

THE PERFORATOR

Vol. XXI.

JANUARY 25, 1903.

No. 9.

The Seybold Collection of Original Covers . . .

CONTINUED.

NOS. 8 AND 9.



Our first "cover" illustration this month is a fine pair of the 3 pf, Saxony, 1850 issue. With the exception of the 1851- $\frac{1}{2}$ n. g. pale blue (error) the 3 pf is the scarcest of the Saxony stamps. This stamp is often found on the collector's "Want lists" and dealers have always considered it to be worth its full catalog price (\$30.00). The pair illustrated above are of the dark red shade and these are considered much scarcer than the light red shade. Mr. Seybold has three more single copies on the covers and also two covers containing a fine pair each and a beautiful strip of three, the latter is not

on the cover. It will be seen that Mr. Seybold has almost a monopoly on these stamps and it is indeed doubtful if any collector or dealer in this country has ever handled such a quantity of 3 pf. Saxony stamps.

The above cover was purchased from Paul Kohl of Chemnitz, Germany, during his visit here last fall. Readers of the PERFORATOR who are interested in the accumulation of original covers have probably wondered at the magnificence of the Seybold collection. Including the two covers pictured in this number we have illustrated nine of Mr. Seybold's most favorite "gems." In order to give

our readers an idea of the magnitude of this collection it is only necessary to state that Mr. Seybold has enough rare covers to furnish the PERFORATOR with illustrations for at least ten years. The next issue of the PERFORATOR will illustrate two extreme rarities in the Seybold collection.

The above cover and the one on the following page are two of Mr. Seybold's favorites. They are prized more highly on account of their magnificent condition. Mr. Seybold always considers condition first. The stamps on both of the covers we illustrate in this number are in superb condition.



covers. It must be remembered that Mr. Sebyold has many scarce and valuable B. N. A. covers, the most desirable one being the twelve pence Canada, illustrated in the Perforator some months ago. The cover pictured above contains a beautiful copy of the 1 shilling New Brunswick, dull violet, catalogued at \$125.00, also a copy of the three pence red. The former is just as valuable as the catalogue figure indicates and it is considered equally as scarce as the "Connell" stamp. In addition to the above cover, Mr. Seybold also possesses two other copies of the one shilling stamps, one more on the cover, and one in his collection.

The cover illustrated above was purchased recently of

Charles Phillips, of London, England. The stamps of British North America are always favorites, especially with collectors in America and a philatelist possessing good collections of these stamps may consider themselves fortunate.

In the near future the Perforator will illustrate several other rare British North American covers in the Seybold collection. Mr. Seybold has just purchased a copy of what is considered one of the greatest of the United States rarities; the specimen is on the original cover and is in perfect condition. This cover will be illustrated very shortly in the Perforator.

A NEW ISSUE FOR SERVIA.

STAMPS BEARING THE PORTRAIT OF THE ASSASSINATED KING TO BECOME OBSOLETE.

No doubt most of the readers of the Perforator have read of the assassination of the royal family of Serbia, and probably many others have given the philatelic side of the tragedy more than one thought. The writer has for one, and although he views the affair with extreme horror, he wishes to be understood, that in penning the following article he writes it in a philatelic sense; what I wish to convey is that in consequence of this "disaster" we may possibly be "favored" with a new set of postal stationery, bearing the new king's head, and supplanting the one of the assassinated king.

Although the writer is not able to give all the facts concerning the stamps of Serbia, he may perhaps interest his readers with a short historical sketch of this unfortunate country, also the career of the deceased king, and that of the future one.

The kingdom of Serbia lies in the Balkan peninsula, south of Hungary, between Bosnia and Bulgaria. The capital is Belgrade, a city of nearly 70,000 inhabitants. The area of the country is over 19,000 square miles and its total population in 1901 was nearly 2,600,000. The country was formerly an autonomous Turkish dependency, but since the treaty of Berlin in 1878, it has been an independent constitutional monarchy.

The head of the dynasty to which the late king Alexander belonged was Milos Obrenovitch, who was born in 1780, and was made Prince of Serbia in 1817, when Karageorge,

the popular leader of the Serbs, was assassinated. Milos did his utmost to free Serbia from Turkey.

In 1827, he organized the National Assembly of Serbia, which later recognized him as hereditary Prince and his family was to succeed to the title.

