

THE STAMP FORUM NEWSLETTER

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Royal Philatelic Society - London

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Plus

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Editor's Message

Welcome to the 2nd edition of our bi-monthly newsletter.

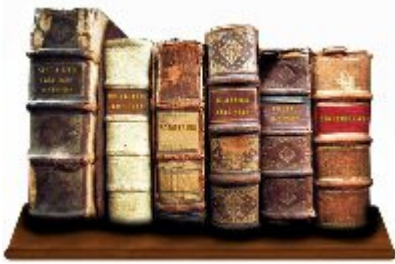
Several new authors have contributed outstanding articles for this newsletter which is on the right tack to become one of the best in its class.

Thanks go out to the repeat authors whom I hope will become steady contributors.

For would be authors, the articles need not be lengthy or technical, perhaps the history of a cover, a visit to a philatelic event, a topical interest or something personal.

We particularly encourage new members to make an introductory post and join in on the forum discussions. This is a friendly forum with novice to specialized collectors who are happy to help with your collecting interests.

To those who are members but have not yet posted, introduce yourselves and consider posting to our newsletter.



Nelson (falschung)

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U.S. STAMPS



A Brief History of the U.S. Special Delivery System

By: Steven J. Tomisek (tomiseksj) - *some images may link to a larger picture*

The 48th U.S. Congress, by way of the Post Office Appropriation Act approved March 3, 1885, directed that: “a special stamp of the face valuation of ten cents may be provided and issued...which, when attached to a letter, in addition to the lawful postage thereon...shall be regarded as entitling such letter to immediate delivery within the carrier limit of any free delivery office which may be designated by the Postmaster General as a special delivery office, or within one mile of the post office at any other office...which may in like manner be designated as a special delivery office.”

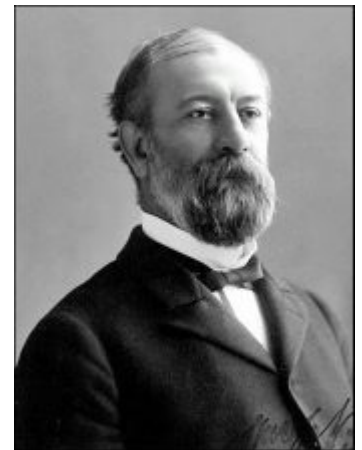
The act further required that such specially stamped letters would “be delivered from seven o’clock ante meridian up to twelve o’clock midnight” and authorized postmasters of the designated special delivery offices to hire persons to deliver and procure receipt for these letters.

In close proximity, a modification to the Universal Postal Union’s 1878 Paris Convention, signed in Lisbon on March 21, 1885, similarly established the basis for express delivery of articles of correspondence of every kind among member countries choosing to undertake the service in their reciprocal relations.

On August 11, 1885, then-Postmaster General William F. Vilas announced his intention to introduce the Special Delivery system on October 1, 1885. He designated 555 post offices as being special delivery offices and provided detailed instructions for the system’s implementation to their respective postmasters. These post offices were primarily located in municipalities with a population of 4,000 or more.

At free delivery offices, special delivery letters were to be delivered within the carrier limits of the office; at all other offices they were only required to be delivered within a one mile radius of the post office. Postmasters were authorized to hire as many messenger boys as they deemed sufficient to secure the prompt delivery of any special delivery letters received at their office.

If a special delivery letter could be expeditiously delivered by a letter carrier on his regular trip, he could make the delivery and was subject to the same documentation requirements as described for messenger boys below.



*Postmaster General
William Freeman Vilas*



*1887 Denver, Colorado Letter Bearing
First Special Delivery Stamp (Scott E1)*

In his instruction, Vilas also described the special delivery stamp that had been prepared to comply with the law: “A line engraving on steel, oblong in form; dimensions 13/16 by 1-7/16 inches; color dark blue. Design: On the left an arched panel bearing the figure of a mail messenger boy on a run, and surmounted by the words “United States;” on the right, an oblong tablet, ornamented with a wreath of oak and laurel surrounding the words “Secures immediate delivery at a special-delivery office.” Across the top of the tablet is the legend “Special Postal Delivery,” and at the bottom the words “Ten cents,” separated by a small shield bearing the numeral “10.”

The stamps could be sold by postmasters to anyone who wanted to purchase them but they could only be used for the special delivery service.

The stamps could not be used to pay any type of postage or registry fee; likewise, other stamps could not be used to pay the special delivery fee. If a letter bearing the stamp was prepaid with less than a full rate of postage, it was to be treated as held for postage. A letter bearing the stamp and lawful postage could be mailed at any post office in the country but it would not be entitled to immediate delivery if addressed to a post office to which the special delivery system hadn’t been extended.

Continued on the next page....



U.S. STAMPS



The system's objectives were efficient delivery service and profitability, with the latter being dependent upon the former. All special-delivery letters had to reach their addressees in the shortest possible time after the letters arrived at a designated special delivery office and postmasters were required to document their efforts to achieve that end. Specifically, they were instructed to document the time of receipt of these letters with their office's receiving stamp that noted the date and hour of the letter's arrival.

They were then to number the letters and enter them by number into a record book that was to be furnished by the Post Office Department.

Next, they were to enter each letter respectively in the delivery books of the messengers who were going to carry them and immediately dispatch the messengers. Messenger boys, working under oath, were to record in their delivery books the time of delivery and name of the person who received for the letter and that information was to be transcribed into the postmaster's record book upon their return.

In his annual report, Postmaster General Vilas noted that the public seemed to find value in the service during its first full year of use, with 1,118,820 special delivery letters being received at the designated offices; 785,020 of these were received in the mails from other offices and 333,800 were drop letters.

He pointed out, however, several shortcomings of the system as initially established, most notably the limited number of offices where the service was available and the restriction to use for first class matter only. In an Act approved on August 4, 1886 the 49th Congress extended the special delivery system to all classes of mailable matter upon which the special stamp was affixed and it authorized the Postmaster General to extend the special delivery system to any or all of the post offices in the country. Vilas issued the necessary instructions to his Department and put the expanded system in effect on October 1, 1886.



*Second Special Delivery stamp (Scott E2)
issued September 6, 1888*

A new special delivery stamp was prepared using the same general design but with the text reading "Secures Immediate Delivery at Any Post Office;" however, the second special delivery stamp's issuance was delayed until late 1888 to exhaust supplies of the first stamp.



*Third Special Delivery Stamp (Scott E3)
Issued January 24, 1893*

On January 10, 1893, then-Postmaster General John Wanamaker announced that from that date forward the color of the special delivery stamps furnished by the Department to postmasters would be light orange instead of dark blue; however, the design of the stamp was to remain unaltered. The change in color was due to concern that the similarity in general appearance of the previous special delivery stamp and the one cent stamp of the Columbian Exposition series might lead to mistakes in the treatment of mail matter bearing either of the two stamps. Previously issued stamps remained valid and postmasters were directed to exhaust their on hand stock before requesting supplies of the new color.

Printing of the special delivery stamp in blue color resumed on January 5, 1894 and presumably it was reissued from May 19, 1894 until the issuance of the fourth special delivery stamp (*see E4*) on October 10, 1894. The design of the new stamp mirrored that of its predecessor but with the addition of a line under "Ten" and "Cents." The Post Office Department subsequently decided to use watermarked paper in the manufacture of stamps and on August 16, 1895 the special delivery stamp with double line watermark was issued.



*Fourth Special Delivery Stamp (Scott E4)
Issued October 10, 1894*

Continued on the next page...

