



**Stamps**  
Napoleon

**Postcards**  
The Monaco of Yore

**Coins**  
The 20-mark Gold Coin

**Photography**  
Santa Claus Poses for a Photo



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# Editorial

MonacoPhil has come and gone.

Following a delay of a year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we were very happy to be able to travel to the Rock again to take part in the best stamp collecting show in the world.

With themes ranging from India to Napoleon, we discovered exhibits that were equally rich and informative, for the greatest pleasure of stamp collectors.

Delcampe once again partnered with this wonderful event. We invite you to discover some beautiful photo-souvenirs of our cocktail, which was a great moment of conviviality for passionate collectors.

We also have the great pleasure of presenting an interesting article on the postal history of the Napoleonic era. The magazine lets you explore some very beautiful letters which were exhibited in the collection dedicated to the emperor. This fascinating subject is covered in an excellent book by the famous philatelic expert Maurice Boule.

We will also spend some time in the Tranquebar region in India, whose original history makes it a very interesting philatelic topic. It was Danish before being colonised by the British. It also provides an introduction to a much more complete work on Indian stamps by Eric Scherrer.

I'll also take you to the Monte Carlo of yesteryear. The neighbourhood

has changed quite a bit in a hundred years. Its wealth and renown are intimately tied to its casino. So, I invite you to take a pleasant stroll through the past. And, staying in Monaco's past, I will also introduce you to Princess Charlotte,

whose stamps were surcharged for her wedding. They are a must for your collection if you are a fan of stamps from Monaco.

And there's more. I also invite you to come with me to the Monnaie de Paris' striking workshop and to discover some Russian currency stamps. We also take this opportunity to talk about German 20-mark coins.

Other, lighter, topics are also featured in postcards. I guarantee that you'll make some nice discoveries. On the one hand, we'll talk about the illustrator Nanni and, on the other, about aluminium postcards!

With respect to photography...there are a few year-end holiday photos!

I'd like to take the opportunity of this editorial to wish you wonderful year-end holidays and all the best for 2023. I hope that you'll make some wonderful discoveries and gain new knowledge, which will help you with your wonderful hobby.

Happy reading!

Héloïse Dautricourt



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# Memories of





# MonacoPhil







## A one-of-a-kind letter

The letter above is among the 100 rare philatelic items presented at the well-known stamp collectors' exhibition, MonacoPhil 2022.

With good reason: it's unique combined postage from Montreal, Canada to New York, NY, which paid the 6-pence passage rate. The letter, which is part of D.S. Kennedy's correspondence, is dated 7 July 1851.

The two stamps, a 5-cent first issue from the United States and a red 3-pence on laid paper from the first Canadian issue were both applied in Canada to pay the basic transit rate for less than 3,000 miles from Canada to the United States.

Until that time, letters to and from Canada were paid for at the border. The postal agreements between Canada and the United States, dating from 25 March 1851 and ef-

fective as of 6 April 1851, set a transit rate of 10 cents or 6 pence. The use of stamps from the two countries was probably not the purpose of the agreement, but the postage was tolerated by both countries. The option to use this combination of stamps ended after just 69 days, the date on which the United States de-monetised the first stamp issue. The articles of the agreement between Canada and the United States required that the country of origin be indicated on the letter. The curved, framed "CANADA" seal met this requirement. The two stamps were cancelled in Montreal with a seal in the shape of a target with seven rings. The curved red



"PAID" mark was applied in New York, clearly indicating that the letter had been accepted.

There are only three letters with the first-issue stamps of the United States and Canada.

Each took a different route. The second letter left the United States for Canada and the third was sent from Canada to the United Kingdom via the United States.

There are letters with United States' stamps which paid the entire postage from Canada and, inversely, stamps from Canada which

paid the entire 6-pence rate for postage to Canada from the United States. With the new stamp issue in the United States in July 1851, the regulations were changed. They clearly forbid the use of United States stamps as postage for mail coming from Canada to the United States. The two stamps were printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson. They also supplied the curved "CANADA" seal framed in red.

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# Welcome to the Monnaie de Paris (Part 2)

After visiting the Monnaie de Paris' engraving workshop and learning about the process used to engrave medals, I'm now visiting the Monnaie de Paris' coin-striking workshop. After putting on shoe covers, I've entered the workshop where the Legion of Honour and many other prestigious medals are made.

Florian Trachet, the shop foreman is enthusiastically, and very proudly, explaining his team's creations to me.

As is the case for engraving, the Monnaie de Paris is split in two units: one in Pessac where coins for everyday use are struck and one in Paris.

Medals and collector coins and decorations, including the

Legion of Honour and most other official French medals, are struck in the striking workshop in Paris.

The tooling materials (dies, matrices, etc.) and, of course, the metal and enamel required are received here. A number of different alloys like monetary bronze, Florentine bronze, as well as silver, pure silver, and

The Monnaie de Paris building ©Gilles Targat-Monnaie de Paris.



gold, which can also be used as an alloy for different types of gold, are worked here. We'll shape the medal, coin and decoration.

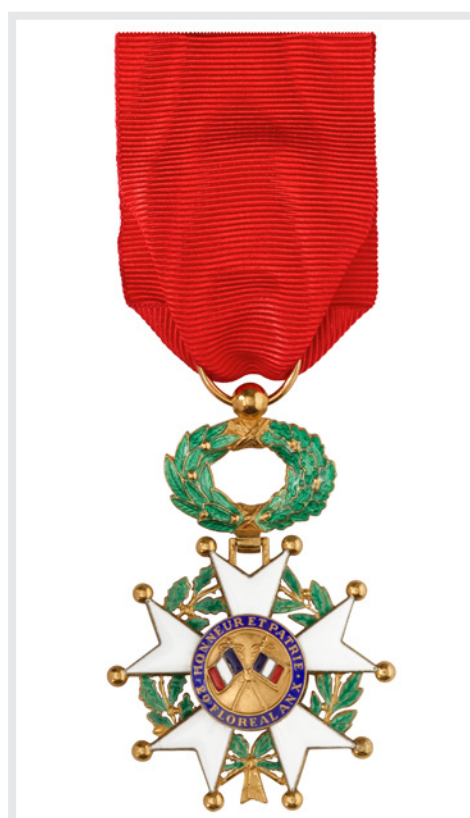
After receiving the tooling, the shop foreman designs the blank, i.e., the initial round disk, and decides on the number of times it will be pressed, that is, the number of times the item will be struck, as they say here. A medal can be struck up to five times. In practice, the blank is cut based on what has been decided before the first strike, after which the shop foreman inspects the result. Striking varies depending on the tooling. The number of tonnes used for the strike is determined based on this factor. The different presses range from 650 tonnes up to 2,500 tonnes! If the first strike is not satisfactory, the medal will be melted down in an oven at 600 degrees for eight hours, in order to make it workable and to strike it again the next day. And so on, until the result is satisfactory. Decorations are made the same way, taking into account the fact that they are smaller.

Collector coins (Astérix, the Sower, the Mona Lisa, etc.) are



Two machines used to strike coins.





made on coin presses. They are struck once only. Coins are not heated again. Although they are produced in limited quantities, the runs are larger than those of medals. Between 3,000 and 5,000 silver coins are struck. Generally, 500 gold coins are struck.

The overall medal collection is based on the decisions of the Monnaie de Paris and are in line with its agenda. There are also special medal issues which are ordered by customers and used as decorations by large corporations.

In six months, more or less 150,000 medals will be made, based on demand, in addition to collector coins, whose numbers are fairly stable from one year to the next.

After being struck, the coins go through a finishing process. They are made shiny to obtain the finished product.

A gold coin featuring the Mona Lisa

©Monnaie de Paris.

Enamelling of a Legion of Honour medal

©Monnaie de Paris.

A finished Legion of Honour medal

©Monnaie de Paris.



# Top SALES



## King Otto

20 drachma gold coin  
Greece - 1833

€749



## Prince Johann II

Silver Thaler  
Liechtenstein - 1862

€1,500



## Stanislaus II Augustus

Condition: F  
Poland - 1766

€1,002.45



## Louis XVIII

20 franc gold coin,  
Condition: XF  
France, Paris, 1817

€395



## Louis XVI

Double Gold Louis,  
Condition: VF,  
France, Nantes, 1786

€1,250



## Leopold I Brussels

20 gold francs ,  
Condition: F,  
Belgium, 1865

390 €





## Les Orchidées Sauvages au Luxembourg



Majalis



Dactylorhiza



Majalis

Dactylorhiza



## Les Orchidées Sauvages au Luxembourg



# Charity orchids



## Les Orchidées Sauvages au Luxembourg

Purpurea



Orchis



## Les Orchidées Sauvages au Luxembourg



Purpurea

Orchis



Every year, Post Luxembourg presents charity issues that will support important causes. This is a way for philatelists to complete their collection while showing solidarity.



This year, orchid flowers are in the spotlight. Four beautiful stamps are issued with a surcharge of 10 to 30 cents for the benefit of those in need. The stamps can of course be purchased in sheets of 10 decorated stamps.

Last year, Post Luxembourg donated more than €19,000 to charities thanks to its philatelic charity campaigns.

The choice of the orchid is a judicious one. First of all, this delicate and elegant flower looks beautiful, but it is also sure to appeal to collectors interested in the theme of flowers. Don't hesitate to order these new stamps on [www.postphilately.lu](http://www.postphilately.lu)







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**35€**  
 shipment  
 included

# A unique collection

All luxembourgish stamps issued in 2021.

**34** postage stamps and a "black Print"  
 of the special "Christmas" stamps in one set.

[www.postphilately.lu](http://www.postphilately.lu)  
[contact.philately@post.lu](mailto:contact.philately@post.lu)

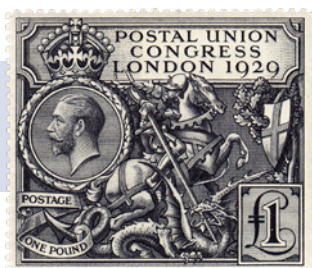
\* The value added tax varies according to the delivery address.





