The free magazine for collectors Classic Collections No. 7 / 2023 MAGAZINE



StampsTrinidad Red Cross vignettes

PostcardsDiscovering golf

Coins

An accurate description of condition

PhotographyCollecting photographic cards



Gallery

September 29 to 02 October 2023
Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy





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Digital technology is becoming increasingly important part of our daily lives. Here at Delcampe, it's par for the course: for more than 20 years, transactions on the site have been conducted online. Though reluctant at first, collectors gradually made their way to Delcampe

and got used to this new way of doing business.

Laws are forcing us to make more and more changes in this area, and we are obviously obliged to observe them if we are to keep our beloved marketplace available to collectors. Given the fines imposed for non-compliance, the very survival of our business is at stake.

With this in mind, we have to constantly modify and adapt the marketplace. To say that we are taking these measures with a light heart would be far from the truth. We'd love to spend less time on restrictive legislation and more time on features to make life even easier for collectors on the site!

Fortunately, the magazine is not subject to these constraints and our editorial choices are still our own, which is why I am pleased and proud to present this new Delcampe Classic Collections Magazine. In philately, you can find out about the Academy coin, along with an article on Trinidad Red Cross philately, German Zeppelin stamps and, for those eager to make the switch to postcards, maximum cards bearing the effigy of Marianne will feature at the end of the maga-

Our postcard section takes a look at golf and the illustrator Jean Chaperon, also known as Jean Paris. I'll show you some of the cards he created. We'd like to take this opportunity to wish Delcampe a happy birthday in postcards!

Photography will focus on the very first portraits, and as you'll see, there are some really pretty images!

And, of course, coin collecting aka numismatics... We'll be talking about the condition of coins so as to understand differences in their values, as well as military tokens, which have some interesting stories to tell from everyday life.

I'd like to end this editorial by wishing you all a wonderful autumn full of exciting discoveries! Enjoy your reading!

Héloïse Dautricourt

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Happy birthday, Delcampe!



Birthday postcards.

On 1 October 2000, at the age of 22, Sébastien Delcampe launched a small website to buy and sell stamps for a small group of experts. Very quickly, new people appeared and along with them, new categories. You know the rest: 23 years later, thousands of collectors buy and sell thousands of collectables every day! And in order to celebrate. what better way than to show you some beautiful old birthday cards!







Birthday postcards.



The paquebots of Mexico Balguerie et fils

Alain Vernot of the «Académie de Philatélie»

At the beginning of the 19th century, France was Mexico's third-largest economic partner, behind the United States and the United Kingdom. Prior to 1827, mail between France and Mexico was exchanged via merchant ships. Given the growing importance of trade connections, the French government resolved to set up a regular maritime service between France and Mexico. A two-year contract was signed on 17 August 1827 between the French state and the Brun et Gautier company to provide regular

sailings to Veracruz by mailboats known as «paquebots» derived from the English «packet boats».

After the two years, a call for tenders was issued, and won by Balquerie et Fils.

The Balguerie contract

A new paquebot postage rate was introduced by the law of 4 July 1829 and the circular of 8 February 1830: «Letters transported by regular paquebot at the expense of the French state [...] will be subject, in

The first return trip made by the Balguerie company, with the Esteva ship of the Gautier company. Departure from Veracruz on 31 May 1830, arrival in Bordeaux on 15 July 1830. On arrival, processed as a Compagnie Balguerie letter: marked «BORDEAUX PAQ. REG» and tax number «15».

addition to the postage fixed by Article 1 of the law of 15 March 1827, to a seaway tax of fifteen decimes per single letter. Pursuant to this law, the government has set up a paquebot service between Bordeaux and Vera-Cruz, which will begin operating on 1 April next [...]. From 1 July onwards, a paquebot will be dispatched every month from Vera-Cruz to Bordeaux, loaded with letters from Mexico to France.

The first departure took place on 4 April 1830 and the first return a few weeks later

on 28 May 1830. Up to 1835, 61 trips were made from Bordeaux. Balguerie chartered the former ships of the Gauthier company and then added new paquebots (26 ships operated on the service). In addition to the paquebots, merchant ships also provided the service.

The last return trip left Veracruz on 1 July 1835, arriving in Bordeaux on 30 November 1835. It was not until French intervention in 1862 that a new regular service was set up by the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.



Outward journey. Letter from Bordeaux dated 20 April 1834, departing 1 May 1834 onboard «La Petite Louise» ship, date of arrival unknown.



Stamp Day 2023 in Echternach



Luxembourg 2023, stamp issued to commemorate the Echternach stamp festival.

Luxembourg 2021, stamp issued to commemorate the Echternach stamp festival.

Every year in September, Luxembourg organises a Stamp Day. After Differdange in 2022 and Capellen in 2021, in 2023 the town of Echternach has been chosen to host this famous Stamp Day.

Located on the German border in the Sûre valley, the town of Echternach is famous for its abbey, whose foundations date back to the seventh century. It is also the oldest town in Luxembourg. Here you can visit a Roman villa and sleep in medieval towers. For these reasons and more, Echternach is a popular destination for tourists, who are sure to flock to this wonderful Stamp Day.

Naturally, POST Luxembourg issued a stamp

and other philatelic souvenirs for the occasion, which I highly recommend to vou!

This is not the first time that POST Luxembourg has put Echternach in the spotlight.