U.S. STAMPS



On December 9, 1902 a new design for the sixth special delivery stamp was introduced, this one featuring a messenger on a bicycle. Effective on and after July 1, 1907, ordinary postage stamps of any denomination were authorized to pay the special delivery fee, provided the words "special delivery" were written or printed on the cover. On February 29, 1908, then-Postmaster General G. v. L. Meyer announced his intention to gradually reduce the number of special delivery messenger boys with the ultimate discontinuance of their services. He noted that experience had shown that better results were obtained using substitute carriers and that it was prejudicial to the welfare of the boys to employ them for this service. On December 12, 1908, the Department's seventh special delivery stamp was issued; the stamp was green in color, featured the helmet of Mercury, and was issued in panes of 70 stamps. On June 9, 1909, Postmaster General F. H. Hitchcock ordered that manufacture of the 1908 stamp be discontinued and that the manufacture and issuance of the 1902 series be resumed. The Messenger on Bicycle design would subsequently appear on issuances of the eighth through eleventh special delivery stamps in January 1911, September 1914, October 1916 and May 1917, respectively. The rate for special delivery service had remained 10 cents from the program's inception until 1925 when it began to increase. Twelve other special delivery stamps of four different designs were issued through the remainder of the program, with the last being issued on May 10, 1971. The design types and their respective years of introduction were the motorcycle messenger (1922), post office truck (1925); special delivery letter (1954), and arrows (1969).



The United States Postal Service discontinued special delivery service on June 7, 1997 because the demand for it had virtually disappeared. Consumers who requested expedited delivery service most frequently used the Priority Mail or Express Mail service. Special delivery stamps in circulation were no longer valid; however, the remaining stamps were allowed to be returned to the post office for their face value as services were not rendered.



Interested in collecting special delivery stamps? The first five members sending me a forum private message (PM) with their mailing address and mentioning this article will receive a mint plate number single of the 30 cent lake special delivery stamp that was issued in 1957 (Scott E21). The only pre-requisite is that the member must have made an introductory post in the New Members section of the forum.

References:

- Forty-Eighth Congress, Session II. Chapter 342. 1885*
- Universal Postal Union, Additional Act of Lisbon to Convention, March 21, 1885*
- United States Official Postal Guide, January, 1886*
- Forty-Ninth Congress, Session I. Chapter 901. 1886*
- The Postal Laws and Regulations of the United States of America, 1887*
- Annual Report of the Postmaster-General of the United States, 1886*
- Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers, 2013*
- Postal Bulletins: No. 3933, January 25, 1893; No. 8296, May 16, 1907; No. 8538, March 2, 1909; No. 8927, June 10, 1909; and, No. 21946, May 22, 1997*



STAMPS OF CANADA



Great Bargains Can Be Found on eBay

By Michael Smith (watermark) - some images may link to a larger picture

Browsing eBay can be very interesting. I find a few bargains and the stamp presented here is an excellent example.



This stamp is listed in Unitrade as #17v with a catalogue value of \$1000.00 VF used. This stamp was listed “Buy It Now” for US \$19.59 with free shipping. The description said “Canada SC# 17 Used VF+ Light cancel” with no mention of the variety.

The #17 lists for about \$200.00 in very fine condition. Very fine centered copies of this issue are hard to come by and all of my other copies of this variety are VG to Fine condition. This stamp is sound with one blind perforation at left and is a remarkable example.

Unitrade #17v “Double Epaulette” Position 61

Reference: 2016 UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS, Ed. D. Robin Harris, The Unitrade Press, pg. 44

Ten Cent RCMP “Bird Cage” Variety

At first glance this stamp looks like any other used Unitrade #223. Now one has to get a good magnifying glass out and take a closer look at this twenty to twenty-five cent catalogue value stamp. It has a printing variety that brings the catalogue value up to \$250.00 to \$375.00. This is Unitrade 223iv, the “bird cage” variety Plate 1, position 48 in the Upper Left Pane. See detail of the flaw below. According to Boggs this stamp was printed from plates of 200 which were divided into four panes of 50. There were 2 plates made but the quantities printed from each plate is not given. At best you have a 1 in 400 chance of finding this variety if the same quantities were printed from both plates.



Unitrade 223iv



“bird cage” variety circled

References:

2016 UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS, Ed. D. Robin Harris, The Unitrade Press, pg. 112.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS and POSTAL HISTORY OF CANADA, Winthrop S. Boggs, Quarterman Publications, Inc., Second Printing December 1975, pg. 405.

Dots and Scratches, Newsletter of the Re-entry and Constant Plate Variety Study Group, BNAPS, Vol. 3, No. 4, Whole no. 10, 2016, Michael D. Smith, pg. 18.

**Do you have your own special online find?
Send us the details for our next Newsletter.**



STAMPS OF CANADA



Hunting the 17c Cartier

By: Jim Jung (jimjung) - *some images may link to a larger picture*

This stamp is one of the more desirable stamps from the Decimal Issue. It is a lovely shade of blue and replaces the very desirable 10d Cartier stamp from the Pence Issue. This stamp pays for the Cunard Rate to Great Britain and is seen most commonly on covers to GB and Europe.

There were twelve (12) Printing Orders completed of 500 sheets each. There were a number of shades of blue ranging from bright to dull and light to dark. The Unitrade catalog lists a Slate Blue and a Prussian Blue. The Prussian Blue shade is described in *The First Decimal Issue of Canada* (Whitworth) as being from Printing Orders 2, 4 and 7. The closest shade to the Slate Blue is the Steel Blue from Printing Order 3. Therefore, I would conclude that the Slate Blue shade is scarcer. There were stamps made from all three Perforation Groups.

The first five Printing Orders were perf 11 $\frac{3}{4}$, Printing Order 6 and 7 were perf 12 x 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ and the last 5 Printing Orders were perf 12. It's interesting that there were only 1000 sheets printed from the 2nd perf group.



There is a lot more to collecting this stamp than just getting a nicely centered copy and many collectors of the Decimal Issue know a bit about this stamp through catalogs. Get ready to see some of the more interesting copies of the 17c that I have found.



pp100 major re-entry

The most well-known variety from the Unitrade catalog for this stamp is the Major Re-entry at position 100 of the plate. It is not that big a re-entry so it is normally hard to see.

This makes it a good stamp to hunt for and I have found copies that were not described as a re-entry so I got one for the price of a regular 17c stamp. The main identifying feature is the doubling of the left frame line(s). If you get a copy that is centered to the right, you may see both the inner and outer left frame line doubled in the left margin, especially at the top.

There are also re-entry marks in the letters of POSTAGE and within the inner oval above CENTS. There is a guideline that runs vertically up and down the entire length of the right column of the plate and portions of this can be seen on this stamp to the right of GE of POSTAGE.

The other well-known variety on the 17c is known as the **Burr Over Shoulder** from position 7, or as Whitworth calls it, **The Balloon Flaw**.

This variety is quite difficult to find as it only appeared in Printing Order 11B, 12A and 12B. This is approximately 750 sheets, at most, where this variety could exist, meaning there were no more than 750 copies printed. I am sure that much fewer copies survived and I would be very surprised if there were 300 copies that exist today. I rarely see this variety at auction.

The time period for this flaw is August 1867 until April 1868 when the Large Queens were released. This variety shows a large odd looking dark/light blue mark to the left of Cartier's head, just above his shoulder.



Burr over shoulder variety

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STAMPS OF CANADA



Now this is where philately begins because that's what we have in the catalog. What else can we look for when hunting for varieties of the 17c?