# Top SALES

delcampe.net



**United Kingdom**  
£1 UPU Congress \*\*  
London, 1929

**CHF580**



**30c orange Sower N°35**  
pre-stamped, Signed  
Calves and certificate ++  
«POSTES FRANCE 1921» (\*)

**€2,800**



**5F orange N°23 (COB)**  
overprinted

«URUNDI», Postmark 1-1-  
1916 «POSTES MILITAIRES»  
Ruanda-Urundi – 1916

**€2,500**



**48c red-brown \*\***  
variety broken frame be-  
low the «E» in «POSTAGE»  
British Guiana-

**725 USD**



**France**  
blue stamps with misprint BF73\*\*  
Athens 2004 Olympic Games

**€1200**



**French Sudan**

letter without postage from Bamako to Niamey taxed 60c on  
arrival in January 1926

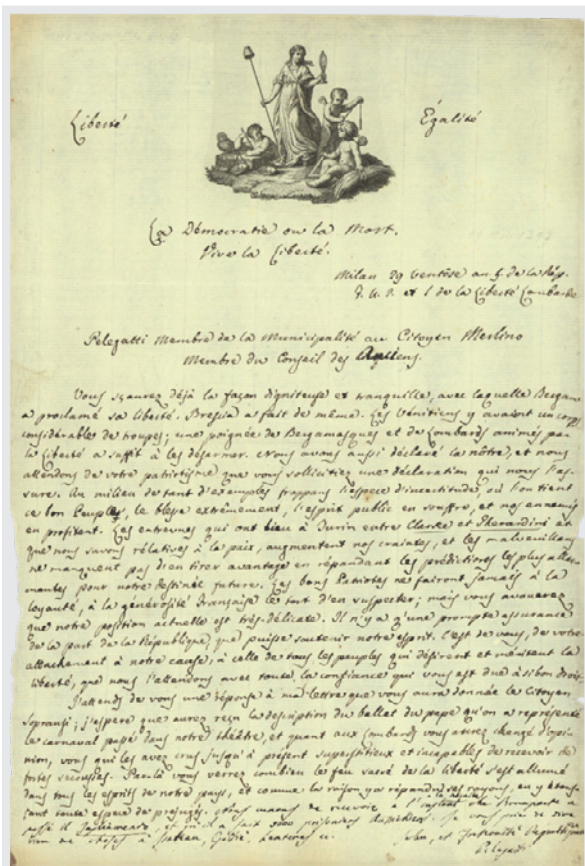
**€1,500**



# Napoleon

## An extremely rich postal history

Napoleon lived at a time when stamps as such did not yet exist. This does not mean that his reign did not have an impact on postal history. Indeed, through his various campaigns, he was directly interested in sending international mail at a time that was very far from our current communication methods. The postal history expert Maurice Boule has devoted his new book to this topic and enthusiasts will be delighted. Through a complete study detailing armies and campaigns, admirably documented with numerous letters, you can learn all about postal history and imperial history. It is impossible to summarize the book, but it is full of very beautiful and interesting documents. I have therefore decided to present you with a small selection taken directly from the book and this is just a tiny part of the absolutely splendid pieces that are described in it.



**Let's start with the letter on page 12, whose legend written by Maurice Boule is as follows:**

Letter from Cesare Pelegatti, member of the Commune of Milan, to Jean-François Merlino, a deputy and member of the Council of Elders in Paris. Milan, 19 March 1797 (Year 5 of the Republic, followed by three initials, which probably refer to the French Republic) and Year 1 of Liberty for Lombardy.

A patriotic text on provisional illustrated paper, with the hand-written header "Democracy or Death - Long live Liberty".

"You will already be aware of the dignified and quiet manner in which Bergamo proclaimed its freedom. Brescia did the same. The Venetians had a large number of forces stationed there. All it took to disarm them was a handful of Bergamasques and Lombards inspired by the idea of freedom. We have also declared our freedom and expect that your patriotism will prompt you to request a declaration that guarantees our freedom. In the face of so many striking examples, the uncertainty, in which these good people are forced to live, hurts them terribly. The public spirit suffers as a result and our enemies take advantage of this."





One can easily see all the ambiguity between the waffling French who were seemingly waiting to see which decision would benefit their interests best and the uncertainty of a people that concurred fully with their ideas, which guaranteed their protection. The rest of the letter is equally eloquent, with Pelegatti speaking on behalf of the Lombard patriots and wondering about their destiny.

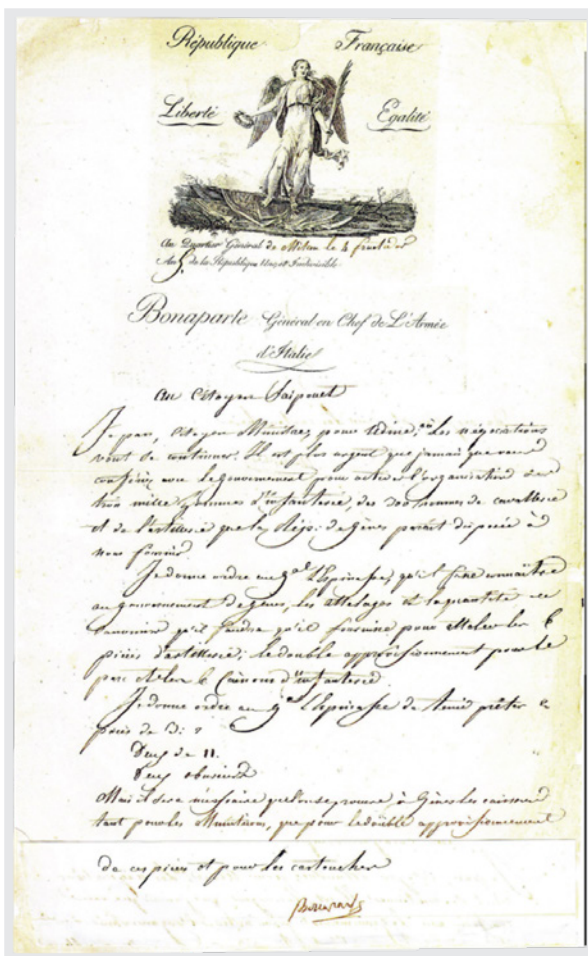
He goes on to say that: "You can see how much the sacred fire of freedom has been kindled in all the minds of our country and how reason has spread its rays in them", before ending with the following apostille: "We have just received news that Bonaparte has crossed the Tagliamento and taken 5,000 Austrians prisoner".

The vignette shows Liberty standing, looking at herself in a mirror, while holding a spear topped with a Phrygian cap in her right hand. An owl on the left. She is surrounded by three putti: the standing putto to her right holds a plumb line, a seated putto in the foreground

holds a triangle in his right hand and his left hand is resting on a sheaf (or bale of hay?); to the left, a putto (no wings visible) reclines, holding scales. Liberty gazes into the mirror, questioning her destiny. The two cherubs on the right hold Masonic attributes. The putto on the left holds the scales of justice and equality, under the piercing gaze of the owl, which represents clairvoyance. The sheaf is perhaps a sign of the abundance to be shared with everyone.

At this time, Napoleon was still General of the army. After his victory at the siege of Toulon, the suppression of the royalist insurrection of 13 Vendémiaire of the year IV and his wedding with Joséphine, Napoleon was in the process of ending the Italian Campaign victoriously. His popularity was growing in a France that was not yet very stable. Let us remember that we were only eight years after the French Revolution. If the symbols of the Republic were already established, it needed a new statesman.





**Two other very interesting letters from this period caught my attention. On page 190, first of all:**

Letter sent by the general in chief of the Army of Italy from Milan on 4 fructidor year V (21 August 1797) to Guillaume-Charles Faipoult, Minister Plenipotentiary of the Directory in the Republic of Genoa.

[...] It is more urgent than ever that you consult the government (of Genoa) in order to begin to organise 3,000 infantry men, 300 cavalry and artillery soldiers, with which the Republic of Genoa appears willing to provide us [...].”

The letterhead includes a girl with her wings spread who represents Victory holding a laurel wreath (that stands for the military glory of the general) in one hand and a palm (glory, victory) in the other hand, trampling on enemy flags with her feet. (Collection Famille Giribone)

This exceptional letter is signed by Bonaparte, then General-in-Chief of the Army of Italy. It is by definition a very rare historical piece.





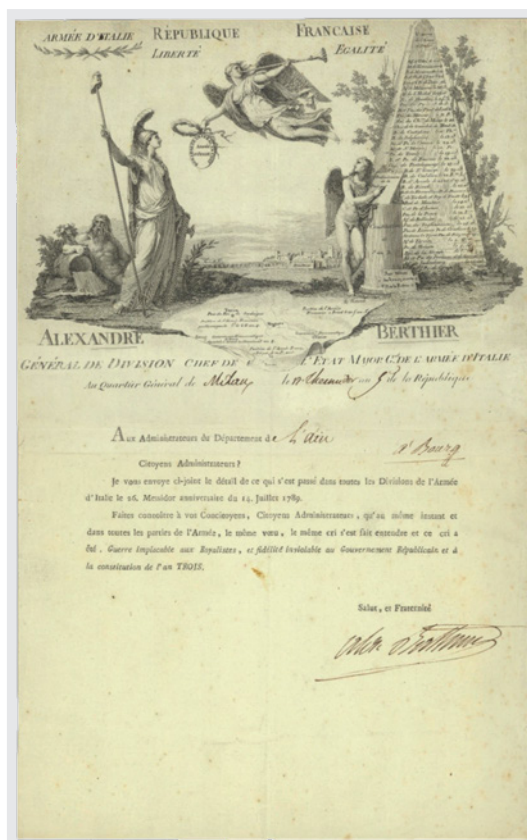
**Another beautiful historical letter is presented on page 200 with a splendid vignette.**

Letter dated 26 April 1798 written in Milan on 8 March, at the headquarters of the Army of Italy, by Guillaume Brune, the general in chief who had replaced Berthier. He would be transferred to another position on 31 October 1798, in order to lead the French forces in Batavia.

Provision of 50,000 livres to the chief authorising officer of the Army of Italy, Philippe Auberon. Very pretty vignette engraved on steel, probably representing the crowned Patrie (motherland), seated on a plinth, holding in her right hand a spear adorned with a Phrygian cap and, in her left hand, a cornucopia overflowing with fruits of the land. Behind the plinth, flags, a rifle barrel and a howitzer on the right.







### Another letter from this period is shown on page 133 of the book:

Letter written in Milan on 12 Thermidor Year V signed Alex(andre) Berthier (1st state) Desaix wrote: "The Chief-of-Staff (Berthier) has a magnificent vignette..." upon discovering, during his trip to Italy (1797), the letterhead designed by Andrea Appiani and produced in intaglio. Two versions of it exist, determined by historical events:

1. "Preliminaries of the peace of..." in anticipation of its name;
2. "Peace Treaty of Campo-Formio, 26 Frimaire Year VI".

This change shows how certain headers evolved and were modified according to circumstances or events.

As a reminder, the Treaty of Campo Formio signed in Italy between Bonaparte and the Count of Cobentzl ended the Franco-Austrian war after five years of fighting. Following this treaty, the Austrian Netherlands were annexed to France. This French victory after the siege of Toulon marked the political career of Napoleon, who did not hesitate to spread the word, thus imposing a form of propaganda by mail to promote the greatness of France.





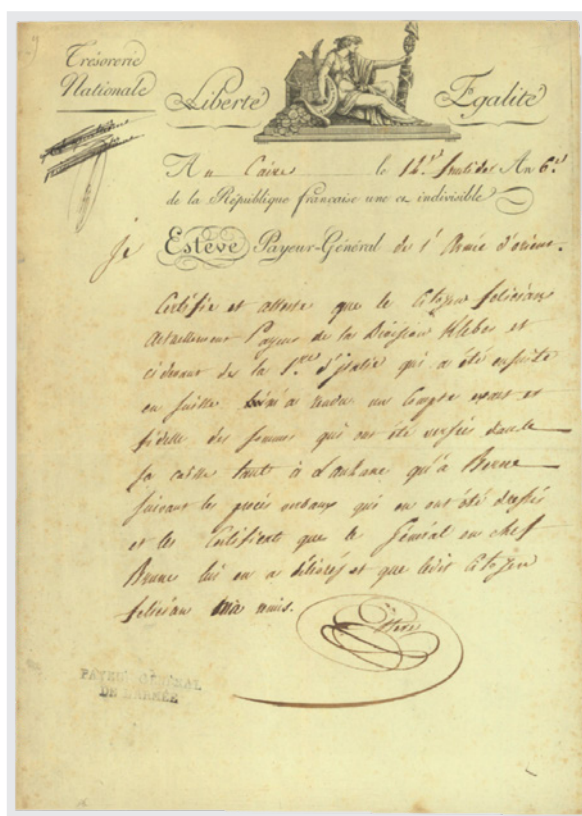
Also on page 234, in a chapter dedicated to the vignettes of the time, you will see once again that the mail can be used as an element of propaganda, highlighting the symbols of the Republic, for the greatest pleasure of our eyes.

