



SALE 1280 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023

# SIEGEL INTERNATIONAL

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHARLES F. SHREVE



## JAPANESE FOREIGN MAIL AND POST OFFICES

SALE 1280—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023 AT 10:30 A.M. (LOTS 301-414) AND 1:30 P.M. (LOTS 415-647)



All lots sold subject to **18% buyer's premium** and applicable sales tax or customs duty

Please carefully read the **Conditions of Sale** before bidding

Presale viewing by appointment only

Robert a. Siegel

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHARLES F. SHREVE

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Catalogues, internet bidding, resources, archives and the Siegel Encyclopedia at siegelauctions.com



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## **Information for Bidders**

#### **Bidding**

The following means are available for placing bids:

- 1) Public Attendance: Attendance is now permitted for fully vaccinated individuals and for unvaccinated individuals who follow all guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Live bidding will also be facilitated by mail, email, phone or internet.
- 2) Live Internet Bidding: Instructions for participating as a Live Internet Bidder are provided on the page opposite.
- **3) Phone Bidding:** Bidders can be connected to the sale by phone and bid through a member of staff. Requests for phone bidding are subject to approval (please contact our office at least 24 hours before the sale). A signed Bid Form is required.
- 4) Absentee Bids: All bids received in advance of the sale, either by mail, fax, phone, email or internet, are Absentee Bids, which instruct the auctioneer to bid up to a specific amount on one or more lots in the sale. Absentee Bids sent by phone, fax or email should arrive at least one hour prior to the start of the sale session. Bids entered through Live Internet Bidding will be visible to the auctioneer during the sale. Written bids should be entered legibly on the Bid Form in the sale catalogue. Email and internet bids should be carefully typed and double-checked. All new bidders must provide references.

#### **Presale Viewing by Appointment Only**

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, presale viewing will be permitted for fully vaccinated individuals or for unvaccinated individuals who agree to follow all protective measures. To make an appointment and receive instructions, please contact us at (212) 753-6421 or by email. We reserve the right to refuse, cancel or postpone a request or appointment.

## **Expert Certification**

Individual items offered without a PF or PSE certificate dated within the past 5 years may be purchased subject to certification of genuineness and our description. Please refer to the Conditions of Sale and Grading Terms for policies governing certification.

#### Shipping and Delivery

Procedures and charges for shipping lots are printed on the back of the Bid Form. Bidders are responsible for all prescribed shipping charges and any applicable sales tax or customs duties.

#### **Price Realized**

Prices realized are sent with each invoice. Bidders with email will receive a Bid Results report after the sale. Session results are posted immediately to siegelauctions.com

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## ALL INTERNET BIDDING IS NOW HANDLED DIRECTLY FROM THE SIEGEL WEBSITE

## REGISTERED BIDDERS MAY LEAVE BIDS IN ADVANCE OF THE SALE AND BID LIVE DURING THE AUCTION

## DOWNLOAD THE SIEGEL APP FROM THE APPLE OR GOOGLE PLAY STORES

This step-by-step guide will instruct you how to register and use the bidding interface.

Start by following the simple steps to become a registered internet bidder.

Once you have been approved for bidding, you can leave bids in advance of the sale, listen to the auction and place bids live with the click of a mouse.

## **Registering with Siegel Auction Galleries**

To bid, you must be registered and approved by Siegel.

To decide what you need to do, choose the description below that best fits you.



I've already registered with Siegel and have been approved by Siegel for internet bidding

I'm a Siegel client, but I'm not registered to bid live

Go to **bid.siegelauctions.com** and click on **Login** at the top. Then click on the link for **Sign Up Now.** We will match your new signup to your existing account.

I want to become a Siegel client and bid in auctions

Go to **bid.siegelauctions.com** and click on **Login** at the top. Then click on the link for **Sign Up Now**. You will need to register and provide trade and banking references.

Internet bidding works by allowing registered bidders to observe and place bids, either before the sale or in real-time during the auction.

Live Internet Bidding will work with any browser on both PC and Mac operating systems, or with our app..

Before bidding by internet for the first time, we recommend observing an auction in progress. This will help you develop a feel for the sale tempo and bidding interface.

## Log in and participate in the auction at bid.siegelauctions.com

When you're logged on as an internet bidder, the bidding interface shows a photo and description of the lot, the current bid (and your bidding status), options for placing competitive bids and buttons with bid increments.

- After you click on a bid amount, the auctioneer is immediately notified of your bid.
- Retracting a bid is not acceptable, so please bid carefully.
- You can track prior realizations from the bidding screen.



## Conditions of Sale (please read carefully before bidding)

THE PROPERTY IN THIS CATALOGUE WILL BE OFFERED AT PUBLIC AUCTION BY ROBERT A. SIEGEL AUCTION GALLERIES, INC. ("GALLERIES") ON BEHALF OF VARIOUS CONSIGNORS AND ITSELF OR AFFILIATED COMPANIES. BY BIDDING ON ANY LOT, WHETHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH A THIRD PARTY, IN PERSON, BY TELEPHONE, FACSIMILE, INTERNET OR BY ANY OTHER MEANS, THE BIDDER ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS OF SALE.

- 1. The highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer shall be the buyer. The term "final bid" means the last bid acknowledged by the auctioneer, which is normally the highest bid offered. The purchase price payable by the buyer will be the sum of the final bid and a commission of 18% of the final bid ("buyer's premium"), together with any sales tax, use tax or customs duties due on the sale.
- 2. The auctioneer has the right to reject any bid, to advance the bidding at his discretion and, in the event of a dispute, to determine the successful bidder, to continue the bidding or to reoffer and resell the lot in dispute. The Galleries' record of the final sale shall be conclusive.
- 3. All bids are per numbered lot in the catalogue unless otherwise announced by the auctioneer at the time of sale. The right is reserved to group two or more lots, to withdraw any lot or lots from the sale, or to act on behalf of the seller. The Galleries will execute bidding instructions on behalf of clients, but will not be responsible for the failure to execute such bids or for any errors in the execution of such bids.
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- 5. Subject to the exclusions listed in 5(A), the Galleries will accept the return of lots which have been misidentified or which have obvious faults that were present when the lot was in the Galleries' custody, but not so noted in the lot description. All disputed lots must be received by the Galleries intact with the original packing material within 5 days of delivery to the buyer but no later than 30 days from the sale date. (5A) EXCLUSIONS: The following lots may not be returned for any reason, or may not be returned for the reasons stated: i) lots containing 5 or more items; ii) lots from buyers who registered for the pre-sale exhibition or received lots by postal viewing, thereby having had the opportunity to inspect them before the sale; iii) any lot described with "faults," "defects" or a specific fault may not be returned because of any secondary fault; iv) photographed lots may not be returned because of centering, margins, short/nibbed perforations or other factors shown in the illustrations; v) the color of the item does not match the color reproduction in the sale catalogue or website listing; vi) the description contains inaccurate information about the quantity known or reported; or vii) a certification service grades a stamp lower than the grade stated in the description or on an accompanying certificate.
- 6. Successful bidders, unless they have established credit with the Galleries prior to the sale, must make payment in full before the lots will be delivered. Buyers not known to the Galleries must make payment in full within 3 days from the date of sale. The Galleries retains the right to demand a cash deposit from anyone prior to bidder registration and/or to demand payment at the time the lot is knocked down to the highest bidder, for any reason whatsoever. In the event that any buyer refuses or fails to make payment in cash for any lot at the time it is knocked down to him, the auctioneer reserves the right to reoffer the lot immediately for sale to the highest bidder. Credit cards (Visa, Mastercard and Discover only) can be accepted as payment but will be subject to a 3% non-refundable Convenience Fee, which will be added to the total of the entire invoice (including hammer price, buyer's premium, shipping and transit insurance charges and any applicable taxes). The buyer waives the right to dispute all credit card charges.

- 7. If the purchase price has not been paid within the time limit specified above, nor lots taken up within 7 days from the date of sale, the lots will be resold by whatever means deemed appropriate by the Galleries, and any loss incurred from resale will be charged to the defaulting buyer. Any account more than 30 days in arrears will be subject to a late payment charge of 1½% per month as long as the account remains in arrears. Any expenses incurred in securing payment from delinquent accounts will be charged to the defaulter. A fee of \$250.00 per check will be charged for each check returned for insufficient funds.
- 8. All lots are sold as genuine. Any lot accompanied by a certificate issued by The Philatelic Foundation, British Philatelic Association, Royal Philatelic Society of London or any other authority recognized by the A.I.E.P. in a specific area of expertise, and dated within 5 years of the sale date, is sold "as is" and in accordance with the description on the certificate. Such lots may not be returned for any reason, including but not limited to a contrary certificate of opinion. Buyers who wish to obtain a certificate for any item that does not have a certificate (dated as above) may do so, provided that the following conditions are met: (i) the purchase price must be paid in full, (ii) the item must be submitted to an acceptable expertizing committee with a properly executed application form within 21 days of the sale, (iii) a copy of the application form must be given to the Galleries, (iv) the Galleries retains the right to resubmit the item for reconsideration, without time limit or other restrictions, for the purpose of obtaining a satisfactory opinion, (v) lots submitted for certification will be considered cleared 90 days from the date of sale, whether or not a certificate has been issued, unless the Galleries issues written approval of a further extension of return privileges, and (vi) in the event the lot is determined to be misidentified or misdescribed, pursuant to 5 and 5(A) of these Conditions, the Galleries will issue a refund to the buyer for the full purchase price and actual certification fees up to \$800.00, but the reimbursement for certificate fees (and related costs) shall not exceed 10% of the hammer price of the lot.
- 9. Until paid for in full, all lots remain the property of the Galleries on behalf of the seller.
- 10. Agents executing bids on behalf of clients will be held responsible for all purchases made on behalf of clients unless otherwise arranged prior to the sale.
- 11. The buyer assumes all risk for delivery of purchased lots and agrees to pay for prescribed shipping costs. Buyers who receive lots in the U.S. are obligated to pay whatever sales tax or compensating use tax might be due, at any time, and buyers outside the U.S. are responsible for all customs duties.
- 12. The bidder consents that any action or proceeding against it may be commenced and maintained in any court within the State of New York or in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, that the courts of the State of New York and United States District Court for the Southern District of New York shall have jurisdiction with respect to the subject matter hereof and the person of the bidder. The bidder agrees not to assert any defense to any action or proceeding initiated by Galleries based upon improper venue or inconvenient forum. The bidder agrees that any action brought by the bidder shall be commenced and maintained only in a Federal Court in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York or the State Court in the county in which Galleries has its principal place of business in New York. The bidder agrees not to use a public conflict resolution service and not to use any form of social media to publish comments or information about the Galleries and its employees which might harm the Galleries' reputation or business. These Conditions of Sale shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the substantive laws of the State of New York, and shall constitute an agreement that shall be binding on the parties, and their respective heirs, administrators, distributees, successors and assignees.

Revised 5/2018

## **Grades, Abbreviations and Values Used in Descriptions**

#### **Grades and Centering**

Our descriptions contain detailed information and observations about each item's condition. We have also assigned grades to stamps and covers, which reflect our subjective assessment. For stamps, the margin width, centering and gum are described and graded according to generally accepted standards (an approximate correlation to numeric grades is provided at right). Although we believe our grades are accurate, they are not always exactly aligned with third-party grading terms or standards for all issues. A lot may not be returned because a certification service grades a stamp lower than the grade stated in the description. Information from the P.S.E. Stamp Market Quarterly and P.S.E. Population Report<sup>SM</sup> is the most current available, but lots may not be returned due to errors or changes in statistics or data.

**Extremely Fine Gem (90-100):** The term "Gem" describes condition that is the finest possible for the issue. This term is equivalent to "Superb" used by grading services.

**Extremely Fine (80-90)**: Exceptionally large/wide margins or near perfect centering.

**Very Fine (70-85):** Normal-size margins for the issue and well-centered with the design a bit closer to one side. "Very Fine and choice" applies to stamps that have desirable traits such as rich color, sharp impression, freshness or clarity of cancel.

**Fine (60-70):** Smaller than usual margins or noticeably off center. Pre-1890 issues may have the design touched in places.

**Very Good (below 60):** Attractive appearance, but margins or perforations cut into the design.

#### Guide to Gum Condition

Gum Categories:	MINT N.H.		NO GUM				
	Mint Never Hinged Free from any disturbance	Lightly Hinged Faint impression of a removed hinge over a small area	Hinge Mark or Remnant Prominent hinged spot with part or all of the hinge remaining	Part o.g. Approximately half or more of the gum intact	Small part o.g. Approximately less than half of the gum intact	No gum Only if issued with gum	
Catalogue Symbol:	**	*	*	*	*	(★)	
PRE-1890 ISSUES		90 stamps in these co a premium over Sco		Scott Value for "O.G."		Scott "No Gum" Values thru No. 218	
1890-1935 ISSUES	Scott "Never Hinged" Values for Nos. 219-771	(Actual va affected	e for "O.G." lue will be d by the f hinging)	<b>Disturbed Original Gum:</b> Gum showing noticeable effects of humidity, climate or hinging over more than half of the gum. The significance of gum disturbance in valuing a stamp in any of the Original Gum			
1935 TO DATE	Scott Value for "Unused"			categories depends on the degree of disturbance, the rarity and normal gum condition of the issue and other variables affecting quality. For example, stamps issued in tropical climates are expected to have some			
1		I	gum disturbance due to humidity, and such is not considered a negative factor in pricing.				

## Covers

Minor nicks, short edge tears, flap tears and slight reduction at one side are normal conditions for 19th century envelopes. Folded letters should be expected to have at least one file fold. Light cleaning of covers and small mends along the edges are accepted forms of conservation. Unusual covers may have a common stamp with a slight crease or tiny tear. These flaws exist in virtually all 19th century covers and are not always described. They are not grounds for return.

## Catalogue Values and Estimates

Unless otherwise noted, the currently available *Scott Catalogue* values are quoted in dollars with a decimal point. Other catalogues are often used for foreign countries or specialized areas and are referred to by their common name: *Stanley Gibbons* (SG), *Dietz, American Air Mail Catalogue* (AAMC), *Michel, Zumstein, Facit*, etc. Estimates are indicated with an "E." and reflect our conservative valuation in dollars. Reserves will never exceed the low end of the estimate range; they will sometimes exceed Scott Catalogue value for stamps in Extremely Fine condition.

Because of certain pricing inconsistencies in the *Scott Catalogue*—for example, blocks that have no gum, the absence of premiums for Mint N.H. items, etc.—we cannot guarantee the accuracy of values quoted for multiples, specialized items and collection lots. We generally try to be conservative, but buyers may not return a lot because of a discrepancy in catalogue value due to Scott pricing inconsistencies.

#### Symbols and Abbreviations (see chart above for gum symbols)

$\blacksquare$	Block	E	Essay	pmk.	Postmark	No.	Scott Catalogue Number
$\boxtimes$	Cover	P	Proof	cds	Circular Datestamp	hs	Handstamp
FC	Fancy Cancel	TC	Trial Color Proof	var.	Variety	ms.	Manuscript



## INTRODUCTION

HE OPENING OF JAPAN TO FOREIGN NATIONS AFTER THE UNITED STATES PERRY EXPEDITION in 1853-54 led to the creation of treaty ports and foreign residential settlements in several locations, and to the establishment of foreign post offices to serve the communities of alien residents, merchants and military personnel in Japan. The American, British and French governments installed their own post offices, and steamship service to Japan was provided by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company (U.S.), Peninsular & Oriental Line (British) and Messageries Imperiales (French, later renamed Messageries Maritimes). Prior to the Japanese government's creation of its Foreign Postal Service in 1875, all international mail to and from Japan had to pass through one of the non-Japanese post offices or consulates, including postal agents on board the steamship packets.

The thrust of this portion of the Magnolia collection is mail handled by the French post office in Yokohama and carried either by French or British steamships. The French government opened its first consulates in July 1859 at Yokohama and Nagasaki, and a third was opened at Hiogo in 1868. In this early period, French mail was turned over to the British Peninsular & Oriental line, or routed through the French post office in Shanghai, which opened December 19, 1862. In February 1863 the Messageries Imperiales extended its service from Hong Kong to Shanghai, and in September 1865 it inaugurated regular service to Japan. The post office in Yokohama opened for business on September 7, 1865, with the arrival of postmarking devices and other supplies on board the M.I. steamer *Dupleix*.