In 1830, the title was recognized by the Porte. Milos was forced to abdicate in 1839, in favor of his son, Milan, who, at his death, was succeeded by his brother Michael. The latter abdicated in 1842, being driven out by the people and Alexander Karageorgevich was elected Prince. He was driven out in 1858 and old Milos returned and was reinstated as Prince. He died in 1860, and was succeeded by Michael, who returned from exile to become Prince again.

Prince Michael was murdered on June 10, 1868, by the Karageorges, and as the present assassination took place on the night of the 10th, it appears as though the revolution had been planned for the anniversary of Michael's death.

Milan Obrenovitch who was the father of the murdered king, Alexander the fourth and only living member of the Obrenovitch family and a grand-nephew of Milos succeeded to the head of the Government, with the title of Prince.

In 1878, the independence of Serbia was recognized by the powers and in 1882, Milan declared himself King. He abdicated in 1889 in favor of his son, Alexander I. A new constitution was adopted in 1901, at the instance of King Alexander. It gave to the kingdom a constitutional government, entailing the succession upon his direct descendants of either sex. The executive power was vested in a King, assisted by a Cabinet of eight heads of departments.

In the foregoing, I have mentioned a few facts concerning the history, the government and other matters of historical note. I will continue by giving a concise biography of the assassinated ruler and the causes leading up to his demise. This matter will be more interesting than the preceding as most of this history is depicted on the postage stamps of this country. Close reading and an open stamp catalogue

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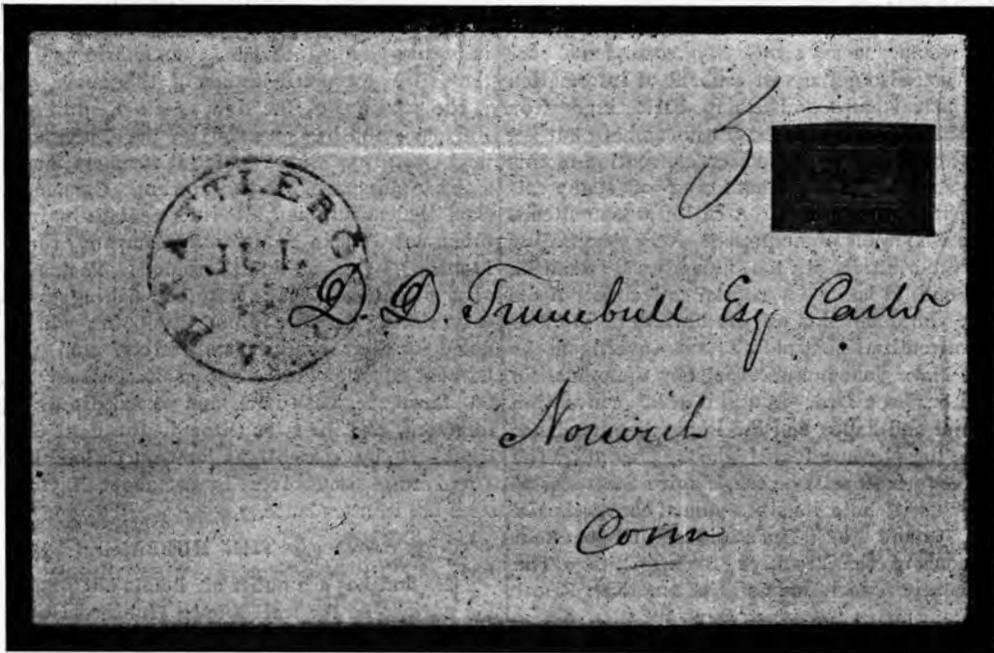
JULY 15, 1903.

No. 3

The Seybold Collection of Original Covers . . .

CONTINUED.

No. 18.



The latest and one of the most valuable acquisitions to the famous cover collection of Mr. J. F. Seybold is pictured above. It represents a "Brattleboro," on the entire original cover, of which, probably there are but five or six copies known to exist on the cover throughout the world. The stamp illustrated has the usual cancellation "—PAID—" stamped in red across the stamp. We propose in the following to cite a few facts regarding this stamp, which we shall endeavor to make as interesting as possible. This stamp is considered to be the scarcest of the Postmaster Provisionals issued in America. It was issued by the Postmaster F. N. Palmer, whose autographic initials "F. N. P." are in the octagon in the center of the stamp. It was in circulation from July 1845, to Nov. 1848, but is generally supposed to have been really issued in the latter part of 1846. It was engraved on copper by Thos. Chubbuck, and printed in black on buff paper. The plate contained ten stamps, two horizontal rows of five each. It is said that five thousand of them were issued, but no more than five hundred were used, the balance of them having been destroyed when the regular government issue appeared in 1847, viz., five cent brown and ten cent black. The Brattleboro stamp is really quite famous, much has been written about these stamps both in the philatelic journals and the daily press. A "Brattleboro" is valued at about \$650 and copies can seldom be had even at this figure. It is only when some large and valuable collection comes on the market that one of these stamps