Crowned allegory of the Republic (?) seated on a plinth while leaning against an open chest. In her left hand, she is holding bundles and an axe, which were the roman symbols for republican power, from which a spear emerges bearing a crown topped with a Phrygian cap. In her right hand, she is holding a cornucopia inscribed with the words "Trésorerie Nat.le" that produces a stream of coins.

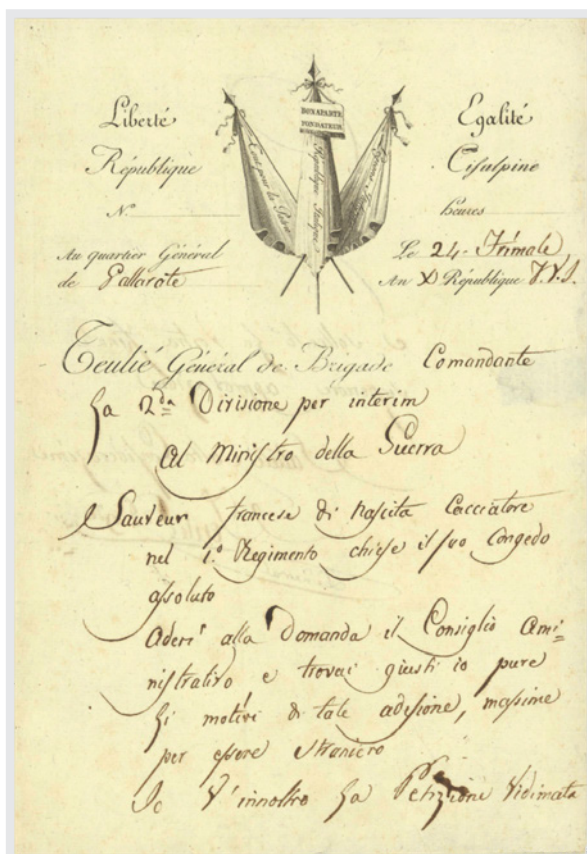
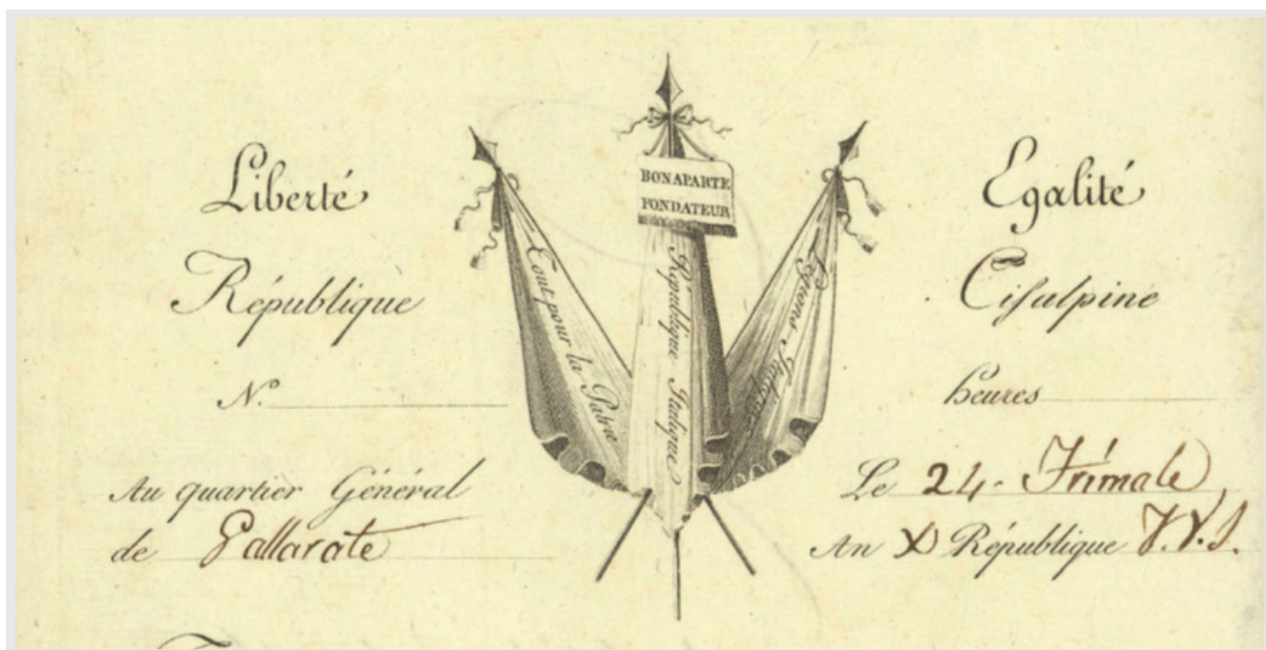
Poize fecit (produced by Pierre Poize, an engraver from Marseille and probably a member of the Egyptian expedition as a printer).

Certificate concerning citizen Folisian, paymaster of the Kléber division, confirming his good conduct in terms of keeping accounts when he was in Switzerland, Lausanne and Bern.

Issued in Cairo on 29 August 1798, signed Esteve, paymaster general of the Army of the Orient.







**The sixth letter I have selected (page 14) has the following legend:**

Document dated 15 December 1801, signed by the Italian general Pietro Teulié, Minister of War of the Cisalpine Republic, addressed to the headquarters in Gallarate, Lombardy.

General Teulié, whose virtues and fighting prowess were widely acknowledged, was killed by a cannonball during the Siege of Kolberg in the Province of Pomerania, Prussia (the present-day Kolobrzeg). A 24-hour truce was granted and observed by the Governor of Kolberg, in order to organise his funeral. As a sign of solidarity, the city covered its walls with black crepe.

The image depicts three flags, captioned with the inscriptions "Italic Legions - Italic Republic – Everything for the Fatherland". The ensemble is topped with a sign reading "Founded by Bonaparte". (Philatelic Collection of H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco)

In 1801, Napoleon was First Consul and had emerged victorious from the Egyptian Campaign. In this position, Napoleon tried above all to re-establish peace in this revolutionary France which needed stability. General Teulié was killed six years later during the siege of Colberg in 1807. Appointed Minister of War of the Cisalpine Republic, he remains a major French hero of the Italian campaign. His name is also inscribed on the famous Arc de Triomphe in Paris.





1841  
25  
MONACOPHIL  
2022

*Les Armées de  
Bonaparte  
à Napoléon*

The Armies from Bonaparte to Napoleon  
1793-1815

Maurice Boule





**In his book, among the very beautiful letters featured, Maurice Boule presents the army postmarks.**

During the Italian campaign, the General-in-Chief organised how the post office was run down to the smallest details, which revealed his innate sense of organisation in all fields, as evidenced during the consular and imperial periods.

The First Consul created the "Government Couriers" on 12 October 1802, which were reserved for official correspondence only and replaced by the "Estafettes" who travelled across Europe from Lisbon to Moscow during the 10 years of the Empire.

There were two types of mail: standard and special mail. The first category included all routine letters. The second category (special delivery) was primarily used by army staff, generals, intendants-general and commissaires-ordonnateurs for service letters...

In line with civilian post office practices, origin, postage due and postage paid marks were marked exclusively on the front of letters. They almost always include the word "Army" in full or abbrevi-

ated form, failing which an unequivocal term (for example "troops" in the Netherlands) was used to inform the postal and other services which specific military tariffs were applicable. Postmarks were also used to show where they were added and in order to differentiate between them, if necessary (management of returns, déboursés and accounting, etc.). Each office was unique. In order to identify it with certainty, large armies could mention the number of a corps, division, etc. This was no longer the case in the Grande Armée or other armies, where numbers seem to have been randomly allocated. In principle, each office had three postmarks:

- One for ports dus (PD, postage due);
- One for ports payés (PP, postage paid);
- One for déboursés (DB).

On page 96, this letter bears the army postmark.

Mainz, 25 November 1806, postage paid. Letter from Christiana Destournelles to her husband, lieutenant of the guides-interpreters at the Emperor's headquarters. (Philatelic collection of H.S.H Prince Albert II of Monaco)



**Maurice Boule also highlights this interesting insured letter:**

He describes how it works in his book on page 105 before presenting us with a mail as an interesting example:

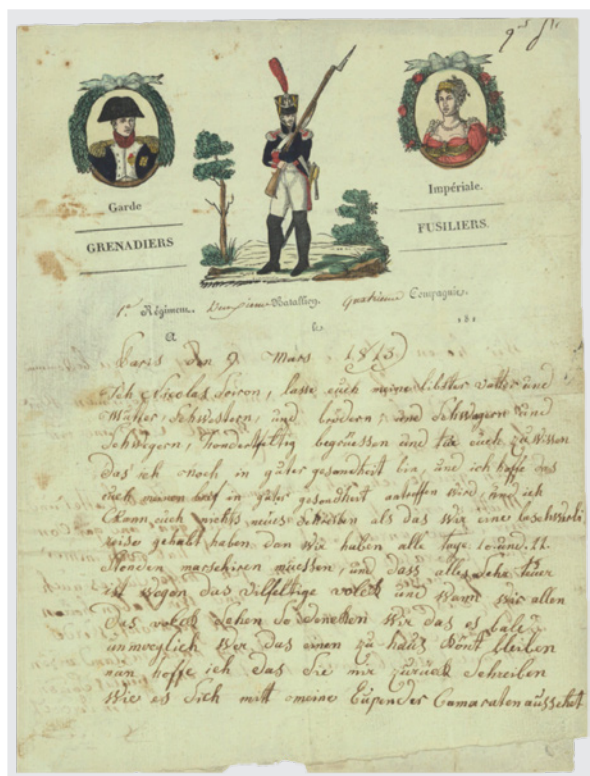
Insured letters were officially recognised with the 1759 tariff and postage was double that charged for a standard letter. From 1786 onwards, a fixed amount of compensation would be paid in the event of loss by the administration. Insured letters had to be sealed with several (3 to 5) wax seals. Sealing wafers (small self-adhesive patches that were inserted between the back of the letter and the flap) were not deemed sufficiently safe. Envelopes became compulsory during the Revolution, but could no longer be sent postage due after 1791. Senders were then required to pay the postage before sending the letter. In addition, the administration had to use the 'CHARGÉ' (insured) handstamp, which had recently been introduced, for this type of mail.

Registered letter sent from Vienna by Baron Aaron-Claude-Théodore Chaponnel Adjutant, chief of the headquarters of the grenadier corps to his chargé d'affaires. It included a banker's draft for 1,500 francs, which was to be used for his wife's pension, and informed his correspondent that he

was injured. He died in Vienna one month later on 8 July. On the back, the weight is recorded (13 grams), together with the postage (28 décimes), which corresponds to the fourth weight bracket (11 to <15 grams), with double the postage charged for an insured letter. It was entered as No. 30 in the office's register of insured letters. The other two numbers do not seem to refer to post office matters. (Philatelic collection of H.S.H Prince Albert II of Monaco).