The collapse of the Tokugawa government and the Meiji Restoration in 1868 occurred almost concurrently with the rise of French postal operations in Japan. The Meiji government inaugurated Japan's first national postal system and issued the four Large Dragon "Mon" stamps in April 1871. These were followed by the perforated Large Dragon "Sen" issue in the new currency in April 1872. Months later, in August 1872, the new hand-etched Cherry Blossom stamps were issued. Until the Japanese Foreign Postal Service commenced operation on January 1, 1875, the stamps of Japan were used exclusively to pay internal postage. On mail sent to or received from other countries, international postage had to be paid separately, following the "Overseas Postal Procedures" published in April 1872. On outbound mail, this gave rise to the "Degron-kun" address system (see page 105) and French-Japanese mixed frankings. Inbound mail addressed beyond Yokohama relied on the Japanese postal system for delivery, and in some cases special handstamps and additional Japanese stamps were applied.

The four decades of Japanese foreign post offices from 1860 through the end of the 19th century are reflected in the covers in the Magnolia collection. It begins with early French covers sent via Hong Kong and Shanghai, including covers franked with French stamps and postmarked at the French post office in Shanghai. The opening of the French post office in Yokohama is represented by a "first trip" cover carried on the *Dupleix* on its September 12, 1865, return trip after delivering the new postal supplies. Covers are divided into preand post-Fire periods, separated by the catastrophic blaze on November 26, 1866, which destroyed two-thirds of the Japanese section and one-fifth of the foreign settlement, including the French post office.

During the post-Fire period, in 1870-71, France and Germany went to war. Covers to and from Japan reflect the special measures during the siege of Paris. The collection includes two of the four recorded Ballon Monte covers to Japan that were flown out of Paris past the German lines and datestamped on arrival in Yokohama. It also includes a third Ballon Monte cover addressed to a naval officer in Asian waters. Other covers bear the stamps printed in Bordeaux during the war, which are quite rare used from Japan.

The Degron-kun and other mixed-franking covers include perhaps the most fascinating and visually impressive of all French-Japanese covers. Beginning with a forerunner to the Degron-kun system, the collection features the only recorded international cover with a Japanese Large Dragon stamp—in this case, the One-Sen 1872 Issue. The collection continues with a spectacular array of Degron-kun and mixed-franking covers, including the famous quadruple-rate cover with the largest franking of all.

France sent two military missions to Japan, and officers used the French and Japanese postal systems to send mail. Covers from the First Mission in 1867-68 are much rarer than Second Mission covers, and the collection includes seven to and from members of the First Mission.

Inbound mail from France and other countries completes this offering. Covers from Argentina, Austria, Canada, various German States and Germany, Great Britain, India, Italy, Netherlands and Switzerland will appeal to collectors of those countries, probably more so than to collectors of Japanese covers.

We have been greatly aided by the publication of information and analysis in Matsumoto Jun Ichi's 2012 edition of *A History of The French Post Office of Yokohama*. Mr. Matsumoto's book is quoted and relied upon extensively in this catalogue, and a number of covers in this sale were acquired from his collection. Other sources include the Salles and Scamp books on steamship mail. We are also grateful to Dr. Jeffrey Schneider for providing useful information, either directly or through his many auction catalogues.

#### MAIL VIA HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI

## MORNING SESSION (LOTS 301-414) WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023, AT 10:30 A.M.

# THE MAGNOLIA COLLECTION OF JAPAN FOREIGN MAIL AND POST OFFICES

## MAIL VIA HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI



301





303

303 ⋈ Yokohama to Lyon via Hong Kong, 1863. Blue folded cover docketed with Yokohama Jul. 28, 1863, origin date from Lilienthal & Co. to Lyon, France, sender's directive "Via Marseilles", "Hong-Kong C AU 8 63" British P.O. circular datestamp on back, red "PAID" framed handstamp applied in Hong Kong, red manuscript "8" decimes rate, red "P.P." and "PD" framed handstamps, red "Poss. Ang. V. Suez Marseille 24 Sept. 63" double-circle datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Sep. 25), Very Fine, scarce early cover sent from Yokohama to France via Hong Kong, prepaid markings are seldom encountered.... E. 750-1,000





307 ⋈ Yokohama to Marseille via Shanghai, 1864. Blue folded letter datelined Yokohama Oct. 31, 1864, from Gutschow & Co. to Pastre Freres, Marseilles, France, mostly clear strike of "Forwarded by Charles Gutschow & Co. Shanghae" oval handstamp on back, "Shang-

"Forwarded by Charles Gutschow & Co. Shanghae" oval handstamp on back, "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 8 Nov. 64" double-circle datestamp and matching distinctive "9" decimes due handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. Marseille 24 Dec. 64" double-circle datestamp with slightly oily bleed, Very Fine, extremely rare rate marking ......... E. 750-1,000



308



- Nagasaki to Leiden, Netherlands, via Shanghai, 1864. Blue folded letter datelined Nagasaki, Aug. 1, 1864, from Kniffler & Co. to Krantz & Sons, Leiden, Netherlands, sender's directive "via Marseille" and in another hand "p Mess Imp. Packet", bold "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 16 Aout 64" double-circle datestamp, Marseille (Oct. 6) and Leiden (Oct. 8) backstamps, manuscript "50" Dutch cents due marking, Very Fine, accompanied by steamship itinerary for the Messageries Imperiales Hong Kong-Shanghai Annex Line................................. E. 300-400



Nagasaki to St. Etienne via Singapore, 1865. Blue folded outer lettersheet with "Textor & Co. Nagasaki" blue oval handstamp (no date) to J. B. David, St. Etienne, France, sender's directive "via Marseilles", entered the post office with "Singapore P.O. 8 Feb. 1865" double-circle datestamp, red "Poss. Ang. V. Suez A. Marseille F 13 Mars 65" double-circle datestamp (Salles 1.874), faint "9" decimes handstamp, St. Etienne receiving backstamp (Mar. 14)

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE COVER TO FRANCE, ORIGINATING IN NAGASAKI, JAPAN, AND POSTMARKED AT SINGAPORE EN ROUTE TO SUEZ.

Unlike the majority of covers carried from Japan to Europe via Suez during the period before the French post office in Yokohama opened, this was not postmarked at Shanghai or Hong Kong. Instead, it was postmarked at the Singapore post office on February 8, 1865, one of the stops on the route between Suez and Asia. ..... E. 1,500-2,000



313

## FRENCH FRANKINGS ON MAIL VIA SHANGHAI



- 1860, 80c Rose (20; Yvert 17B). Full even margins, tied by perfect strike of "5104" dotted diamond cancel, equally clear "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 25 Mar 64" double-circle datestamp on blue folded letter from Yokohama to Marseilles, France, datelined Yokohama, Mar. 18, 1864, to W. Puget, "Alfred Gerard/Yokohama. (Japan)" two-line backstamp, sender's directive "per 'Azoff'", red "PD" framed hand-stamp, boldly struck "Paq. Ang. Marseille 11 Mai 64" double-circle datestamp, Very Fine, the 80c used from Shanghai is not rare, but covers originating in Japan and sent through the French post office are much more uncommon—this and the cover in lot 315 were mailed by the same person and post-marked at Shanghai on the same day, both were carried on the P&O Azof, one was delivered at the port of arrival (Marseilles) and the other sent on to Reims .............................. E. 750-1,000
- 1860, 80c Rose (20; Yvert 17B). Full margins to clear at right, tied by "5104" dotted diamond cancel, clear strike of "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 25 Mar 64" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover from Yokohama to Reims, France, to Gerard Baudier, "Alfred Gerard/Yokohama. (Japan)" two-line backstamp, sender's directive "per 'Azoff'", red "PD" framed handstamp, blurry part strike of red French arrival datestamp (Suez transit and May 11 date), Paris and Reims backstamps (May 12), Very Fine, the 80c used from Shanghai is not rare, but covers originating in Japan and sent through the French post office are much more uncommon—this and the cover in lot 314 were mailed by the same person and postmarked at Shanghai on the same day, both were carried on the P&O Azof, one was delivered at the port of arrival (Marseilles) and the other sent on to Reims............. E. 500-750

## Printed matter rate from Kanagawa to St. Etienne via French Post Office in Shanghai



317

317 ⋈ 1862, 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22). Tied by "5104" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 16 Aout 64" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on folded cover from Kanagawa, Japan, to St. Etienne, France, via Shanghai, blue "Textor & Co. Kanagawa" oval handstamp, sender's directive "Via Marseille p Messageries Imperiales, Circulaire Imprimee", addressed to J. B. David, backstamped Marseilles, Bordeaux, Toulouse and St. Etienne (Oct. 6-8), horizontal file fold through stamp barely creases it

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF FRENCH POSTAGE ON AN EARLY PRINTED-MATTER RATE COVER FROM JAPAN TO FRANCE VIA THE FRENCH POST OFFICE IN SHANGHAI.

This cover was mailed in August 1864, before the start of French Packet service to Japan or the opening of the French post office in Yokohama. It was carried privately to Shanghai, where it entered the French post office. The sender overpaid the 16-centimes per 40 grams printed-matter rate with the 20-centimes stamp, probably because it was closest to the rate among the denominations available in China or Japan.

The cover was carried on the following Messageries Imperiales steamships: *Hydapse*, Shanghai to Hong Kong (dep. Aug. 17, arr. Aug. 21); *Imperatrice*, Hong Kong to Egypt (dep. Aug. 23, arr. Sep. 28); and *Peluse*, Egypt to Marseilles (dep. Sep. 30, arr. Oct. 6).

This cover is illustrated in Scamp book (Figure MI-64-8), where described as "the earliest French-franked printed matter from China or Japan that has so far been seen [and] the earliest known printed matter carried by French paquebot from China or Japan to Europe." While certainly very early and very rare, we cannot attest to the accuracy of the statements in the Scamp book.

Signed Calves..... E. 2,000-3,000

## Printed matter rate from Kanagawa to Paris via French Post Office in Shanghai



318

318 

1862, 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22). Tied by "5104" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 16 Aout 64" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on folded printed notice from Kanagawa, Japan, to Paris, France, via Shanghai, notice from Teyter & Co. announcing change in employees, sender's directive "Printed Circular, Pr. Mess. Imp. Via Marseille", Paris backstamp (Oct. 7)

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF FRENCH POSTAGE ON AN EARLY PRINTED-MATTER RATE COVER FROM JAPAN TO FRANCE VIA THE FRENCH POST OFFICE IN SHANGHAI

This cover was mailed in August 1864, before the start of French Packet service to Japan or the opening of the French post office in Yokohama. It was carried privately to Shanghai, where it entered the French post office. The sender overpaid the 16-centimes per 40 grams printed-matter rate with the 20-centimes stamp, probably because it was closest to the rate among the denominations available in China or Japan.

The cover was carried on the following Messageries Imperiales steamships: *Hydapse*, Shanghai to Hong Kong (dep. Aug. 17, arr. Aug. 21); *Imperatrice*, Hong Kong to Egypt (dep. Aug. 23, arr. Sep. 28); and *Peluse*, Egypt to Marseilles (dep. Sep. 30, arr. Oct. 6).

This cover is nearly identical to the one offered in lot 317 and illustrated in Scamp book (Figure MI-64-8), where described as "the earliest French-franked printed matter from China or Japan that has so far been seen [and] the earliest known printed matter carried by French paquebot from China or Japan to Europe." While certainly very early and very rare, we cannot attest to the accuracy of the statements in the Scamp book.

Calves handstamp..... E. 2,000-3,000



319 ⋈ 1862, 40c Pale Orange (27; Yvert 23). Horizontal strip of three, used with 1862, 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22), tied by by multiple strikes of "5104" dotted diamond cancel, slightly blurry "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 31 Aout 64" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on folded cover from Yokohama, Japan, to Cavaillon, France, "Constensoux Ledermann et Ce. Yokohama (Japan)" oval backstamp, sender's directive "Via Marseille", partly readable red "Paq. An. V. Suez Amb Mars. 2 24 Oct. 64" double-circle datestamp, backstamped Avignon and Cavaillon (Oct. 25), Very Fine, attractive franking for double 70c rate by British Packet on a cover originating in Japan prior to opening of French post office and start of French Packet service............. E. 500-750



320



32 I

321 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Block of four used with 1862, 40c Pale Orange (27; Yvert 23), tied by multiple strikes of "5104" dotted diamond cancel and "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 8 Nov. 64" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover from Kanagawa, Japan, to Purmerend, Netherlands, back with embossed "P. Stuyt C.Z. Kanagawa Japan" return address, sender's directive "via Marseilles", "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. An. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 2 23 Dec 64" double-circle datestamp, Paris (Dec. 25) and red Purmerend (Dec. 27) backstamps

VERY FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY FRENCH FRANKING ON A COVER FROM JAPAN TO THE NETHERLANDS VIA FRENCH POST OFFICE IN SHANGHAI.

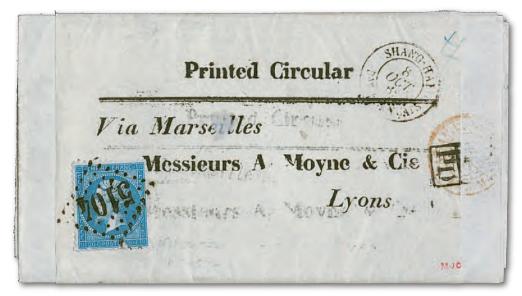
The 360-centimes total postage pays the quadruple 90-centimes rate from Shanghai to the Netherlands by British Packet via Suez. This franking with a block of the 80c Napoleon would be rare and remarkable even if the cover originated in Shanghai; however, its importance is multiplied by a large factor as a cover originating in Japan prior to the start of French Packet service and the opening of the French post office in Yokohama. ...... E. 2,000-3,000



322

1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22) and 40c Pale Orange (27; Yvert 23), tied by light strikes of "5104" dotted diamond cancel, "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 3 Mai 65" double-circle datestamp and "PD" framed handstamp on folded cover from Yokohama, Japan, to Lyon, France, "Constensoux Ledermann et Ce. Yokohama (Japon)" oval handstamp, sender's directive "Via Marseille", partly clear red "Paq. An. V Suez Amb. Mars." double-circle datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Jul. 5), Very Fine, a beautiful three-color franking for double 70c rate by British Packet via Suez, Miro handstamp....... E. 500-750

## Printed matter rate from Yokohama to Lyon via French Post Office in Shanghai



323

323 

1862, 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22). Tied by bold "5104" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 8 Oct. 65" double-circle datestamp and "PD" framed hand-stamp on wrapper from Yokohama, Japan, to Lyon, France, printed address to Moyne & Cie. along with "Via Marseilles" and "Printed Circular" directives, the original enclosure accompanies, a market report from Hecht, Lilienthal & Co. datelined Yokohama, Sep. 29, 1865, the wrapper is tied to the report by partly readable red "Paq. An. V. Suez Amb Mars." double-circle datestamp, tiny white spot on stamp is either adherence or scuff

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF FRENCH POSTAGE ON AN EARLY PRINTED-MATTER WRAPPER FROM JAPAN TO FRANCE VIA FRENCH POST OFFICE IN SHANGHAI. ARGUABLY ONE OF THE FINEST EXAMPLES OF ITS KIND.

The French post office in Yokohama opened on September 7, 1865, when the Messageries Imperiales *Dupleix* arrived from Shanghai with the postal supplies necessary for operation (Matsumoto book, p. 22). The first mail dispatched from Yokohama was sent on the September 12 return voyage of the *Dupleix*. One cover is recorded from this mail, with a Yokohama postmark date of September 11, 1865 (Matsumoto p. 24). The next outbound mail from Yokohama was also carried on the *Dupleix*, departing October 17.



