

In the pre-stamp period, prior to 1849, a single type A, B or C postmark will usually be the only identifying mark of an originating post office to appear on a cover. Indeed, this holds true until 1852 when the numeral killer cancel came into use. Even after 1852, many letters were stampless, because prepayment was not immediately accepted. Type C2, which came into usage five years after the advent of stamps, may still be found on covers which were not prepaid. This is also true for even later types. Due to a low popularity of stampless covers, as opposed to the high demand for the numeral killer cancels, collectors can often purchase stampless covers with nice cancels at a fraction of the price demanded for a franked cover.

Following the advent of stamps in France in 1849, there came into general usage first the **grille** killer, then in 1852 the lozenge-shaped killer cancel with small numerals (**Petits Chiffres**). The original list of Petits Chiffres assigned for use in Algerian post offices was 3710-3739. Later numbers assigned were 3751-3764, 3774-3777, 3793-3795, 3846, 3912, 4005, 4007, 4104, 4106, 4116, 4120, 4122, 4187, 4189, 4190, 4361-4374, and 4446-4448. Including name changes, there were 81 Algerian post offices which used the Petits Chiffres (PC).

Though the Petits Chiffres did provide identification of the post office by the unique number in the center, it was intended to be used in conjunction with the contemporary cachet bearing the post office name. On Algerian covers, the Petits Chiffres should be accompanied by cancel Type C for Recettes, and by Type B, or after 1854, C2, for Distributions. An exception is Oran, where cancel Type A was used for almost two years after the advent of the Petits Chiffres. Usually, the cancels were applied to a clear area of the envelope so they could be read, while the Petits Chiffres was normally applied only to the stamps.

Officially on January 1, 1863, though earlier usage is known, the large-numeral killer (**Grands or Gros Chiffres**) replaced the Petits Chiffres. The original list of Gros Chiffres allocated for usage in Algeria was 5000-5078. Subsequent numbers were 5081, 5093, 5108-5117, 5120, 5122-5128, 5130-5138, 5140-5152, and 5157-5172. By April, 1876, when the use of a separate killer was officially discontinued, about 150 Algerian post offices had used the Gros Chiffres (GC). See Figure 3 for an example of the correct usage of the killer cancel and the post office name cachet on a cover.

In 1868, after the change from Petits Chiffres to Gros Chiffres, three new types of cachets with date were introduced. For Recettes the new types were D and E. For the Distributions the new type was E2. Type D was used by about 15 offices, but the largest offices, Algiers, Bone, Constantine, and Oran did not use this type. It is not particularly rare on cover. Type E for Recettes and E 2 for Distributions were both used by a large number of offices and use at some extended far beyond 1876. Type E is the most common cancel of the entire period, and Type E2 is not very rare.

Types E3 and E4 were not used during the period 1830-1876, but are included here because they are variations of Types E2 and E. These types came into usage about 1902, at which time most canceling devices in use had their center dater changed to an all-numeral display. These two cancels are examples of a very late usage of types which should have been replaced in 1875.

During the first five years of the Gros Chiffres, the accompanying office name cachets were Types C or C2, which had also been used with the Petits Chiffres. By this time, Type B had been replaced. After 1868, the new cachets, Types D, E, and E2, were also used with the Gros Chiffres. Both the GC's and the earlier PC's are eagerly sought by collectors, on loose stamps as well as on cover. For a few common offices, they are easily obtained; for most others they are at a premium.

In 1860, a new class of postal facility, which did not use the PC or the GC, came into



Figure 3: Cover showing the Gros Chiffres of Dellys (5024) struck across the stamp, and an accompanying Type E cancel.

existence. This was the **Distribution Entrepôt**, which used cancel Type S. Cancel Type S is a straight-line mark bearing only the name of the office, without ALGERIE. The procedure at these small auxiliary bureaus was to apply their cancel Type S to the cover, usually across the stamp, and send it to the Recette served by the auxiliary. There the Recette's circular-date-cachet, and sometimes the killer, was applied. Cancel Type S is rare throughout the entire period 1860-1876, and a little less rare later. It continued in usage until the 1890's.

In addition to the standard types of cancels depicted in Figure 2, there were a few unique or special cancels used in Algeria during the period. These are illustrated in Figure 4. The Philippeville cancel illustrated is much earlier than the cancel Type D which it resembles. Its origin is uncertain. The Boîte Mobile cancel is concurrent with Type C, to which it is similar. The Pont de l'Isser and Batna cancels are unique to those offices. The Batna mark was used 1848-1849, and the Pont de l'Isser mark as early as 1871. Little is known of the cancel bearing TLEMCEN in the base and ALGERIE at the top. These unique cancels are all very rare. The cancel with the scalloped shape is a telegraph cancel, used at a large number of offices.

Algeria had long been officially divided into the departments of Alger, Oran, and Constantine, when in 1875 the postal administration decided to reflect this change in the cancel types. From this time onward, the department name was to replace ALGERIE on the postmarks, although this did not happen abruptly. Two new cancel types of 1875 reflected this name change, though in every other aspect the new cancels were like Types E and E2, except for minor differences in circle sizes.

If the system had worked exactly as described, the study of the postal history would have been considerably simplified. It did not. In many instances, old cancel types continued in use long after new canceling devices had been issued. Some of the numeral killers, particularly the GC, were used by more than one office, due to changed names, closings, and transfers. With the change to Gros Chiffres, post offices were requested to send their Petits Chiffres cancelers to the office having the corresponding GC, to avoid wasting them. Thus, the PC saw limited and specialized usage at some offices, right along with the GC.



Figure 4: Special or unique early cancels of Algeria.