### Everyday heroes

However, Maurice Boule's book and the exhibition dedicated to Napoleon do not only provide a military history of the French emperor. The book also presents a number of testimonies of the daily life of soldiers and other members of the Napoleonic armies. You will thus be able to discover that from the soldier to the canteen worker, the illustrated letters are well represented in the collection.

### I will give you a few examples:

**On page 79, this very beautiful letter described as follows:**

Family letter thought to have been sent by a cantiniere and written in Boulogne on 27 December 1811, with a reproduction of the Collar of the Legion of Honour, which was reserved for the emperor, his brothers and a few very high dignitaries. It consists of sixteen small medallions numbered 1 - 16 in roman numerals, which symbolise the sixteen cohorts of the Legion of Honour separated by the same number of eagles. In the centre, the imperial eagle clasping a thunderbolt topped with a crowned helmet, all of which rests on an ermine mantle. (Michel Poulthier collection)

### On page 151, Maurice Boule presents a soldier's letter.

Paris, 9 March 1813 Letter from Nicolas Soiron, a rifleman-grenadier of the Imperial Guard in the 1st regiment, 2nd battalion, 4th company, stationed in Paris.

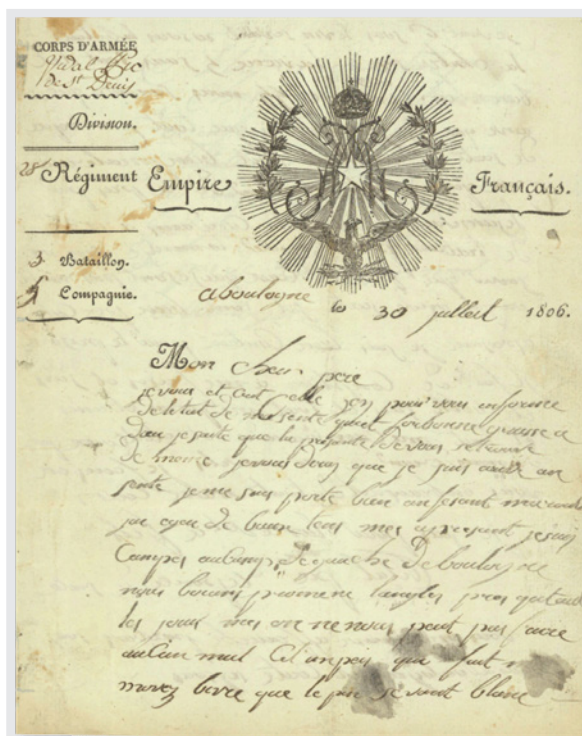
The regiment, created by the decree of 19 September 1809, comprised 1,600 men. He was subsequently assimilated into the Middle Guard. (Philatelic collection of H.S.H. Albert II of Monaco)



**Finally, I will end with a letter that I have selected from page 339:**

Family message on a "cantiniere" letter written in Boulogne on 30 July 1806 by a certain Vidal Pic from Saint-Denis, in the canton of Saint Amand, in the Mende district in the Lozere département. At the time, he was part of the 5th company of the 3rd battalion of the 28th regiment, at the left camp at Boulogne. The letter was handled by the civilian post office in Boulogne (postmark: 61/BOULOGNE/SUR-MER).

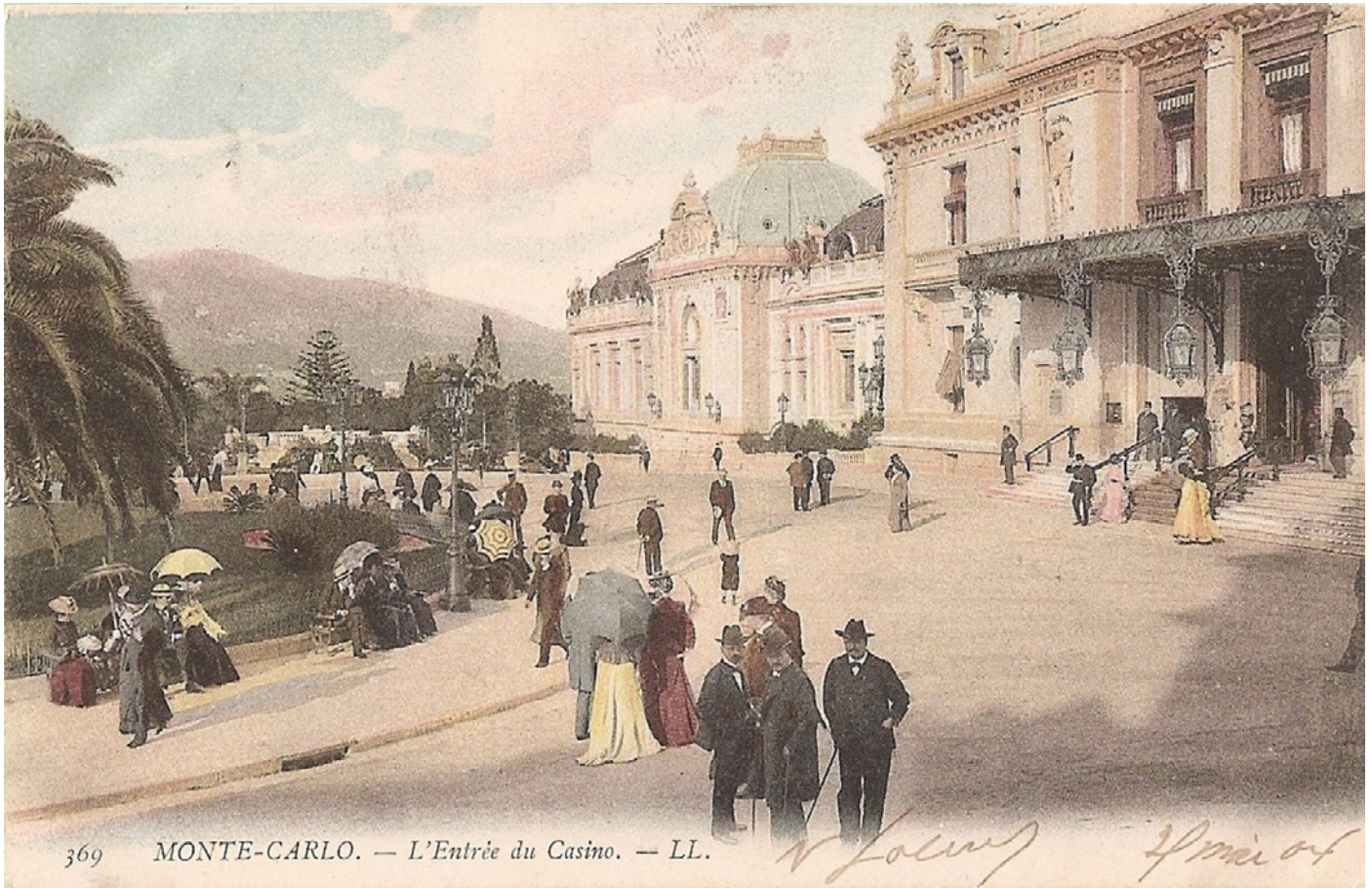
The stationery is decorated with the Emperor's monogram (two interwoven "Ns") framed by two laurel branches above the imperial eagle, which holds thunderbolts in its talon, topped by the imperial crown, all of which rests on a shining star. (Philatelic Collection of H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco)



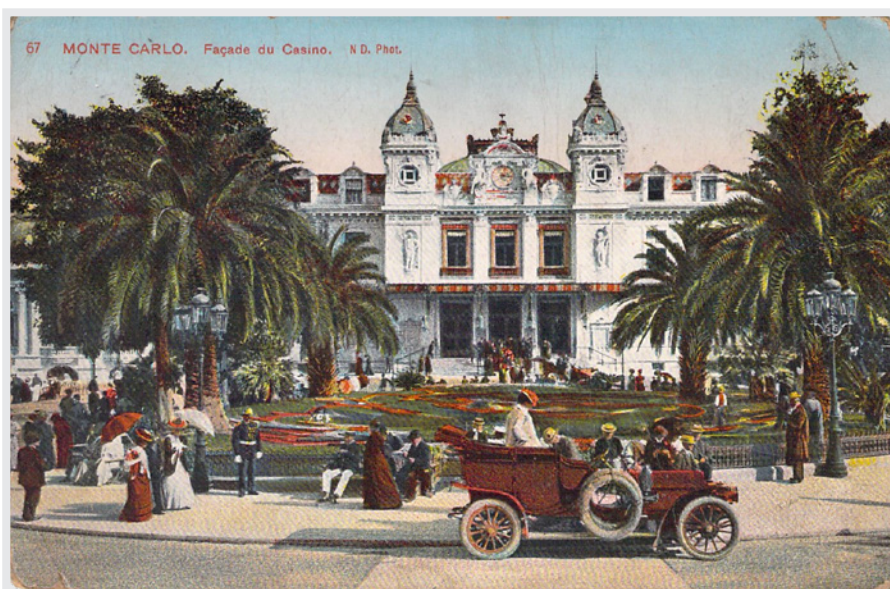
Nothing compares to the pleasure of admiring them in person at the magnificent exhibition devoted to Napoleon during this MonacoPhil. However, in order to be able to enjoy these treasures for a long time to come, do not hesitate to purchase Maurice Boule's book «The armies from Buonaparte to Napoleon». You will discover a very thorough study of postal history at the time of Napoleon.







# Welcome to Monte Carlo... 100 years ago!



Monte Carlo, Monaco's most famous neighbourhood, owes its name and opulence to Prince Charles III. In fact, its name means Mount Charles. A dream destination, it's thanks to a visionary spirit and a daring bet, that it is now one of the most prestigious places in the world.



One of its major assets is its casino, whose construction was authorised by Prince Charles III in 1856. After several unfruitful attempts, the project was entrusted to François Blanc, via the intermediary of the Société des Bains de Mer, founded in 1863 and owned by the prince. He had the casino built on the Spélugues Plateau along with hotels, boutiques and beautiful villas, making it into a highly sought-after neighbourhood. In 1866, the neighbourhood was renamed Monte Carlo to pay homage to the prince.

A separate municipality since then, Monte Carlo became the most privileged area of Monaco. Given the many benefits provided by residency on the Rock, several high-rises were built starting in the 1970s, changing the landscape.

If MonacoPhil had taken place over 100 years ago, you would have arrived in Monaco by car, train or coach.