In 1957, the town's coat of arms was turned into a stamp. In 1969, a new stamp put the town in the spotlight. In 1975, a second one was released in praise of Echternach's architectural heritage. Lastly, in 1998, a series of three stamps celebrated the city's 1300th anniversary.

In addition to the town, several stamps have featured its abbey: a charity series was issued in 1938 to help its restoration. The same idea was used after the war in 1947. In 1983, the abbey's great bible was honoured by philately with two new stamps to celebrate it. In 1985, the abbey's orangery was highlighted on a two-colour orange and white stamp.

In 1953, it was the turn of the Basilica of Echternach to be honoured with the issue of two stamps. In 1980, the statue of Saint-Benoît also appeared on a stamp. And in 2005 and 2007, it was the turn of St Willibrord's Basilica to be commemorated in stamps, namely its portal and organ.

In 2011, philately paid tribute to the Echternach dancing procession. This procession, which takes place on the Tuesday after Whit Sunday, is part of UNESCO's intangible heritage.

As you can see, POST Luxembourg is very attached to this pretty little town on the German border.

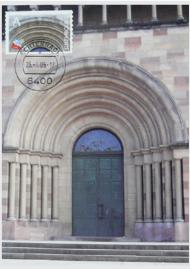
Would you like to discover other stamps relating to the town? If so, you can find them on Delcampe!

CLICK HERE









Luxembourg 1938, charity series in aid of Echternach Abbey. Luxembourg 1947, second charity series in aid of Echternach Abbey. Luxembourg 1957, maximum card bearing the city's coat of arms. Luxembourg 2005, maximum card showing the portal of the Saint-Willibrord basilica.



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







Papal States

Letter franked 22b from Rome in 1897 to Vöcklabruck (Austria) via Marseille

€720



Wallis & Futuna

N°402a mural 1989 * no face value (25 known copies), Signed Calves

€825



France

Military airmail, rare block of 4 N°1 75c ** stamps overprinted with 50c «PAR AVION - BATIMENT de LIGNE RICHELIEU» with corner dated 14.4.39 (signed & certificate Calves)

€1,805



Luxemburg

No. 1 10c grey-black * William III, 1852 (with certificate)

€1,700



France

Block of 12 stamps 25c Coq de Decaris *N°1331 printed on fitting (booklet sheet)*

€1,200



Vatican

stamp created to mark World Youth Day on 16 May 2023. It was withdrawn from sale the day after it was issued

€529.50

A turn-up for the booklets

By Frédéric Nicolino of the ACCP (part 2)

Following the ups-and-downs surrounding the arrival of the first rotary notebooks, below are details of some rather surprising interactions between Maison Courmont and Maurice Digeaux, a dealer and leading specialist in booklets of the period, and the ensuing consequences.

1928 - The first booklets of postage stamps printed on rotary presses (continued)

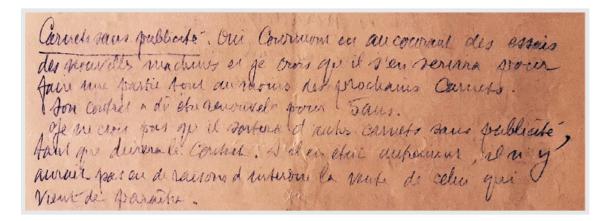
We recently studied an archive containing a number of letters sent to a Courmont customer by Maurice Digeaux, the dealer and leading booklet specialist of the period. In it, we learned that he was particularly well connected in terms of the postage stamp administration and workshop environment. In one of his letters, dated 3 February 1929, he refers to these 199 C 48 booklets as a mistake made by the administration, which realised it did not have the right to sell them

as a result of its contract with Courmont! They were given to a number of offices in the Paris region to be used on mail handed in over the counter. «It is strictly forbidden to sell them whole.» He was nonetheless able to obtain some, offering them in sets of 10 to his correspondent for 20 francs each, which was double the face value of the stamps: a bargain!

TIMBRES POSTE POUR COLLECTIONS	
MAURICE DIGEAUX	
113 BOULEVARD MAGENTA PARIS	
CHEQUES POSTAUX PARIS C.712.77	
R.C. SEINE 274.208	
En pour sela que per as de la contrata del contrata de la contrata de la contrata del contrata de la contrata del contrata de la contrata de la contrata de la contrata de la contrata del contrata de la contrata del contrata del contrata de la con	Course de la Region pour inceme

Fig.1

In another letter dated 11 February, he confirmed that Courmont, whose contract had been renewed for five years, was aware of the trials of the new machines he was set to use, and that it was he who advised banning the sale of these booklets without advertising.



It is well known to philatelists that Maurice Digeaux also used some of these booklets without advertising (among others) later on in order to promote his business:



We even know that he gave out 38 of them free-of-charge to his customers:



Nowadays, the 199 C48 booklet is easy to find and complete. Thus either the administration finally decided to sell them, or Mr. Digeaux had been supplied in large quantities and his philatelic customers kept them...

Soon afterwards, the same type IV booklets were printed on rotary presses, automatically assembled in the workshop with advertising covers supplied by Courmont, and then sold over the counter in line with the rules. Courmont eventually acquired one of these famous rotary presses.

It was 199 C49, known for series 161, 167, 168 and 169 (fig.6) in the correct format of 120 x 72 mm.

The deck is still half a stamp wide and there is still no advertising on the margins. The workshop had probably not yet resolved all the technical difficulties associated with printing advertising on its presses.

These were the only booklets of their kind, and the last.

All booklets coming after this would have advertising and a deck twice as wide.