changes hands, and then only after some hot and spirited bidding. Some years ago, the Newton, (Mass.) "Graphic" published a long article on a valuable find of a magnificent used copy of a Brattleboro, on the entire letter, by Mr. John Harkins, a New York rag dealer. In sorting over a pile of waste paper, he picked up an old letter bearing one of these stamps, thinking it of some value, on account of its age. He showed it to Mr. Henry Collins, who without hesitation paid him \$300.00 for it.

The late Mr. Trifet, the veteran stamp dealer of Boston also related in a paper that he read before the Boston Philatelic Society in 1896, of having an unused copy offered him, before its reliability and reputation was established, for the munificent sum of seventy-five cents, at which price he refused to purchase. The same stamp was shown Mr. Foster at sixty-five cents; he bought it at that figure, and it rests in his beautiful collection to-day. Think of the snap, should Mr. Foster care to dispose of his copy bought at sixty-five cents, and worth to-day \$650.00! Many of Mr. Seybold's gems could have been purchased at comparatively low figures in comparison with today's prices. So it shall always be; stamps selling at cents to-day, will probably bring dollars in another fifty years.

Mr. Seybold considers the twelve-pence Canada and the above cover, two of the most valuable gems in his collection. The Brattleboro we illustrate was purchased by Mr. Seybold about a month ago of Mess. Burger Co., of New York.

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AUG. 15, 1903.

No. 4

The Seybold Collection of Original Covers . . .

CONTINUED.

No. 19.



This month we illustrate a very unique and interesting "cover". A great many of the PERFORATOR readers know that the 5c New York is quite a scarce stamp and when you see a cover bearing four copies of this stamp it must be admitted that it is something out of the ordinary. The cover pictured above contains two beautiful horizontal pairs and while the "cover" is not as valuable as the "Brattleboro" pictured in the PERFORATOR last month, it is nevertheless one of Mr. Seybold's favorites. It is said that the New York stamp contained one of the finest portraits of Washington that ever appeared on any postage stamp. A comparison of the picture on this stamp and the one now appearing on our current two cent stamps will readily convince anyone that our government has not selected one of the best portraits of Geo. Washington when they prepared the engraving for the two cent stamp now in use. The 5c New York was placed on sale here July 14, 1845, and was issued by R. H. Morris who was the postmaster in this city at the time