You would have stayed at the Hermitage,

#### On the left page

Old postcard of the casino entrance

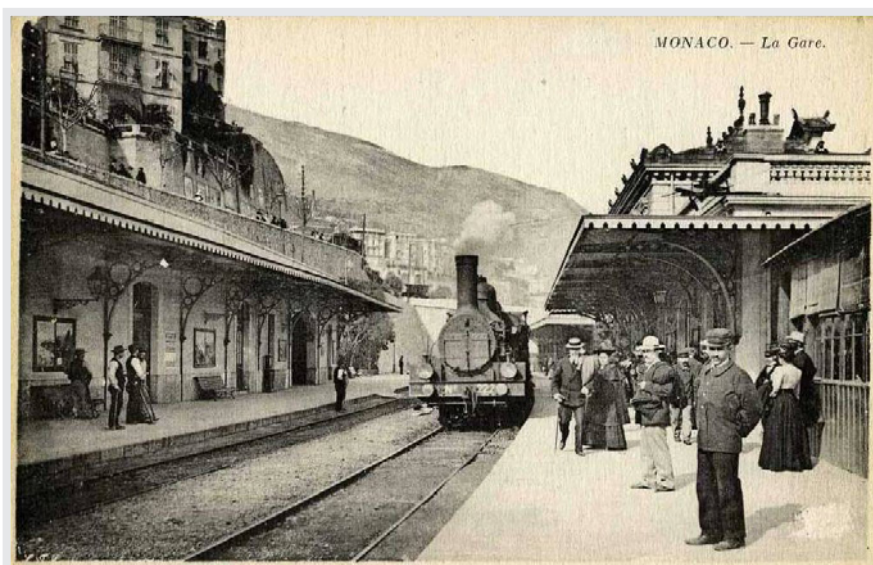
Old postcard of the casino façade and gardens

#### On this page

Old Monaco shuttle postcard

Old Monaco train station postcard

Old postcard of the Café de Paris in Monte-Carlo.







which opened its doors in 1896 after six years of construction. You would have eaten at the Café de Paris, which opened in 1868, and you would have strolled through the casino gardens before, perhaps, hitting the jackpot playing roulette or blackjack. Or you would have attended the opera (starting in 1878). While Monte Carlo has changed significantly over a century, becoming a dream tourist destination, it's amusing to see, thanks to photos and postcards of the period, the places that stamp collectors from around the world like to visit during the prestigious MonacoPhil exhibition!

**Do you want to see other Monte Carlo postcards? You can find them on Delcampe!**

[CLICK HERE](#)

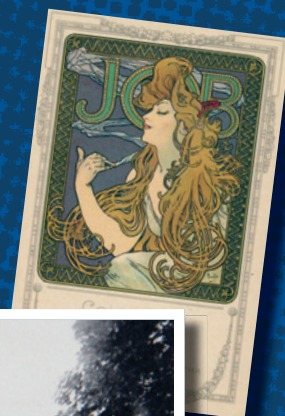
Old postcard illustrating the casino's Moorish room

Old postcard of the Hermitage Hotel  
Old Café de Paris postcard.





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The collectors' marketplace



# Alexander Haimann

## the collector honoured by Delcampe

This 36 year-old American who lives in St Louis, Missouri, has a very broad vision of his passion for philately and postal history, which he agreed to share with us.

### What is (are) your job(s)?

I am a partner at Less Annoying CRM. We provide simple software to small businesses across many different industries to help them keep track of their prospects and customers. Before my current job, I worked as a Collections Specialist for the Smithsonian Institution's National Postal Museum in Washington, DC.

the mail and started pulling stamps off the mail that came in that day. My father was able to find his childhood collection that evening and it snowballed from there.

My introduction to organized philately came when I joined the West Suburban Stamp Club in Plymouth, Michigan and shortly thereafter the American Philatelic Society.

### How did you discover philately?

29-years ago, my school teacher brought some worldwide stamps into our class to facilitate a simple geography lesson. I thought it was the greatest, coolest thing to be able to hold a little piece of so many different countries all at the same time. Our teacher let each of us keep a few of the stamps and when I got home that afternoon, I went to

### Could you briefly explain what the main subjects or themes of your collection are (place, time period, style, subjects, etc.)?

I have never met a stamp, cover or postal item that I didn't like. As a result, it has been very difficult to specialize. I figure when I grow-up, I'll settle down and specialize in one main subject/theme within philately ;-) To name a few of my collecting areas: February 29th - Leap Year Day postal history, items related to the history of stamp collecting/philately, 3D items sent through the mail, stamps used in unusual circumstances or special purposes (including stamps used for purposes not officially allowed) and U.S. military postal history.





I have a collection of worldwide stamps, covers and postcards which each tell a fun story of some kind that can easily be shared with non-collectors.

Now the area which I have committed the most time and effort over the past 15-years is the postal history of the 1879 Anglo-Zulu War. The history of this 6-month long war between the British colonial government in South Africa and the independent Zulu Kingdom has many fascinating elements but the initial successes of the Zulu army's defense of their territory stands-out in the history of modern warfare. Within two weeks of the British invasion, the Zulu army successfully defeated a British and Colonial field force at the Battle of iSandlwana, destroying half a column and forcing the rest to retire, besieged another at Eshowe and halted the advance of a third in the north of their country. The Zulu victory at iSandlwana would prove the greatest single defeat to be inflicted on the British Army during the Victorian era. My collection of this famous conflict extends well beyond postal items to include Zulu shields, spears, beadwork, letters, telegrams, period photographs, British uniforms and more. All of this will be the focus of a museum exhibition at the Spear Museum of Philatelic History at the Royal Philatelic Society, London in July 2023.

### **With whom do you share your passion (family, friends, associations, clubs, etc.)?**

I am fortunate to share my passion with countless friends that I have made over the years through my participation in local, national and international philatelic clubs and associations. Years ago, as a much younger person in philately, I partnered with the American Philatelic Society to found the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship. This program has been a major source of pride and has helped bring other young people into organized philately.

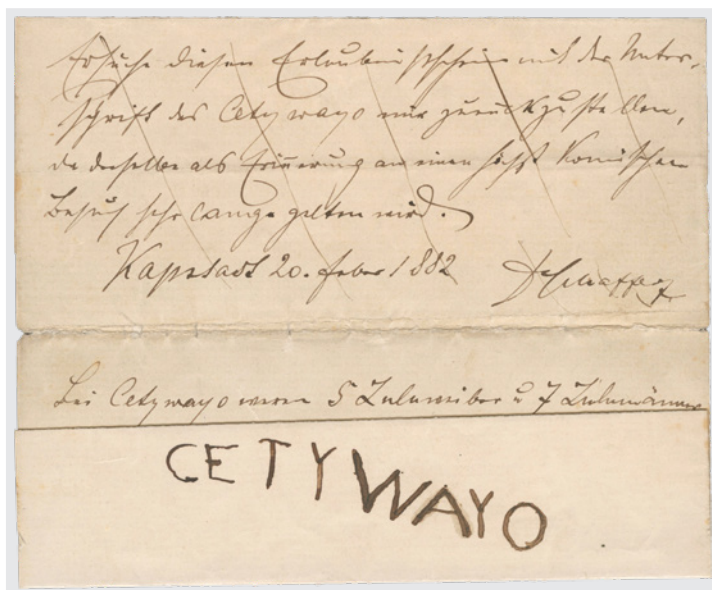
### **What is your favourite item in your collection?**

An impossible question of course. I have three children and I could not pick a favorite between them either. I'll give two favorites -

Item #1 - I have long been interested in unusual 3D items sent through the mail. This is a shoe sole sent by first class mail from Maryland to New York in 1937. The sender wrote the address on one side and wrote his message on the other side. Unfortunately, the sender did not apply enough postage to properly pay for the weight of this shoe sole to go through the mail so three 1-cent postage due stamps were applied with the recipient paying the due amount.







Item #2 - Background: Following the defeat of the Zulu Kingdom at the conclusion of the 1879 Anglo-Zulu War, the British forces captured the Zulu King Cetshwayo and imprisoned him in the Cape Town Castle on the other side of southern Africa. During his captivity from September 1879 until July 1882, he received numerous European visitors as part of a public relations campaign to have the British reinstate him to the throne of the Zulu nation. This effort proved successful and in August 1882, Cetshwayo traveled to England where he met with Queen Victoria. Upon his return, he was reinstated to the throne of the Zulu Kingdom. Unfortunately, the political ground had shifted in the intervening years. Cetshwayo was forced to flee back to the British colony for protection and died a few months later.

Item description: Handwritten letter in Gothic form of German sent within Cape Town, Cape Colony on Monday, February 20, 1882. The letter comes from a party of visiting Europeans requesting a signature from the deposed Zulu King Cetshwayo imprisoned in the Cape Town Castle. The party had received official permission to visit with Cetshwayo the previous Friday, February 17. This letter was sent the week following their in-person visit and the King obliged by signing his name and having it sent back. The British officer in charge of Cetshwayo during his captivity taught him to write his name. (Picture of the Zulu King at Cape Town Castle included here as well)



**What advice would you give to person who would like to start a collection today?**

If you are looking for inspiration on what to collect next, go to a stamp fair of any size and allow yourself to wander and explore the boxes, albums and dealer stocks available for sale. If you are trying to discover new outlets to find items for your collection once you've started - spread a wide net from searching sites like Delcampe.net to going to fairs that may not appear to be philatelic-focused but share a focus on the theme of your collecting area. Interested in military postal history items, go to a general military fair. Enjoy stamps and postcards

of Italy, go to antique stores in Italy and you may find postal items greatly undervalued by the seller.

**Which stamp or philatelic item do you dream of having or finding?**

I would love a great cover carried by the Pony Express and/or a Hindenburg Zeppelin crash cover. As I mentioned earlier, I love philatelic items with amazing stories that can easily be shared with non-collectors.







## Meet Nanni



Postcards by illustrators are an endlessly interesting topic. And, let's face it: women were often their preferred subject. Today, in your Delcampe Magazine, I'd like you to meet Nanni, an Italian illustrator who provides some very good ideas for postcard collections.

Four old postcards with women in hats drawn by Nanni.



Giovanni Nanni was an Italian illustrator. Born in 1888, he became known for his drawings of elegant women, who often wore hats. Although he isn't as well known as the other great illustrators of the early 20th century, Nanni is, nevertheless, a famous artist of La Belle Epoque. Over 1,000 of the illustrator's postcards have been sold on Delcampe at reasonable prices. Depending on how rare they are, prices range between €5 and €100 per postcard. This means that it's possible to build a beautiful and original collection for less.

Nanni's style plays on the elegance of women, who are usually wearing a hat. He also drew women with dogs, and he created a nice series with playing cards. Given his era, Nanni also drew postcards with soldiers from the First World War.

In addition, he did commission work for companies. For example, his series of automobiles for Pirelli. He also drew fashion postcards and others to promote an Olivetti typewriter. Nanni's work is relatively abundant. He drew hundreds of postcards, each of which is more beautiful than the next.

**The illustrator passed away in 1969, but left us a magnificent collection of postcards you can admire on Delcampe.**

[CLICK HERE](#)



Old postcard with a woman with a fan drawn by Nanni.

Old postcard of a woman and a soldier from the First World War.

Old postcard of a woman and deck of cards.

Old postcard of a Pirelli automobile, an order from the company drawn by Nanni.





# The Danish Indies at Tranquebar



When we talk about India's colonial past, we normally think about the English, who dominated India from 1757 to 1947. Thanks to Eric Scherrer's book, we're going to take a look at India before this period, at a time when Denmark played an important role in certain areas of the country. In fact, in the 17th century, although there was already a British presence, notably in cities like Madras and Bombay, there were also Danes in the country!

Current view of Fort Dansborg at Tranquebar ©Sankara Subramian/beontheroad.com.

Title page of the 1715 edition of the New Testament in Tamil (Franckesche Stiftungen).