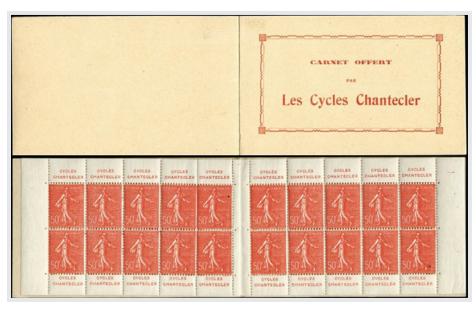
Fig. 6

In a study published in September 1967 in L'Echo de la Timbrologie, Dr. Joany concluded that booklets with postal covers (199 C48) and booklets with advertising covers (199 C49) represented two distinct print runs.

It should be noted that stamps used as shown here in blocks of 4 are not common:



Lastly, bear in mind that some of these booklets were also used as advertising under a private cover for the «Chantecler» bicycle brand:



With thanks to the members of the A.C.C.P. who kindly provided us with images from their collections.

For more information: A.C.C.P website http://www.accp-asso.com/ or contact the Chairman Jacky Girard, 157 avenue de Saint-Augustin - 11100 Narbonne, France

An accurate description of condition

By Franck Perrin of the ADAN

The condition of a coin is one of the key factors in determining its value. That said, what do the various acronyms mean (UNC, MS, XF, VF and so on), which are sometimes incomprehensible to a new collector? Is a currency advertised as mint state really so? So many questions need to be asked when considering whether to purchase a coin. This article will give you the keys to understanding the various conditions of coins, with a particular focus on the Oscar Roty Semeuse type.



Uncirculated 70 (UNC 70)

A coin in perfect condition where no flaws can be seen even when magnified tenfold. The minting frost is perfect even at the highest points, and the quality of the upset and strike is optimal. Unfortunately, no mint state has yet been found for this coin. The coin presented is the closest thing to it.

Uncirculated 65 (UNC 65)

The coin is strictly in mint condition, but small bumps caused by handling in the mint or in the banking circuit can be seen with a magnifying glass when magnified tenfold. The minting frost is intact, even at the highest points, and the quality of the upset and strike is good, but nothing more.

Mint State 63 (MS 63)

The coin is in mint condition, without the slightest trace of wear but with very minor handling bumps visible to the naked eye. The minting frost is almost intact, except at the highest points where it is missing as a result of handling in the mint or in the banking circuit. The quality of the upset and strike may be average.



The coin has almost no traces of circulation. but there may be slight wear at the highest points. Very minor handling damage is visible, but most of the minting frost is still present.



Extremely Fine 55 (XF 55)

The coin shows very little wear at the highest points, with the possibility of minor impact marks, and the minting frost remains intact in protected areas, particularly between the letters of the legend.





Very Fine 50 (VF 50)

The coin shows very little wear at the highest points, with minor marks of impact, and is generally very pleasing to the eye.







Very Fine 45 (VF 45)

Wear due to circulation is clearly visible. Nonetheless, the coin is pleasant to look at.

Very Fine 40 (VF 40)

Wear is visible, and no longer confined to just the highest points, with traces of wear appearing on more protected areas. The coin is still pleasant.

Fine 30 (F 30)

Wear is immediately apparent, but the flattening it causes has not yet completely obliterated the affected areas, such as the locks, the laurel wreath or the ear. Better protected parts show signs of wear.

Fine 20 (F 20)

The coin is really worn and flattening has started to completely erase the details of the highest points, with the more protected parts clearly affected.

Fine 15 (F 15)

The coin has long-term wear from circulation but shows its full design albeit with some completely flat areas. The listel is clearly reduced.



Very Good 10 (VG 10)

A very worn coin that has been in circulation for a very long time. The coin is perfectly identifiable in all its important details - date, workshop, engravers' marks - and the outlines of the issuing authority remain, though not everything is visible.

Very Good 6 (VG 6)

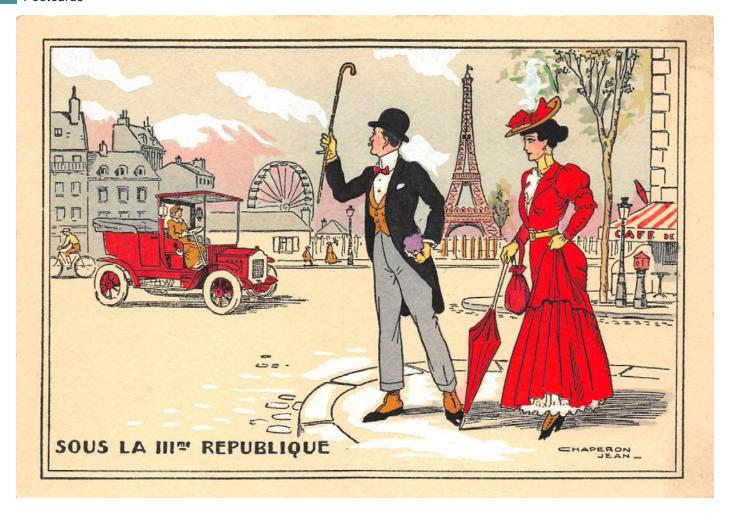
An extremely worn coin, on which a few engraving details remain, in addition to the legend (which may be incomplete), the silhouette of the issuing authority and its most significant elements.