One feature of the 17c plate is the guideline that can be seen on the right side of the stamps from the 10th and rightmost column. Copies from position 10, 20, 30, ... 100 will have this guideline on the right side of the stamp. It is easier to see when you look at the white area in the outer oval to the right of the letters GE in POSTAGE and TS in CENTS but this can sometimes be seen vertically up and down just to the left of the right frame line.



There are many small varieties listed in Geoffrey Whitworth's book: *The First Decimal Issue of Canada*. These smaller plate flaws are delightful to find and they give collectors a way to plate the stamps from this issue. Here are some of my favorites.

At plate position 1, there is a broken frame line at the upper left corner. This little anomaly in the frame line is small but obvious to the eye. That is what makes this a nice little flaw.



At plate position 6, there are marks in the second E in SEVENTEEN. These look like re-entry marks so this is a nice one. It's always good to get re-entries in the letters of the stamp. It seems to be a level up from having just a re-entered frame line.



At plate position 41, there are re-entry marks in and below the upper frame line at the right and in the top left corner frame lines and in the letters d and g of 8d stg. Even though this is smaller, the re-entry is clearly visible.



Continued on the next page



STAMPS OF CANADA



I've noticed that 17c covers have become a premium item over the last few years. They appear less and less at auction and command a higher price than the other values, aside from the 2c.

This could be because there are fewer 17c Cunard Trans-Atlantic covers. The Allan Line rate was only 12 1/2 c compared to the slightly quicker Cunard rate of 17c though New York or Boston. This is a difference of almost 5c which was quite a bit of money in the 1860's. The 17c Cartier was used for the Premium Postal Service until the 15c rate came into effect on January 16, 1868.

17c Cartier on a 1/4 ounce Rate to France, per steamer Asia departing New York on August 15, 1860 to Liverpool – Courtesy of Ron Majors



Beyond the premium service, the 17c Cartier was also used for Postal Service to Europe and beyond. These covers have become very scarce and there is a difference in the weight allowances. The 10d/17c rate to the UK was for a half ounce where a 10d/17c rate to France was for only a quarter ounce. Therefore, a half ounce letter to France was a double rate cover.

Date	Franking	From	To	Reference
1. JA 31 62	17 pr	Montreal	France	Figure 2.
2. JY 11 62	17, vert pr	Montreal	France	M 95-429, 11/24/77
3. JA 22 63	17 pr	Montreal	St. J. de Losne	M268-705, 6/17/92
4. JY 8 64	17, vert pr	Montreal	Bordeaux	Chr-623, 3/19/93 Fig. 1.
5. MY 12 65	17, 17	Montreal	Paris	Chr-632, 3/19/93
6. JY 12 65	17, 17	Montreal	Paris	M268-738, 6/17/92
7. AP 26 67	17, 17	Montreal	Paris	
8.	17, 17	Ottawa	Paris	
9. AU 26 64	3 x 17	Montreal	France	M 87-329, 9/29/76
10. OC 5 66	5 x 17	Montreal	Poitiers	M273-558, 12/10/92

Nos. 5 and 6 are fronts.
No. 10 was short paid one rate.

This table from the Arfken/Leggett book, showing the Firby Census, displays the known double and higher rate covers to France.

There are a few more known that have been found since the Firby Census was released but there are still very few to be had, likely less than 20. If you see a cover with two 17c Cartier's to France or Europe, then you'll know that this is a very rare cover.

The covers in the table begin at 1862. Between 1859 and 1862, the single rate to France was actually 22c but this was not well-known. Covers paying this 22c rate are Extremely Rare.

1862 Cover 17c Jacques Cartier Vertical Pair, Group I Printing Order 4 Dark Prussian Blue Shade, paying the 34c Double weight Trans-Atlantic Rate to Tonnyay-Charente, France and clearly tied to cover by two Montreal duplexes dated JY 11 62. Red London-LR/JY 23 62/PAID, CALAIS 24 JUIL 62 transits and red PD in oval with TONNAY-CHARENTE 25 JUIL 1862 receiver on reverse.

Right, Nice solid vertical pair and Fine example of the Extremely Rare double weight (1/4 to 1/2 ounce) to France.

This Folded Letter was carried on the **Allan Line Anglo-Saxon** departing Quebec on July 12 and arriving in Liverpool on July 23.



References: *The First Decimal Issue of Canada – Geoffrey Whitworth*

Re-entries.com - Ralph E. Trimble

Canada's Decimal Era 1859-1868 – George B. Arfken and Arthur W. Leggett



STAMPS OF THE WORLD



Kyrgyz Express Post (KEP)

By: Iana Perlova (kepstamps) - *some images may link to a larger picture*

KEP has been operating in the postal market of Kyrgyzstan since 16 March 2012.

Pursuant to the decision of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic dated 7 December 2012, KEP was granted the status of second designated postal operator of Kyrgyzstan, which was further confirmed by the Universal Postal Union International Bureau circular 83 of 21 May 2013.

Inasmuch as KEP provides postal delivery services on the basis of established tariffs, it has been decided to issue postage stamps of the second designated postal operator of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The issue of each stamp goes through an approval process under the supervision of the State Committee for Information Technology and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic.



The first KEP stamp issues were out on November 18th and 19th, 2014.

KEP stamps are a new phenomenon in the 175-year-old worldwide tradition of stamp issuing: for the first time in philatelic history the second postal operator of an UPU member country, designated according to article 2 of the Universal Postal Convention (UPU), has issued its own stamps.

The stamps represent a real payment instrument, ensuring payment for services of forwarding postal items from Kyrgyzstan to all UPU member countries.

The stamps are being published in the most influential world catalogues, such as Michel (Germany), Stanley Gibbons (United Kingdom), Scott (USA), Yvert & Tellier (France), Unificato (Italy) and the WADP (WNS) catalogue, which is the official UPU catalogue to list legal stamps.

By issuing its stamps KEP strives to revive the interest in postage stamps collecting by offering high quality products of unique design, made using cutting-edge technologies.

We use our best endeavors to raise public awareness about Kyrgyzstan: its history, culture, breathtaking environment, famous people.

We hope that stamps issuing will spur more people to become ardent collectors and pursue such an exciting and instructive hobby as philately.

All KEP stamps are sold at face value and the face values are determined by the rates, based on the services, provided by KEP, which are international mailing of letters and packages.

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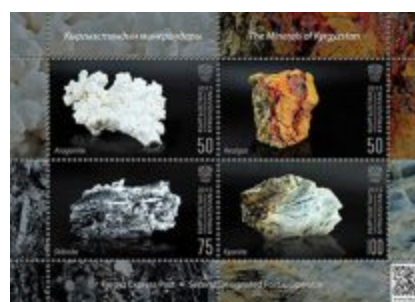
STAMPS OF THE WORLD



The KEP issues feature national culture, history, traditions and natural resources.



“Salbuurun: Traditional Kyrgyz Hunting” series. The first issue featured Falconry and was out in May, 2015. The second issue featured Taigans, the hunting dogs, and was out in July, 2016.



*29 July 2016 Flora of Kyrgyzstan.
06 January 2016 The Minerals of Kyrgyzstan.*



*08 August 2016 **World Nomad Games** - 2016 - attended by over 20 countries.
50 KGS. Mounted Archery.
100 KGS. Equestrian Wrestling.
150 KGS. Athletic and Entertaining Performance “Burning Horseman”.*



16 June 2016. Set of 4 Postal Stationery Cards "My Kyrgyzstan".

The philatelic issues are all available from the [KEP website](http://www.kep.kg) at face value. They may be purchased as singles, blocks, souvenir sheets, minisheets, *FDC's*, *maxicards* in mint or canceled plus year sets in *albums*.