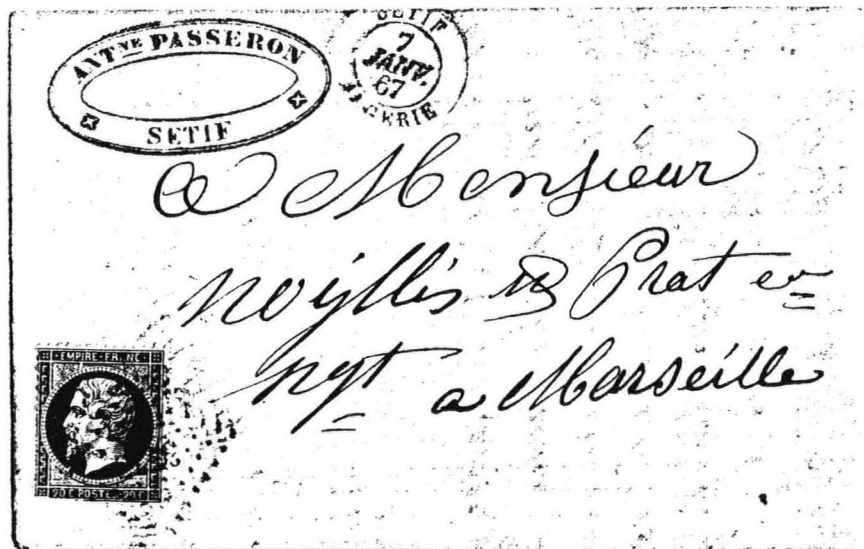


Figure 5: An example of a very late usage of the PC. Cancel Type C of Setif dated 1867 is accompanied by the PC 3735 struck upside down on the stamp.

Some offices, notably Ain Beida and Setif, failed to transfer their PC cancelers and continued to use them. Because of the complications, the city of origin of some of the numeral killer cancels on loose stamps may be indeterminate.

The entire period 1830-1875 was marked by expansion toward the south, across the Atlas Mountains and into the Sahara. Along with the various military markings, we have the relatively rapid opening of many new civil post offices. From five post offices in 1835, the number grew to 30 by 1852, to 88 by 1863, and to 160 by 1876. There were eight primary

cancel types in use during the period, and some offices used as many as four of these, in addition to the two killers. There were three classes of postal facility, the Recette, the Bureau Distribution, and the Distribution Entrepôt. As the latter two types grew, they were promoted to a higher class and took on other cancel types. Dates of opening of the individual offices are known in most cases. Dates of promotion to a higher class are sometimes not known. The period was also represented by the opening of a few small offices which were closed after a few years, some without leaving a trace of the cancel type used. Some of the PC's and GC's have never been seen. Such conditions provide interest to the collector, as well as a challenge to extend the knowledge of the topic.

The change in 1875, to recognize the departments on the cancels, virtually coincided with the official discontinuation of the Gros Chiffres in 1876. This point in time marks a logical conclusion for the first period of Algerian postal history.

PETITS CHIFFRES OF ALGERIA

with the associated post office names

3710 ALGER	3738 TENEZ	4005 SOUKARAS
3711 LARBA	3739 TLEMCEN	4007 LAGHOUE
3712 ARZEW	3751 EL ARROUCH	4104 JEMMAPES
3713 AUMAËLE	3752 BISKRA	4106 LA REGHAÏA
3714 BATNA	3753 BOGHAR	4116 AIN-BEIDA
3715 BLIDAH	3754 LA CALLE	4120 PONT-DE-LOUED-DJER
3716 BONE	3755 GUDIEL	4122 STAOUELY
3717 BOUFFARICK	3756 GUELMA	4187 GASTONVILLE
3718 BOUGIE	3757 LAMBESE	4189 LALLA-MAGHRNIA
3719 CHERCHELL	3758 MILAH	4190 TIZI-OUZOU
3720 COLEAH	3759 SAIDA	4361 BOU-TLELIS
3721 CONSTANTINE	3760 SMENDOU	4362 LE TLELAT
3722 DELLYS	3761 ST. DENIS-DU-SIG	4363 AIN-TEMOUCHEN
3723 DELY-IBRAHIM	3762 TEBESSA	4364 RELIZANE
3724 DJIDJELLI	3763 TENIET-EL-HAAD	4365 ASSI-AMEUR
3725 DOUERA	3764 TIARET	4366 ABOUKIR
3726 MASCARA	3774 EL AFFROUN	4367 AIN-TEDELES
3727 MEDEAH	3774 MOUZAI-AVILLE	4368 LA STIDIA
3728 MERS-EL-KEBIR	3775 AIN-BENIAN	4369 LE FONDOUCK
3729 MILLANAH	3775 BOU-MEDFA	4370 KOUBA
3730 MOSTAGANEM	3776 BOU-MEDFA	4371 FORT-NAPOLEON
3731 NEMOURS	3777 MARENGO	4372 DRA-EL-MIZAN
3732 ORAN	3793 MISERGHIN	4373 ROUBA
3733 ORLEANSVILLE	3794 PHILIPPEVILLE	4374 CHERAGAS
3734 PHILIPPEVILLE	3794 ST. CLOUD-D'ALGERIE	4446 GERYVILLE
3735 SETIF	3795 VALMY-D'ALGERIE	4447 QUED-EL-HAMMAM
3736 SIDI-BEL-ABBES	3846 PENTHIEVRE	4448 SEBDON
3737 STORA	3912 LA MAISON-CARREE	

NOTES ON PC's and GC's

There are no known examples of four PC's. These are numbers 3758, 3776, 4374, and 4448. In addition, PC 3775 has never been found used at Ain Benian. PC 3775 was officially assigned to Ain Benian, but was used by Bou Medfa. Bou Medfa's officially assigned PC, 3776, has never been found.

There are no known examples of GC's 5002 from Ain Benian, 5020 from Cheragas, 5003 from Gudiel, 5045 from Milah, 5132, 5149, or 5167.

Five PC's continued to be used at Algerian post offices after 1862. These are 3735, 3753, 3794 at Philippeville, 4007, and 4116.

Prior to assignment to Algerian post offices, two GC's had been assigned to French offices abroad. GC 5093 had been used at Metelin, Turkey, and GC 5081 had been assigned to Bale, Switzerland, though never used there.