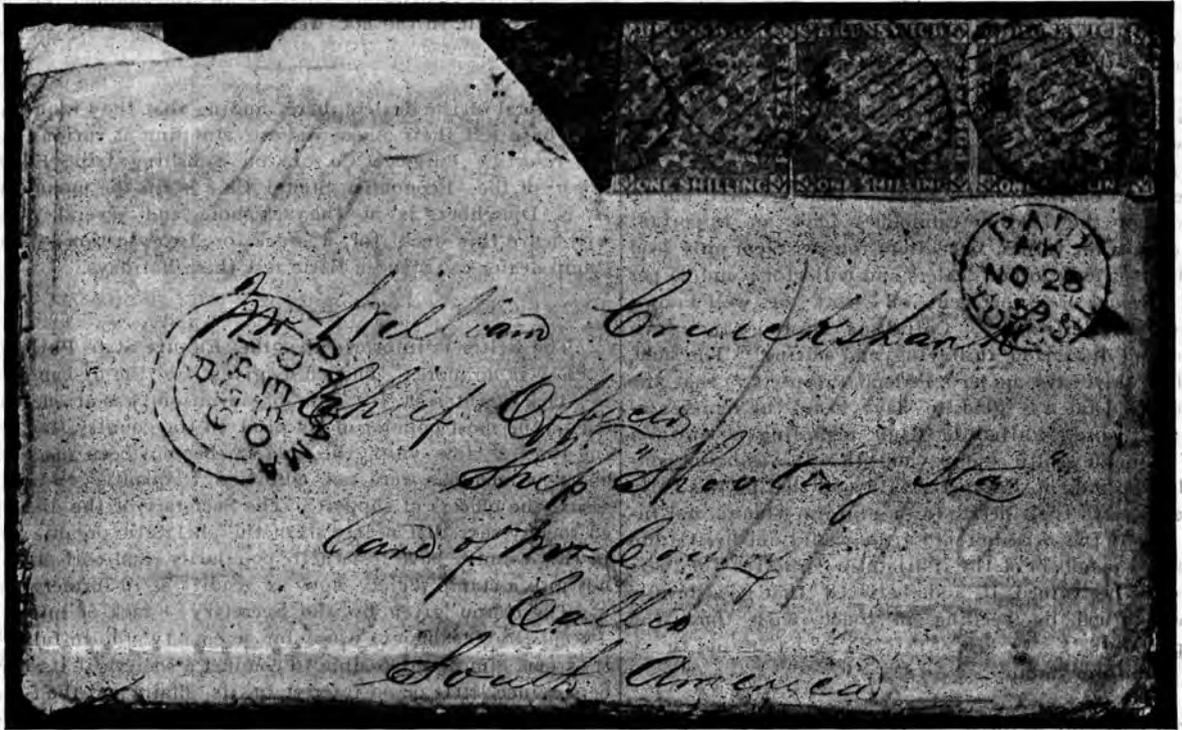
previous to his appointment postmaster, as Mr. Morris served the people of New York City, made Mayor for three consecutive terms from 1841 to 1844. Immediately after his appointment as postmaster he ordered the famous "New York Stamp" to be engraved. The work was placed in the hands of Rowden, Wright & Hatch, the Bank Note engravers. The stamps were printed in sheets of one hundred, ten rows of ten stamps; they were sold to the public twenty for one dollar. All stamps were cancelled with initials of the postmaster "R. H. M." in red, or the initials of his son-in-law "A. C. M." standing for Alonzo Castle Monson. In addition to the above "cover" Mr. Seybold also possesses two more "covers" each bearing a horizontal pair of those stamps, another cover having a vertical pair and still another containing two single copies. The next issue of the PERFORATOR will illustrate a providence postmaster stamp on the entire cover, also selected from Mr. Seybold's remarkable collection.

THE PERFORATOR

Vol. XXIV.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., JULY 15, 1905.

No. 3



THE SEYBOLD COLLECTION OF ORIGINAL COVERS.

[CONTINUED.]

We take great pleasure in presenting to our readers this month, one of the most interesting and unique covers of Mr. Seybold's collection.

Upon this rare cover from New Brunswick may be seen three copies of One Shilling and also a copy of the Three Pence divided to be used as one and one half pence, making a total postage of 3sh. 1 1-2p. for the sending of the letter to Callia, South America.

As will be noticed from the above cut, the letters in those days had to go by way of London.

This is positively one of the finest things which has ever been shown in the cover line, for upon it we find an unsevered pair of the 1sh., and this is one thing that has never been seen nor heard of before, either on or off the cover.

This cover was purchased by Mr. Seybold from the Burrows Stamp, Co. of Liverpool, England, and while it cost the owner a good round sum, he has since received many offers from specialists which would net him a handsome profit on his investment, but we might add here, that once Mr. Seybold purchases a stamp and places it in his collection, he never sells it.

While the half of the 3 pence is not quoted by Scott, it will be noticed that the 1sh is listed at \$125 each and when taken into consideration that this cover has the only unsevered pair of the 1sh. known, it will always demand a high figure.

In addition to the above, Mr. Seybold has in his collection another cover on which are a 1sh. and 3 pence, and he also has another cover with a single copy of the 1sh.

In addition to the last named he has still another copy of the 1sh. off the cover.

On Mr. Seybold's recent visit to New York in the early part of June he created considerable excitement in the Philatelic market by showing the above and many other interesting fine stamps and covers from his collection.

In a former number of the Perforator we presented to our readers a cut of one of the greatest rarities in the stamp line, which was a cover owned by Mr. Seybold on which was shown a 12 pence Canada, listed by Scott's at \$500.00. While this cover was highly prized by Mr. Seybold he never prized it as highly as he does today, for since our last issue he has secured from a London firm, an exact duplicate of the cover which he has had in his collection. He now has the only two known copies of this stamp on the cover, and has received many congratulations upon his possessing them.