The Danes reached Ceylon in 1620, via the Danish East India Company. Since they couldn't come to an agreement with the local population, they set up in Tranquebar and the surrounding region, after purchasing the territory. They built Fort Dansborg. The colony was called "Danesburg" before becoming "Tranquebar" at the beginning of the 18th century.

Tranquebar enabled the Danes to charter boats to bring back many spices to Denmark. However, the colony's location was prone to tidal waves and the British East India company was becoming increasingly commercially important. Relations between the Tranquebar colony and the motherland were so complex that, during 25 years, no boats went to the colony. Overall, the results of the colonisation of India by Denmark were disappointing and the Danish Company's activities were terminated in 1729 in favour of the Asiatic Company.

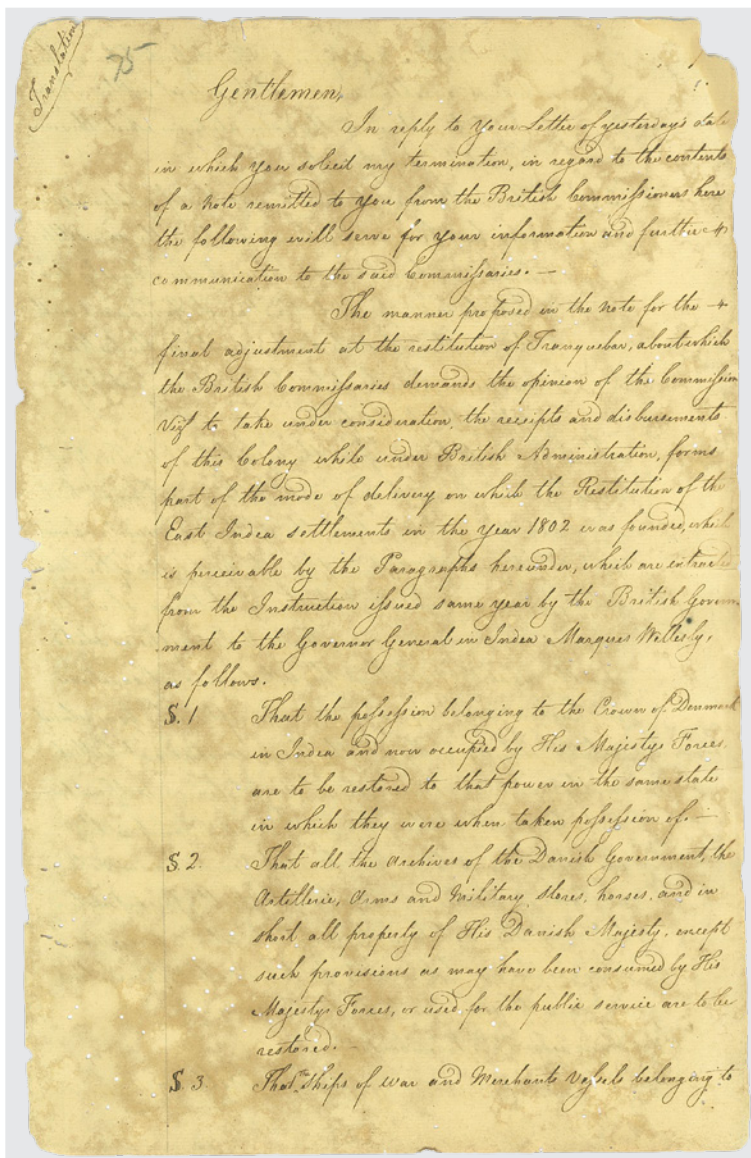
In addition to its commercial purpose, in the 18th century, Tranquebar became the Danish-Halle Protestant mission



Map of Tranquebar with Fort Dansborg, by Giorf Gregers, 1733 (Royal Danish Library).

Letter dated 07/06/1800 sent by Gregory Mackenzie, serving on board HMS Queen, in the middle of the Atlantic between Tranquebar and Copenhagen (with the kind authorisation of Raj Rajan). The letter describes the boarding and search of the Danish vessel General Abbiston on its return journey from Tranquebar. Dated "Queen, Atlantic Ocean, Lat 5-33N, Saturday 16h, 7 June 1800". Transit via London on 03/09, black bishop mark and Edinburgh SE16, red bishop mark. 8-pence rate for the London to Edinburgh journey. Free private transport to the British port, no associated fees.





Tranquebar 22/11/1815 transcription of the first page of the letter from the Danish Governor Bille to the British authorities for the legal Danish re-establishment (with the kind authorisation of Markand Dave).



View of the Francke Foundation in Halle, Germany circa 1748

or Tranquebar mission.

The first German missionaries arrived in Tranquebar in 1706. A few years later, they had published a version of the Bible in Tamil!

In the second half of the 18th century, the Danes attempted to set up new positions in Bengal and in the Nicobar Islands. This didn't go smoothly because, a few years after setting up in the Nicobar Islands, Austria claimed them in turn, which led to a war between the two nations.

In 1772, Denmark recovered the Asiatic Company and took over the operation in the Tranquebar territory. The years 1772 to 1808 were the Danish "Golden Age" in India. However, starting in 1799, tensions emerged between the English and the Danes over the territory. The letter opposite from George McKenzie illustrates this.

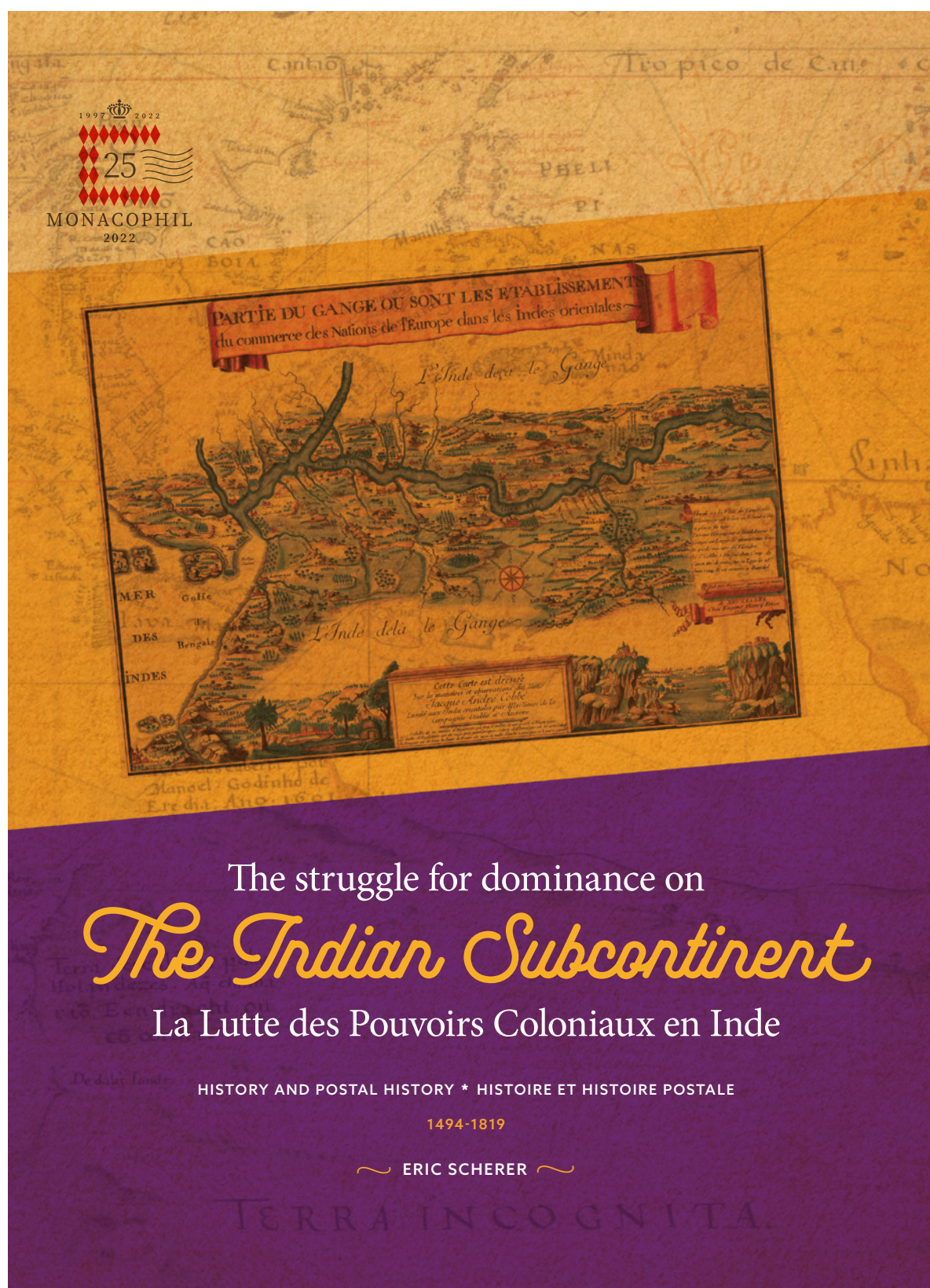
The tensions were related to the fact that Denmark was earning significant profits by supplying the European markets via Copenhagen and, notably, enemy countries of England (the Netherlands and France).

The English attacked in the early 19th century, sinking the Danish float and taking over the fort at Tranquebar. It was only returned to the Danes in 1815.

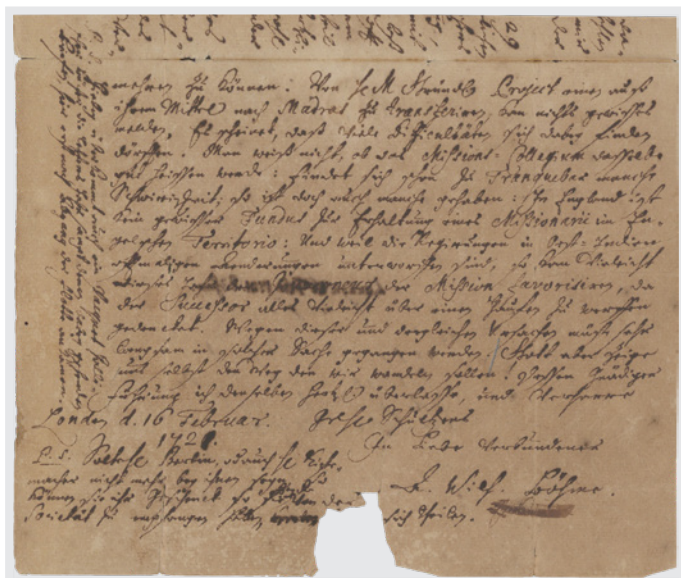
However, the British put a 50% surcharge on all merchandise. Having lost the profits from Tranquebar, the Danes ended up selling their territory to the British East India Company for £20,000 in 1845. Denmark kept the Nicobar Islands until October 1868 when they sold them to the English and definitively left the territory.