- 325 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 40c Pale Orange (27; Yvert 23), tied by light strikes of "5104" dotted diamond cancel, faint "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 8 Mars 67" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on folded letter from Nagasaki, Japan, to Cassel, Germany, datelined Nagasaki Feb. 28, 1867, addressed to C. Hildebrand, sender's directive "pr Overland Mail via Marseilles", bold "Paq. An. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 2 26 Avril 67" double-circle datestamp, 40c oxidized, otherwise Fine, rare cover from Japan to Germany postmarked at the French post office in Shanghai ................................ E. 750-1,000



 $327 \bowtie$ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Horizontal strip of three tied by bold strikes of "5104" dotted diamond cancel, clearly struck "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 25 Janv. 69" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on brown cover from Nagasaki, Japan, to Cassel, Germany, blue "Grosser & Co. Nagasaki, Japan" and black "Clausen & Co. Shanghae" oval handstamps, sender's directive "pr. Overland Mail via Marseilles", Marseilles (Mar. 4) and Cassel (Mar. 8) backstamps, vertical fold in cover, small part of left margin of strip torn off from separation, otherwise Fine, a rare double 120c rate cover from Japan to Germany via the French post office in Shanghai, carried privately from Yokohama to Shanghai, then by three different lines of the Messageries Imperiales: Ligne R Dupleix (dep. Shanghai Jan. 26), Ligne N Donnai (dep. Hong Kong Jan. 30) and Ligne V Moeris (dep. Alexandria Feb. 28), ex Roberts and Berkinshaw-Smith..... E. 1,000-1,500



Detail of backstamp

328

328 ⋈

1863, 40c Pale Orange (35; Yvert 31). Horizontal strip of three tied by clear strikes of "5104" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Shang-Hai Bau Français 13 Mai 69" doublecircle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on blue folded letter from Nagasaki, Japan, to Bordeaux, France, Kniffler & Co. letterhead datelined Nagasaki May 3, 1869, sender's notation above dateline "p H.I.M. Str Scorpion" (this was the name of a French gunboat), Kniffler blue oval handstamp, backstamped "Shang-Hai Paq. Fr. R No. 1 14 Mai 69" Ligne R octagonal datestamp (clear strike partly cut away when letter was opened), vertical crease and toning along it affect strip which is also slightly oxidized, still Fine, very rare use of the Shanghai Ligne R packet datestamp on a letter originating in Japan, carried privately to Shanghai and mailed there, ex Beckeman ...... E. 1,000-1,500



1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38) and 10c Bister on Rose (55; Yvert 54), tied by partly clear strikes of "5104" dotted diamond cancel, partly readable "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 10 Juil. 75" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on blue cover front (with one flap) from Nagasaki, Japan, to Paris, France, "Pignatel & Cie Nagasaki (Japon)" oval handstamp, blue "VIA BRINDISI" straightline handstamp (private route marking), red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 28 Aout 75" double-circle datestamp, Paris receiving backstamp (Aug. 29), 40c slightly oxidized, otherwise Fine, attractive and scarce combination on a cover front originating in Japan and sent through the French post office in Shanghai.... E. 300-400



330

330 ₪ 1876, 25c Ultramarine, Ty. II (81; Yvert 78). Used with 1873, 15c Bister, Large Numerals (61; Yvert 55), tied by clear strikes of "Shang-Hai Chine 23 Mai 78" double-circle datestamp on cover from Nagasaki, Japan, to Brest, France, sender's directive "via England", origin revealed in docketing "Nagasaki 19 Mai/78", red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 12 Juil 78" double-circle datestamp, Brest receiving backstamp (Jul. 13), pressed to reduce wrinkles which affect 25c stamp, still Very Fine, the Sage Issue is very scarce used from China or Japan, but this is even more remarkable as a cover originating in Japan and carried to French post office in Shanghai for mailing ...................... E. 400-500

# FRENCH POST OFFICE IN YOKOHAMA CANCELLATIONS ON STAMPS OFF COVER







331

Both 332

- 331 ⊞ **1870, 4c Gray (40; Yvert 41B).** Block of four, large margins all around, bright shade, clear strikes of **Yokohama "5118" dotted diamond** cancel including one full strike, horizontal crease in top pair, tiny thin specks in both stamps at top, Extremely Fine appearance, a rare example of the Bordeaux Issue used in Japan, extremely rare as a block of the 4-centimes, blue Roumet backstamp, Yvert €5,600 as singles ................................. E. 750-1,000
- 332 ⊞ 1871, 15c Bister, 40c Orange (56, 59; Yvert 55, 38). 15c block of eight, 40c block of four, both cancelled by Yokohama "5118" dotted diamond cancel with at least one clear full strike on each block, a couple of tiny imperfections, still Fine-Very Fine, rare multiples of French Siege Issues used in Japan, Yvert €1,200 as singles ................................ E. 500-750



333EX

1863-73, 4c-5fr Napoleon III, 15c-80c Ceres (31/61; Yvert 29/55). Six off-cover items, all used from Yokohama, Japan, includes 4c Gray (31; Yvert 27) strip of three tied on piece with "5118" dotted diamond cancel and Yokohama circular datestamp (Apr. 14, 1868), vertical pair of 30c Brown (34; Yvert 30) tied on piece with "5118" dotted diamond cancel and Yokohama circular datestamp (Dec. 18, 1868), two 5fr Gray Lilac (37; Yvert 33), one with "5118" dotted diamond cancel and other with "Yokohama Japon 8 Oct. 70" double-circle datestamp, 80c Rose, Bordeaux Issue (48; Yvert 49) used with 20c Blue (33; Yvert 29) on large portion of folded cover, tied by anchor in dotted diamond cancels with "Yokohama Paq. Fr. S No. 1 28 Oct. 71" octagonal datestamp, and 15c Bister, Large Numerals (61; Yvert 55) pair tied on piece by Yokohama circular datestamp (Jan. 25, 1880), a couple trivial flaws, otherwise Very Fine, desirable group including the 5fr Napoleon III and 80c Bordeaux stamps, which are very scarce used from Japan ................................(Photo Ex/Website PDF) E. 750-1,000

## COVERS PRE-DATING THE GREAT FIRE OF NOVEMBER 26, 1866

## The first mail from the newly opened French Post Office in Yokohama



334

First Mail from French Post Office in Yokohama — "Yokohama Paq. Fr. Dupleix 12 Sept. 65". Messageries Imperiales octagonal datestamp on blue folded letter datelined "Yokohama 11 Sept 1865" from Gutschow & Co. to A. M. Pollak in Vienna, Austria, sender's directive "Via Marseille", manuscript "48" kreuzers due rate and red crayon stroke, faint French receiving backstamp (Marseilles? Nov. 3?), red Vienna receiving backstamp (Nov. 6), scattered toned specks

VERY FINE. AN IMPORTANT EARLY FRENCH MAIL COVER FROM JAPAN, CARRIED SEPTEMBER 12, 1865, ON THE FIRST TRIP OF THE *DUPLEIX* FROM YOKOHAMA TO SHANGHAI AFTER THE FRENCH POST OFFICE IN YOKOHAMA WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED. MATSUMOTO REPORTED ONE COVER DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 1865, WITH THE REGULAR YOKOHAMA DATESTAMP, AND WAS APPARENTLY UNAWARE OF THIS COVER WITH THE MARITIME DATESTAMP.

According to the Matsumoto book (pp. 22-23) the Messageries Imperiales packet *Dupleix* arrived in Yokohama on September 7, 1865, with all of the supplies needed by the newly opened French post office. Matsumoto considers this date to be the opening day of the French Yokohama post office. The first mail from Yokohama was carried on the return trip of the *Dupleix* from Yokohama to Shanghai, departing September 12, 1865. The Matsumoto book illustrates one cover carried on this trip, which has a red September 11 "Yokohama Bau Francais" datestamp and "5118" dotted diamond cancels on French stamps paying postage to France (Fig. 4-3). The book describes that cover as the "unique example ever known by the first dispatch," which means Matsumoto was still unaware of the cover offered here at the time of publication in 2012. Matsumoto shows another cover from the Pollak corespondence dated October 17, 1865 (p. 25).

The cover offered here is important not only as a first trip from the French Yokohama post office, it is the only recorded cover with the "Yokohama Paq. Fr. Dupleix" datestamp used September 12, 1865. Any example of this marking is very scarce, but this cover is arguably the most outstanding. ..... E. 2,000-3,000



335

Second Mail from French Post Office in Yokohama — "Yokohama Bau Francais 17 Oct. 65". Double-circle datestamp clearly struck on blue folded letter datelined "Yokohama le 17 Octobre 1865" from Gutschow & Co. to Guerin & Fils in Lyon, France, manuscript "9" decimes due rate (written again in different hand), Marseilles and Lyon backstamps (Dec. 5), Extremely Fine, carried on the Messageries Imperiales Dupleix, departing Yokohama October 17, 1865—this was the second mail dispatched from the newly opened French post office in Yokohama, this extremely rare example of mail from this trip is correctly rated for the 90-centimes unpaid rate to France......................... E. 1,000-1,500



336

1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23). Used with 1862, 10c Bister (25; Yvert 21) and 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22), tied by three clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, perfect bold strike of "Yokohama Bau Francais 17 Oct. 65" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover to Lyon, France, sender's directive "Via Marseille", red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles and Lyon backstamps (Dec. 5-6), sender's oval handstamp (Costensoux & Ledermann Co.), 40c slight oxidation, still Very Fine, an outstanding three-color franking for the short-lived 70-centimes rate to France, carried on the Messageries Imperiales Dupleix, departing Yokohama October 17, 1865 — this was the second mail dispatched from the newly opened French post office in Yokohama ...... E. 1,500-2,000



337



338





340



34 I



342

342 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Two, used with two 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23), tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 16 Avrl. 66" double-circle datestamp on cover to Milan, Italy, sender's ship-name directive "p Dupleix", prepaid for double 120c rate but red crayon "3" indicates triple rate required, faint red "AFFRANCHISSEMENT/INSUFFISANT" framed handstamp, manuscript "30" due marking, Milan receiving backstamp (Jun. 6), minor edgewear, Very Fine, an extremely unusual pre-Fire cover from Japan to Italy....... E. 1,000-1,500



343 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Two, tied together by clear strike of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 11 Mai 66" double-circle datestamp on blue cover to from Francis Hall to Edward Hall, Ellington, Connecticut, United States, sender's directive "Marseilles", red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles backstamp (Jul. 7), red "N. York Am. Pkt. Jul. 23" circular datestamp and matching "9" credit handstamp, neat receipt docketing, Very Fine, very rare cover from French post office in Yokohama to the United States, with 1977 B.P.A. certificate........................ E. 1,000-1,500



344

Yokohama Bau Francais 12 Juil 66. Partly clear double-circle datestamp on blue folded letter datelined Yokohama July 11, 1866, with "Carst, Lels & Co. Kanagawa (Japan)" double-oval sender's handstamp, addressed to DeHeeren Boissevain & Co., Amsterdam, Holland, sender's directive "Per Messrie. Imperle.", Marseilles (Sep. 3) and Amsterdam (Sep. 5) backstamps, manuscript "110" Dutch cents due marking, Very Fine, rare pre-Fire use to Holland, sent unpaid despite compulsory prepayment requirement....... E. 500-750

## Printed matter rate from Yokohama to Italy with disinfection slits



345

1862, 10c Bister (25; Yvert 21). Used with 1862, 5c Yellow Green (23; Yvert 20), tied by two strikes of "5118" diamond dots cancel, clearly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 12 Juil. 66" double-circle datestamp on blue folded printed market report with intact wrapper with printed address to Benedetto Testa de Pietro, Milan, Italy, wrapper band with Gutschow & Co. imprint, report datelined Yokohama, July 10, 1866, red "Col. F. V. Suez Paq. F. Alphee 24 Juil. 56" octagonal datestamp with yeardate error, red "P.P." framed handstamp, "PIROSCAFI/POSTALI/FRANCESI" framed handstamp, manuscript "17" due marking, two disinfection slits, Milan receiving backstamp (Sep. 4) and blurry Messina backstamp, wrapper band opened at sides, 10c stamp has crease and tear, slight toning at right

FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY PRINTED MATTER USE FROM THE FRENCH POST OFFICE IN YOKOHAMA TO ITALY WITH AN INTACT WRAPPER, FRENCH FRANKING AND DISINFECTION SLITS.

The rate for printed matter to European countries was 15 centimes, which is correctly prepaid on this circular with its intact wrapper band. On arrival in Messina, Italy, the two slits (one through Yokohama datestamp and the other through "Mailand") were made to disinfect against cholera. The elements present on this cover are extraordinary and perhaps unique in combination. ................................. E. 2,000-3,000



346

346 ⋈ 1862, 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22). Two vertical pairs tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, blurry strike of "Yokohama Bau Francais" double-circle datestamp (May 30, 1866) on blue folded cover with Gutschow & Co. blue oval handstamp to Guerin Fils, Lyon, France, red "Paq. An. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 2 26 Juil. 66" double-circle datestamp and matching "PD" framed handstamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Jul. 27), Very Fine, scarce cover from Yokohama to France during the pre-Fire period ............ E. 400-500



347





349

349 ⋈ 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23). Used with 1862, 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22), tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancels, clearly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 12 Aout 66" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover from Thorel Ziegler & Co. to Hesse & Co., Hong Kong, China, sender's directive "per 'Dupleix", red "PD" framed handstamp, Hong Kong receiving backstamp (Aug. 22), vertical file fold through 40c, few bleached spots in cover, Fine, rare example of the China Sea special rate of 60 centimes for mail between French and British Post Offices in Asia, ex Matsumoto ........................ E. 750-1,000





Detail of backstamp



351 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Horizontal strip of three tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 12 Aout 66" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover from A. Begnotti to Benedetto Testa di Pietro, Milan, Italy, backstamped with rare "Yokohama Paq. Fr. Dupleix 13 Aout 66" octagonal datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, "PIROSCAFI/POSTALE/FRANCESI" framed handstamp, Messina (Oct. 2) and Milan (Oct. 7) backstamps, two disinfection slits which have resulted in tears extending to bottom of cover

FINE. AN OUTSTANDING PRE-FIRE COVER FROM YOKOHAMA TO ITALY WITH DOUBLE-RATE FRANKING, DISINFECTION SLITS AND THE RARE MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES DUPLEIX DATESTAMP.

The strip of three 80c stamps correctly prepays the double 120-centimes rate from Yokohama to Italy. It was backstamped with the rare Messageries Imperiales Yokohama "Dupleix" datestamp. On arrival in Italy, two slits were made to disinfect the letter during the cholera epidemic.

Calves handstamp. E. 1,500-2,000

## Rare Messageries Imperiales Dupleix datestamp on disinfected mail from Yokohama to Italy



352

1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23), Vertical strip of three tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 11 Sept. 66" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover to Benedetto Testa di Pietro, Milan, Italy, Gutschow & Co. blue oval handstamp, prepaid for 120-centimes rate but double rate required, bold oily red "AFFRANCHISSEMENT/INSUFFISANT" framed handstamp, backstamped with rare "Yokohama Paq. Fr. Dupleix 12 Sept. 66" octagonal datestamp, "20" due handstamp, backstamped Marseilles (Nov. 2), Lyon (Nov. 3) and Milan (Nov. 5), minor stains below horizontal file fold, stationery fold passes under stamp (not a file fold, thus it does not affect stamp)

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES DUPLEIX DATESTAMP ON A COVER FROM YOKOHAMA TO ITALY DURING THE PRE-FIRE PERIOD.

This cover to Milan was carried on the Messageries Imperiales *Dupleix*, departing Yokohama September 12, 1866, and arriving Shanghai September 19. From there it was carried on the French mail route to Marseilles via Hong Kong, Suez and Alexandria.