Almost Fine 3 (aF 3)

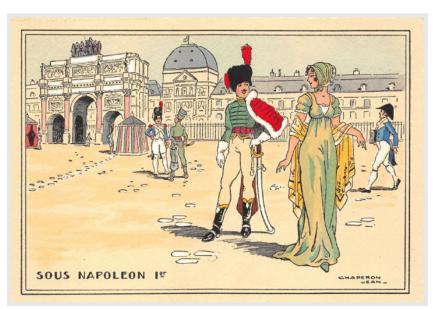
The issuing authority, year and mint of the coin are identifiable, but the authority is reduced to a near-silhouette.

Good 1 (G 1)

The type of coin can be identified, but neither the year of minting nor the year of issue.



Postcards by Jean Chaperon



I'm always on the lookout for new illustrators whose postcards really stand out, and this time I came across those of Jean Chaperon.

Two postcards illustrating Parisian life by Jean Chaperon.

An illustrator and painter born in 1887, he was the son of painter Eugène Chaperon.

Nicknamed Chap, he also appears to have been behind a number of postcards, including a culinary series under the name Jean Paris.

As Jean Chaperon, he specialised in humorous postcards, and was keen to use them to mark events in history. This is how he illustrated the First World War. He also worked as a caricaturist for a number of French newspapers, including 'Le Rire', 'Le Journal', 'Le Temps' and 'La Baïonnette'.

Alongside his humorous work, he developed a much more classical style, reflecting the Parisian 'belle époque'.

He died in Nice on 25 January 1969, leaving behind many postcards that I hope you will enjoy seeing on Delcampe.

CLICK HERE

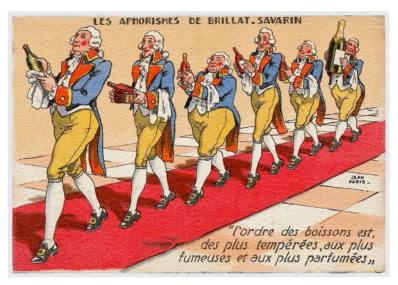
Three humorous postcards by Jean Chape-

A humorous yet serious postcard by Jean Paris, aka Jean Chaperon.









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The collectors' marketplace





Paraguay

Original photograph of President Francisco Solano López taken around 1870 by Companie Fotografica Coquimbo

€452



Greenland

Arctic Expedition postcard, Paul-Emile Victor Missions, Jakobshavn, 1949

CHF 1,210



Belgium

Photographic album of Orval Abbey containing 23 original photographs

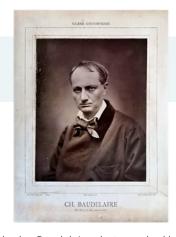
€1,499



Octave Lapize

French cyclist, winner of the Tour de France in 1910, Signed postcard

€1,710



Charles Baudelaire photographed by Etienne Carjat in Paris in 1859 photo 22x18 cm on stand Galerie Contemporaine

€200



Photograph of Elvis Presley with his signature (undated)

€376



Ima 2

Military coins... the essential collection!

From 1850 to 1940, many garrisons issued tokens that were used – within the regiments – in the various places where people could have a meal or a drink.



From non-commissioned officers' messes to military canteens, issues have covered all the army's corps (infantry, cavalry, artillery, engineers, crews, tanks, air force, schools, National and Republican Guard, navy, etc.) as well as garrisons, military camps and forts.

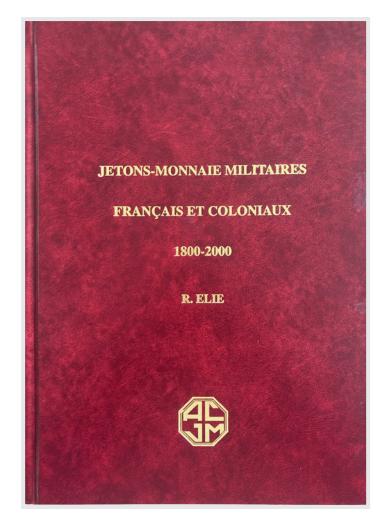
All the territories where these regiments are based have been included: Overseas, or occupied territories such as the Rhineland after the First World War.

Allied forces during the 1914-18 war and after 1945 issued such coins (notably American and NATO military bases). (img 1) Many of these tokens are easily identifiable, except for military canteens, managed by a civilian (often a former soldier) who issued tokens in his or her name and whose location is not always easy to deduce. Research can often be carried out using postcards issued by the canteen keeper, as in the example above for Varin, which can easily be found on the Delcampe website via the search engine, as the name of the barracks is not always given, such as the Cordelier canteen. (img 2, 3, 4)

There were also tokens for military cooperatives (352 in 1930), which could exist alongside soldiers' homes (some of which were outside the barracks, particularly in towns where soldiers were present), or other charities such as the Union des Femmes de France or the Red Cross (img 5, 6).







This type of organisation was also used in German military prison camps after 1914, to prevent the money provided from being used outside the camp in the event of an escape.

The same applied to civilian internment camps. The token shown here comes from the prisoner of war camp (POW) assigned to the port of Saint Nazaire. (img 7, 8)

A unique catalogue was produced by Roland Elie before his death in 2008. Its 335 pages provide an inventory of these tokens, classified by type and regiment. These are represented in the form of rubbings. Available on the Delcampe website, it provides insight into how these regiments operated day-to-day, and is the only document that provides a regional perspective on this unique and original numismatic activity.

ACJM (acjm@orange.fr), the book's publisher, are always interested in the discovery or identification of «military» tokens that have not yet been recorded.