Where a PC or a GC was used at two offices, these offices were at different locations, except for two cases which involved only changes in names. These changes in names are Fort Napoleon to Fort National (GC 5030) and Ouled Mimoun to Lamoricière (GC 5126).

Where two post offices used the same PC or GC, the usage is consecutive rather than simultaneous, except in one instance. This involves usage of PC 3794 at both Philippeville and St. Cloud-d'Algérie. Philippeville, for reasons unknown, used PC 3794 in addition to its officially assigned PC 3734. PC 3794 was the number officially assigned to St. Cloud-d'Algérie, and used there.

GROS CHIFFRES OF ALGERIA

with the associated post office names

5000	ABOUKIR	5045	MILAH	5120	EL-KANTOURS
5001	AIN-BEIDA	5045	COL-DES-BENI-AICHA	5120	BOU-SFER
5002	AIN-BENIAN	5046	MILIANAH	5122	LES TREMBLES
5002	ST. CHARLES	5047	MISERGHIN	5123	PERREGAUX
5003	AINTEDELES	5048	MOSTAGANEM	5124	BIZOT
5004	AINTEMOUCHEN	5049	MOUZIAVILLE	5125	BORDJ-BOU-ARRERIDJ
5005	ALGER	5050	NEMOURS	5126	OULED-MIMOUN
5006	LARBA	5051	ORAN	5126	LAMORICIERE
5007	EL ARROUCH	5052	ORLEANSVILLE	5127	GAR-ROUBAN
5008	ARZEW	5053	Oued-EL-HAMMAM	5128	DAYA
5009	ASSI-AMEUR	5054	PENTHIEVRE	5130	Oued-EL-ALLEG
5010	AUMALE	5055	PHILIPPEVILLE	5131	EL AFFROUN
5011	BATNA	5056	BOU-MEDFA	5131	BOU-SAADA
5012	BISKRA	5056	PONT-DE-L'Oued-DJER	5132	BOU-SAADA
5013	BLIDAH	5057	LA REGHAIA	5133	KROUBS
5014	BOGHAR	5057	LALMA	5134	BOUGUIRAT
5015	BONE	5058	RELIZANE	5135	L'HILLIL
5016	BOUTLELIS	5059	ROUBA	5136	AMMI-MOUSSA
5017	BOUFFARICK	5060	SAIDA	5137	SIDI-ALI-BEN-YOUB
5018	BOUGIE	5061	SEBDOU	5138	Oued-ZENATI
5019	LA CALLE	5062	SETIF	5140	AFFREVILLE
5020	CHERAGAS	5063	SIDI-BEL-ABBES	5141	DUPERRE
5020	PALESTRO	5064	SMENDOU	5142	BOGHARI
5021	CHERCHELL	5065	SOUKARAS	5143	AKBOU
5022	COLEAH	5066	STAOUELI	5144	KHENCHELA
5023	CONSTANTINE	5067	LA STIDIA	5145	ZEMMORAH
5024	DELLYS	5068	STORA	5146	BORDJ-MENAIEL
5025	DELY-IBRAHIM	5069	ST. CLOUD-D'ALGERIE	5147	LA CHIFFA
5026	DJIDJELLI	5070	ST. DENIS-DU-SIG	5148	REBEVAL
5027	DOUERA	5071	TEBESSA	5149	LA SENIA
5028	DRA-EL-MIZAN	5072	TENEZ	5150	Oued-ATHMENIA
5029	FONDOUCK	5073	TENIET-EL-HAAD	5151	BIRKADEM
5030	FORT-NAPOLEON	5074	LE TLELAT	5152	PONTEBA
5030	FORT-NATIONAL	5075	TLEMCEN	5157	Oued-SLY
5031	GASTONVILLE	5076	TIARET	5158	Oued-FODDA
5031	ROBERTVILLE	5077	TIZI-OUZOU	5159	AZIB-ZAMOUN
5032	GERYVILLE	5078	VALMY	5160	ATTATBA
5033	GUDIEL	5081	BENI-MANCOUR	5161	AIN-ARNAT
5033	GUYOTVILLE	5093	AIN-EL-ARBA	5162	SIDI-BRAHIM
5034	GUELMA	5108	SIDI-MOUSSA	5163	Oued-RIOU
5035	JEMMAPES	5109	DJELFA	5164	HENNAYA
5036	KOUBA	5110	BOU-KANIFIS	5165	AIN-FEKARIN
5037	LAGHOuat	5111	COLLO	5166	BOURKIKKA
5038	LALLA-MAGHRNIA	5112	DUZERVILLE	5167	SIDI-ALI
5039	LAMBESE	5113	MONDOVI	5168	BLAD-EL-HADJADY
5040	LA MAISON-CARREE	5114	BARRAL	5169	BORDJ-BOUIRA
5041	MARENGO	5115	HUSSEIN-DEY	5170	ARMEE-FRANCAISE
5042	MASCARA	5116	BIRTOUTA	5171	BENI-SAF
5043	MEDEAH	5117	LE GUE-DE-CONSTANTINE	5172	BIR-RABALOU
5044	MERS-EL-KEBIR	5117	BERROUAGHIA		

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(to be continued)

THE 1870 BALLOON "L'ARMÉE DE BRETAGNE"

Consequences of an Error Correction

by Ernst M. Cohn

As everyone knows, the "Armée de Bretagne" (AdB) was chartered by the Telegraph Service and left Paris in the early morning of 7 December 1870, carrying mail bags weighing some 400 kg. Anyhow, that is what virtually all reports say that have appeared during the last century or so. But--it ain't necessarily so.

An inquiry about the balloon "Le Franklin" sent me to my index about the balloons of the siege of Paris.

There it referred to an entry that tells that this was the first of the Godard balloons with an equatorial parachute, i.e., a band of fabric around the circumference of the (roughly) spherical balloon, which was supposed to act like a parachute in case the balloon dropped suddenly. Whether or not it did is not clear.

It also referred to an entry in the newspaper *Le Figaro* (7 Dec. 1870, p. 2, c. 4) that says the following:

"December 5 will have been the Day of Balloons.