With 2012 Roumet certificate...... E. 1,500-2,000



353

353 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Tied by lightly struck "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 11 Sept. 66" double-circle datestamp on blue folded letter from Is. Dell'Oro to Desgrand Pere & Fils, Lyon, France, sender's red handstamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Nov. 2) and Lyon (Nov. 3) backstamps, Very Fine, an attractive pre-Fire cover from Yokohama to France...... E. 400-500



354

354 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23), tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 16 Oct. 66" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover from Begnotti to Benedetto Testa di Pietro, Milan, Italy, black "PD" framed handstamp, "PIROSCAFI/POSTALI/FRANCESI" framed handstamp, Messina (Dec. 2) and Milan (Dec. 7) backstamps, small stains along file fold, Very Fine, rare pre-Fire cover to Italy, Calves handstamp....... E. 500-750



355





Detail of backstamp

356

## FRENCH POST OFFICE AFTER THE GREAT FIRE OF NOVEMBER 26, 1866

#### The Great Fire of Yokohama

On November 26, 1866, a fire that started in the morning in a Japanese butcher shop turned into a wind-driven conflagration that destroyed two-thirds of the Japanese section and one-fifth of the foreign settlement. Among the buildings destroyed were the French consulate and French post office. Postmaster Henri Degron lost his personal belongings, and most of the post office supplies and equipment were destroyed. The two "5118" cancel devices perished in the flames, but the "Yokohama Bau Francais" circular datestamp and "PD" handstamp somehow survived. New "5118" devices reached Yokohama in April 1867.

The covers in the sale dating from the November 1866 to early 1867 period reflect the circumstances of the post office's return to operations in the aftermath of the Great Fire. The use of datestamps to cancel stamps and other temporary practices give these covers their special character. A detailed account of the Great Fire and the postal history related to it will be found in the Matsumoto book (Chapter 5).



Photo credit: www.oldphotosjapan.com



357

357 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Tied by one of two strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 16 Dec. 66" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover with Marietti Prato & Co. blue handstamp and addressed to Chartron & Monnier, Lyon, France, blue "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles backstamp (Feb. 4, 1867), slight oily bleed from Yokohama datestamp, Very Fine, one of a few known covers carried on the December 17, 1866, return trip of the Messageries Imperiales Alphee, which arrived in Yokohama on December 12, carrying a new supply of French stamps from Shanghai to replace those lost in the Great Fire of November 26, the novel use of the surviving Yokohama datestamp to cancel stamps and of blue ink for the "PD" marking also occurred at this time, the Matsumoto book reports three covers from this trip (p. 32), Calves handstamp ....... E. 1,000-1,500



358

1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23). Used with 1862, 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22), tied by two of three perfect bold strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 16 Dec. 66" double-circle datestamp on cover front (with top flap) to Hong Kong, China, clear strike of blue "PD" framed handstamp, part of Hong Kong Dec. 27 receiving backstamp on the one intact flap, 20c small margin nick, otherwise Very Fine, one of a few known covers carried on the December 17, 1866, return trip of the Messageries Imperiales Alphee, which arrived in Yokohama on December 12, carrying a new supply of French stamps from Shanghai to replace those lost in the Great Fire of November 26, the novel use of the surviving Yokohama datestamp to cancel stamps and of blue ink for the "PD" marking also occurred at this time, illustrated in Matsumoto book (p. 33) where he reports three covers from this trip, this is also a rare example of the 60-centimes China Sea special rate between French and British Post Offices in Asia, Calves handstamp............. E. 750-1,000



359

Alphee 17 Dec. 66. Double-circle datestamp clearly struck on blue folded cover from Walsh Hall & Co. to Ducarre & Co., Lyon, France, sender's directive "Via Marseilles", manuscript "10 gram/1p" and "10" decimes due markings, red "PAQUEBOTS/DE LA/MEDITERRANEE" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Feb. 1, 1867) and Lyon (Feb. 2) backstamps, Very Fine, extremely rare example of mail from the December 17, 1866, return trip of the Messageries Imperiales Alphee after the Great Fire of November 26, 1866, and especially desirable with the "Alphee" datestamp ................................ E. 750-1,000

## Yokohama datestamp and "PD" struck in blue on cover from fourth packet sailing after the Great Fire



360

360 ⋈ 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23). Four, each tied by clearly struck blue "Yokohama Bau Francais 31 Dec. 66" double-circle datestamp with additional strike and matching blue "PD" framed handstamp on blue folded cover with part of letter content from Daniel Bernard to Lyon, France, "M. Randon & Co. Yokohama (Japan)" blue handstamp, sender's directive "Via Marseilles", red "Paq. An. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 2" double-circle datestamp (Mar. 1?) struck over Yokohama datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Mar. 2, 1867), a few toned perfs

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING COVER SENT FROM THE FRENCH POST OFFICE IN YOKOHAMA SHORTLY AFTER THE GREAT FIRE, WITH STAMPS CANCELLED BY YOKOHAMA DATESTAMP STRUCK IN BLUE.

This cover was carried on the fourth packet departure after the Great Fire of November 26, 1866. It was carried on the Peninsular & Oriental Nepaul, departing Yokohama January 1, 1867. Table 5-1 in the Matsumoto book (p. 37) lists the mails dispatched after the Great Fire and their corresponding handstamps and colors. This is believed to be the only cover with the Yokohama datestamp used to cancel the stamps and struck in blue.

Signed Holcombe. Calves handstamp. . . . . . . . E. 2,000-3,000



361 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23), tied by two light strikes of blue Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, matching blue "Yokohama Bau Français 16 Janv. 67" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover to Benedetto Testa di Pietro, Milan, Italy, Gutshow & Co. blue oval handstamp, partly clear "PIROSCAFI/POSTALI/FRANCESI" framed handstamp, Messina (Mar. 2) and Milan (Mar. 6) backstamps, minor splits along folds and slight wear

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE COVER WITH THE YOKOHAMA DATESTAMP AND ANCHOR CANCEL STRUCK IN BLUE.

After the two "5118" cancel devices were destroyed in the Great Fire on November 26, 1866, the Yokohama post office used its datestamp to cancel stamps on mail. When the Messageries Imperiales *Alphee* arrived on January 13, 1867, the postal agent evidently gave one of his Anchor devices to the Yokohama postmaster to use until replacement numeral cancels arrived. The first mail from Yokohama with stamps cancelled by the Anchor (struck in blue) left January 16 on the *Alphee*. The new "5118" devices arrived April 13, 1867, but the post office continued to use the Anchor device for a period of time (see Matsumoto pp. 34-35).

Ex Matsumoto, but he used a different cover from the same trip as an illustration (p. 34)...... E. 1,500-2,000



363

363 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23), tied by bold strike of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, partly clear blue "Yokohama Bau Francais 14 Fevr. 67" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover to Marcus Boelger, Basel, Switzerland, sender's directive "pr Mess. Imperiales", red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Apr. 3) and Basel (Apr. 4) backstamps, Very Fine, an extremely rare cover to Switzerland with the Yokohama datestamp in blue and Anchor cancel in black, very few covers are known from this early post-Fire period...... E. 1,000-1,500



364

 $364 \bowtie$ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Horizontal pair tied by two clear strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear blue "Yokohama Bau Français 14 Fevr. 67" double-circle datestamp on blue double-rate folded cover with "Textor & Co. Kanagawa" oval handstamp, to Scheibler & Coenen, Lyon, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles and Lyon (Apr. 3) backstamps, Very Fine, an extremely rare cover with the Yokohama datestamp in blue and Anchor cancel in black, very few covers are known from this early post-Fire period ...... E. 1,000-1,500



365

1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Two, tied by bold strike of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear blue "Yokohama Bau Francais 14 Fevr. 67" double-circle datestamp on top half of blue folded cover to Scheibler & Coenen, Lyon, France, sender's directive "per Mess. Imperiales", red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles and Lyon (Apr. 3) backstamps, although the bottom half is missing, what remains is Very Fine and has all of the key elements, extremely rare with the Yokohama datestamp in blue and Anchor cancel in black, very few covers are known from this early post-Fire period ................ E. 200-300



366

## Rare and early use of Messageries Imperiales Ligne S Yokohama datestamp



367

1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 22), each tied by clearly struck Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, full clear strike of "Yokohama Paq. Fr. S No. 1 15 Fevr. 67" Ligne S octagonal datestamp on European-size cover to Paul Flury-Herard, consul general to Japan, Paris, France, blue "Legation de France au Japon" handstamped seal on backflaps (partly torn away from opening), 120-centimes prepayment was more than 80-centimes required for single rate, but this must have been over the single-rate weight limit, red "AFFRANCHISSEMENT/INSUFFISANT" framed handstamp, manuscript "8" decimes due, Marseilles (Apr. 3) and Paris (Apr. 4) backstamps, horizontal fold clear of stamps, long tear from right edge to center of cover is crudely sealed (could be invisibly sealed by paper restorer)

FINE AND ATTRACTIVE COVER. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE NEW YOKOHAMA LIGNES DATESTAMP ON THE SECOND TRIP OF THE NEWLY FORMED PACKET SERVICE.

This cover is reported to be the earliest use of the Ligne S Yokohama datestamp (two others known with this date). It was carried by the *Alphee* on the second voyage of the newly formed Ligne S and on the maiden voyage of the *Imperatrice* (the second sailing of the newly formed Ligne N).

## Remarkable multiple-rate franking with Anchor cancel



368

368 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Horizontal strip of six, tied by multiple strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Bau Francais 30 Mars 67" double-circle date-stamp on blue folded letter datelined Yokohama Mar. 28, 1867, from Louis Borel to Thomas Borel, Geneva, Switzerland, sender's oval handstamp, manuscript "4" at upper left for quadruple rate—carried on the Peninsular & Oriental Singapore, departing Yokohama March 31, 1867—red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Angl. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 25 Mai 67" double-circle datestamp, Geneva backstamp (May 26), vertical file folds through two stamps in strip, small stain at top

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING COVER WITH THE FRENCH QUADRUPLE-RATE FRANKING TIED BY THE ANCHOR CANCEL AND POSTMARKED AT YOKOHAMA DURING THE EARLY POST-FIRE PERIOD, BEFORE THE REPLACEMENT "5118" CANCELLATION DEVICES ARRIVED.



369 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 10c Bister (25; Yvert 21) and two 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23), each tied by clearly struck Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 16 Avril 67" double-circle datestamp on folded letter datelined Yokohama Apr. 14, 1867, from James C. Fraser to Desgrande Pere et Fils, Lyon, France, sender's red "Forwarded by James C. Fraser, Yokohama, Japan" oval handstamp—carried on Messageries Imperiales Ligne S *Phase*, departing Yokohama Apr. 17, 1867—red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Jun. 7) and Lyon (Jun. 8) backstamps

VERY FINE. A COLORFUL FRANKING AND ATTRACTIVE COVER SHOWING USE OF THE ANCHOR CANCEL EVEN AFTER THE REPLACEMENT "5118" DEVICES HAD ARRIVED DAYS EARLIER.

After the two "5118" cancel devices were destroyed in the Great Fire on November 26, 1866, the Yokohama post office used its datestamp to cancel stamps on mail. When the Messageries Imperiales *Alphee* arrived on January 13, 1867, the postal agent evidently gave one of his Anchor devices to the Yokohama postmaster to use until replacement numeral cancels arrived. The new "5118" devices arrived April 13, 1867, but the post office continued to use the Anchor device for a period of time (see Matsumoto pp. 34-35).

The three different denominations of this four-stamp franking add up to a non-existent 170-centimes rate to France. The single rate was 80c and the correct double rate was 160c. Therefore, the 10c stamp represents an overpayment. ..... E. 1,500-2,000

370 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23), tied by single perfect strike of "5118" newly replaced dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 29 Avril 67" double-circle datestamp on blue cover to Madame Schoene, Corcelles, Neuchatel, Switzerland, red "Paq. Angl. V. Suez Amb. Mars 26 Juin 67" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, French and Swiss backstamps (Jun. 26-27)

VERY FINE. THIS IS THE EARLIEST RECORDED USE OF THE "5118" DOTTED DIAMOND REPLACEMENT DEVICES, WHICH ARRIVED IN YOKOHAMA ON APRIL 13, 1867.

According to the Matsumoto book (pp. 34-35), the two new "5118" cancellation devices were carried to Yokohama on the Messageries Imperiales *Phase*, arriving April 13, 1867. Some or all of the mail carried on the return trip of the *Phase* on April 16 was cancelled with the Anchor device, not the "5118" cancel. The cover offered here is the earliest recorded use of the "5118" replacement devices. Its use on this beautiful 120c rate cover to Switzerland is especially desirable.

Ex Matsumoto E. 1,500-2,000



37 I



372



- 376 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23), each tied by boldly struck "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 13 Juil. 67" double-circle datestamp on light blue folded letter with Gutschow & Co. blue oval handstamp to A. M. Pollack, Vienna, Austria, red "PD" framed handstamp—carried on Messageries Imperiales *Phase*, departing Yokohama July 14, 1867—Marseilles (Sep. 8) and Vienna (Sep. 12) backstamps, 40c slightly oxidized, still Very Fine, rare early use of the "5118" replacement cancel on cover from Yokohama to Austria ....... E. 1,000-1,500



- 377 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Horizontal strip of three tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Bau Francais 27 Juil. 67" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover to J. B. David, St. Etienne, France, bold Textor & Co. handstamp, red "PD" framed handstamp—carried on Peninsular & Oriental Singapore, departing Yokohama July 28, 1867—red "Paq. Angl. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 27 Sept. 67" double-circle datestamp, St. Etienne receiving backstamp (Sep. 28), Very Fine, attractive triple-rate cover from early post-Fire period ................................. E. 500-750
- 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23). Horizontal strip of four tied by two blurry strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, perfect bold strike of "Yokohama Bau Francais 21 Aout 67" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover (without side panels, but top and bottom back panels intact) to Mignot Freres, Annonay, France, red "PD" framed handstamp—carried on Peninsular & Oriental Aden, departing Yokohama Sep. 1, 1867—red "Paq. Angl. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 23 Oct. 67" double-circle datestamp, Annonay receiving backstamp (Oct. 24), Very Fine, scarce double-rate cover from this early post-Fire period, Matsumoto's list of "Postal Treatment after the Great Fire" (p. 37) ends with this mail dispatch F. 500-750
- 379 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Horizontal pair tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, slightly blurry "Yokohama Bau Francais 11 Sept. 67" double-circle datestamp on folded letter to Desgrand Pere et Fils, Lyon, France, red "Forwarded by James C. Fraser & Co. Yokohama, Japan" oval handstamp, sender's directive "p Phase", red "PD" framed handstamp—carried on Messageries Imperiales Phase, departing Yokohama Sep. 11, 1867—Marseilles and Lyon backstamps (Nov. 4), Very Fine, attractive double-rate cover from "normalized" post-Fire period........................ E. 400-500



- 381 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Horizontal strip of three tied by clear strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, two strikes of "Ligne S Paq. Fr. No. 1 16 Oct. 67" double-circle date-stamp on October 15 blue folded letter to Fred. Huth & Co., London, England, Gutschow & Co. blue oval handstamp, red "P.P." and "PD" framed handstamps, red London Paid datestamp (Dec. 5, 1867), vertical file fold through stamp at right, otherwise Very Fine, scarce double-rate cover from Yokohama with Ligne S datestamp ................................ E. 500-750
- 382 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23), each tied by lightly struck "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 14 Nov. 67" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover with Bernard Eccard & Raud blue handstamp to Bazzotti & Co., Milan, Italy, sender's directive "par Marseilles", red "PD" framed handstamp, Messina (Dec. 30) and Milan (Dec. 31) backstamps, some ink bleed from letter, vertical file fold through 80c stamp, otherwise Fine................................. E. 400-500



383

383 ⋈ 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23). Vertical strip of three tied by three perfect strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Paq. Fr. S. No. 1 17 Dec. 67" Ligne S octagonal datestamp and PD" framed handstamp on blue cover to Madame Schoene, Corcelles, Neuchatel, Switzerland, postmarked on board the Messageries Imperiales Ligne S Phase on trip from Yokohama to Shanghai, Marseilles (Feb. 3, 1868) and Swiss backstamps (Feb. 4 arrival), stamps have some toning, otherwise Very Fine, extremely rare Ligne S cover from Yokohama to Switzerland ......................... E. 1,000-1,500



384

384 

1863, 4c Gray (31; Yvert 27). Horizontal strip of three tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, well-struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 16 Dec. 67" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover to J. B. David, St. Etienne, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, no content (completely blank, the printed portion was removed)

EXTREMELY FINE. AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE COVER FROM THE FRENCH POST OFFICE IN YOKOHAMA WITH A STRIP OF THE 1863 4-CENTIMES NAPOLEON III ISSUE PAYING THE 12-CENTIMES RATE FOR PRINTED MATTER.