Switzerland

Helvetia 5 franc silver ecu, 1900, Condition:F, (33,000 copies minted)

£600



France

King Louis-Philippe 20 franc gold coin, 1841, Condition: VF

€478



Macedonia

Gold statere bearing the effigy of Alexander the Great 336-323 BC

€2.499



Saxony

Silver Thaler from 1635 bearing the effigy of Prince Elector Jean-Georges I, Condition: F

€499.97



Roman Empire

Aureus gold coin, Lightweight Septimius Severus (6.15 grams) (193-211)

€3,008



Southern Netherlands

Silver Denarius John 1st of Brabant (1268-1294)

€399

Trinidad Red Cross vignettes (1914)

Alain Israël of CTCR (the Red Cross Theme Club)

Following on from the articles in the February 1964 issue of Swiss Red Cross Philately, from the Red Cross Theme Club newsletters No. 5 of April 1982, No. 68 of January 1998, No. 70 of July 1998 and No. 94 of Britannica, by Max-Marc Thomas, Franz Pagnieau, Pierre Monot and Michel Bilhaut of the «Académie de Philatélie».

A few historical pointers

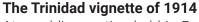
Trinidad is an island in the south-east of the West Indies, close to Venezuela. Together with the neighbouring island of Tobago, it forms the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. The country's largest island, it also contains the national capital, Port of Spain. Although part of the Caribbean Sea, its eastern coast-line runs directly into the Atlantic Ocean. Tri-

nidad Island lies 15 km north-east of Punta Sabaneta in Venezuela. It covers an area of 4,748 km2. It was claimed for Spain upon its discovery during the third voyage of

Christopher Columbus until 1797 (it was a province in its own right), when it was invaded by a British squadron led by Henry Harvey, who made it a British colony. The loss of the island was recognised via the Treaty of Amiens in 1802. In 1962, Trinidad and Tobago became an independent state.

The early 1970s marked a period of serious economic and social crisis for the island. The 1973 oil crisis led to a rapid rise in the country's oil revenues.

In 1976, the country became a republic within the Commonwealth.



At a public meeting held in Port of Spain on 4 September 1914, a committee was formed to raise funds for the London Red Cross, following the declaration of war the previous month. The funds were to be raised by the women of the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Association. Two women were appointed Secretaries responsible for this collection, M.E. Burslem and J.I. Blackwood Wright, while E.M. Phillips was appointed Treasurer.



Shortly afterwards, the Governor was approached to arrange for all mail posted by the Red Cross to be carried free-of-charge by the Post Office to publicise the collection, on the condition that it was franked with a vignette issued by the Red Cross, and that the letters were delivered to the Post Office by a member of the Committee. The Post Office gave its consent on 17 September, and at a meeting of the local Red Cross Committee, it was decided to send a circular letter to landowners, sugar factory managers, copra collectors (for coconut oil) and local Association Committees (1).

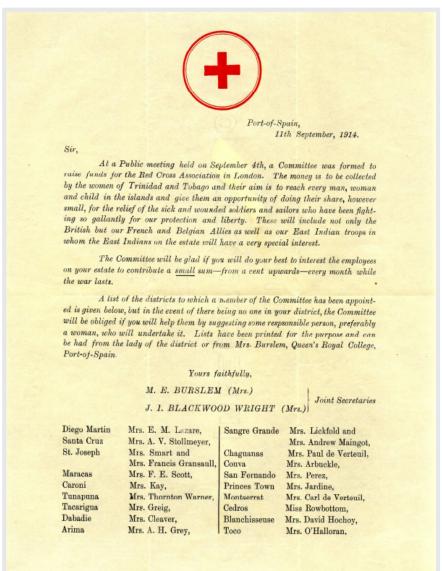
The Island of Trinidad vignette from 1914, simply bearing a large red cross framed by the words RED CROSS/TRINIDAD/SOCIETY/ONE FRACTION. Printed in red on a white background, size 37 x 32mm. It became official on its day of issue i.e. 18 September 1914, and was normally cancelled on that date. However, there are also examples on letters with later cancellations. It can be found in light and dark red.

On 18 September 1914, the vignette issued by the Trinidad Red Cross was accepted for the franking of domestic letters. It was sold for ½ penny, with the proceeds going to the local Red Cross in Port of Spain. Following this decision, some 900 letters, all the same size 9 x 14.7 cm, were posted on 18 September 1914 and cancelled at the Main Office in Port of Spain, following a note sent by the Postmaster General, to ensure that no duties would be levied on the letters upon arrival.

These letters were all written by hand by Treasurer E.M. Phillips (2) and do not carry a special duty-free allowance. The envelopes containing a circular (1) were not sealed, so the postage was half a penny, the domestic postage rate for printed

Philatelists soon realised that this use of the vignette corresponded to an exceptional issue, since it meant that it could be used officially as a





1 - Port of Spain circular of 11 September 1914 sent to companies.

1/2d. stamp and was cancelled on 18 September 1914.

Unfortunately, many letters were lost and the number eventually recovered was much lower than the 900 letters sent out. The Red Cross received many requests to reuse the vignette, but they were turned down, since the authorisation was only valid for one day: 18 September 1914.

The Red Cross also published a document stating the characters needed by these letters in order to be valid and to

text in question reads as follows:
any letters were lost
eventually recovered
text in question reads as follows:
The characteristics of the envelope are 9 x 14.7 cm, on yellowed paper, with a glued flap in the centre only.