"Yesterday, at 1 o'clock (in the morning) the Brothers Godard launched from the Orléans railway station a new (kind of) balloon-parachute, the "Franklin," piloted by the sailor Pierre Marcid (Marcia), their student, who was accompanied by a higher officer, charged by General Trochu with a mission (for the government).

"The basket carried, furthermore, as we said, a load of homing pigeons and all that remained of left-over letters from the post office.

"This launch, favored by magnificent weather and a good breeze from ENE, permits the hope that our voyagers have been able to land somewhere near Le Mans.

"At five o'clock in the morning, departure of a second balloon, chartered by the telegraph administration, and which carried not a single letter.

"Finally, in the night of 5 to 6 December, a third balloon was to leave, carrying all the correspondence that had accumulated at Rue Jean-Jacques-Rousseau (where the main post office was located).

"At the moment at which we write this, the balloon in question is inflated, ready to leave, awaiting only the latest orders of the government of the defense."

A check of any recent list of launches shows that only the "Franklin" left on the 5th. A balloon of the Telegraph Service, of which there were only 6 or 7 altogether, left on the 7th, as did the "Denis Papin." The *Figaro* clearly meant that the Telegraph's "Armée de Bretagne" had left on the 5th. That the "Papin" was ready on the morning of the 6th does not mean, of course, that it left that day. The "latest orders" may well have delayed it by one day. But what about that "AdB?"

It turns out that all available contemporary sources agreed, without exception, that that particular balloon left Paris in the early morning of the 5th. (The details are to be published in *Doc. Phil.*) But that is not all.

No one knows how much personally entrusted mail, if any, the two balloonists carried. Early sources are agreed, however, that the "AdB" did not carry any post office mail bags. So the statement about 400 kg. of mail is pure invention.

It is not certain who committed the errors, and when. In any case, they do not occur in the table of launches published by Tissandier, but are found in the table of the Mangins and in Steenackers' book. They have been faithfully cited ever since. In his second book, LePileur even tried to differentiate between "Papin" and "Bretagne" mail, but all examples are "Papin" mail.

We must correct not just the amounts of mail cited by later authors but also the number of mail bags listed by some. Furthermore, the oft-repeated statement that so-and-so many balloons were mail balloons is questionable.

We simply do not know enough to state the precise number of balloons that carried postal mail bags, and not just because of the "AdB." There are conflicting statements about other balloons, such as the "Piper I" and the "Bretagne," which cannot be resolved on the basis of currently available, fragmentary data.

The statement borne out by the data published in a statistical study, (1) and for which contemporary proof also exists, is that the mail that accumulated daily, after the first few days of the siege, weighed about 20-30 kg.

Furthermore, as Chanaryn had found (but did not publish in detail), it is fairly certain that the average weight of a siege letter addressed to outside of Paris, at least after the first appeal by the post office to save weight, was somewhere near 1 gram and increased gradually during the siege to perhaps 3 grams.

Those semi-quantitative data mean that the "Général Uhrich" (launched on 18 November) carried only about half as much mail (80 kg.) as had accumulated between the time of the departure of the "Daguerre" (12 November) and the "Uhrich." This fact, too, was pointed out in that statistical study. A simple consequence is that much so-called "Uhrich" mail actually was carried by the "Archimède" (21 November), something that neither dealers nor collectors have understood for the most part.

As a result of discovering the errors committed in connection with the "Armée de Bretagne," a search was made through the available early sources concerning information about all other balloons of the siege of Paris. As far as they are concerned, the launch data in modern lists are correct. There is still the possibility that additional information may turn up that will require further corrections and/or that will clear up some of the doubtful information.

(1) E.M. Cohn, "Les Ballons Montés Du Siege De Paris," *Bull., Soc. des Amis du Musée Postal*, No. 30 (1970), pp. 34-44.

Correction for:

CAPTAIN CECIL JOHNSON'S ROUND TRIP TO BESIEGED PARIS

by Ernst M. Cohn and Albert Schneider
(see F&CP #220 and #221)

The following information, kindly furnished by Mr. Richard F. Winter, corrects what was said on pp. 82-83 concerning the "2 CENTS" red postmark:

France and the U.S. agreed in 1869 to terminate their treaty on 1 January 1870. Because the French had a treaty with Great Britain and the U.S. had a treaty with Great Britain, it was possible to send a fully paid letter from France to the U.S. via England even before the next convention became effective on 1 August 1874. The rate from France was 70 centimes per 10g. Under the terms of the U.S.-G.B. treaty, the U.S. was credited with 2¢ on each letter. Thus the red 2/CENTS handstamp which was struck at London. No postage was due nor collected in the U.S.

Fully paid letters in the opposite direction by this same route were also possible but not announced until 28 October 1871. That rate, called "phantom" (Hargest) or "unannounced" (Starnes) rate, was 12¢ until 1 July 1870, when it became 10¢.

--E.M.C.

A Letter From Theo Van Gogh

Member James Polk sent us the following quote from a short story "Death of Picasso" in Guy Davenport's "Eclogues" (San. Franc. 1981). The narrator is describing a letter from Van Gogh's brother Theo as shown in Vincent Van Gogh's painting "Stilleven met uien." The philatelic detail is precise:

"The letter is from Theo. It is addressed *Poste Restante* because Theo knew that Vincent had been turned out of his house. The postman, whose portrait Vincent had done, would know where he was. That is the postman's mark, the numeral 67 in a broken circle. The R in an octagon means that it is a registered letter: it contained a fifty-franc note.

"There are two postage stamps on the letter, one green, one blue. The green one is a twenty-centime stamp of the kind issued between 1877 and 1900. The numeral 20 is in red. The only other French stamp with which Vincent's block of color might be identified is a straw-colored twenty-five centime one with the numeral 25 in yellow. Since the other stamp on the letter, however, is definitely the fifteen-centime of the same issue and is the only other blue stamp in use at the time, the post office in Paris would have affixed a forty-centime stamp to the letter rather than a fifteen and a twenty-five. There was no thirty-five centime denomination.