STAMPS OF THE WORLD



The War of the Pacific

By: Gerben van Gelder (swh) - *some images may link to a larger picture*

Introduction

The War of the Pacific was fought between 1879 and 1883 with Chile on the one side and Bolivia and Peru on the other side. It was one of the major conflicts in the history of South America. Most of the war was fought in Peru and the turmoil of the war is reflected in the stamps used in Peru during this period: occupation issues, provisional issues, local issues.

The catalogs duly list these issues, but offer little to understand the context in which they were issued. In this article I aim to provide some of that context. This article is an excerpt of the profile Peru as found on [Stamp World History](#).

Political history

At stake in the War of the Pacific were the rich nitrate deposits in the Atacama Desert lying in western Bolivia – at the time extending to the Pacific Ocean by way of the Antofagasta region – and southern Peru.

In 1874 Chile had gained rights to exploit the deposits in the Bolivian Antofagasta region. When Chile felt restricted in its rights by Bolivia, Chile, in 1879, occupied the Antofagasta region. Bolivia next declared war on Chile. In doing so, Bolivia brought Peru into the war as Peru and Bolivia had signed a treaty of alliance in 1873.

After Chile had successfully occupied the Antofagasta region, the war moved to Peru. Having first secured naval supremacy, Chile, in a number of successive campaigns, occupied the larger part of Peru. The capital of Lima was occupied in 1881 and the Peruvian government retreated to Arequipa. In 1883 Peru faced final defeat and was forced to sign a peace treaty. Peru ceded the Tarapaca region to Chile.

The Tacna and Arica regions were put under Chilean administration with the intention of organizing a referendum on the future of these regions.

The referendum never took place. In 1929 Peru and Chile agreed to divide the region, Tacna becoming part of Peru, Arica becoming part of Chile. Bolivia formally ceded the Antofagasta region to Chile in 1884.

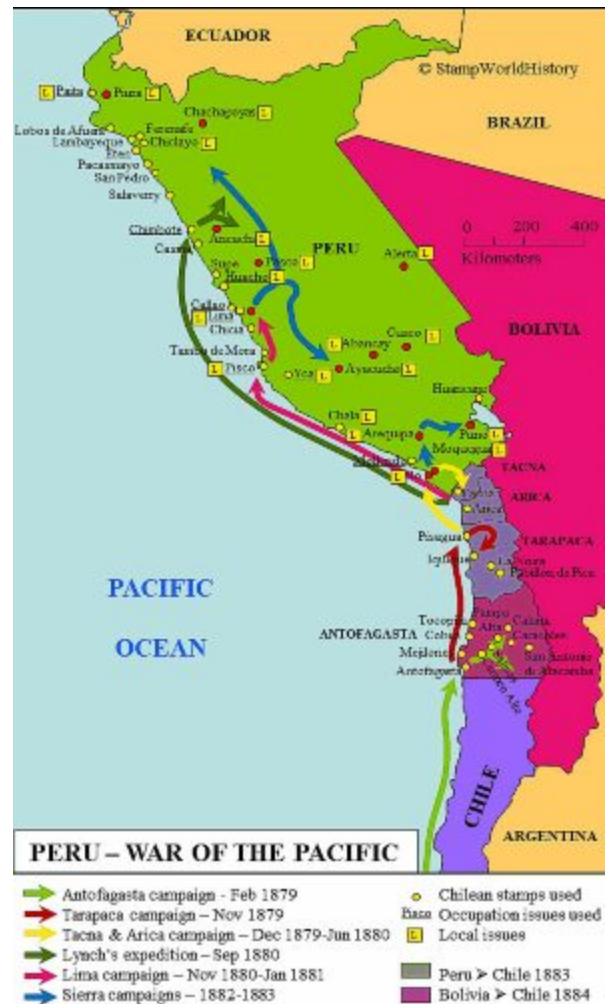
Postal history

The use of stamps during the War of the Pacific is a complex but interesting chapter in the postal history of Peru. Let's take a step by step look at what stamps were used:

General issues, Chile:

Chile operated postal services in the growing part of Peru that was occupied between 1879 and 1883. Most commonly used were the stamps issued by Chile between 1877 and 1881. These can be found used in a range of cities, both in the Bolivian littoral and in Peru, and may be recognized by the cancels.

Continued on the next page....



Right, Chile 1881



STAMPS OF THE WORLD



Occupation issues, Chile:

In 1881 and 1882 specific issues for occupied Peru were released. All were overprints on Peruvian stamps captured by the Chilean authorities, the overprint being the Chilean coat of arms.

Two sets of Peruvian stamps were used. The first were the common 1874-1879 issues. The second was a set of stamps that was prepared by the Peruvian authorities, but had not yet been released: a set overprinted with a horseshoe and the inscription 'Universal Postal Union Peru' to signify that Peru had joined the UPU in 1880. Thus, this set, as issued by Chile, had a double overprint.

The Chilean overprints were released mainly in Lima and Callao but were also available in a number of other cities. Both types were withdrawn in 1882 when it was found that the stamps were forged in large numbers.



Chile Coat of Arms on Peru 1874-79



Chile Coat of Arms on Peru not issued



Local issue postmaster, Lima:

When the Chileans had occupied Lima in on 17 January 1881, they did not immediately take over the postal services that, for a time, continued to be run by the Peruvian postal authorities.

The postmaster of Lima decided that he could not guarantee the quality of service other than in Lima.

For that reason, on 28 January 1881, he issued a set of overprinted stamps.

The overprint is similar to one issued for all of Peru in 1880, but is now not inscribed 'Union Postal Universal, Peru' but 'Union Postal Universal, Lima'.

Local issue Lima 1881

Peruvian government, Arequipa issues:

The Peruvian government, after the fall of Lima, had withdrawn to Arequipa and made Arequipa the temporary capital of Peru. For the area under its control, stamps were issued between 1881 and 1885. These were used in Arequipa and as far north as Cuzco and south as Moquegua.

The first issues are previously issued revenues overprinted 'Provisional 1881-1882'. Later issues are stamps of local design and print overprinted with a double circle inscribed 'Arequipa'.



'Provisional 1881-1882' on revenue stamp



'Arequipa' on stamp of local design



1883 Horseshoe overprint

Peruvian government, provisional issues:

After the retreat of the Chilean forces, the Peruvian government issued provisional stamps for general use. All came from existing stock dating prior to the war.

The first set is issued on 23 October 1883 – the day the postal administration was transferred from Chile to Peru.

This was the set that had been prepared by the Peruvian authorities before the war, but not issued, the set with the horseshoe overprint that had been used by the Chilean authorities with the additional overprint of the Chilean coat of arms.

This set was now issued as designed.

Continued on the next page....



STAMPS OF THE WORLD



Subsequent sets issued were also from available stock, only now, to prevent against fraud, overprinted with a triangle with 'Peru' in the center.

Found with this triangle overprint are the 1874-1879 issues, the 1880 and 1881 issues with the 'Union Postal Universal, Peru' and the 'Union Postal Universal, Lima' overprint, and the 1883 issue with the horseshoe overprint.

The triangle can be found in many varieties and these issues are thus of particular interest for specialists.



Triangle on 1883 issue



Triangle on postmaster Lima issue



Local issue Lima

Peruvian government, local issue Lima:

In 1884 stamps were issued for local use in Lima and Callao – the 5 centavo denomination of the 1874-1879 issues overprinted with a sun and 'Correos Lima'.