2. The date 18 September 1914 and the time 3 PM must be the same as the Port of Spain date stamp.

comply with the conditions of use. The

3. The address is to be handwritten by Mrs. E.M. Phillips or typed in purple ink (3).

4. All addresses must correspond to properties within the districts of Trinidad Island.

5. A limited number of the letters written by Mrs. E.M. Phillips bear her handwriting: «The Red Cross Society / E.M. Phillips» over two lines (3).

6. The date stamp used is a single circle of diameter 24 mm bearing the words: «G.P.O. Port of Spain» and below that «Trinidad». Between these 2 inscriptions over 3 lines appear: «3PM» then «SP 18» and the year «14».

7. Letters returned to the G.P.O. in Port of Spain by the Provincial Offices for non-delivery must bear one of the following marks:

A date stamp similar to the cancellation stamp, but of diameter 23 mm,

 the word «Unclaimed» in the form of a large-letter stamp, or

• The letter «T» in a 25 mm circle.

Upon receiving copies of these letters, the Stanley Gibbons firm resolved not to include them in its catalogue, as they were an unofficial issue, merely tolerated, and with no face value appearing on the figurine. It was not until 1974 that these letters were mentioned in the British Commonwealth Catalogue. Nor were they immediately accepted by the U.S. Scott catalogue. The circu-



2 - Letter which left Trinidad on 18 September 1914 and arrived in Port of Spain on 20 September 1914.



3 - Letter typed in purple ink, which left Trinidad on 18 September 1914 at 3 PM and arrived in Port of Spain on 20 September.

lar letter sent to landowners by the Trinidad Island Red Cross Committee is reprinted on page 39 (1).

The vignettes remaining after the 900 letters had been sent were sold to the public, and many letters bearing this vignette, but franked normally with Trinidad stamps, can be found. These letters have no special value, as the date of cancellation is not 18 September 1914, and the purpose of these letters has nothing to do with the Red Cross Committee. Red Cross letters are quoted at £190, which corresponds to 1,800 francs. They are seldom seen at auction, and when they are, they are often at a high price. Upon reading this article, there are still two points to be clarified:

A. This is a photocopy of a paper envelope (4), size 121 x 94 mm, with a glued flap at the tip. Here you can see the document on the front and the arrival stamp on the back. As postage, this envelope bears only the Trinidad vignette, the bottom right-hand corner of which is very slightly cancelled by a 23 mm postmark from Port of Spain dated 26 October 1914. Addressed to the Reverend Herbert H. Cole in Scarborough, on the reverse is an arrival stamp dated 27 October 1914.

The address is handwritten, probably by Mrs. Burslem herself, as it reads «Red Cross Society / Mrs Burslem». The envelope was sealed. Since there is no doubt as to its authenticity, the following question arises: after 18 September 1914, did the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross benefit from free postage as long as the sender's name and signature were mentioned and the vignette was affixed, as this

envelope seems to indicate?

B. Aside from its postal use on 18 September 1914, the Trinidad vignette was primarily a charity vignette sold by the Red Cross to raise funds. It can be found on the back of some envelopes as a seal, but collectors are also on the lookout for new ones, as clearly, not all the printed vignettes were sold in the colony, with some or all of the remaining stock winding up on the philatelic market.

The vignettes were letterpress printed in sheets of 24. This plate is made up of a block of 6 vignettes repeated 4 times (5).

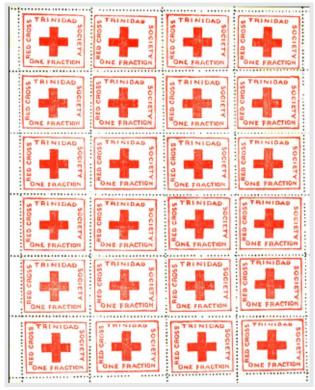
«A report from the Postmaster General of Trinidad

sets out the conditions under which this vignette was accepted for official franking. On 17 September 1914, the Governor accepted a request from the local Red Cross to send a postage-free circular in support of its work. In or-





4 - Letter with Trinidad vignette, which left Port of Spain on 26 October 1914 and arrived in Scarborough on 27 October 1914.



5 - Sheet of 24 vignettes consisting of a plate block of 6 vignettes repeated 4 times.





Letter franked with the Trinidad & Tobago 1 penny red «Britannia» stamp, and with the Red Cross surcharge vignette.

der to be recognised, the envelopes would bear a vignette rather than a postage stamp. To ensure no errors were made by officials unaware of the authorisation granted, the Postmaster General ordered that all mail «franked» in this way should be delivered to the main office in Port of Spain and cancelled with the official stamp showing the day and time of departure. A circular was sent to all postal offices advising them of this in advance».

Thus, almost unwittingly, as the Director humorously wrote in his report, the vignette issued by the local Red Cross Society was recognised as a postage-free stamp, with a postage value of ½ d., on 18 September 1914 when it received the circular cancellation «G.P.D. Port-of-Spain Trinidad, Sp 18-14 3pm». This is why, when new, it deserved to be considered by diehard philatelists not as a «vignette», but as an authentic postage stamp. In response to these questions, I found a letter that left Trinidad for France on 3 December 1914, thus sent after 18 September 1914.

In subsequent years, the Trinidad Post Office issued two further Red Cross stamps of the «Britannia» type, overprinting the 1 penny red stamp of the current issue with a Red Cross edged in black and the date: the first «21.10.15.» (6) and the second «19.10.16.». (7).