"So unless the bureau had run short of the forty-centime denomination and unless petty exactitude is a new thing in French post offices, the stamps are the blue fifteen-centime and green twenty-centime issues current at the time.

"The design on both, which Vincent made no attempt to indicate, was an ornate one: numeral in an upright tablet before a globe to the left of which stood an allegorical female figure with bay in her hair and bearing an olive branch. To the right, Mercurius in winged hat and sandals, and with the caduceus.

"A harmony in gold and green."



WILLIAM M. WAUGH, 1916-1990; Remembrances

Bill Waugh was first noticed in philately by Alvin Good (the Cleveland dealer who handled the famous Worthington sale) as the boy who "was so small he could just see the top of the table" but went on to Yale on a scholarship, won, in part, as a result of his general knowledge from stamp collecting. Graduating Yale '38, Bill made his way to Washington, DC where he was a civilian recruiter for the Civil Service Commission during WW II and then on the staff of Congressman Sam Coon (Oregon). In 1956, he joined the staff of the National Republican Congressional Committee rising to Director of Research in 1961 until his retirement in 1975. He worked at editing and writing for the Army Times Magazines from 1946 to last year.

I met Bill during the 1960 election campaign. He got me interested in the cancellations of Classic France and our Society. He had a fascination with world history and an encyclopedic memory for places and dates, first manifested in his 1970 *Waugh's Chronicles of British Wars and Campaigns 1815-1968*--undoubtedly one of the first handbooks by a postal historian to be purchased by the Library of CIA--and forerunner of the Waugh-Luft *Chronology of French campaigns* published by the FCPS and War Cover Club in 1984. His other FCPS publications were the *Department Conquis* handbook 1980, and *French Colonies Railway Mail* handbook 1987, Vaurie publications #3 and #7. In recent years, Bill turned his attention to the postal history of the Italian States, authoring a series of articles for the Postal History Journal and forming a gold medal collection of the material.

Bill loved stamps in quantity so he could sort for cancels and varieties, and said he would never go broke buying for 1/20th and selling in his job lot mail business at 1/10th. He and his partner, Bill Olcheski, with a world-wide stock and time for young collectors, were always sought out at local bourses. He was active in the Dolly Madison stamp club, and the local examiner for the Boy Scout merit badge.

In 1975, when Marc Martin was appointed US Commissioner to ARPHILA, Bill and I went along as pack mules (now called Assistants by APS). We decided to wear red jackets at the show so we could find each other on the exhibition floor, a tradition which I continue. It was our practice to spend the day looking at exhibits, and then at the hotel over

toddies comparing notes and preparing a show report for the FCP. See "ARPHILA Report," "CAPEX Capers," "London 1980 Show Report" and the like covering the eight internationals we attended together 1975-86. Bill loved to travel, and Stan Luft, Ray Gaillaguet, and others often joined us for excursions and sightseeing.

Bill believed that good friends shared more than just one interest. Some others that he shared were cats and West Virginia courthouses with Bob Stone, chess with John Swinkman, gardening with his neighbors (we always saved the election day poster stakes for his dahlias), and painting. His modest home in McLean, Virginia was always open to visiting philatelists. For many years he was active in Fairfax County politics, serving as Republican County Chairman, on the road-viewers, and on the County Water Authority. His Golden Rule of Politics was to be always agreeable, even if he had to disagree. His steady correspondence always included the precinct vote results after every election; and a highlight would be his description of a "cooking jag" when he prepared exotic dishes from his garden.

Memorial Service was held in Falls Church, Virginia on 1 Sept. For those of us in attendance and all his friends: Goodbye Bill, we will always remember you as a good buddy, traveling companion, and mentor.

--John E. Lievsay

GOODBYE SWEET PRINCE

It was a privilege to know Bill Waugh intimately. One cannot imagine a more congenial and friendly guy. He made friends at every turn with a generosity of spirit and kind, and they paid him back in endless favors and bounteous help with all sorts of chores and problems at his place--he was a positive genius in helping others who would trade their skills whether it was garden plowing, furnace or roof repairs, tree trimming, mowing, putting up storm windows, etc. (but he didn't shy from doing anything within his capabilities; he was a real practitioner of the "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" philosophy). Neighbors planted plots in his ample yard and traded their fruits and vegetables for some of Bill's produce (beans, squash, corn, melons, strawberries, lettuce, etc.)--and these were very affluent neighbors among whom his old country farm house seemed an anachronism. Bill's talents for cooperation were infectious. His genuine honest outgoing character captured the affection of all who came to know him.

He had no close relatives since his mother died, but numerous cousins, aunts and uncles with many of whom he kept in contact, visiting the ones in Ohio nearly every year where he owned or shared property.

With regard to stamps, Bill had a phenomenal knowledge of all the commoner kinds, gleaned from years experience in sorting thousands of lots, and an eagle eye for anything unusual. How he kept track of his 100s of little piles of sorted items amazed me. The hours we spent talking over stamps and covers we discovered and the places we had been to were precious, finding things of mutual interest in diverse areas. Most enjoyable were the trips we made together to stamp shows, especially Ameripex, Capex, Napex, Balpex, Interpex, Springpex, etc. After telling me about his work in West Virginia in WW II and comparing notes on the many places in West Virginia we had both been to, I arranged a two-week trip driving all over West Virginia to the towns he had worked in and to sights I had not visited in many years. He looked up the buildings he had worked in 40 years before. It gave him endless pleasure--the weather and the fall coloring were beautiful all the way. And I was seeing places I had loved in the mountains. It was a real nostalgia trip.

Another venture we shared several years ago was a RR excursion from Washington to Front Royal, Virginia on a train run by RR fan groups, hauled behind a giant former N&W steam loco of the type once used to pull heavy coal trains across the Allegheny Mountains, recently restored by the Norfolk Southern RR for excursions by RR clubs--it was a big day for me, an old RR buff, and for Bill, an interesting new experience.