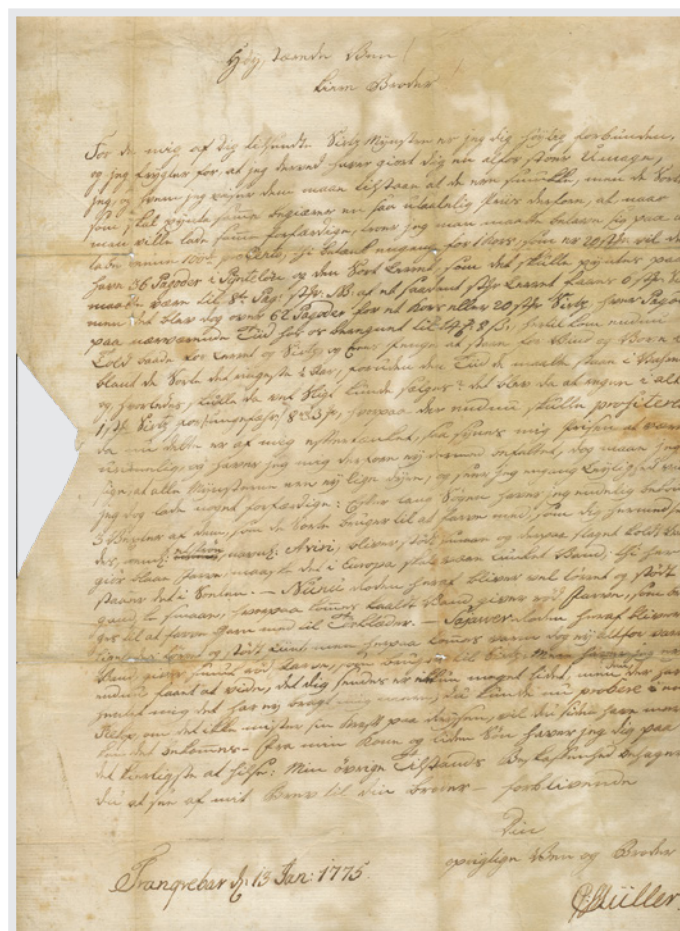
Want to find out more? Discover the book by Eric Scherrer on this topic!







Letter from C. Müller to a friend, carried privately with no postal marks, handwritten "3 Small papers included" at the bottom left, dated Tranquebar 13/01/1775, transported by ship to Copenhagen (with the kind authorisation of Raj Rajan). The author complains about the exorbitant price that the "Blacks" charge to decorate cotton fabric.





### A few letters from the period

Note that before the end of the 18th century, mail was primarily transported by couriers and notably via the Danish-Halle mission. There were approximately 6,000 letters sent via Tranquebar-Halle, compared to only 700 from Tranquebar to Copenhagen and 600 from Tranquebar to Ziegenblad. Note also that an official Danish postal service was never set up in Tranquebar.

Letters were sent by courier until the end of the 18th century. It was only at this time that the first official British post office was opened and the first "Tranquebar Post Office" postal stamps appeared.

There were three postal marks for the office: i.e., "post paid", "postage due" and "cancelled". However, this statement must be handled with care, because only the "post paid" mark has been found on letters to date.

That's just the beginning. Doubtless these letters and many others will be included in the India collection that will be presented at MonacoPhil 2022. It should be noted that the subject is significantly broader than the short descriptions here. And, an excellent book on the subject has just been published. Fans of Indian philately will find it engrossing.



Front and back of a second known letter from Fort St George posted as a "service" letter with franking privileges as indicated on the back by the Madras mark in 1802 (with the kind authorisation of Raj Rajan)





# The 20-mark gold coin

## A safe bet



The German mark was officially created in 1873. However, the first coins were struck in 1871. Following the defeat of the French in 1870, the German States unified to create the second German empire. They decided on a new currency at the time: the Reichsmark. However, although the country was unified, the Reichsmark was struck in seven principalities, 54 kingdoms, six grand duchies, five duchies and three free cities.



The most common coin was the gold 20-mark piece with the effigy of Emperor Wilhelm II wearing a cuirassier's uniform. The obverse of the coin bears the inscription "Deutscher Kaiser König von Preussen" which translates as "German Emperor, King of Prussia". The reverse of the coin bears the eagle and the collar of the Order of the Black Eagle.

The coin was struck on a regular basis from 1871 to 1915. It contained 7.16 g of gold. It was discontinued during the war and was withdrawn from circulation after the abdication of Emperor Wilhelm II following the German defeat in the First World War in 1918.

#### Other gold coins from the same period.

Although the coin with the effigy of Wilhelm II was by far the most common coin, others were struck in Bavaria, in Hamburg, in Württemberg, in Baden and in Saxony.

**Discover the collection on Delcampe!**

[CLICK HERE](#)

#### On the left page

20-mark gold coin from 1913 with the effigy of Wilhelm II.

Bavarian 20-mark gold coin from 1873 with the effigy of Ludwig II.

#### On this page

20-mark gold coin from 1887 with the effigy of Wilhelm I.

Bavarian 20-mark gold coin (1913) from Hamburg.







## The wedding of a Princess is well worth a stamp surcharge!



A little more than a century ago, Monaco was celebrating the wedding of Princess Charlotte at the Principality's cathedral.

On that day, she married Pierre de Polignac who had accepted to give up his name and become a Grimaldi to ensure the future of the princely family. It should be noted that the situation was complex... Princess Charlotte was the illegitimate daughter of Louis II and was educated outside of the «Rock». Albert I was very modern in his approach at the time, legitimising the young woman as a princess.

Given that there was no other heir, the Rock should have been passed on to Albert I's cousin, Duke Guillaume d'Urach, whose situation was impossible because he was German. This was the end of the First World War and this was not an option for the Prince of Monaco. On 16 May 1919, Charlotte was legally adopted by her father Louis II and became the Duchess of Valentinois.



The constitution of Monaco was modified to ensure that Charlotte could accede to the throne.

She married the Count Pierre de Polignac in a civil ceremony. Their church wedding was celebrated on 20 March. They had two children, Antoinette de Monaco and the future Prince Rainier III, father of the current prince, Albert II.

Unfortunately, the couple separated after 10 years of marriage. The divorce was made official in 1933.

On 30 May 1944, the Princess abdicated in favour of her son Rainier III. She then left Monaco for Paris and lived in uncommon lifestyle for the period. She was passionate about reforming former prisoners, which she worked to rehabilitate. She obtained the title of *Commandeur de l'Ordre du Mérite Social* for her work. She died in 1977 in the French capital.



#### On the left page

Old souvenir postcard published for the wedding of the Duchess of Valentinois.

Old postcard of the wedding of Princess Charlotte.

#### On this page

Monaco 1949, Rainier III and Princess Charlotte Red Cross sheet.

Monaco 1981, first-day envelope with the Princess Charlotte stamp.







### Princess Charlotte and stamps

Few stamps pay homage to Princess Charlotte. However, there are a few of note. First, these Red Cross sheets from 1949, where she is shown with her son Prince Rainier III, each in two different colours, corresponding to different values. Later, in 1981, a stamp with her effigy was issued based on a portrait by the painter Philippe Alexius de Lazlo. Lastly, in 1998, a beautiful stamp was issued celebrating the hundred years of her birth.

An interesting surcharge was applied to the *Orphelins de guerre* series from 1919 to celebrate Princess Charlotte's wedding. The surcharge was based on the different stamps. It either indicated the date of the event, 20 March 1920 or added, in addition to this date, a surcharge of 5c+5c or 2+3c. The highest value (5F) was sold on Delcampe for several thousand euros.

**Discover the stamps from Monaco for sale on Delcampe.**

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*Orphelins de guerre* series surcharged for the wedding of Princess Charlotte.

Monaco 1997, stamp with the effigy of Princess Charlotte.



# Top SALES

delcampe.net



**1924 Paris Olympic Games,**  
Maximum Card - France

€700.00



**Surrealist postcard**  
Photographer: Louvrier in Troyes  
- France

€408.00



**Portrait of Buffalo Bill**  
Original picture, portrait of  
Buffalo Bill by Eugène Pirou,  
Paris, 1889,

€320.00



**Original picture, train of the Com-  
pagnie des wagons-lits on plat-  
form**

Luxor-Aswan line, opened in 1926

€150.00



**Promotional card  
illustrated by Mucha  
for the play «La Passion»  
(1904) by Edmond  
Haraucourt**

€8,223.00



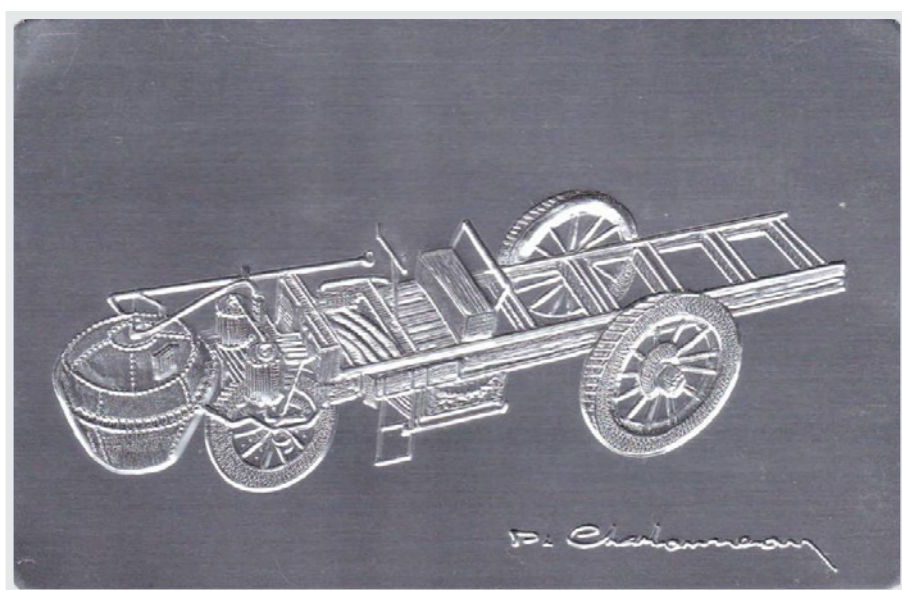
**Advertising postcard  
«Italian Federation of  
Chemical Industry»  
commemorating the 1903  
Udine regional exhibition,  
Italy**

€850.00





# Have you ever heard of aluminium postcards?



Old aluminium postcard 1905.

Old aluminium postcard.

Françoise Valette, a Delcampe member, introduced them to me in her book *“Flânerie dans la carte postale aluminium”*, a 212-page reference work with over 400 postcards illustrating the topic. I felt I absolutely had to share this very unique theme with you!



100% aluminium postcards first appeared at the start of the century. If you look at the back of the postcards, you'll see they aren't split, as was the case in France prior to 1903.

Aluminium was a very important material in France at the start of the 20th century. The Maurienne Valley, where it originates, had at least six operating aluminium production plants from 1892 to 1907.

Aluminium is a light and flexible metal. This characteristic gave birth to the concept of the aluminium postcard, which was more original than the paper postcard. Aluminium postcards were initially made entirely from this metal and printed with black ink. The motifs varied: realistic and humorous drawings and sometimes photos... the back of the cards had space for the address and a stamp.

Aluminium postcards were also used in countries other than France. In Italy, for example, there were aluminium postcards at the First International Exposition of Modern Decorative Arts in Turin in 1902. Other countries also used this unusual means of correspondence including Spain, England, the United States, and more.

Some artists earned their reputation via this medium. For example, Achille Beltrami in Milan...