6 - Letter franked with the 1 penny stamp overprinted with the date 21.10.15. and with the Trinidad vignette, which left Port of Spain for Malta on 3 December 1915.



7 - Letter franked with a block of 4 sheet-edge stamps and 1 penny printing mark, overprinted with the date 19.10.16. First-day cancellation in Port of Spain with date error for the year being «91» instead of 16.



- Registered letter leaving Trinidad on 21 October 1916 franked with 34 stamps each worth 1 penny, including a block of 30 sheet-edge stamps and printing mark, overprinted with the date 21.10.16.



First-day postcard with overprinted stamp 21.10.15



7 - Letter franked with the 1 penny stamp overprinted with the date 19.10.16. and with the Trinidad vignette, which left Cedros for the city on 19 October 1916.



- Registered letter recorded in Trinidad, franked at 6 pennies with three stamps from 1915 and 1916, plus three Red Cross vignettes from 1914, late use, which left on 2 February 1917 for Bern, and was opened by the military authority of office 205, fine local manufacture.



Collecting photographic cards

Photography has always interested human beings. The darkroom was already known in Aristotle's time in the 4th century BCE. But in order to really talk about photography, we had to wait for Joseph Nicéphore Niépce, who photographed a wing of his property in Saint-Loup-de-Varennes at the beginning of the 19th century. The photo in question is currently at the University of Austin in Texas. However, at the time, the exposure time was several hours, and the quality of the result was poor.

Louis Daguerre would help spur on the technical development of photography based on Joseph

Nicéphore Niépce's technique, by creating the «daguerreotype», which may be described as the first photographic camera. Though some painters feared for their jobs, the craze for the device was real. From the second half of the 18th century onwards, a number of photographers began to appear who were determined not to remain in the shadows.

Photographers were regularly in demand as portraitists. Because few people owned a camera, many people went to have their portrait taken by a professional. The professional got into the habit of using their photos as a most practical advertising tool. As such, it is not unusual to find the name and contact

details of the photographer who took the photos on the back.

This landmark marketing tool was seen in many regions and countries. Today, we know that the photographs from this period were taken by Cosson in Orleans, Chambay in Mauritius, Pietzner in Vienna, Fribourg in Switzerland and many others. On the other side of the photograph, the faces of anonymous people from the late 19th or early 20th century, no doubt delighted to pose for a few minutes to get a precious snapshot of themselves.

If you are interested in old photographs, check out the category dedicated to them on **Delcampe!**

On the left-hand page

Back of a photo by the photographer Lorson in Fribourg, Switzerland.

On this page

Two early photos by the photographer Cosson in Orléans.

Early military photograph taken by the photographer Pietzner in Vienna.

An early photograph by the photographer Rabending in Vienna.

























A zeppelin story

Among the classics of German philately is a series of airmail stamps depicting a zeppelin contemplating the Earth below. This series, issued between 1928 and 1933, deserves a closer look because there are quite a few variants of note.

The historical context surrounding the issue.

This stamp was issued for the first time between the two world wars, just before the global financial crisis of 1929.

At the time, the zeppelin was the new master of the skies. From 1928 to 1937, the LZ 127 Graf Zeppelin carried passengers, even circumnavigating the globe in 1929. In fact, it flew over Berlin much to the astonishment of the city's inhabitants.

What better way to show off our national pride than on German airmail stamps? This is how the first issue in 1928 came about.

It is made up of three different stamps: the 1M red, the 2M ultramarine blue and the

4M sepia. These show the Zeppelin airship flying above the planet.

The next issue in 1930 featured the inscription «Südamerika-Fahrt» (South American Journey) in the top left-hand corner of the 2M ultramarine blue stamp.

The 1931 issue coincided with another zeppelin expedition, this time to the Arctic. So instead of «Südamerika-Fahrt», the overprint «Polar-Fahrt 1931» (Polar Journey) appeared on the 1M red, 2M ultramarine blue and 4M sepia stamps.

Finally, the last issue in 1933 announced the arrival of the zeppelin in Chicago in the same year. The «Chicagofahrt Weltausstellung 1933» (Journey to the Chicago World Expo) overprint can be found on all

three types of stamp.

In 1933, when Adolf Hitler became Chancellor of Germany, production of these zeppelin stamps was stopped. The zeppelin itself was used as a propaganda tool in 1936, raining down leaflets on the public from above. The last remaining zeppelins were destroyed in 1940 on the orders of Herman Göring.

What are these stamps worth today?

The 1933 series recently sold on Delcampe for €140, which is a good deal for buyers, as these stamps had previously fetched a much higher value. What's more, their catalogue price is well above this value. A year earlier, the Polar Expedition stamps in mint condition were sold for €235. This is also well below the official rate.

The year before that, the three stamps from the 1928 issue fetched a price of €110.

Of course, some mail carried these stamps, which travelled at the time, giving them value, both financially and historically!

Would you like to know more about other «zeppelin» stamps and letters from Germany? If so, Delcampe is at your service!

CLICK HERE







On the left-hand page

Germany 1933, Zeppelin series overprinted with «Chicagofahrt Weltausstellung 1933».

Germany 1931, Zeppelin series overprinted with «Polar-Fahrt 1931».

On this page

Germany 1930, mail bearing Zeppelin stamps overprinted with «Südamerika Fahrt» to the USA.

Germany 1928, first non-overprinted Zeppelin series.