Scott notes that identical overprints on other issues exist but were only sold to collectors.

Local issues:

During and just after the Chilean occupation, with national communication and supply lines being interrupted, the Peruvian government ordered local post offices to issue stamps overprinted with local countersigns to prevent fraud. This has resulted in a large number of local issues.

The overprints can be found on the 1874-1879 issues from before the war, on the Arequipa issues of the Peruvian government and on the provisional issues of the Peruvian government after the withdrawal of the Chilean forces. The control overprints are sometimes made using regular local cancels – another field for specialists as it may be difficult to distinguish regularly canceled stamps from the control overprints. Local issues are found to be issued until 1885.

It took Peru a while to recover from the War of the Pacific: regular stamp production was not resumed until 1886. The image of the 'Arequipa' on stamp of local design' issue is shown courtesy of the [Big Blue 1840-1940 blog](#). Thanks, Jim.



Local issue Piura

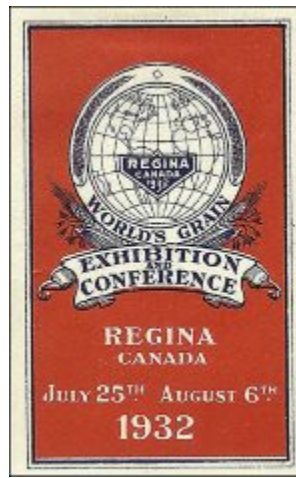
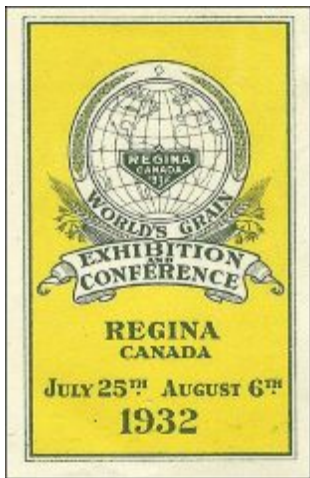
CINDERELLAS & LOCALS

Cinderella Stamps of Canada

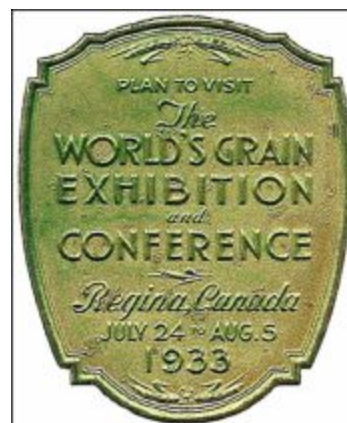
1933 World's Grain Exhibition and Conference, Regina, Saskatchewan

By Ronald G. Lafrenière (cindyca2) - some images may link to a larger picture

With plans unveiled in 1928, the World's Grain Exhibition and Conference was originally to be held from July 25 to August 6 1932, to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the founding of Regina, Saskatchewan. To advertise the event in 1932 at least 4 different labels were produced. A set of three labels with an identical design featured a globe at centre and were printed in yellow and green, green and red, and red and blue. A fourth ornate die-cut label was reverse printed in dark blue on gold foil.



However, the onset of the Great Depression in 1929, and the subsequent fall in grain prices and grain production in 1930, caused the organizers to reschedule the exhibition to 1933, from July 24 to August 5. Two entirely new labels were issued to advertise the new dates. The first printed in black, blue and yellow, features a bale of hay. It is most commonly seen attached to Exhibition covers. A second stunning die-cut and embossed label pressed into thick copper foil is also seen on Exhibition covers.



Despite this one year delay, the exhibition attracted over 200,000 visitors, in conjunction with the Regina Fair events.

Ronald Lafrenière is the publisher of the Field Guide to the Cinderella Stamps of Canada Available from [Bird Bear Press](#)



CINDERELLAS & LOCALS

LONDONBUS1 CINDERELLA CORNER, Part 1.

The World's First Cinderella Stamp Congress.

By: Michael Hide (Londonbus1) - *some images may link to a larger picture*

It is appropriate, is it not, that this inaugural Cinderella Corner for the TSF Newsletter should be about the World's First Cinderella Stamp Congress ?

Held in London over 3 days in September [16th-18th], the event proved to be a great success and will surely have served as a forerunner to similar events in the future. The Congress was organized by UK's Cinderella Stamp Club (CSC) together with Sweden's Samlarföreningen Bältespännarna, The Swedish Cinderella Society who were celebrating their 50th anniversary.

It was held over 5 full sessions plus an auction and invited displays and I was delighted to have attended all sessions.

I started my weekend at Stampex, the National Stamp Exhibition held at the BDC in London. To promote the 1st Cinderella Congress and Cinderella collecting in general, a large floor section was taken up with displays of some very fine items and collections. The CSC had a table at the Exhibition.



*Left -part of a quite stunning display of the First **Herm Island** issues.*

The Congress itself was hosted by the Royal Philatelic Society at their grand old building in Devonshire Place near Baker Street which was adorned, appropriately, with displays by the late Francis Kiddle, the eminent Cinderella philatelist who sadly passed away last October. His collection of the Great Britain Philatelic Congress was quite superb.

The event was opened by Peter Rogers, Chairman of the CSC and the first session was all about meeting each other and viewing some fine displays by members.

A Buffet and wine were offered courtesy of Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions of the Strand and a room was taken to view the Saturday Congress auction lots.

Right - displays at the Royal Philatelic Society

Continued on the next page....





CINDERELLAS & LOCALS



The morning session of the 17th was taken up by members of the Revenue Society of Great Britain and more wonderful displays were viewed, including a section of my personal favourite, The London Mayor's Court Revenues.

The afternoon session was all about Scandinavia as members of the Swedish Cinderella Society gave talks about their Society, Swedish Locals and other aspects of Cinderella philately in Sweden. There were many displays of fine Scandinavian material to view including some beautiful early Stockholm locals, another personal favourite !! All credit was due to the small group who had made their way from Sweden for the event and the interesting table of material they had on offer, including the Lundy Island Post Office !



*London Mayor's Court Revenues
proofs and colour trials*

After a short break and it was time for the auction. Almost 300 lots of varied material and the bidding was brisk and at times, frenzied ! I both won and lost lots that I wanted and a good time was had by all.

The auctioneer and his wife ran the show without a hitch. Here they are getting ready for ' the off' !!



Day 3 began with talks and displays of Poster Stamps and Locals, the highlight being a lovely display by Charles Kiddle, brother of the late aforementioned Francis. His knowledge of Poster stamps is unequalled and was happily giving his advice and sharing his knowledge with others throughout the day, including with this writer !

The highlight of the afternoon session was the signing of the Maurice Williams' Roll of Notable Cinderella Philatelists. An introduction was given by Philatelic writer John Holman and fellow Trustee Peter Rogers and together with the 7 signatories can be seen in the picture.

[Left to Right], John Holman, Peter Rogers, Glenn Morgan [UK], Victor Berkovich [USA], Christer Brunström [Sweden], Lars Liwendahl [Sweden], Chris Harman [UK], Ralph Ebner [Germany] and Mircea Dragoteanu [Romania].



Continued on the next page.....

CINDERELLAS & LOCALS



After more displays from anyone who wished to do so, the Congress was closed by Chris Harman with the hope that there would be another in the near future. I think all those who attended would have had similar hopes. Ably hosted by the Royal, organized and choreographed [superbly] by locals expert Jon Aitchison with the help of the CSC Committee, The Swedish Cinderella Society and others, the 1st Cinderella Congress was a resounding success.