Examples of the 12-centimes rate for printed matter from Japan to France are extremely rare, as are any printed matter covers from Japan. This cover with a strip of the 1863 4c Napoleon III is one of the most outstanding of its kind.

Signed E. Diena. Calves and Lamy handstamps..... E. 2,000-3,000



- 387 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Used with 1862, 10c Bister (25; Yvert 21) and 1863, 30c Brown (34; Yvert 30), tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, perfectly clear strike of "Yokohama Bau Francais 18 Janv. 68" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover with Gutschow & Co. blue oval handstamp to Boelger & Ringwald, Basel, Switzerland, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles and Basel (Mar. 6) backstamps, Very Fine, extremely rare combination of Napoleon "Empire dentele" and 30c "Empire laure" issues (and very early use of the latter)....... E. 750-1,000



- 389 ⋈ 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23). Used with 1862, 10c Bister (25; Yvert 21), each tied by lightly struck "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 17 Fevr. 68" double-circle datestamp on blue folded letter with Grosser & Co. blue oval handstamp to Shanghai, China, sender's directive "pr Phase", bold red "PD" framed handstamp, "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 23 Fevr. 68" receiving backstamp, top of 10c torn away when separated, 40c slight oxidation, cover lightly toned, otherwise Fine, scarce inter-port cover, the rate between post offices in Yokohama and Shanghai was 60c at this time, but this franking was accepted for the obsolete 50c rate ................................... E. 400-500
- 390 

  1862, 5c Yellow Green (23; Yvert 20). Tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancel on blue "Yokohama Prices Current and Market Report" dated February 17, 1868, folds clear of stamp, Very Fine, there was no 5-centimes rate, so in our opinion there was a wrapper band with address and additional 10c stamp paying the 15c rate which no longer accompanies, ex Matsumoto..... E. 400-500
- 391 ⋈ 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Horizontal pair tied by bold "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clearly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 11 Juin 68" double-circle datestamp on folded letter to Desgrand Pere et Fils, Lyon, France, red "Forwarded by James C. Fraser & Co. Yokohama, Japan" oval handstamp, sender's directive "p 'Phase", red "PD" framed handstamp—carried on Messageries Imperiales Ligne S Phase and Ligne R Dupleix—Marseilles and Lyon backstamps (Aug. 6), two internal cuts in address panel including one through stamps, otherwise Fine............. E. 300-400
- 392 ⋈ 1867, 30c Brown (34; Yvert 30). Two pairs tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancels, bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 10 Juil. 68" double-circle datestamp on blue cover to Madame Schoene, Corcelles, Neuchatel, Switzerland, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Sep. 3) and Swiss backstamps (Sep. 4), stamp at left has minor faults from placement at edge of cover, small hole in cover at bottom right, otherwise Fine, scarce use of 30c Napoleon Laureate, Calves handstamp....... E. 400-500



- 1862, 80c Rose (28; Yvert 24). Tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Bau Francais 18 Dec. 68" double-circle datestamp on blue cover to William Hudson, Brighton, England, sender's directive "p. French Mail via Marseilles", incorrectly prepaid 80c instead of 120c to England, red "AFFRANCHISSEMENT/INSUFFISANT" framed handstamp, clear strike of "FR/2F55C" accountancy handstamp, manuscript "8" and magenta manuscript "Paid 8d", London (Feb. 8) and Brighton (Feb. 9) backstamps, long opening tear across top, stained spots, stamp has rounded corner and some toned spots, still presentable and overall Fine appearance, a remarkable cover, the use of French accountancy handstamps on mail from Japan is very unusual ...... E. 750-1,000
- 396 ⋈ 1867, 20c Blue (33: Yvert 29). Four, tied by bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, equally bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 13 Avril 69" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on blue folded cover from Siber & Brennwald to L. Delaporte, Paris, France, sender's directive "Via Marseille", Paris backstamp, Very Fine ................................ E. 400-500

## 1863 4c Napoleon Laureate strip paying printed-matter rate from Yokohama



397

397 ⋈ 1863, 4c Gray (31; Yvert 27). Horizontal strip of three tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 23 Mai 69". double-circle datestamp on folded printed market report to J. B. David, St. Etienne, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Angl. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 25 Juil. 69" double-circle datestamp, St. Etienne receiving backstamp (Jul. 26)

EXTREMELY FINE. A RARE AND PRISTINE COVER FROM THE FRENCH POST OFFICE IN YOKOHAMA WITH A STRIP OF THE 1863 4-CENTIMES NAPOLEON LAUREATE ISSUE PAYING THE 12-CENTIMES RATE FOR PRINTED MATTER.

Examples of the 12-centimes rate for printed matter from Japan to France are extremely rare, as are any printed matter covers from Japan. This cover with a strip of the 1863 4c Napoleon Laureate is remarkably fresh and attractive.

Signed Calves..... E. 2,000-3,000



- 398 ⋈ 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Used with pair of 1862, 20c Blue (33; Yvert 29), tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, well-struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 12 Juin 69" double-circle datestamp on buff cover to Madame Schoene, Corcelles, Neuchatel, Switzerland, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Angl. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 6 Aout 69" double-circle datestamp, Paris (Aug. 7) and Swiss (Aug. 7) backstamps, Very Fine, scarce combination of 20c "Empire dentele" and 80c "Empire laure" issues on a 120c rate cover to Switzerland ................................. E. 750-1,000
- 400 ⋈ 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Tied by clear "5118" dotted diamond cancel, perfectly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 26 Juil. 69" double-circle datestamp on cover to Ch. Chevier, Rosey via Givry, Saone-et-Loire, France, blue Ravel Blanc & Co. framed handstamp, sender's directive "Pr. P. & O. St.", red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Angl. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 18 Sept. 69" double-circle datestamp, Marseilles (Sep. 18) and Givry (Sep. 19) backstamps, Very Fine ....... E. 400-500



- 401 ⋈ 1863, 40c Pale Orange (35; Yvert 31). Vertical pair used with two 1867, 20c Blue (33; Yvert 29), tied by three bold "5118" dotted diamond cancel, perfectly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 2 Aout 69" double-circle datestamp on blue folded letter to Mondovi, Italy, red "PD" framed hand-stamp, backstamped Ligne S (Aug. 3), Ligne N (Aug. 12), Alexandria (Sep. 18), Messina (Sep. 24), Torino (Sep. 25) and Mondovi (Sep. 26), ink bleed from letter, otherwise Very Fine, very scarce use to Italy with two different French Packet backstamps ......................... E. 750-1,000
- 403 ⋈ 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Tied by clear Macon "2152" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 4 Sept. 69" double-circle datestamp on blue cover to Ch. Chevier, Rosey via Givry, Saone-et-Loire, France, sender's directive "Pr. P. & O. Co's Str.", red "PD" framed handstamp, backstamped Marseilles (Oct. 29), Macon (Oct 30) and Givry (Sep. 19), Very Fine, evidently the stamp remained uncancelled until it reached the Macon post office, very unusual....

  E. 400-500
- 404 ⋈ 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Tied by bold "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear strike of blue "Yokohama Japon 1 Oct. 70" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover from Hakodate datelined "Hakodadi le 17 Septembre 1870" to Jencquel Freres, Bordeaux, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles backstamp (Nov. 20), Very Fine, the blue "Yokohama Japon" circular datestamp is scarce, any cover from Hakodate is rare............................... E. 400-500



405

405 ⋈ 1863, 40c Pale Orange (35; Yvert 31). Six singles, each tied by perfect sharp strike of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, clearly struck "Yokohama Paq. Fr. S. No. 1 3 Oct. 69" Ligne S octagonal datestamp and "PD" framed handstamp on blue folded letter to Virginio Samaruga, Milan, Italy, sender's directive "pr. Malle Francaise via Marseille", part strike of red "PAQUEBOTS/DE LA/MEDITTERRANEE" framed handstamp ties stamps at upper right, backstamped Alexandria (Nov. 12), Marseilles (Nov. 20) and Milan (Nov. 23), horizontal file fold clear of stamps

VERY FINE. A MAGNIFICENT DOUBLE-RATE FRENCH PACKET COVER FROM YOKOHAMA TO ITALY.



406

406 ⊠ **1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32).** Tied by clear "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear blue "Yokohama Japon 1 Janv." double-circle datestamp with manuscript "70" yeardate on blue cover to Ch. Chevier, Rosey via Givry, Saone-et-Loire, France, sender's directive "Pr. P. & O. Str. 2/1/70", red "PD" framed handstamp, illegible red French entry datestamp, redirected to Lyon, French backstamps including Lyon (Feb. 19-21), Very Fine, scarce "Yokohama Japon" blue datestamp, ex Rowell ................................ E. 400-500



407

Hiogo Printed Matter to Cognac via San Francisco and New York. Printed notice date-lined "Hiogo (Japan), June 1st, 1870" from Wachtels & Co. to Martell & Co., Cognac, France, beautifully written address with sender's directive "via San Francisco" and "Per Overland Route", red CGT Ligne H "Etats-Unis Paq. Fr. H. No. 2 23 Juil. 70" octagonal datestamp, red "15" centimes due handstamp, the origin or function of the black handstamped marking at bottom center is not known, Paris and Cognac (Aug. 6) backstamps, Very Fine, a remarkable printed matter usage, evidently sent in a bundle from Japan to New York City via San Francisco, then placed on board the CGT Lafayette, departing NYC July 23, 1870, treated as an unpaid circular ............................... E. 750-1,000



408

408 ⋈ 1867, 20c Blue (33; Yvert 29). Eight, tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, blue "Yokohama Bau Francais 27 Juin 70" double-circle datestamp on black-bordered mourning envelope with "JD" and anchor printed seal on flap, to Madame Jules Dupre, Paris, France, redirected to Calvados, sender's directive "par english mail", red "PD" framed handstamp, blue "Paq. An. V. Suez 3 Marseille 3 21 Aout 70" double-circle datestamp, Cherbourg (Aug. 21) and other receiving backstamps, small piece of backflap missing, Very Fine, unusual double-rate franking and scarce with the Yokohama datestamp struck in blue (also unusual for Marseilles datestamp)...... E. 750-1,000



409



410



411

411 ⋈ 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Remarkable multicolor franking with 1863-67, 20c Blue, 30c Brown, 40c Orange (33, 34, 35; Yvert 29, 30, 31), each tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear strike of blue "Yokohama Bau Francais 29 Aout 70" double-circle datestamp on cover to Messrs. Arcellazzo, Milan, Italy, with Aymonin & Co. blue oval and matching "VIA MARSEILLE" handstamps, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Angl. Marseille 22 Oct. 70" double-circle datestamp, backstamped Ligne N (Sep. 8), part of Alexandria datestamp and Milan (Oct. 25), reduced approximately one-inch at right which we think took away a 30c stamp, which made up the double 120c rate to Italy (there was no 210c rate), nonetheless a spectacular and rare cover ............. E. 500-750



412



413 ⋈ 1863, 40c Pale Orange (35; Yvert 31). Three used with 1867, 10c Bister (32; Yvert 28), tied by three bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 28 Aout 71" double-circle datestamp on buff cover to C. H. Schaeffer, Berlin, Germany, sender's directive "Prussia via Brindisi", red PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Oct. 21-22) and Berlin (Oct. 24) backstamps, about half of top backflap removed, some edgewear along top, tear in one 40c stamp, still Very Fine, an attractive cover from Yokohama to Germany, this was evidently franked at the newly revised 130c rate to France via Brindisi by British Packet (effective Aug. 1, 1871), but the rate to Germany was actually 140c, so this was sent by French Packet at the 120c rate ....... E. 750-1,000



414



**END OF MORNING SESSION** 

# AFTERNOON SESSION (LOTS 415-647) WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023, AT 1:30 P.M.

## FRENCH POST OFFICE IN YOKOHAMA (CONTINUED)

## THE BORDEAUX ISSUE USED FROM YOKOHAMA

## 1870 80c Bordeaux single-franking on French Packet cover



415

415 

1870, 80c Rose, Bordeaux Issue (48; Yvert 49). Three large margins to clear at bottom, tied by clearly struck "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 31 Juil. 71" double-circle datestamp on folded letter on Guillaume Tell printed letterhead with Yokohama dateline and handstamped return address on front, to Alphandery & Toly, Avignon, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Sep. 21) and Avignon (Sep. 22) backstamps

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE SINGLE 80-CENTIMES BORDEAUX ISSUE FRANKING FROM JAPAN TO FRANCE, PAYING THE RATE BY FRENCH PACKET.

The rate from Yokohama to France by French Packet was raised from 80c to 100c, effective August 1, 1871. For this reason, there was a brief period in which the Bordeaux Issue, which reached Japan in mid-1871, could be used to pay the 80c rate. Very few covers from Japan with the Bordeaux Issue are known (Matsumoto estimated 15 in his book, p. 68), and this single 80c franking is outstanding among them. .... E. 2,000-3,000

## 1870 80c Bordeaux mixed-issue franking on British Packet cover



416

416 ⋈ 1870, 80c Rose, Bordeaux Issue (48; Yvert 49). Large margins all around, used with 1867, 30c Brown (34; Yvert 30), both tied by boldly struck "5118" dotted diamond cancel (a second strike at upper right), clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 7 Aout 71" double-circle datestamp on folded letter on Guillaume Tell printed letterhead with Yokohama dateline and handstamped return address on front, to Alphandery & Toly, Avignon, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Angl. V. Suez Amb. Mars. 29 Sept. 71" double-circle datestamp, Avignon (Sep. 29) backstamp

VERY FINE. AN ATTRACTIVE AND RARE MIXED-ISSUE FRANKING WITH THE 80-CENTIMES BORDEAUX ISSUE AND 30-CENTIMES "EMPIRE LAURE".

Effective August 1, 1871, one week before this cover was mailed at Yokohama, the rates to France were changed to 100c (one franc) by French Packet via Marseilles and 130c (1fr30c) by British Packet via Brindisi. The 110c franking on this cover represents an underpayment or overpayment of the rates at the time of mailing, and underpaid the obsolete 120c British Packet rate. It was accepted for the 130c rate

Calves handstamp..... E. 2,000-3,000

## 1870 80c Bordeaux multiple-rate franking with blue Yokohama datestamp



417

417 ⋈ 1870, 80c Rose, Bordeaux Issue (48; Yvert 49). Five singles with mostly large margins, used with 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32) and 1870, 40c Orange, Bordeaux Issue (47; Yvert 48), top torn into design when separated, all well-tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, perfect clear strike of blue "Yokohama Bau Francais 4 Sept. 71" double-circle datestamp on European-size cover with Maron & Co. blue handstamp to Albert May, Paris, France, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", clear strikes of red "PD" framed handstamp and blue "Paq. An. V. Suez 3 Marseille 3 28 Oct. 71" circular datestamp, no backstamps

OVERALL A VERY FINE COVER WITH A TRULY ASTOUNDING MIXED-ISSUE FRANKING INCLUDING THE 40-CENTIMES AND FIVE 80-CENTIMES BORDEAUX ISSUE.

The single rate from Yokohama to France via Brindisi by British Packet was 130-centimes per 10g (effective August 1, 1871). The 5fr20c postage on this cover pays the quadruple rate. The blue October 28 entry datestamp confirms it was carried by British Packet ("Paq. An."). This is certainly one of the largest Bordeaux Issue frankings on a cover from Japan, if not the largest...... E. 3,000-4,000

## 1870 40c Bordeaux on cover from Yokohama to Calcutta, India



418



Detail of back

418 

1870, 40c Orange, Bordeaux Issue (47; Yvert 48). Roughly separated into design, used with two 1867, 20c Blue (33; Yvert 29), different shades, each with part of margin torn away, tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly readable "Yokohama Bau Francais 30 Sept. 71" double-circle datestamp on cover to Oscar Trefftz, Calcutta, India, sender's directive "by French Packet", red "PD" framed handstamp, backstamped Galle (Oct. 25), also on back are blue "Steamer Letter G.P.O. Calcutta No. 9 71" circular datestamp and "Steam Postage" crossed out, red "Steamer Letter G.P.O. Calcutta No. 9 71" in circle and red "Calcutta Delivery 10 Nov. 71 1st" oval datestamps, with original letter enclosures dated Sep. 18 and 30

AN ATTRACTIVE COVER WITH STAMPS' MARGINS AS SENDER CUT THEM—EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE 40-CENTIMES BORDEAUX ISSUE FROM YOKOHAMA TO INDIA.