Discovering golf



Postcard of Saint-Jean-de-Luz golf course, France.
Postcard of Biarritz golf course, with French champion Massy.

The origins of this sport lie in the Netherlands, where «colf» was played as early as the 13th century. However, it was mainly in Great Britain, namely England and Scotland, that it became very popular over time. It may not be an intensive outdoor sport, but it is very appealing.

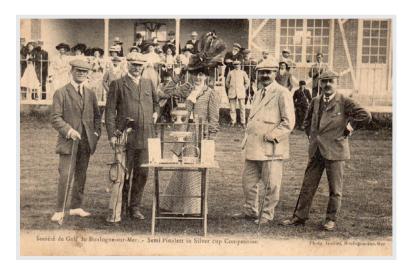
Golf was certified in Scotland in 1754, but it wasn't until a century later that it became fashionable and the first private clubs appeared. Although golf was originally a male sport, leading to the rumour that the word «golf» came from the initials "gentlemen only, ladies forbidden», since the 1990s the sport has seen an upturn in its popularity among the women. Nowadays, many women also play.

It became an Olympic discipline at the Paris Olympic Games in 1900. However, this only lasted for two editions. It was then absent until the Games of 2016.

Golf is also an excellent way to do business, as it provides an opportunity for long discussions. An 18-hole course takes time to complete, and long walks encourage conversation. Of course, golf wouldn't be the same without the clubhouse! The opportunity to have a drink at the nineteenth hole is also a great way to do business or make new friends! While today's golfers, especially women golfers, wear practical clothes, in the old days, as you can see from the postcards shown, women played in long dresses. Golf had been around since before the advent of the photographic postcard and thanks to the attractive landscapes it offered, it soon became a featured subject for postcards, particularly when it came to publicising clubs and recruiting members. Today, more than 80 million people around the world play golf. It has to be said that since the effort involved is not intense, this sport can be played at any age.

Here are a few postcards. Many other postcards and other golf collectables are on sale at Delcampe.

CLICK HERE







Postcard of the golf club at Boulogne-sur-Mer, France. Postcard of the golf course in Royan, France. Postcard of woman playing golf in a long dress at Deauville golf course.



Marianne maximum cards





Maximum cards of Marianne and Europe (stars). First day cancellation 2/07/2011. Marianne maximum card by Bequet. First day cancellation 05/10/1974. Marianne maximum card by Briat. First day cancellation 26/03/1990.

Marianne is the personification of France. A pretty young woman weaa Phrygian ring cap. She has had many faces, sometimes modelled on fashion actresses, models or other popular TV presenters.

But as well as the various busts of Marianne, it has been a tradition since Charles de Gaulle for the French President to choose a new Marianne to illustrate stamps, entrusting an artist with the task of representing France on millions of small collectors' items.

Marianne can be found in many stamp collections, and today I wanted to present her to you in maximaphily.

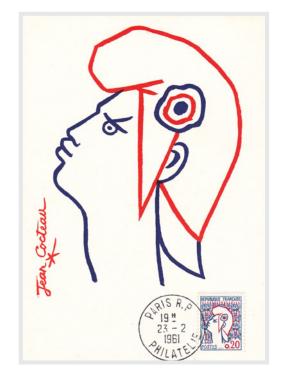
What is maximaphily?

It's a collection that combines postcards, philately and cancellations. A maximum card consists of a postcard, a stamp and a cancellation on the same subject. Given the number of Mariannes, the subject is a collection in itself!

Why Marianne?

The name Marianne comes from a revolutionary song from Albi, southern France, «Garisou de Marianno», attributed to Guillaume Lavabre from around 1792. However, it is highly likely that the choice of the name Marianne was linked to the popularity of the first names Mary and Anne in 18th century Catholic France. Indeed, the first name Mary is that of Christ's mother and Anne is that of Christ's grandmother, Saint Anne being the mother of the Virgin.

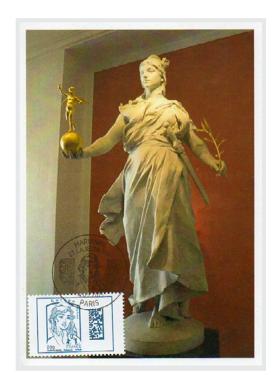
Marianne became the representation of Liberty in France at the end of the 18th century, after the French Revolution. Although Marianne's presence was still dis-





Marianne maximum card by Cocteau. First day cancellation 23/02/1961.

Marianne maximum card by Lamouche. First day cancellation 01/10/2008.





Marianne and Youth maximum card. First day cancellation 04/09/2005.

Committed Marianne maximum card. First day cancellation 20/07/2018.

creet, statues and busts dating from this period could be found in major towns and cities, showing Marianne wearing her famous Phrygian cap.

It was only after the defeat of Napoleon III that Marianne took centre stage.

Present both as a statue and as a character in a painting, Marianne increasingly became a part of French people's everyday lives.

From 1944 onwards, Marianne was used on French stamps. To date, some fifteen Mariannes are already available in philately. From the Marianne of Algiers, designed by Louis Fernez, to the committed Marianne of Yseult, Marianne has very contrasting styles, something that makes this collection so interesting and fun: it is a representation of France evolving over time. Each time a new Marianne is issued. first-day covers, and maximum cards are usually among the philatelic souvenirs on offer. It is thus possible and fairly easy to build up a fine collection on this subject.

Would you like to discover thousands of stamps, letters and maximum cards dedicated to Marianne? If so, you can find them on Delcampe!

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