There were dealer tables on all days [including my own !] ; CSC literature at bargain prices; a Lundy Post Office manned by Lars Liwendahl of Sweden; a Lundy Collectors Club meeting; a Congress Dinner ; Souvenirs from each session and a camaraderie amongst attendees I had never before experienced. It was well worth the effort of arranging my holiday around and I look forward to the next one.....maybe in Sweden ?!!!



To all those who have read thus far I am offering the chance to win 2 special souvenirs. A Congress information postcard and a Lundy Postcard with Congress cancel and routed via Lundy to yours truly ! Just message me on the TSF board to get your name in the hat. I will announce the draw date on the forum. There will be an added surprise also !!

Next newsletter: Flags as an example of Cinderella Topicals.

Below, examples picked up at the Congress. A taste of what's to come in the next Newsletter.



A rare 1912 Olympic label



1960 Swedish Flag Day label mis-perfed

FAKES & FORGERIES

The 1902 Bulgarian Battle of Shipka Pass Issue- Real or Fake?

By Jim Jackson (jkjblue) - some images may link to a larger picture
Bigblue1840-1940.blogspot.com email jkjoregon@comcast.net

Background History

The 1887 Battle of Shipka Pass is remembered even today as a seminal moment in the development of the Bulgarian nation.

To commemorate the occasion on the 25th anniversary, a three stamp lithographed set depicting the battle at Eagle's Nest was issued by Bulgaria in 1902.



Left, Shipka Pass in the Balkan Mountains

The conflict was between the Russian Empire and the Ottoman Empire. The Battle was for control over the important 5000 foot Shipka Pass route through the Balkan Mountains during the 1877-78 Russo-Turkish War. There were actually four battles between July, 1877 and January, 1878, but the memorialized scene on the stamp issue is for the Second Battle on August 26th between Russian General Stoletov and his 7,500 troops (2,000 Russians, 5,500 Bulgarians), and Suleiman Pasha and his 38,000 Ottomans.

Right, Eagle's Nest Battle Scene: Painting Alexey Popov, 1893

The most dramatic part of the fighting occurred at the Eagle's Nest on St. Nicholas. A Bulgarian bayonet charge was instrumental in repulsing the Ottoman attacks.

When the Russians and Bulgarians were out of ammunition, they threw rocks and boulders and even the bodies of their dead fellow soldiers down to thwart the attack.



Left, Shipka Monument

The Shipka Pass is now part of Bulgarka Nature Park, and a memorial monument was placed in 1934 to honor those who died there for the liberation of Bulgaria.

Right, Map of Bulgaria 1878

As a consequence, the Ottomans essentially lost real control of much the territory, and by the Treaty of San Stefano on March 3, 1878, the Bulgarian state was established.

The territory was further re-divided by the 1878 Congress of Berlin into the Principality of Bulgaria, Eastern Rumelia (which united with the Principality of Bulgaria in 1885), and Ottoman Macedonia.

Now that we have a better understanding of the importance of the Battle of Shipka Pass on Bulgarian identity, let's take a closer look at the 1902 commemorative issue.



Continued on the next page....

FAKES & FORGERIES

The Stamp Issue

The 1902 lithographed three stamp issue- 5s lake, 10s blue green, 15s blue - clearly draws its inspiration from the 1893 painting by Alexy Popov from the Eagle's Nest Battle scene. One can see the Russians and Bulgarians throwing rocks at the Ottoman Turks below. A dead comrade hangs over the rock escarpment. The brutal nature of 19th century battle fighting is captured by the lithographic drawing- and, perhaps the heroism as well.

I was quite attracted to the issue when I first saw it, and clearly I was not the only one. Yes, the forgers saw the attraction also. ! A lithographic stamp is much easier to forge successfully compared to an engraved one.

The most successful forgery- and quite plentiful in the packet trade- was distributed by N. Imperato of Genoa, Italy. From 1920 to 1922, he published a pamphlet "*Il Facsimile*" which touted his "reprints" at one-tenth catalog. He was quite able to get his forgeries into the packet trade, as I have seen his stamps scattered in older collections for Batum, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Fiume, Haiti, and Karelia.

Although Spiro, Fournier, and De Sperati are more famous/infamous- perhaps because they produced forgeries of early expensive classical stamps- I can almost guarantee that if one has a general WW classical collection formed, in part, from the packet trade, one will have N. Imperato forgeries in the collection.



Imperato forgery



To wit: a quick review of several collections revealed the majority of examples of the 1902 Battle of Shipka Pass issue stamps to be N. Imperato forgeries.

One reason the 1902 Shipka Pass N. Imperato forgeries are ubiquitous in collections is that they are quite good! The perforations for the genuine are 11 1/2, but measured, the forgeries are closer to 11 1/4.

Three "signs" are pointed out by Varro E. Tyler (*Focus on Forgeries* c2000), and I found four additional "signs". The colored arrows above locate the signs.

- * Red arrow: "a" sign, * Black arrow: "Rifle" sign
- * Yellow arrow: "P" sign, * Orange arrow: "Hand" sign
- * Green arrow: "2" sign, * Blue arrow: "Scrollwork" sign
- * Fuchsia arrow: "H" sign

Left, 1902 Scott 70 5s lake, Genuine

For the following close-up scans, refer to the colored arrows in the ([Link](#)) above.

Genuine bottom left

* "a" sign (red arrow)- the upper portion of the fifth character from the left in the horizontal inscription looks like an "a". The top of the "a" is flat. (V. Tyler)

* "Rifle" sign (black arrow)- of the two soldiers seen in the gap of the mountain, the rifle carried by one soldier touches his shoulder. (V. Tyler)



Forgery bottom right

* "a" sign (red arrow)- the upper portion of the fifth character from the left in the horizontal inscription looks like an "a". The top of the "a" is curved. (V. Tyler)

* "Rifle" sign (black arrow)- of the two soldiers seen in the gap of the mountain, the rifle carried by one soldier does *not* touch his shoulder. (V. Tyler)



Continued on the next page....



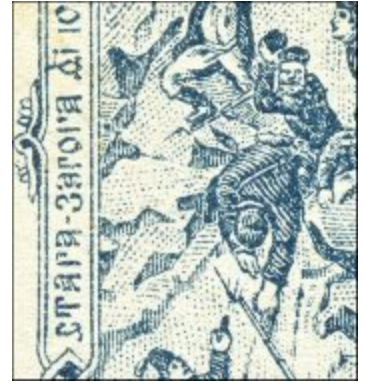
FAKES & FORGERIES

Genuine, left

- "P" sign (yellow arrow)- the character above the "O" in the vertical inscription looks like a "P".
- "Hand" sign (orange arrow)- although there are two thick internal vertical lines drawn for the right hand of the dead soldier, three distinct fingers are not obvious.

Forgery, right

- "P" sign (yellow arrow)- the character above the "O" in the vertical inscription looks like a parallel longer line and a shorter line- definitely *not* like a "P".
- "Hand" sign (orange arrow)- for the right hand of the dead soldier, three distinct fingers are obvious (compare).



Genuine left

- * "2" sign (green arrow)- the "2" of "1902" clears the scrollwork (V. Tyler), or just barely touches the scrollwork. Note: Tyler states the "2" does not touch the scrollwork, but the above example shows it is not always true.
- * "Scrollwork" sign (blue arrow)- the scrollwork located in the four corners of the stamp is thin in width.
- * "H" sign (Fuchsia arrow)- the "H" character at the top end of the script has a detached vertical mark.