The 80-centimes franking paid the obsolete rate to France, which was raised on August 1, 1871. There is no evidence of missing/substituted stamps and no additional postage is marked due, so this was evidently accepted into the French and British postal systems and delivered to Calcutta as fully prepaid. French mail covers from Japan to India in this period are extremely rare, and this might be the only one with the Bordeaux Issue......

E. 2,000-3,000

## 1870 80c Bordeaux mixed-issue franking on British Packet cover with blue Yokohama datestamp



419

419 ⋈ 1870, 80c Rose, Bordeaux Issue (48; Yvert 49). Large margins, used with 1863, 40c Pale Orange (35; Yvert 31) and 1867, 10c Bister (32; Yvert 28), tied by two bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, blue "Yokohama Bau Francais 7 Oct. 71" double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover to Barres Freres, Privas, France, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", "Forwarded by Valmale Schoene & Milsom, Yokohama" blue oval handstamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, Privas backstamp (Nov. 25), ink spot on Yokohama datestamp

VERY FINE. A BEAUTIFUL THREE-COLOR FRANKING WITH THE BORDEAUX AND "EMPIRE LAURE" ISSUES, PAYING THE 130-CENTIMES RATE FROM YOKOHAMA TO FRANCE VIA BRINIDISI.

The 130c rate from Japan to France via Brindisi became effective August 1, 1871. Examples with the Bordeaux Issue are very rare...... E. 2,000-3,000

## 1870 20c and 80c Bordeaux franking on French Packet cover from Yokohama



420

420 ⋈ 1870, 80c Rose, Bordeaux Issue (48; Yvert 49). Large margins all around, used with 1870, 20c Blue, Bordeaux Issue (44; Yvert 45), large margins to slightly in at upper right, both tied by boldly struck "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 14 Oct. 71" double-circle datestamp on folded letter on Guillaume Tell printed letterhead with Yokohama dateline and handstamped return address on front, to Alphandery & Toly, Avignon, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Dec. 3) and blurry Avignon backstamps

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING BORDEAUX ISSUE COVER FROM YOKOHAMA TO FRANCE AT THE ONE-FRANC RATE.

On August 1, 1871, the rates to France were changed to 100c (one franc) by French Packet via Marseilles and 130c (1fr30c) by British Packet via Brindisi. The 100c franking on this cover exactly pays the French Packet rate.

Illustrated in Matsumoto book (p. 68). Calves handstamp..... E. 2,000-3,000

## 1870 80c Bordeaux mixed-issue franking on cover from Yokohama to Italy



421

421 ⋈ 1870, 80c Rose, Bordeaux Issue (48; Yvert 49). Large margins to slightly in at left, used with 1863, 40c Orange (35; Yvert 31), tied by two clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Bau Francais 9 Dec. 71" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Elena Piatti, Piacenza, Italy, Ernest Piatti & Co. blue handstamp, sender's directive via Marseilles by French Packet, red "PD" framed handstamp, backstamped Alexandria (Jan. 19, 1872), Napoli (Jan. 29) and Piacenza (Jan. 30), faint toned spots

FINE. A BEAUTIFUL MIXED-ISSUE FRANKING WITH THE 80-CENTIMES BORDEAUX AND 40-CENTIMES "EMPIRE LAURE", PAYING THE 120-CENTIMES RATE FROM YOKOHAMA TO ITALY VIA MARSEILLES.

The 120c rate from Japan to Italy via Marseilles became effective August 1, 1871. Examples with the Bordeaux Issue are very rare.

Ex Matsumoto. E. 1,500-2,000

## 1870 5c Bordeaux in three-color franking on cover with Ligne S datestamp



422

422 

1870, 5c Yellow Green, Bordeaux Issue (41; Yvert 42). Large margins, used with 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32) and 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59), tied by three clear strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Ligne S Paq. Fr. No. 2 16 Oct. 72" double-circle datestamp and "PD" framed handstamp on cover to A. Crosse, Paris, France, Marseilles (Nov. 28) and Paris (Nov. 29) backstamps, two vertical folds clear of stamps

VERY FINE. A BEAUTIFUL THREE-COLOR FRANKING WITH THREE DIFFERENT ISSUES, INCLUDING THE 5-CENTIMES BORDEAUX ISSUE, WHICH IS A GREAT RARITY ON COVER FROM JAPAN.

The three different issues on this cover pay the 100c (one franc) rate from Japan to France via Marseilles. The 5c Green Bordeaux Issue is a great rarity on covers from Japan. The Ligne S datestamp was applied on board the steamer *Godavery* between Yokohama and Hong Kong

Ex Blanc and Walske. Signed Calves. . . . . . . . . . . . . . E. 2,000-3,000

## 1870 5c Bordeaux in three-color franking on cover with Ligne N datestamp



423

423 

1870, 5c Yellow Green, Bordeaux Issue (41; Yvert 42). Large margins, used with 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32) and 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59), tied by three strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Ligne N Paq. Fr. No. 4 27 Dec. 72" double-circle datestamp on small cover from Dr. Augustine Henon to his wife in Lyon, France, manuscript "No. 13" correspondence number at upper left, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Feb. 5, 1873) and Lyon (Feb. 6) backstamps, small edge tears

VERY FINE. A BEAUTIFUL THREE-COLOR FRANKING WITH THREE DIFFERENT ISSUES, INCLUDING THE 5-CENTIMES BORDEAUX ISSUE, WHICH IS A GREAT RARITY ON COVER FROM JAPAN.

The three different issues on this cover pay the 100c (one franc) rate from Japan to France via Marseilles. The 5c Green Bordeaux Issue is a great rarity on covers from Japan. The Henon correspondence is discussed in Matsumoto book (pp. 136-139).

Calves handstamp..... E. 2,000-3,000

## Spectacular and rare registered cover from Yokohama to Milan, Italy





Back

424 ⋈ 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Two horizontal pairs used with 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38), slightly discolored, each stamp tied by clearly struck "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Bau Francais 22 Janv. 72" double-circle datestamp on cover to Carlo Antongini, Milan, Italy, red "CHARGE" straightline handstamp with matching "PD" framed handstamp and matching table of charges handstamp ("5118" post office number) on back, manuscript registry numbers, backstamped Ligne S No. 1 (Jan. 23), Ligne N No. 6 (Fev. 27), Alexandria (Mar. 1) and Messina (Mar. 8), five wax seals removed from back which leave holes but not affecting markings

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING REGISTERED COVER FROM THE FRENCH POST OFFICE IN YOKOHAMA TO ITALY, WITH "CHARGE" AND TABLE OF CHARGES HANDSTAMPS APPLIED BY YOKOHAMA POSTAL AGENT. MATSUMOTO RECORDS ONLY TWO SUCH REGISTERED COVERS FROM YOKOHAMA.

The 3fr60c franking may have been intended to pay the triple 1fr20c rate from Japan to Italy by French Packet. It does not correspond to either of the two published rates for a "value declared" letter (2 francs or 2fr60c). Matsumoto reported this cover and one other (to France) as the only two registered covers (p. 109, where this cover is illustrated). .....

E. 7,500-10,000

## Colorful franking with four different denominations used from Yokohama



425

1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Horizontal strip of three used with 1862, 5c Yellow Green (23; Yvert 20), 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38) and 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59), tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clearly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 19 Juin 72" double-circle datestamp on European-size linen-lined cover with "A. Real & Ce Hiogo" oval handstamp to L. Dubief, Paris, France, sender's directive "Par Godavery", red "PD" framed handstamp, blue Paris backstamp (July? 19), a few trivial edge flaws in cover, 80c strip has tear in left stamp and corner crease in right stamp

VERY FINE. A SPECTACULAR COMBINATION OF FOUR DIFFERENT DENOMINATIONS FROM THREE DIFFERENT FRENCH ISSUES ON A TRIPLE-RATE COVER FROM YOKOHAMA TO FRANCE VIA MARSEILLES.

This remarkable combination pays a total of 300-centimes (three francs), the triple rate from Yokohama to France via Marseilles. It originated in Hiogo (Kobe) and was mailed at the French post office in Yokohama.



- 427 

  1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Five, used with 1862, 5c Yellow Green (23; Yvert 20), tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 2 Juil. 72" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Madame Lebon, Paris, France, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", red "PD" framed handstamp, blue Paris backstamp (Aug. 22), one 25c with piece out of bottom, all have gum stains and some additional toned spots on cover, still Fine, unusual mixed-issue franking for 130c rate to France via Brindisi, Calves handstamp....... E. 500-750



429

429 

1867, 30c Brown (34; Yvert 30). Three, used with pair of 1862, 5c Yellow Green (23; Yvert 20), tied by clear strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Paq. Fr. S No. 2 11 Sept. 72" Ligne S octagonal datestamp and "PD" framed handstamp on folded cover to Chartron & Monnier, Lyon, France, Marseilles (Oct. 29) and Lyon (Oct. 30) backstamps, slight wear along horizontal folds at bottom

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE COMBINATION OF THE 5-CENTIMES "EMPIRE DENTELE" AND 30-CENTIMES "EMPIRE LAURE" ISSUES FOR THE ONE-FRANC RATE FROM JAPAN TO FRANCE VIA MARSEILLES.

The Ligne S datestamp was applied on board the steamer from Yokohama to Hong Kong.

Roumet and Calves handstamps. ..... E. 1,500-2,000



430





432



- 435 ⋈ 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Horizontal pair used with 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38), tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clearly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 22 Avril 73" double-circle datestamp on European-size cover to Mlle. Grence, Paris, France, blue crayon "2" for double rate, red "PD" framed handstamp, Paris receiving backstamp (Jun. 10), with original letter enclosure, Extremely Fine, attractive mixed-issue double-rate franking, Calves handstamp ..... E. 500-750

# Exceedingly rare franking with five 1863 4c Napoleon Laureate stamps and 1872 80c Large Numerals Issue for one-franc French Mail rate



436

436 ⋈ 1863, 4c Gray (31; Yvert 27). Horizontal strip of four and single, used with 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 26 Aout 73" octagonal datestamp on folded cover with blue Raud & Co. handstamp to Arles Dufour & Co., Marseilles, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Col. F. V. Suez Paq. F 1 Mars 1 15 Oct. 73" octagonal datestamp

EXTREMELY FINE. A MAGNIFICENT AND RARE MIXED-ISSUE FRANKING WITH FIVE 1863 4-CENTIMES "EMPIRE LAURE" STAMPS AND THE 1872 80-CENTIMES LARGE NUMERALS CERES ISSUE PAYING THE ONE-FRANC FRENCH MAIL RATE. A REMARKABLE COMBINATION IN THE FINEST ATTAINABLE QUALITY.

With 2004 J-F Brun certificate (and handstamp). ..... E. 2,000-3,000

# Enormously rare and beautiful cover from Yokohama to Italy with Italian Postage Due stamps



437

437 ⋈ 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Horizontal pair tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, full clear strike of "Yokohama Bau Francais 26 Aout 73" double-circle datestamp on buff cover to Chieri, Italy, underpaid double-rate letter, red "AFFRANCHISSEMENT/INSUFFISANT" framed handstamp, manuscript "20" decimes, backstamped Marseilles (Oct. 15) and Italian Ambulante (Oct. 16), pair of Italy, 1870, 1L Light Blue & Brown, Postage Due (J13), tied by bold "Chieri 17 Ott. 73" double-circle datestamp (struck again on back)

> EXTREMELY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING USE OF FRENCH STAMPS FROM YOKOHAMA AND ITALIAN POSTAGE DUE STAMPS ON A SHORT-PAID COVER.

> The single rate from Japan to Italy by British Packet was 140-centimes (prepaid) and 180-centimes (unpaid). The pair of 80c stamps overpaid the single rate, but the letter was found to be over the 10-gram limit. It was rated 360-centimes as an unpaid double-rate letter and credited 160-centimes for the stamps, leaving 200-centimes (2 francs = 2 lire) postage due. The pair of Italian postage due stamps were affixed and tied at Chieri. Covers from Japan to other countries with any postage due stamps are extremely rare. .. E. 4,000-5,000



- 439 

  1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by clear strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, perfect strike of "Yokohama Paq. Fr. S No. 2 9

  Dec. 73" Ligne S octagonal datestamp on small cover to Madame Lebon, Paris, France, brownish "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles backstamp (Feb. 5, 1874), opening tear at top slightly affects 25c stamp, otherwise Very Fine, an attractive French Packet cover from Yokohama.... E. 500-750
- 440 ⋈ 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with pair of 1873, 10c Bister on Rose (55; Yvert 54), tied by light strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, "Ligne N Paq. Fr. No. 2 12 Fevr 74" double-circle datestamp and "PD" framed handstamp on small cover to Mons. Grimouard de St. Laurent, L'Hermenault, France, backflap with "Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes" oval handstamp, backstamped at Cherbourg (Mar. 18-19), La Roche-sur-Yon (Mar. 19) and L'Hermenault (Mar. 20-21), about half of backflap missing including part of the M.M. oval flap marking, stamps have slight creases, otherwise Very Fine, unusual and scarce Yokohama French Packet cover.................................. E. 750-1,000



- 442 ⋈ 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53) and 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59), tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear strike of "Yokohama Japon 5 Mai 74" double-circle datestamp on folded cover with purple Bolmida handstamp to Duplay Balay, Lyon, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Jun. 27) and Lyon (Jun. 28) backstamps, 15c rounded corner, still Extremely Fine, beautiful three-color franking and scarce with the "Yokohama Japon" datestamp ....... E. 750-1,000
- 443 ⋈ 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with pair of 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear strike of "Yokohama Japon 12 Mai 74" double-circle datestamp on folded cover with purple Bolmida handstamp to Duplay Balay, Lyon, France, sender's directive "Via Brindisi pr. 'Madras'", red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Suez A. Mod. 9 Juin. 74" circular datestamp, Lyon (Jul. 10) backstamp, Extremely Fine, very attractive example of 130c rate via Brindisi and scarce with the "Yokohama Japon" datestamp E. 500-750





Both 444

1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38). Vertical pair used with 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59) and 1872, 30c Brown, Large Numerals (62; Yvert 56), all tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Japon 12 Mai 74" double-circle datestamp on small cover from Jen-Francois Coignet at Ikuno to Mons. Ozier, St. Etienne, France, underpaid for 150-centimes rate via Brindisi, red "AFFRANCHISSEMENT/INSUFFISANT" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brindi. A. Mod. 9 Juil. 74" double-circle datestamp, manuscript "25" centimes due marking, rated 150c as an unpaid letter via Brindisi less 125c credit for stamps, St. Etienne backstamp, accompanied by matching cover from same correspondence, also underpaid with three 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancels, "Yokohama Japon 8 Sept 74" double-circle datestamp, red "AFFRAN-CHISSEMENT/INSUFFISANT" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Oct. 29) and St. Etienne (Oct. 30) backstamps, manuscript "45" centimes due marking, rated 120c as an unpaid letter by French Packet less 75c credit for stamps, Very Fine, a wonderful pair of covers from the Coignet-Ozier correspondence showing underpayment of the two different rates—British Packet via Brindisi and French Packet via Marseilles, the three-color franking is illustrated in Matsumoto (p. 135) ................ E. 1,000-1,500



445

1872, 30c Brown, Large Numerals (62; Yvert 56). Vertical pair, tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancels and red "PD" framed handstamp, clearly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 19 Mai 74" double-circle datestamp on blue cover to Saigon, French Indochina, sender's directive "Per S.S. 'Menzaleh'", backflap removed along with about half of Saigon receiving datestamp (June date), cover creased in two directions but clear of stamps, minor edge flaws, still Fine, extremely rare 60c China Sea rate between French post offices in Yokohama and Saigon ................... E. 500-750