These two covers are precisely alike, having been mailed from Hamilton, Ontario, to a firm in Wall Street, New York City, and were written by the same hand, being sent just one month apart.

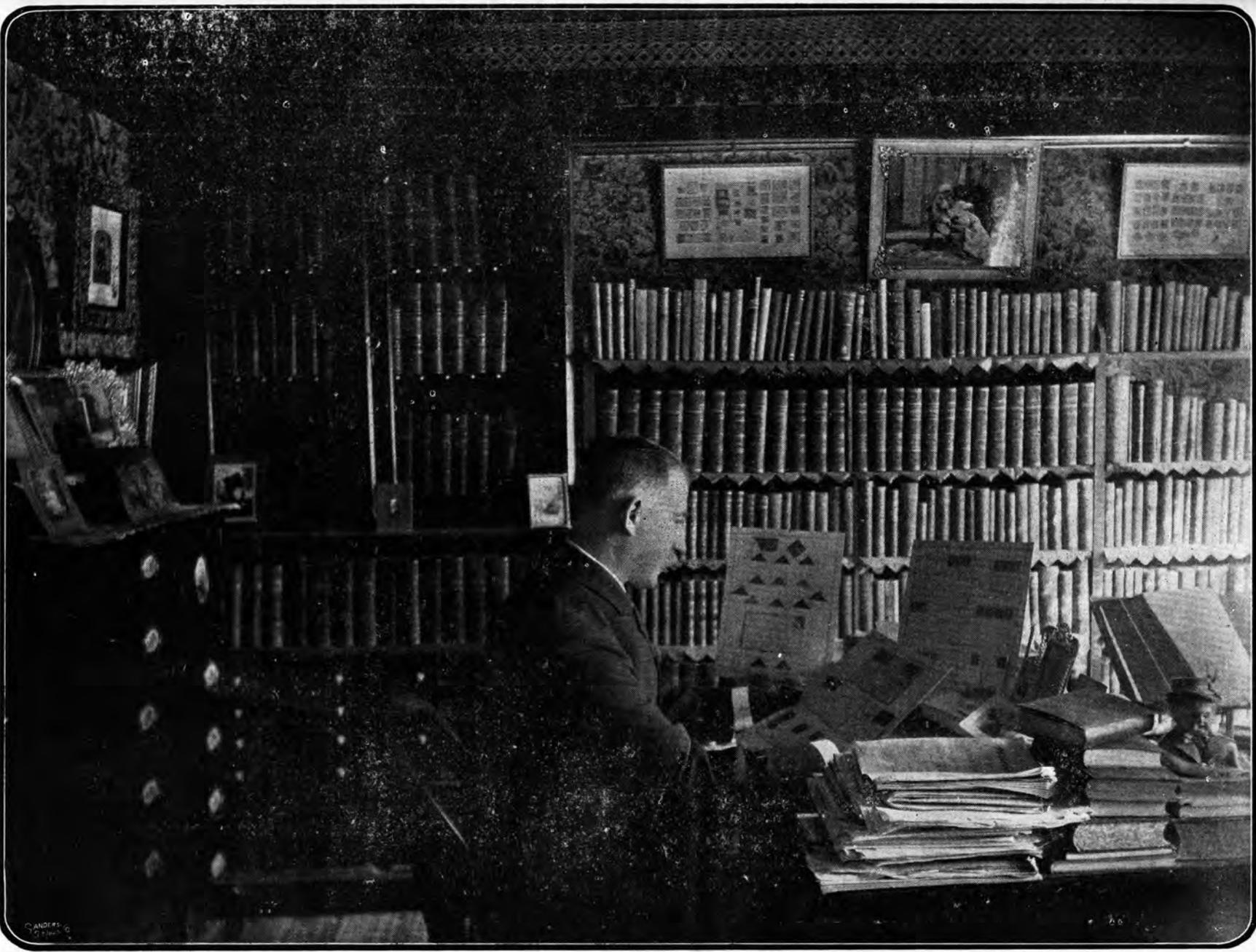
Next month we will present to our readers another of the fine gems from this celebrated collection.

THE PERFORATOR

VOL. XXIII.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., APRIL 15, 1905

NO. 12.



JOHN F. SEYBOLD IN HIS STAMP DEN.