Forgery right

- * "2" sign (green arrow)- the scrollwork pushes up against the "2", making the foot of the "2" appear blob-like. (V. Tyler)
- * "Scrollwork" sign (blue arrow)- the scrollwork located in the four corners of the stamp is thicker in width.
- * "H" sign (Fuchsia arrow)- the "H" character at the top end of the script bends vertically at the top of the "H", but is not detached.



Conclusion

Carefully examine the Genuine vs Forgery scan on the right, and see how many signs you can discern.

..And now go check your collection. !!!

Comments appreciated!

Comparison of Genuine, left and Forgery, right

Notes

Shipka Pass , Shipka Monument and 1878 Bulgaria map scans and the Alexey Popov 1893 painting appear to be in the public domain.

This material was originally part of my blog post on bigblue1840-1940.blogspot.com

Reference

Varro Tyler "Focus on Forgeries" c2000
Linn's Stamp News p 50



GENERAL INTEREST ARTICLES

Scanners - A Buying Guide -

By Nelson Laviolette (falschung)



There are several types of scanners but we will concentrate on **flatbed** and **hand-held wand** scanners.

For those collectors or sellers who want to produce album pages, scan multiple pages or get duplex scans (both sides scanned at the same time i.e. postcards) in high speed, a sheet fed scanner may be the answer.

They do tend to be pricey and most appear to be limited to scans of 600 DPI. Trying to scan a page with stamps on it is not recommended.

Left, a typical sheet fed scanner

We have 2 types of flatbed scanners to choose from, All-In-Ones and Dedicated

All-In-Ones that print, scan, fax

The main feature are;

- They generally have ADF (automatic document feed) which is nice if you are scanning a lot of loose pages but of no advantage for individual stamps or mounted stamp pages.
- They can be fast and energy efficient.
- They have a smaller footprint than having separate units.
- They may be more cost effective than separate units.
- They come in wireless models.



On the negative side;

- They share circuitry, so if the printer malfunctions, the scanner may not work and repairs are prohibitive.
- The chances that you will need to use it for faxing are slim.
- The scanning features and quality are limited as they use what is called **CIS** technology (see below) and generally the software that comes with them has limitations although this varies with the manufacturer.
- They may only be able to scan at a maximum 600 DPI for most models.
- The lid system may not allow for easy scanning of books.
- They are not portable

Where do the terms CIS and CCD come in?

Flatbed scanners come in 2 technologies **CIS** (Contact Image Sensor) and **CCD** (Charged Couple Device). These features are seldom noted in the product description so you may have to find the specifications on the manufacturer's site.

For reference, CCD's are usually used as the image sensors in high resolution digital cameras.

CIS's on the other hand are less expensive to manufacture and require less space, hence you find it in the lower priced slim body type scanners and as a cost effective solution in All-In-Ones.



A typical CIS scanner left and CCD on the right.

The popular low cost Canon LIDE 220 and Epson Perfection V39 are both CIS versions.

Continued on the next page

GENERAL INTEREST ARTICLES

Do you really care about CIS vs. CCD

Unless you want very high quality images, greater depth of field and versatility, the answer is NO!
However I would still not consider an All-In-One as a viable choice.

The Canon LIDE 220 and Epson V39 CIS scanners mentioned previously can be found for under \$90 USD and as low as \$50-\$60 on clearance. I bought a Canon LIDE 210 for \$30 USD at a local Future Shop.

Both scanners will scan up to **4800 DPI** and both do not require an AC power source as they get power through the USB, a nice energy efficient feature.

They are no larger than a 15" laptop and with the USB power source, they can be portable.

Another feature which is generally found in the software that comes with the scanner is **OCR** (Optical Character Recognition).

This allows you to scan a book or document and save as a pdf which can then be searched or have text copied. In essence, it transforms a picture pdf into a text pdf .

A very important feature is what operating systems are supported, Windows, Mac and Linux. Most modern scanners are compatible but best to check. One good reason not to buy an older model without first checking for compatibility.

The one feature that is generally lacking in capability is the software that controls the image quality and operation of the scanner. We will discuss this in the next newsletter.

So, should you consider a CCD scanner?

The key features of CCD's are

1. Greater depth of field
2. Higher resolution factors
3. Better color rendition
4. Often come with film or slide accessories

1. Greater depth of field means you can scan objects that have texture like embossed stamps or coins. It also helps eliminate those dark edges of the spine when scanning a book. A CIS scanner only effectively scans a flat surface object.

2. Higher resolution can be important if you want to use your scanner for high quality printing. A 300 DPI scan of a stamp will look fine on your monitor but to print a quality 8 X 10 of it you are going to need a much higher DPI scan (more on that next time).

3. Although CIS scanners are getting much better, a CCD scanner will give you better and more accurate color rendition.

4. Many people have old slides or film they want to digitize. For that you need the right accessories and the capability of **6400 to 9600 DPI** scans.

These are 2 of the most popular and best rated CCD scanners in the lower price range.
Prices range from \$175-\$250 USD.

Overall, the Canon is my personal preference.

Continued on the next page....

	Epson Perfection V550	Canon CS9000F MkII
Speed	15 seconds 300dpi Scan	7 seconds 300dpi Scan
Resolution	6400 x 9600dpi Film Scanning Resolution	9600 x 9600dpi Film Scanning Resolution



GENERAL INTEREST ARTICLES

Hand Held Wand Scanners

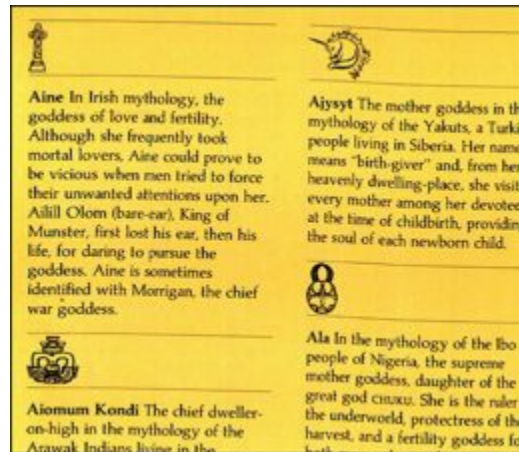
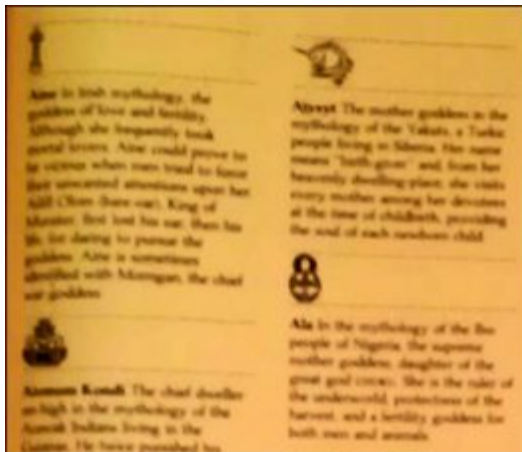
A handy item if you go to shows or the library and need a decent scan as opposed to a camera shot.

These are not the scanners normally described as “portable”. Portable scanners (sample right) require that you feed the sheet through the mechanism as opposed to passing over it.



- They are battery operated and have a micro SD card (like a camera) as large as 32 Mb.
- The battery will probably last about 150 or more scans.
- They take pictures as jpgs or pdfs which you can then transfer to your computer via a USB connector.
- Some models may be wireless.
- They may have mini rollers to easily glide over a page.
- Resolution is generally 300 to 600 DPI (one boasts 900 DPI).
- They scan with a CIS imager.
- Most show your settings, storage space and battery life.
- They generally work for any operating system but check first.