449

1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38). Horizontal strip of three used with two 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53), tied by bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 21 Juil. 74" double-circle datestamp on folded cover with purple Bolmida handstamp to Malmazet Pirjantz & Co., Lyon, France, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind. A. Mod. 10 Sept. 74" double-circle datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp, tear at center of cover through address but not affecting stamps or overall appearance, otherwise Very Fine, a rare franking paying the 130c rate via Brindisi................................. E. 1,000-1,500



450



45 I

451 ⋈ 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38) and pair of 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53), tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear "Yokohama Japon 2 Nov. 74" double-circle datestamp on folded cover with purple Bolmida handstamp to Malmazet Pirjantz Mayor & Co., Lyon, France, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind. A. Mod. 19 Dec. 74" double-circle datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Dec. 18), Extremely Fine, a beautiful three-color franking paying the 130c rate via Brindisi, scarce "Yokohama Japon" datestamp, signed Dillemann........................ E. 750-1,000





Detail of backstamp

452

1872, 30c Brown, Large Numerals (62; Yvert 56). Horizontal strip of four tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Japon 23 Nov. 74" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on folded cover with blue Raud & Co. handstamp to Banco Sete Lombardo, Milan, Italy, sender's directive "Via Naples", clear strike of "Yokohama Paq. Fr. S No. 3 24 Nov. 74" Ligne S octagonal datestamp on back, overstruck by bold Milan receiving datestamp (Jan. 4, 1874), vertical stationery fold passes under strip but does not affect it, Very Fine, very rare use of 30c multiple to pay 120c French Packet rate to Italy, scarce "Yokohama Japon" datestamp, Roumet handstamp...... E. 1,000-1,500



453 ⋈ 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53) and 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59), tied by bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Japon 4 Janv. 75" double-circle datestamp on small cover from Dr. Augustine Henon to his wife in Lyon, France, manuscript "No. 67" correspondence number at upper left, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Feb. 16) and faint Lyon backstamps, small edge tears in cover do not affect stamps, Very Fine, attractive three-color franking for French Packet rate with the scarce "Yokohama Japon" datestamp ................. E. 500-750



454

454 ⋈ 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53) and 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59), tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold strike of "Yokohama Japon 18 Janv. 75" double-circle datestamp on folded cover with purple Bolmida handstamp to Duplay Balay, Lyon, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Mar. 5) and Lyon (Mar. 6) backstamps, 15c small nick at bottom, otherwise Very Fine, beautiful three-color franking and scarce with the "Yokohama Japon" datestamp, Calves handstamp................ E. 500-750





456

456 

1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with pair of 1873, 10c Bister on Rose (55; Yvert 54), tied by bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Japon 29 Mars 75" double-circle datestamp on cover to Ferd. Maillet, Bordeaux, France, Marseilles (May 13) and Bordeaux backstamps, but curiously no red "PD" handstamp usually found on French Packet covers, Very Fine, scarce franking and "Yokohama Japon" datestamp, two philatelic handstamps at bottom right ......................... E. 500-750





458

458 ⋈ 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38). Two pairs and single used with pair of 1872, 30c Brown, Large Numerals (62; Yvert 56), tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 8 Juin 75" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on folded cover with purple Bolmida handstamp to Duplay Balay, Lyon, France, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 3 Aout 75" double-circle datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Aug. 2), filed fold causing defects in 40c stamp at lower left, otherwise Very Fine, extremely rare franking for double 130c British Packet rate via Brindisi, Lamy handstamp ....... E. 750-1,000



459



460

460 ⋈ 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38). Used with pair of 1872, 30c Brown, Large Numerals (62; Yvert 56), tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 13 Juil 75" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on folded cover with purple Bolmida handstamp to Duplay Balay, Lyon, France, Marseilles (Sep. 2) and Lyon (Sep. 3) backstamps, 40c slightly oxidized, otherwise Very Fine, unusual combination for French Packet rate, Lamy handstamp .... E. 500-750



1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Horizontal pair used with pairs of 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53) and 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59), tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold strike of "Yokohama Bau Francais 27 Juil. 75" double-circle datestamp on folded cover to Defaysse Souberyan, Dieulefit, France, with Aymonin & Co. blue oval (on back) and matching "VIA MARSEILLE" handstamps, blue crayon "2" for double rate, red "PD" framed handstamp, Marseilles (Sep. 13) and Lyon (Sep. 14) backstamps, Extremely Fine, a colorful and striking franking of Ceres Issue pairs for the double 100c French Packet rate—this would make a perfect companion to one of the covers in this sale with the same stamps used to pay the single rate...... E. 1,000-1,500



462

# Extraordinary multiple-rate franking from Yokohama to Italy with Italian Postage Due stamps



463

463 ⋈ 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38). Six including strip of three, tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Yokohama Japon 21 Sept. 75" double-circle date-stamp on cover to Societa Agraria d'Lomardia, Milan, Italy, sender's directive "Via Napoli" covered by stamps, underpaid triple-rate letter indicated by blue crayon "3" at upper left and red "AFFRANCHISSEMENT/INSUFFISANT" framed handstamp, manuscript "30" due, backstamped "Ligne S Paq. Fr. No. 3 22 Sept." and "Ligne N Paq. Fr. No. 4 2 Oct. 75" double-circle datestamps, Napoli (Nov. 4) backstamp, pair and single of Italy, 1870, 1L Light Blue & Brown, Postage Due (J13), tied by bold strikes of "Milano 9 S 6 Nov 75" circular datestamp, French stamps slightly oxidized, cover slightly reduced at top

FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE COMBINATION OF FRENCH STAMPS USED FROM YOKOHAMA AND ITALIAN POSTAGE DUE STAMPS FOR TRIPLE-RATE POSTAGE.

The prepaid single rate (per 10gr) to Italy by French Packet was 120c. This was prepaid 240c as a double-rate letter. The 3 lire (3 francs, or 300-centimes) due plus 240c in stamps equals 540c, which divides by 3 into a 180c unpaid rate. Covers from Japan to other countries with postage due stamps are extremely rare...... E. 2,000-3,000



464 ⋈ 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38). Horizontal strip of three, bright fresh color, tied by two strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear "Yokohama Japon 25 Oct. 75" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on cover to Societa Agraria d'Lomardia, Milan, Italy, sender's directive "Via Napoli", Napoli (Dec. 8) and Milan (Dec. 10) backstamps, Extremely Fine, scarce "Yokohama Japon" datestamp ....... E. 400-500



465 ⋈

1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Horizontal strip of four tied by light strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, perfect clear strikes of "Yokohama Paq. Fr. S No. 3 26 Oct. 75" Ligne S octagonal datestamp and "PD" framed handstamp applied on board the Messageries Maritime *Menzalah* from Yokohama to Hong Kong on folded cover with blue Raud & Co. handstamp to Desgeorge & Co., Lyon, France, Marseilles (Dec. 9) and Lyon (Dec. 10) backstamps, Extremely Fine, superb quality, Calves handstamp ... E. 750-1,000



- 466 ⋈ 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59). Four pairs used with 1873, 10c Bister on Rose (55; Yvert 58), tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Bau Francais 1 Nov. 75" double-circle datestamp on manila cover to Meynard & Co., Valreas, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 17 Dec 75" double-circle datestamp, backstamped Marseilles (Dec. 17) and Valreas (Dec. 18), edgewear and tear at right, part of backflap missing, otherwise Very Fine, an extraordinary franking for 130c rate via Brindisi, Calves handstamp...... E. 750-1,000

## The Fauconnet Correspondence

Infantry lieutenant (and later captain) Georges Fauconnet was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army from May 25, 1875, to the end of 1879. Before his service in Japan, Lieut. Fauconnet taught at the military school in Saint-Cyr, France. The three covers in lots 469-471 trace the lieutenant's journey to Japan in 1875. As he traveled east, his letters were sent back to France on westbound steamers of the Messageries Maritimes line. He paid full packet postage for the first two. The third cover is prepaid at the double military concession rate.





- 470 ⋈ 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38). Used with four 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60) and two 1872, 30c Brown, Large Numerals (62; Yvert 56), tied by light strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, clearly struck "Ligne N Paq. Fr. No. 1 30 Dec. 75" double-circle datestamp and "PD" framed hand-stamp on small cover to Mons. Fauconnet, Offranville, France, backstamped Marseilles (Jan. 19), Paris (Jan. 20) and Offranville (Jan. 21), top backflap removed and refolded, righthand 25c stamp has faults from placement at edge, still Fine, unusual three-color franking for double one-franc French Packet rate, prepaid double one-franc French Packet rate, datestamped on Ligne N Anadyr (No. 1) en route from Marseilles to Shanghai (dep. Dec. 5, 1875, arr. Shanghai Feb. 4, 1876), transferred to another vessel on return trip to Marseilles (arr. Jan. 19, 1876) ................ E. 750-1,000





475

475 ⋈ 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38). Horizontal pair used with 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53) and 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by multiple bold strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 30 Oct. 76" double-circle datestamp on European-size Peyre Freres corner card cover to Peyre Pere et Fils, Mouries, France, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 16 Dec 76" double-circle datestamp, backstamped Marseilles (Dec. 15) and Mouries (Dec. 16), 5c stamp has rounded corner and slightly creased from vertical fold in cover, otherwise Very Fine, scarce franking for 110c reduced rate via Brindisi ................. E. 750-1,000



476





Detail of backstamps

477 ⋈ 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Horizontal pair used with 1873, 10c Bister on Rose (55; Yvert 58), tied by multiple strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 12 Juin 77" double-circle datestamp on cover to C. F. Grossmann, Hong Kong, China, sender's directive "p Mess Mar", Rhode & Co. backstamp along with "Ligne S Paq. Fr. No. 1 13 Juin 77" double-circle datestamp and "Hong-Kong C JU 20 77" circular datestamp, small spindle hole in cover, Very Fine, rare example of 60c China Sea special rate which expired March 31, 1877 (Matsumoto book, p. 228), but the rate to China was reduced to 40c so there was no postage due, with 1992 Von der Weid certificate........................ E. 400-500



478 ⋈

JAPAN, 1876, 5s Brown (59). Tied by cork cancel on 1876, 1s Blue Postal Card, First Koban Issue (JSCA PC12) to Berlin, Germany, red "Yokohama Paid All Dec. 17" double-circle datestamp applied at Japanese foreign-mail office, turned over to French post office, "Yokohama Japon 18 Dec. 77" double-circle datestamp, Berlin receipt datestamp (Feb. 1) also ties stamp

VERY FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY USE OF THE 1876 FIRST KOBAN ADHESIVE AND POSTAL CARD ISSUES THROUGH THE FRENCH POST OFFICE.

The French "Yokohama Japon" datestamp was applied to this postal card after it was datestamped at the Yokohama foreign-mail office...... E. 1,500-2,000



479 ⋈ 1876, 25c Ultramarine, Ty. II (81; Yvert 78). Used with 1873, 15c Bister, Large Numerals (61; Yvert 55), tied by mostly clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 4 Mars 78" double-circle datestamp on cover to E. F. Henley, London, England, with imprint on interior of backflap "From the Oriental Bank Corporation, Yokohama, with the Agent's Compliments", sender's directive "Via Brindisi", red "Paq. Angl. V. Brind. A. Mod. 18(?) Avril 78" double-circle datestamp and overlapping red London Paid (Apr. 20) datestamp, Paris backstamp (Apr. 19), Very Fine, a beautiful cover and very rare combination of Ceres and Sage Issues for the 40c rate, ex Matsumoto .......................... E. 500-750





1876, 4c Green, Ty. I (66; Yvert 63). Horizontal pair, tied by two strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 11 Juin 78" double-circle datestamp on large part of printed matter wrapper and address label to Sir William Thomson at The University, Glasgow, Scotland, the label and outer wrapper are tied together by one of the Yokohama datestamp strikes, blue "Yokohama Paq. Fr. S No. 1" Ligne S octagonal datestamp, pressed crease away from stamps, Very Fine, an extremely rare use of the 4-centimes Green Sage Issue to pay printed matter rate to Scotland, ex Ishikawa and Kelly...... E. 1,000-1,500



482EX

SHREVE – 97 –



- 483 

  1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38). Tied one of two strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 2 Juil 78" double-circle datestamp on small pink quadrille lined cover to Mrs. Strickland Power, London, England, sender's directive "Via Brindisi" and "Juno", red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 15 Aout 78" double-circle datestamp ties stamp, Paris and London (Aug. 26) backstamps, stamp slightly oxidized, Very Fine, scarce late use of Ceres issue from Yokohama.............................. E. 300-400
- 485 ⋈ 1876, 25c Ultramarine, Ty. II (81; Yvert 78). Used with 1877, 10c Black, Ty. II (91; Yvert 89), tied by mostly clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 20 Aout 78" double-circle datestamp on buff cover with Peyre Freres imprint to Mouries, France, backstamped Marseilles, Arles and Mouries (Oct. 6), 10c pulled perfs at lower right, otherwise Very Fine, scarce Sage Issue use from Vokohama
- 486 

  1876, 25c Ultramarine, Ty. II (81; Yvert 78). Used with 1877, 10c Black, Ty. II (91; Yvert 89), tied by clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 7 Oct. 78" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Madame Munier, Paris, France, Paris receiving backstamp (Nov. 25), small opening tear at top left, otherwise Very Fine, scarce Sage Issue use from Yokohama .................. E. 400-500



- 489 ⋈ 1876, 30c Brown, Ty. I (73; Yvert 69). Used with 1876, 5c Green, Ty. II (78; Yvert 75), tied by clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 14 Oct. 78" double-circle datestamp on small pink quadrille lined cover to Mrs. Strickland Power, London, England, sender's directive "Via Brindisi" and "Juno", London (Nov. 29) receiving backstamp, 30c left margin partly torn off when separated, not very noticeable, otherwise Fine, scarce Sage franking ........................ E. 200-300



FRENCH COLONIES (GENERAL ISSUES), 1872, 30c Brown, Ceres (22; Yvert 20). Used with 1873, 1c Olive Green, Ceres (16; Yvert 14) and vertical strip of three 1877, 1c Green, Sage (24; Yvert 24), margins from large to cutting in, tied by multiple strikes of "Yokohama Bau 27 Nov. 78" double-circle datestamp on large-size cover to J. B. Specht, Pernau, Russia, blue Wagen Freres oval handstamp, numerous backstamps including "Ligne S Paq. Fr. No. 3 Dec. 78" double-circle datestamp, Napoli (Dec. 14) and five Russian datestamps, one stamp at bottom is missing (probably another 1c Ceres), otherwise Fine, a remarkable use of French Colonies imperforate issues from Yokohama, Wagen Freres was an importing firm and Otto Specht was a Russian philatelist — it seems likely this cover was created for Specht's benefit — ex Matsumoto ...... E. 500-750



491

491 ⋈ 1876, 20c Red Brown, Ty. I (70; Yvert 67). Used with 1876, 5c Green, 10c Black, Ty. II (78, 91; Yvert 75, 89), tied by clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 17 Dec. 78" double-circle datestamp on cover to Mrs. Strickland Power, London, England, sender's directive "Via Brindisi" and "Juno", backflap with imprint "H.M.S. Juno", no backstamps, Very Fine, scarce use of Sage Issue from Yokohama................... E. 400-500



- 492 

  1876, 30c Brown, Ty. I (73; Yvert 69). Used with 1876, 5c Green, Ty. II (78; Yvert 76), tied by partly clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 18 Dec. 78" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Madame Munier, Paris, France, Very Fine, scarce Sage Issue use from Yokohama........