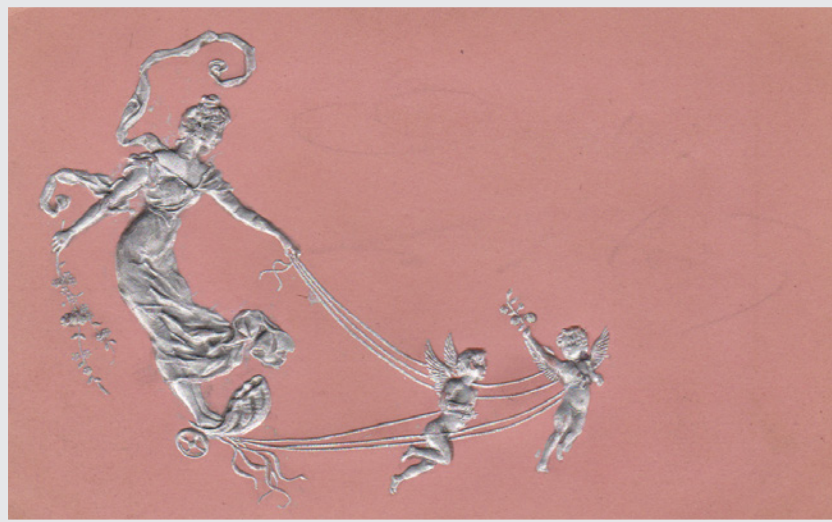
100% aluminium postcards disappeared in the early 20th century, to be replaced by "hybrid" postcards. They were made of paper but contained some aluminium elements, which made them shiny. Quite a few embossed fantasy postcards used the process, notably many postcards for the holidays, like Christmas, Easter, and for April 1st. Note that aluminium postcards belong to the golden age of postcards, a time when postcards were sent daily. Paper postcards with aluminium were used between 1905 and 1935.

Françoise Valette introduces us to three of



Old April 1st aluminium postcard.  
Old embossed aluminium postcard - Milan.





the postcards in her collection. They are included in her book, which covers subjects, countries and eras to provide a complete understanding of the treasures you will discover in it.

### The nymphs

Here are two types of nymphs: one is on a shell on wheels drawn by little angels and the other is making bubbles in the air.

Nymphs are maidens from Greco-Roman mythology associated with nature (in fact, "nymph" comes from the Greek for maiden).

They personify the creative and productive aspects of nature and are sometimes linked to a place or a particular element. They were sometimes the object of a local cult and were also included in the processions of the divinities with which they are associated. In the collective imagination and on these postcards, nymphs are very beautiful, joyous young women.

### The Concorde

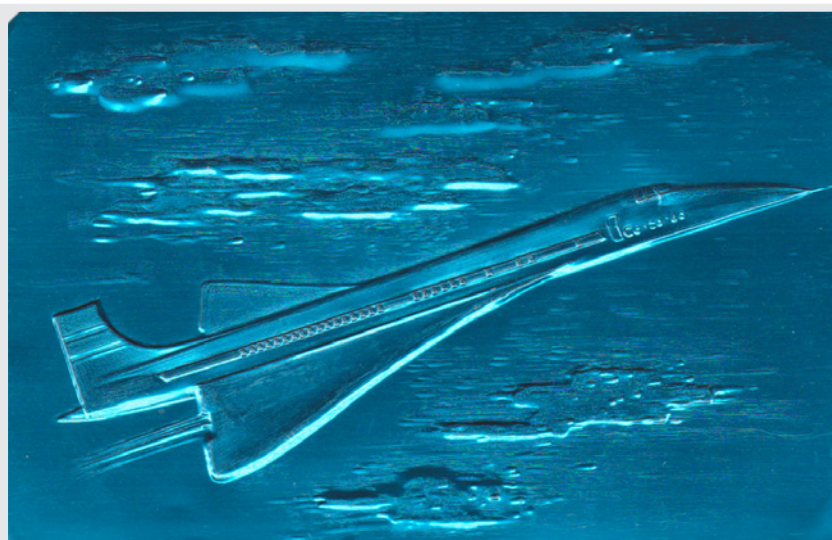
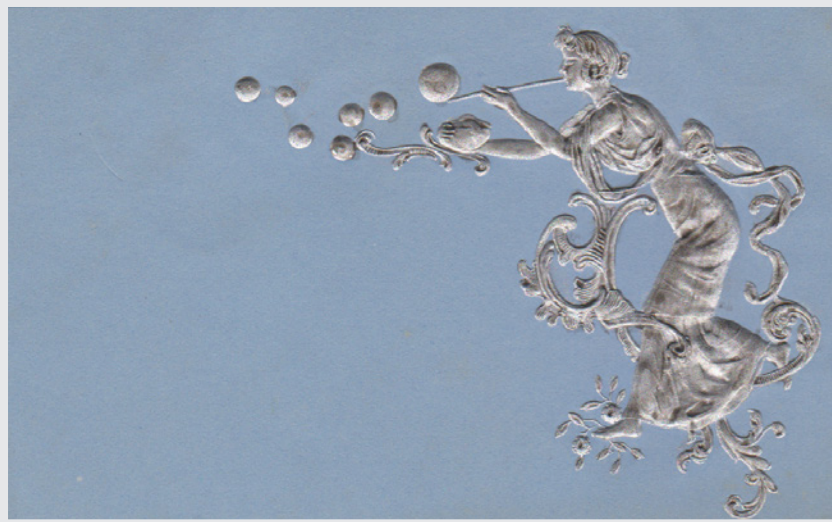
The Concorde was an iconic aircraft developed jointly by Sud-Aviation and the British Aircraft Corporation in service from 1976 to 2003. It was used by both British Airways and Air France. The aeroplane is unfortunately famous for the accident which occurred in July 2000, killing 113 people.

Old aluminium postcard with nymph.

Old aluminium postcard with nymph.

Old aluminium postcard with the Concorde.

Source: Wikipedia



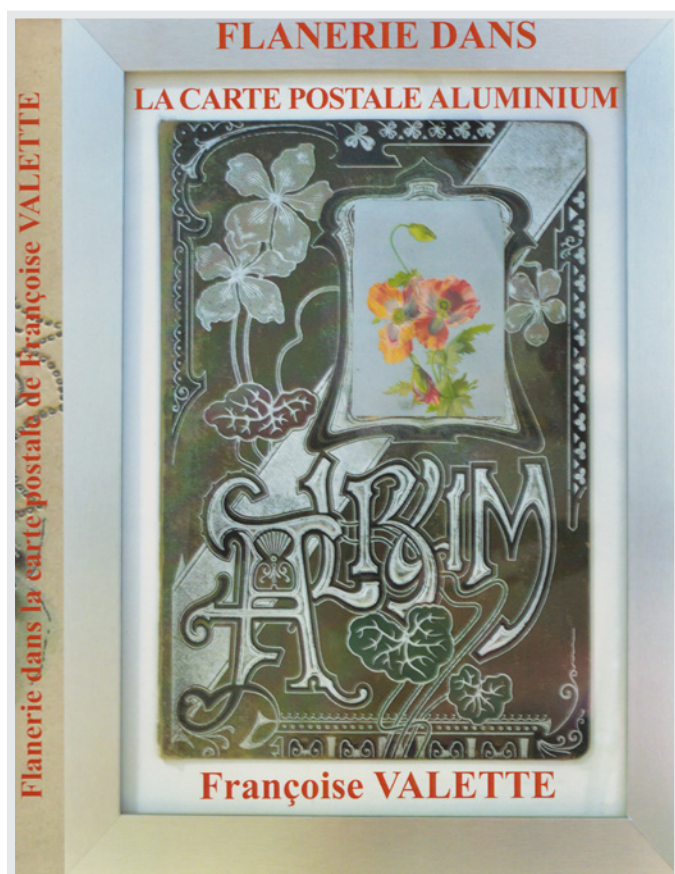


Are you interested in this subject? Be sure to get Françoise Valette's book.

Editions Defage – aluminium on paper from the 1970s – n° 14

The book is on sale on [www.delcampe.net](http://www.delcampe.net) Flânerie dans la carte postale aluminium.

Happy reading!







## Santa Claus poses for a photo



The year-end holidays are drawing near and, as you know, it's the ideal time to take photos. In front of the Christmas tree with Santa Claus or Saint Nicholas...every reason is good to immortalise the family get-together.

Old and near-contemporary Christmas photos.

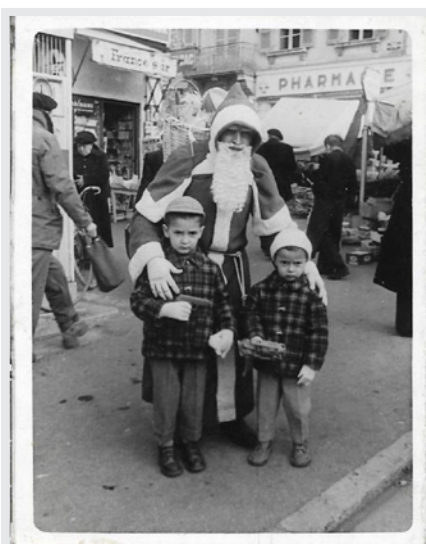




There are thousands of photos of this time of year in Delcampe's photography category. Let's pay homage to the generations that have enjoyed these holidays before us and hope that those that come after us will keep up the great traditions

**Happy holidays to all! If you're looking for old photos of the year-end holidays, you can find hundreds of them on Delcampe!**

[CLICK HERE](#)



Old and near-contemporary Christmas photos.







## Russian currency stamps



Following the publication of the first Delcampe Magazine - Classic Collections in English, I was contacted by Enrique Setaro of the Hollywood Stamp Club in Florida. He completes the topic on emergency coins with a presentation on the topic of Russian currency stamps.

The stamps were used from 1915 to 1917. They were issued as currency due to a coin and banknote shortage during wartime. Metals were requisitioned for other uses. The stamps were printed on thicker paper and used as currency.

The words "Accepted as legal tender" appeared on the

back of the stamps.

The design of the stamps was based on an issue created in 1930 for the 300 years of the Romanov dynasty. However, of the 17 stamps issued, only six of them are considered: the 1, 2, 3, 10, 15 and 20-kopeck stamps.

Contrary to what might

Russia 1913, series of stamps issued to celebrate the Romanovs.

Russia 1915-17, block of four surcharged emergency money stamps.



be expected, the first issue of the stamps in 1915 changed the backs of the 10, 15 and 20-kopeck stamps. Silver was the first metal to suffer a shortage.

In 1916, it was the turn of the 1, 2, and 3-kopeck stamps, because there was a copper shortage.

A surcharge was applied for each block of four stamps created that same year. However, there was an enormous number of fakes. Collectors should still be cautious, according to the website [www.collectionde-monnaie.net](http://www.collectionde-monnaie.net).

A new issue of the same stamps in 1917 surcharged the first two by one or two. The eagles that appeared on the back of the first issue were replaced by the stamp value.

These stamps are available for purchase on Delcampe at very reasonable prices. It's amusing to see that they appear in both the stamp and coin categories. This provides an interesting conclusion to the article on emergency money which appeared in Delcampe Magazine - Classic Collections 1. Thanks to Enrique Setaro for sharing this bit of history with us!

**Would you like to acquire these stamps? They're for sale on [www.delcampe.net](http://www.delcampe.net)!**

[CLICK HERE](http://www.delcampe.net)



Russia 1915-1917 back of currency stamps with the eagle or their values.

Russia 1915-1917 front of the different currency stamp issues.





## The collectors' marketplace