Below, is a comparison page of a camera photo (left) and a VuPoint wand scanner (right) taken by an amateur .



The downside is that you need a steady hand to get good results.

Also you have to move the wand at a speed that matches the scanning resolution although the manufacturers note that the scanning speed is as fast as any flatbed scanner. Some have a built in beeper that warns you if you go too fast.

I have not seen these scanners from Canon or Epson at this time.

It seems the main players are VuPoint, IRIScan, Braun, Wolverine, SVP and TaoTronics

I have no personal recommendations on these systems.

They are available at prices from \$50 to \$150.

Next Issue - Scanning Techniques and Image Processing

GENERAL INTEREST ARTICLES

Helpful Hints From the Frog

By William Wensley (firstfrog2013)



This tip will concern knowledge.

There is absolutely no way you can remember everything there is about the areas you collect but, by reviewing catalogs regularly some of the information will become implanted in your mind.

When you see stamps listed in auction some of the information will pop back in your head about the sets and varieties to be found. Using this knowledge you can then use it to your advantage by this part two of this tip "markets"

From personal experience I have had great luck finding great stamps at bargain prices by carefully looking at listings.

If the catalog you most often use is Scott's, try looking closely at listings quoting Stanley Gibbons, or Yvert. The reciprocal is also true.

I mainly use Unitrade and my best finds have been shipped from Great Britain, listed by SG numbers. Why is this true? Not every catalog will list varieties, if the seller is not aware of them, they may be overlooked. Try looking at listings in other venues, British commonwealth in Germany eBay, etc.

Which brings us to the final part of this tip. Heaven knows I'm much less than computer savvy but this one is simple. Open images in separate window. With a little practice, you can pick out smaller details of the stamps. Using your computer tools you may even be able to magnify the image for closer study. When in doubt presume what you see is the most common stamp but the treasures are out there to be found.

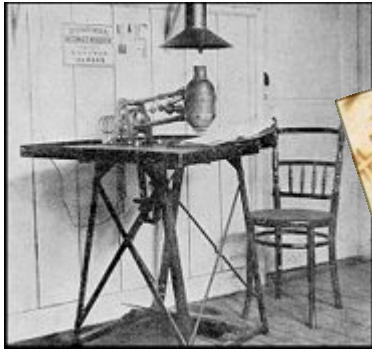
Using these simple tips I have added thousands of dollars in catalog value to my own collection in just the past year, while operating on a shoe string budget. You won't win all the time or luck out constantly but, your odds will improve.



**We need your advice, hints and tips!
Support your newsletter.
Send us your comments.**

Stamp Oddities

UP IN FLAMES



In 1900, the Dutch Post Office asked an engineer from The Hague, Mr. van der Valk, to construct a machine that could burn a postmark impression onto stamps that were affixed to postcards and envelopes.

The Vulcanus machine, as van der Valk called his device, used a kerosene flame to heat the postmark which could reportedly cancel 240 letters and/or postcards per minute. The machine however did damage or destroyed the contents and the project was finally abandoned.

If At First You Don't Succeed...

In another attempt to make US post Civil War stamps un-reusable, an inventor came up with a novel idea.

His plan was to insert an explosive cap in the paper during the manufacturing process.

The postal clerk would then strike the stamp causing it to explode and make it unusable. There is no account of injuries but the Post Office decided to not go ahead with the project.



In 1936 Bermuda, the headquarters of the British Yachting in the Atlantic, issued a stamp to depict the "Viking" which won the Prince of Wales Cup.

However, yachtsmen were quick to point out to the embarrassed Bermuda Post Office that the craft was in

reality the American owned yacht "Lucie"



In 1807 the emperor Henri Christophe had no currency so he based all monetary transactions on the value of gourds which grow prolifically in the area. 1 Gourde is divided into 100 Centimes. Currently 100 Gourdes are worth about \$1.50 in US currency.

German Kaiser Wilhelm was so enamored by the stage actress Anna Fuhring that he ordered her portrait to be shown as the symbol of "Germania". This design appeared on stamps from 1900 to 1921.



Apparently, although George Washington could not tell a lie, the US Post Office could.

A credo stamp featuring George Washington's famous statement caused an uproar when it was discovered that the signature was a fake. The Post Office admitted it had altered the signature to make it more legible.

The genuine signature

THE STAMP FORUM



APS Chapter 1591 News

By Steve Tomisek, APS Chapter Representative

This time of year is renewal season for APS memberships and I'm pleased to announce that our Chapter is current through 2017. If you are interested in joining APS, please remember that our Chapter will receive \$5 for each new member that it has referred. If interested, please send me a forum PM or enter "Chapter 1591 APS# C-222596" on the Sponsor line of the membership application.

We are participating in the *APS "Articles of Distinction"* program. During September, our membership will select the "best article" from among those published in these newsletters during preceding year. The winner will be recognized by the APS and his or her article will be posted on the APS website. Members are encouraged to submit newsletter articles and more information is available at <http://thestampforum.boards.net/post/43323/thread>.

Interested in Exhibiting? The latest *APS Manual of Philatelic Judging* has been posted on the APS website. The manual provides both judges and exhibitors with current guidelines on how to judge or create an exhibit.

On October 28, 2016 APS and the American Stamp Dealers Association co-hosted a *Summit on the Future of Philately* with the aim of discussing and developing actions to strengthen the hobby. Any questions or comments you might have should be sent to future@stamps.org.

Should you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding our Chapter or the APS, please feel free to contact me (tomiseksj) via the Forum's private messaging system.

TSF Highlights

A special "Thank You" to **bobby1948** for his very generous [give-aways](#) of French & Spanish colonies, Brazil and Germany. TSF leads the stamp forums in member give-aways.

Regular contributors to our unique **TSF Member Blogs** provided us with some great articles;

PostmasterGS highlighted more of his outstanding [Germany collection](#) and added a special post of creating album pages with [Publisher](#)

jkjblue added to the "[bigblue 1840-1940](#)" blog with a new entry. A fully completed [Scott International 1840-1940 Album](#) from Bud - yes all 34,700 stamps!

swh gave us an update on completing the [Oceania profile](#) of his website.

falschung added new postings on his "[WW Forgeries](#)" Blog with entries for forgeries of Czechoslovakia and Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

The [Cinderella section](#) had many contributions with posts on Delandre Vignettes, Esperanto labels, Great Britain, Canada and US entries.

TSF's most popular thread [The Postmark Calendar](#) reached 3,000 replies and over 50,000 views!

The Forum gained 19 new members during September and October, bringing our membership total to 328 as of November 1, 2016. As of this writing, 7 of those members have posted on the New Member Introductions board and are now able to take part in almost all areas of the Forum. For old and new alike, please take the time to make all of our recent joins feel welcome and encourage their participation. If you are a member who has not yet introduced yourself, regardless of when you joined, please let us know who you are and what you collect -- we'd love to hear from you!

Need Another Reason to Join The Stamp Forum?

Our APS membership courtesy of **tomiseksj** provides members who have reached the 2 week, 50 post milestone with access to the forum copy of the "American Philatelist" and APS updates.



THE STAMP FORUM



The Stamp Forum Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of The Stamp Forum. Opinions expressed in articles in this newsletter are not necessarily endorsed by the forum and the forum cannot be responsible for the accuracy of any information printed herein.

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