I was happy to be able to help Bill with editorial problems for his several pamphlets that were reprinted from his FCP articles; studies which were important contributions that we and others had encouraged Bill to work on and have been well received by postal historians here and abroad, much to his satisfaction. These and his various Italian studies brought him a host of new friends and contacts with other collectors and specialists, greatly increasing his involvement and enjoyment of philatelic research.

--R.G. Stone

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS



► On 29 Sept. the 2.30 Cinquantenaire du Inst. Géographique Nationale was issued. On 6 Oct. the set of 4 Poissons: 2, 3, 4, 5 F, was issued and sold in complete sets at 14F. On 13 Oct. the block of 4 for the Bicentenaire of the Fr. Rev., 2.50 ea. but sold at 10F the block: G. Monge, Abbé Gregoire, Création du Drapeau Tricolor, Création des Depts. Françaises.

► During October the set of 6 Chansons Françaises was offered at 50F.

► On 12 Nov. the 2.30 Maurice Genevoix will be issued.

► From 2 July on, the tariffs for certain categories of bulk mailing were modified and for all these 4 new pre-cancelled stamps which are being issued in designs of types of musical instruments-1.46 Accordéon, 1.89 Musette de biniou, 3.06 tambourin, 5.10 La Vielle; sold only in multiples of 100, 1,000 min., but single copies can be had from the philatelic windows.

► The booklets of the current stamp design (Marianne) will have their covers and pubs changed whenever there is a change of the postage rates.

► For Andorre: 15 Sept. 2.30 Sechage du tabac a les Bons; 6 Oct. Fragment d'une peinture de Santa Caloma; 27 Oct. 3.20 ancient coin from Eglise de Sant Eulalia d'Auch.

► For Monaco:--on 4 Sept. a set of 4 micro-minerals of the Parc Nat. du Mercantour: 2.10 anatase, 2.30 albete, 3.20 rutile, 3.80 chlorite, 4.00 brookite, 6.00 quartz; 4 Sept. also: 30th World Congr. of the Intern. Assoc. of Civil Heliports: 3.00 Fontvieille, 5.00 Centre for the Congr.; 4 Sept.: 3.00 "Pierrot Ecrivain" painting, 3.00 Bicenten. of the discovery of homeopathic medicine (Hahnemann); 11 Sept.: set of pre-cancels--4 seasons of the pruniers, 5.00 Bicent. birth of G.F. Champollion, 2.30 Cham. du monde d'offshore, 4.00 26th Champ. de Monde de Petanque.

► For St. Pierre-Miquelon: 8 Oct. booklet of 10 of 2.30 Marianne surcharged St. P. Miquelon; 29 Oct. 3.00 Bateaux St. Pierre et St. Denis; 26 Nov. 1.70+2.30 triptypique Gen. de Gaulle.

► At the APS Stamp Show at Cincinnati Aug. 23-26, a number of our members were on hand: John Lievsay was on the jury. Others seen: Keith Wagner, Jay Smith (booth), Ed Grabowski, Walter Parshall, Bob Stone; Scott Gallager who exhibited his "Kentucky in the Civil War"; Barbara Mueller who gave a lecture on exhibiting essays and proofs.

► Last summer forged 0.50 Bequet stamps showed up at the Carré Marigny. They occur in singles and strips; and the postmark 6 Juin 1942 Paris 14 Bachelard is reported. The genuine Bequets were printed in recess but the fakes are in offset, the design and the letters are very definitely blurred.

STAMP PROGRAM FOR 1991

(Note: The 1990 program was completed with issue of "La Poste Course autour de Monde")

I. Stamps with Surtax:

1. Metiers de la Poste--Traitement du Courrier (for Journée du Timbre)
2. Personnages Célèbres: French poets of the 20th Cent.: P. Eluard, A. Breton, L. Aragon, F. Ponge, J. Prevert and R. Char.
3. Red Cross--Toulon
4. XVI Olympic Winter Games at d'Albertville and Savoie: 4 stamps--slalom, ice hockey, luge, curling (may not be issued until 1992).

II. Stamps Without Surtax:

1. Art Series: Works of Max Ernst, Geo. Seurat, Fr. Rouan, Rob. Mata.
2. Europa--theme of Europe Space program: Guiana and Space, Satellites by Direct TV.
3. Touristic Series: Pont de Chevre, Vallée de Munster, Orgues de Wasquehal, Village de Casenac.
4. Nature Series: Protected species--Ours des Pyrénées, Tortue terrestre, Castor, Martin-pecheur.
5. Commemoratives and Various:
 - a) Revolution Française: St. Just, La Tour d'Auvergne, Arbre de la Liberté, Bicent. Gendarmerie Nat.
 - b) Miscellaneous: Congrès FSPF--Perpignan, Gaston Febus, Marcel Cerdou, Expo. Philexjeunes, Cent. Ecole Spéc du Travaux Publics, 30th Anniv. Amnesty Intern., 10th Congress of World Forestry; 350 Anniv. Imprimerie Nat.; Bicent. death of Mozart; Cent. Champ. Intern. de Tennis; Le temps du Maroc; Auguste Renoir; 90th Anniv. Concours Lepine.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS AND CATALOGS

"French Colonies Revenues, Part IV, Far Eastern Colonies." 1990, 100pp, 486 illustr. spiral bd., card covers. #21.00 p.p.d. By Donald L. Duston, 1314 25th St., Peru, IL 61354. (A priced cat., includes Annam & Tonkin, Cambodia, Cochin China, Indochina, French India, Vietnam, post independ. issues incl. The last of series of catalogs of Fr. Col. revenues. Pts. I-IV still available: I No. Africa \$20, II Sub-Sah. Afr. \$25, III Mid-East \$22.50, V. Misc. and islands \$18, Monaco \$5.)

"La Desserte des Colonies Françaises par les Paquebots Régulières Britanniques et les Taxes Appliqués sur les Correspondances Non-affranchis en Provenance des Colonies de 1849 à 1863," by Henri Tristant. Spec. No. of Feuilles Marcophiles, 4th Trim. 1990. Price 145F + post 15F = 160F. From Union Marcophiles, L. Bridelance, 19 Ave. Chatelet, 77150 Lesigny. (U.S. payments must be in Fr. francs.)

"Philatelic Bibliopole \$15 Stock Catalog of Philatelic Literature," by Leonard H. Hartmann, Aug. 1990, 94pp. \$3.00 p.p.d. (This catalog is growing with each edition, and is the most comprehensive available in U.S. Has new books of many countries and publishers, in regular stock and also some out-of-print items. Offers his own line of archival quality blank pages, mylar page protectors and inter-leaving, page boxes, albums with slip cases, etc.)

REVIEW

Joseph Bergier, "La petite poste maritime - La poste maritime au XVIII siècle." (The 'local' seamount - Seamount in the 18th century), 1989, supplement to No. 258 of *Les Feuilles Marcophiles*, 55 pages softbound, 8 1/4" x 12", 100 French francs, from L'Union Marcophile, 7 rue Saint Lazare, F-75009 Paris, France.

The book consists of two main parts, one on the maritime post office and one on occasional manuscript postmarks. The first is divided into 20 chapters, 15 appendices and a bibliography, the second into 5 sections, 2 appendices and a bibliography.

A decree of 1725 is said to be the first to regulate ship mail transport, which had been on a voluntary basis up to that point, when colonization made such rules necessary. The author provides copies of original decrees and describes the operation of harbor posts, equivalent to the "little posts" of other localities. Postmarks, particularly of Bordeaux, Nantes, Marseille, Havre and Rouen are described and pictured.

This is one of those rare source books that helps explain the genesis of a certain type of mail. Even if you have never collected maritime mail, the book provides for the general postal historian a necessary education in the evolution of the mails. Paper, print and reproductions are excellent. A knowledge of French is necessary, which is a good reason why one of the U.S. specialist groups ought to undertake a translation of the text. The book is one of the true cornerstones of postal history in general; highly recommended.

--E.M. Cohn

F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL

OUR APOLOGIES

Numbers of readers have inquired as to why several pages and spaces were blank in the July Philatelist. It was an unfortunate discovery in the page proofs that we had not supplied the printer with enough copy for 32 pp, and it was too late then to put in more material as the printing had already been delayed by problems in the press.

President's Message

This year the A.S.D.A.'s National Postage Stamp Show is being held at Madison Square Garden in New York on 1-4 November. The Society continues to have a booth each year at this show and at the INTERPEX show in the spring. Unfortunately death and other factors continue to reduce the roster of members who man these booths. The duty is rather simple: Sit behind the table for two hours; the reward is significant: A free pass for the four days of the show. We try to sign up sitters at the Society's last meeting at the Collectors Club before the show. Anyone who is interested and cannot attend that meeting should contact me, preferably at least two weeks before the show so your name can be given to the A.S.D.A. for the free pass.

This is the last Bulletin for 1990, so I will take this opportunity to wish you all the best for the holidays, with perhaps some choice stamps or covers left by Santa.

--R.M.S.

Meeting of 2 October

Tonight's meeting brought a special treat as Harlan Stone, newly appointed to a full-time position at the Philatelic Foundation, joined us to lead a discussion on deciphering postal markings on Swiss-French mail between 1828-1835. Mail going in each direction was highlighted in eight frames as Harlan is making a study of this relatively unknown

area of Swiss-French postal history. J.P. Alexandre has provided some information about this period in a series of articles in *Documents Philateliques*, but much remains to be done.

During the period under discussion there were postal treaties between the five major Swiss Cantons and France. Mail was accepted without prepayment initially. France was divided into ten zones by distance from each of four French exchange points at the border. Rates from France varied from 2-11 décimes depending on the distance. French mail received boxed handstamps indicating French origin and the exchange town followed by the rate in décimes. Once in Switzerland the French charges were converted to kreuzers and the Swiss local postage added for due charges on arrival. Although Harlan could decipher most of the rates, some refused to fall into seemingly obvious patterns.

The exhibit was presented in the spirit of a developing study of the attempt to simplify the handling of the mails and accounts between the two countries before the arrival of stamps. Much discussion occurred during and after this most interesting presentation.

--Ed Grabowski

NEW MEMBERS

- 2842 CRISSEY, HARRY, 320 Welcome - 6, P.O. Box 26900, Los Angeles, CA 26900-0900. (France: mint - used. Andorre, Monaco, Europa & United Nations. Colonies General Issues: mint - used. All Colonies & Territories. Dealer: full-time - mail sales - new issues - approvals.)
- 2843 NOESKE, GERALD E., P.O. Box 13065, Airgate Station, Sarasota, FL 34278-3065. (Military Posts, Offices Abroad, Colonies & Territories: cancels & postal history - stamps & covers of French India & AEF. Philatelic literature.)
- 2844 HOBART, JOHN J., House of Stamps, 30774 Sutherland, Warren, MI 48093. (France: mint - semi-postals, air mails - booklets - coils. Monaco, Europa & United Nations. Colonies General Issues: mint. Dealer: part-time - mail sales.)
- 2845 VARGHA, LOUIS A., 29848 6th Ave. South, Federal Way, WA 98003. (Classics & Sage Type to 1900. Telephone & telegraph - dues - parcel post - newspaper - revenues. Monaco, Saar, Algeria, Tunisia.)
- 2846 CHANDLER, II, GEORGE M., P.O. Box 20325, Indianapolis, IN 46220. (General Collector: 20th Century. France: mint - semi-postals - air mails - booklets - coils - coin dates - miniature sheets. Dues - Française Militaire - Precancels. Dealer: part-time. Philatelic documents started in 1973.)
- 2847 MACKEY, CECIL, 1429 Lakeside Dr., East Lansing, MI 48823. (General Collector: France: mint - used. Air Meets, First Flights, etc. Colonies General Issues: mint - used.)
- 2848 RADER, JAMES, Random House, Inc. (26-2), 201 East 50th St., New York, NY 10022. (Maritime posts. Colonies General Issues: on cover. Covers of individual Colonies.)
- 2849 FREEMAN, Freeman's Stamps, P.O. Box 24231, Dayton, OH 45424. (Dealer: full-time - mail sales. Philatelic literature.)
- 2850 NIEHOF, JOHN GERRITT, 16 Lawrence St., Alfredton, Vic., Australia 3350. (Topical: Antarctic. General France: used - on cover. Specialized France: stampless covers - classics - used - on cover to 1900 - cancellations. Modern France: used - on cover - blanc - semi-postals - air mails - booklets - coils - miniature sheets. TAAF.)
- 2851 BURNS, DONALD L., 7032 44th Ave., Kenosha, WI 53142. (General Collector. France: mint - used.)
- 2852 SIPOS, STEPHEN I., 1400 Sunset Ave., Suite 3, Waukegan, IL 60087 (Occupation issues of France: World War II. Philatelic literature. German Occupation WW II covers & stamps.)
- 2853 DARLINGTON, OSCAR G., PhD, 503 Robbins Ave., Niles, OH 44446. (Topical: ships on stamps - stamps with Normandy scenes & subjects. General France: mint. Alsace-Lorraine.)
- 2854 DUREN, ROBERT F., 3834 South 37th St., Milwaukee, WI 53221. (French Colonies, Indochina, Offices in China, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam.)
- 2855 WEXELBLAT, DAVID, 904 Knollwood Dr., Middletown, NJ 07748. (General France: mint - used - on cover.)
- 2856 CLARKE, WALTER S., American Embassy, Box 31, APO, New York, NY 09285. (Colonies General Issues: mint - used - on cover. Stamps - covers of individual

- Colonies: Obock, Côte des Somalis, Ethiopian; cancellations on the above.)
 2857 OLSHEVSKY, GEORGE, P.O. Box 16924, San Diego, CA 92116-0815. (General France: mint - used - on cover - dues - plating flaws of Scott #38-48 - cancellations - semi-postals - air mails - booklets - coils - miniature sheets - dues - parcel post - newspaper - precancels. Colonies General Issues: mint - used - on cover. Dealer: part-time. Philatelic literature.)

REINSTATEMENTS

- 2201 MORCK, DAVID, 7921 Springer St., Downey, CA 90242. (Military Posts - Maritime Posts - Used ABroad - Sage Type, 1876-1900. Colonies General Issues: used - on cover - cancels - postal history. Colonies & Territories.)
 1763 DEL PONTE, FRANK, P.O. Box 35-1941, Palm Coast, FL 32135. (Already in Philatelist. Dealer.)

DECEASED

- 1307 WAUGH, WILLIAM M.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 1887 PARNIAK, DR. MICHAEL, 5477 Coolbrook, Montreal, Que., Canada H3X 2L3.
 2766 LINDHOLM, JOHN, 1214 Lakeview Dr., Fergus Falls, MN 56537.
 2815 CORAPCIOGLU, YAVUZ, P.O. Box 4581, Bryan, TX 77805-4581.
 2062 PARKMAN, PETER L., 2976 N. Cramer St., Milwaukee, WI 53211.
 1175 BALLUFF, MRS. LEO F., 2414 East Garfield St., Davenport, IA 52803.
 1029 AINSWORTH, G.C. JOSEPH, (RAF, Ret.), Century Cottage, 10 Ellesborough Rd., Wendover, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 6EL, England.
 2495 KNIGHT R., (change of zip code) P.O. Box 34314, San Diego, CA 92163.
 2633 BEVAN, BRUCE, 10129 163rd St., #109, Edmonton, Ala., Canada T5P 3N6.
 2349 GOOLD, WILSON III, 401 Forest Ave., Dayton, OH 45405.
 2674 CORMIER, FRANÇOIS, General Delivery, LWR West Pubnico, Nova Scotia, Canada BOW 2C0.
 2827 CRAWFORD, MERRIMON, c/o Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Small, 107 Pocono Lane, Cary, NC 27513.
 2343 GRANT, HUNTLEY W., 7720 Arboretum Dr., #102, Charlotte, NC 28270.
 2830 BROADHEAD, THOMAS W., 4404 Tazewell Pike, Knoxville, TN 37918-2705.
 2661 BYLEN, PETER, P.O. Box 7193, Westchester, IL 60154.
 2208 REENSTJERNA, FREDERICK R., P.O. Box 1322, Roseburg, OR 97470-1322.

MEMBERS' APPEALS

- WANTED: Recent postally used France in quantity. Can you help? --Richard V. Willmarth, 1546C Hunt, Normal, IL 60761 (Mb 1691)
 OFFER: Book by Alastair Horne: *"The Fall of Paris"* (1965). 458pp. One of the basic references to the 1870-71 War; British edition. First check for \$3 takes it, postpaid. --Ernst M. Cohn, 1138 Appian Way, Dothan, AL 36303 (Mb 1491)
 WANTED: Any in-bound mail to New Caledonia 1860-1885 and especially the 35c rate to or from there 1878-9 as well as a postal card from the 1880s and a wrapper showing the 5c rate up to 1912. --Stanley C. Jersey, Box 713, Carlsbad, CA 92008 (Mb. 1770)
 OFFER: Essentially complete French Chaplain-design pneumatic mail collection on 106 exhibit pages. Main strength in Marseille (complete) and CNE items. Winner of 3 WSP-show Vermeils and 2 Marcus White trophies. Cts. over 60,000FF in 1989 Storch & Francon. Asking \$4,000. -- Stanley J. Luft, 870 So. Miller Court, Lakewood, CO 80226 (Mb 915)
 OFFER: Early French postal history, from 1683 through late 1800s stampless, many nice stamped covers from 19th and early 20th, wide selection of picture postcards. Can send photocopies. Sent want list. --Bruce Brown, Box 467, APO, New York, N.Y. 09019 (Mb 2546)

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