  E. 300-400
- 493 

  1876, 30c Brown, Ty. I (73; Yvert 69). Used with 1876, 5c Green, Ty. II (78; Yvert 75), tied by partly clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 25 Dec. 78" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Madame Munier, Paris, France, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 7 Fevr. 79" double-circle datestamp, couple small tears at top and small piece of backflap missing, Very Fine, scarce Sage Issue use from Yokohama, illustrated in Matsumoto book (p. 123)................................. E. 300-400
- 494 ⋈ 1876, 25c Ultramarine, Ty. II (81; Yvert 78). Used with 1875, 10c Bister, Large Numerals (60; Yvert 54), tied by partly clear strikes of "Yokohama Japon 2 Avril 79" double-circle datestamp on cover to Cesar Contini, Milan, Italy, red "Paq. Angl. V. Brind. A. Mod. 1 Mai 79" double-circle datestamp, Macon (May 17) and Milan (May 18) backstamps, repaired opening tear across entire front of cover (10c stamp possibly affected), still Fine appearance, rare use of Ceres and Sage Issues from Yokohama, illustrated in Matsumoto book (p. 111), Calves handstamp ............ E. 300-400
- 495 

  1876, 15c Gray Lilac, Type II (80; Yvert 77). Used with 1877, 10c Black, Ty. II (91; Yvert 89), tied by partly clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 11 Avril 79" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Algiers, Algeria, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 29 mai 79" double-circle datestamp, Marseilles (May 30) and Algiers (Jun. 2) receiving backstamps, faint gum toning around stamps, otherwise Very Fine, scarce Sage Issue use from Yokohama ................................ E. 300-400



- 498 ⋈ 1878, 35c Black, Ty. II (94; Yvert 93). Tied by two partly clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 5 Nov. 79" double-circle datestamp on European-size cover to Madame Bosselot, Paris, France, sender's directive "Via Suez & Marseille", red "Indo-Chine Paq. Fr. Modane. 18 Dec 79" double-circle datestamp, Paris backstamp (Dec. 19), half of top backflap removed and minor edgewear, Fine, scarce late use of Sage Issue from Yokohama ................................ E. 300-400
- 499 

  1878, 35c Black, Ty. II (94; Yvert 93). Tied by two partly clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 28 Dec 79" double-circle datestamp on cover to Madame Munier, Paris, France, redirected to Gironde, red "Indo-Chine Paq. Fr. Modane. 10 Fevr. 80" double-circle datestamp, Paris backstamp (Feb. 11), others unreadable, Very Fine, scarce late use of Sage Issue from Yokohama.

  F. 400-500





501

JAPAN, 1879, 2s Second Foreign Postal Card (JSCA FC4). Cancelled by small circle of wedges, "Yokohama Jan. 25, 1880" and "Tokei, Japan 25 Jan." circular datestamps, addressed to Paris, France, sender's directive "French Mail", "Yokohama Bau Francais 25 Janv. 80" double-circle datestamp and "T" in circle due handstamp, red "Indo-Chine Paq. Fr. Modane 7 Mars 80" double-circle datestamp, magenta manuscript "10" centimes due marking, Paris receiving backstamp (Mar. 7), Very Fine, the sender chose to use the French post office instead of the Japanese post office, but failed to pay the correct 3s rate for French mail, thus 10 centimes due (double the one sen deficiency), illustrated in Matsumoto book (p. 181), with 2005 Philatelic Museum Foundation (Japan) certificate....

E. 1,000-1,500

# Japan 1875 30s Cherry Blossom Issue used on registered cover carried by French Packet after French Post Office in Yokohama was closed



502

JAPAN, 1875, 30s Violet (49). Syllabic 3, tied by negative "R" in circle cancel, purple "Registered Yokohama 31 Oct. 1880" double-line octagonal datestamp on large-size cover to Captain Fauconnet, Ecole speciale militaire de Saint-Cyr, Seine-et-Oise, France, sender's "Registered" and "Via Marseille" notations, "Pour Madame Fauconnet" in address, manuscript registered mail numbers, bold "Yokohama Paq. Fr. S No. 3 31 Oct. 80" Ligne S octagonal datestamp, numerous French backstamps (Dec. 12-14), red wax seal on back, stamp has faint gum stain

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING USE OF THE JAPAN 1875 30-SEN VIOLET ON A REGISTERED COVER FROM YOKOHAMA TO FRANCE.

## DEGRON-KUN MARKINGS AND FRENCH-JAPANESE MIXED FRANKINGS

### The Degron Mail System in Japan 1873-1877

Henri J. Degron (1839-1906) arrived in Yokohama as a seaman aboard the French warship *La Dordogne* on February 2, 1861. In August 1862 he secured a position with the French Legation in Japan. In January 1864 Degron visited the French post office in Shanghai, which was opened on December 19, 1862, and run by postmaster M. Champanhet. After a month in Shanghai observing post office operations, Degron returned to Yokohama. As part of his duties at the legation, he apparently began serving as "l'Agent Postal" and advertised his services in the local newspapers. By February 27, 1864, Degron was firmly established as the local postal agent of the French Legation.

Degron's nomination as the first postmaster was made at the French Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs on July 1, 1865. News of the nomination arrived in Yokohama on September 7, 1865, along with post office supplies and equipment aboard the Messageries Imperiales *Dupleix*. Degron moved his office from inside the Legation head-quarters to the French consulate office, and then to the site opposite the Customs House. The post office address "Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama" appears in the Degron-kun markings.

Members of the Second Military Mission arrived in Yokohama on board the Messageries Maritimes *Godavery* on May 17, 1872. They were hired by the Ministry of Army to teach techniques and strategies to Japanese military students. Most of the officers resided at the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. The French Military Mission members at Nagatacho routinely sent their letters to the French post office in Yokohama by a Japanese courier. Such letters



Henri J. Degron, French postmaster in Japan

were prepaid with French stamps only. As evidenced by the cover offered in lot 503—a forerunner to the Degron-kun system—if a letter was sent to Yokohama through the Japanese post office, it required Japanese postage.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degron-kun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Degron, for entry into the international mail system. The distinguishing feature of a Degron-kun cover, whether or not it bears Japanese stamps, is its handstamped (or written) address to Postmaster Degron in Yokohama. This marking was applied at the military residences to inform the Tokyo post office (in Japanese) of the address to which the cover should be delivered (Degron in Yokohama). Once it was received at the French post office, the French stamps were cancelled and it entered the mail stream.

At least seven Degron-kun address handstamped devices were used, divided into six types (including Types 2a and 2b). The Matsumoto book (2012 edition) recorded a total of 105 Degron-kun covers. Of those, 86 have the Type 1 handstamp, and the 19 others are spread among the other six major types. Only two covers with a handwritten Degron address are known.

In addition to Degron-kun covers, there are "non-Degron-kun" covers with address markings—for example, the Artillery Arsenal address marking—and French-Japanese mixed-franking covers that required both domestic and international postage.

Remarkably, the first Degron-kun cover was not noted in philatelic literature until after the appearance of a cover from the Captain Lebon correspondence in an April 1958 Shanahan's Stamp Auction sale. Shanahan's was integral to Paul Singer's Ponzi scheme which eventually collapsed. Early auctions contained material from the Maurice Burrus collection, and it is likely the Lebon cover came from Burrus. Regardless of its source, it was immediately recognized as filling an important void in Japanese postal history—an international cover transmitted through the Japanese and French post offices.

We have grouped the covers in this section of the Magnolia collection primarily by correspondence—starting with Jourdan and Lebon, and followed by others—in order to present the covers in the context of their correspondents' experience in Japan. Within each correspondence, they are sequenced mainly by date.

Without question this is one of the greatest collections and offerings of French-Japanese mixed-franking and Degron-kun covers ever made. It is astounding in its scope, quality and inclusion of the most important covers of their kind, many of which came from the Matsumoto collection.



### The Captain Jourdan Correspondence

### The unique Dragon Issue mixed-franking cover

JAPAN, 1872, 1s Blue on Native Laid Paper, Plate II (6). Tied by bold strike of framed hen cancel ("examined") applied at the Tokyo Central Post Office, used with two pairs of France, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Bau Francais 2 Juil. 72" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on small cover to Docteur (Professor Victor) Jourdan, Lyon, France, envelope flap with red printed "AJ" insignia of Captain Jourdan (family name and one of his surnames, Albert), Marseilles (Aug. 20) and Lyon (Aug. 21) backstamps, with original letter datelined "Yedo le 30 Juin 72" signed "A. Jourdan" to his sister Benedicte (later Madame Dumont) with news of local and military events, 1s stamp has small tears at top and right, we do not see laid lines but have classified it as Native Laid Paper to agree with certificates

VERY FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY MIXED-FRANKING COVER WITH A JAPAN 1872 ONE-SEN DRAGON STAMP PAYING INTERNAL POSTAGE FROM TOKYO TO YOKOHAMA, USED IN COMBINATION WITH FRANCE 1871 25-CENTIMES CERES STAMPS PAYING THE ONE-FRANC RATE FROM JAPAN TO FRANCE BY FRENCH PACKET VIA MARSEILLES. THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED COVER WITH A COMBINATION OF THE DRAGON ISSUES OF JAPAN AND STAMPS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY.

The discovery of this cover in a correspondence that came to light in 2015 filled a longtime void in Japanese philately. It is the first and only recorded cover to or from another country with a Japanese Dragon Issue stamp. Since the first two issues of Japan—the Large Dragon "Mon" and "Sen" currency stamps—were intended only for internal postage, their use on international mail could only occur when foreign postage was paid separately. Therefore, any Large Dragon foreign-mail cover must be either an outer envelope that contained an internal cover (inbound or outbound) or, as in the case here, the Large Dragon stamp must be used with foreign stamps. Such a cover was purely theoretical and extremely unlikely, since the Dragon stamps were superseded by the Cherry Blossom issue in August 1872. The later "Degron-kun" covers have Cherry Blossom stamps.

According to an article by Matsumoto Jun Ichi (published in English in *Japanese Philately*, Vol. 70, No. 4, August 2015), this One-Sen Dragon cover is one of approximately 40 covers from the Captain Jourdan correspondence that were acquired by Richard Menozzi, J. Robineau & Co., stamp dealers in Paris. It is reported in the 2015 Matsumoto article that the discovery was made "recently," meaning shortly before the One-Sen cover was offered on May 19, 2015, in the Ferri Auction Co. sale at the Rue Drouot in Paris. This cover was certified by Menozzi on May 20, 2015, and by Calves et Jacquart on the following day, May 21.

As Matsumoto explains in his article, this cover was sent by Claude Gabriel Louis Albert Jourdan (1840-1898), who was captain of Combat Engineers and a member of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army as a military instructor. Captain Jourdan resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo.

The French Military Mission members at Nagatacho routinely sent their letters to the French post office in Yokohama by a Japanese courier. Such letters were prepaid with French stamps only. In this instance, on July 1, 1872, rather than carry the letter to Yokohama, the courier placed it in the mail at the Tokyo Central Post Office, housed in the Ministry of Posts at Yokkaichi. Matsumoto speculates that the postal clerk, observing the French stamps and lack of Japanese postage, accepted one sen in currency and affixed the One-Sen Dragon stamp, cancelling it with the *ken* marking, meaning "examined." One sen was the single rate (up to 15 grams) from Tokyo to Yokohama. Although this was not strictly in accordance with the procedure for handling foreign mail, Matsumoto believes the Japanese post office was eager to accommodate the request to process this letter.

There is no Tokyo datestamp or domestic address of the French post office in Yokohama, as found on the "Degron-kun" covers, which started in January 1873. Matsumoto reports that Chikatsuji Kiichi, a specialist in Japanese postal history, thinks the Jourdan letter was placed in an official business envelope, which was addressed to the French post office in Yokohama. We further suggest that there were other letters in the same envelope, and perhaps each one had a One-Sen stamp paying internal postage.

The Jourdan cover was carried from the central post office to the Shinagawa railway station. A new temporary train service between Shinagawa and Yokohama commenced June 12, 1872, a few weeks before this cover was carried. The mail containing this letter was brought to the French post office, a short distance from the railway station in Yokohama, and the French postal clerk cancelled the 25-centimes stamps with the "5118" dotted diamond cancel and applied the July 2 "Yokohama Bau [Bureau] Francais" datestamp and red "PD" (Paid to Destination) handstamp. It was carried on the Messageries Maritimes Volga, departing Yokohama July 3, and arriving in Hong Kong July 11. From Hong Kong it was carried on the MM Provence, departing July 13 and traveling via the Suez Canal to Marseilles, where it arrived August 20. The French rate for a letter carried by French Packet on this route was 100-centimes (one franc) per 15 grams, which is paid by the two pairs of the 25c Ceres Issue. The Lyon post office received the letter on August 21, 1872.

With Calves et Jacquart certificate (May 21, 2015) and J. Robineau & Cie certificate signed by Richard Menozzi (May 20, 2015)...... E. 30,000-40,000





504 ⋈ JAPAN, 1872, 1s Blue on Native Wove Paper (10). Vertical pair, perfs trimmed at left and bottom, tied by one of two strikes of Tokyo double-circle datestamp on back of small cover to Mons. Jourdan, Lyon, France, bold Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on back, used with France, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60) pair and 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly readable "Yokohama Japon" double-circle datestamp (date illegible), red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 9 Juil 74" double-circle datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Jul. 10), with original letter datelined "Yedo 12 Mai 1874" from Captain Jourdan to his sister Benedicte

VERY FINE. AN ATTRACTIVE DEGRON-KUN MIXED-FRANKING COVER WITH THE 1872 CHERRY BLOSSOM ISSUE AND FRENCH CERES ISSUE. ESPECIALLY DESIRABLE WITH ORIGINAL LETTER FROM A MEMBER OF THE FRENCH MILITARY MISSION.

This cover was sent by Claude Gabriel Louis Albert Jourdan (1840-1898), who was captain of Combat Engineers and a member of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army as a military instructor. Captain Jourdan resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. E. 3,000-4,000





505 front and back

FRANCE, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Four, tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, illegible strike of "Yokohama Japon 23 Nov 74" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Mons. Jourdan, Lyon, France, bold Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on back, red "PD" framed handstamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Jan. 6, 1875), with original letter datelined "Yedo 22 Novembre 1874" from Captain Jourdan to his brother Gabriel, Very Fine, a rare "Degron-kun" cover with the Type 1 handstamp, but no Japanese stamps were affixed (internal postage paid in cash) ................................ E. 750-1,000





506 front and back



506—original carte-de-visite enclosure

JAPAN, 1874, 2s Yellow on Foreign Wove Paper (34). Syllabic 21, lightly struck quartered cork cancel, Tokyo double-circle datestamp on back of small cover to Madame Jourdan, Lyon, France, clearly struck Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on back, used with four France, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60) and 1875, 10c Bister, Large Numerals (60; Yvert 58), tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear strike of "Yokohama Bau Francais 20 Mars 76" double-circle datestamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 5 Mai 76" double-circle datestamp ties 2s stamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (May 5), with original letter on "AJ" insignia stationery datelined "Tokio 20 Mars 1876" from Captain Jourdan to his sister Benedicte, enclosing an original carte-de-visite picturing Japanese geishas on a boat (pencil description on back in Captain Jourdan's hand dated Mar. 20, 1876), top 20% of Japanese stamp was folded over edge and is now missing along with a piece of backflap, French stamps have small faults

OVERALL FINE. A COLORFUL AND RARE MIXED-FRANKING DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPAN 1874 2-CENT CHERRY BLOSSOM ISSUE AND FRENCH MIXED-ISSUE COMBINATION FOR 110-CENTIMES BRITISH PACKET RATE VIA BRINDISI.

This cover was sent by Claude Gabriel Louis Albert Jourdan (1840-1898), who was captain of Combat Engineers and a member of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army as a military instructor. Captain Jourdan resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. ...... E. 2,000-3,000





507 front and back

JAPAN, 1875, 2s Yellow (54). Lightly struck quartered cork cancel, Tokyo double-circle date-stamp and Shimbashi Railway Station red framed handstamp on small cover to Mons. Jourdan, Lyon, France, boldly struck Degron-kun Type I handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on back, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57) and three 1875, 10c Bister, Large Numerals (60; Yvert 54), tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold strike of "Yokohama Japon 25 Avril 76" double-circle datestamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 17 Juin 76" double-circle datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Jun. 17), 80c has tears, one 10c nicked at top

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. A SPECTACULAR AND RARE MIXED-FRANKING DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPAN 1873 2-CENT CHERRY BLOSSOM ISSUE AND FRENCH CERES LARGE NUMERALS COMBINATION FOR 110-CENTIMES BRITISH PACKET RATE VIA BRINDISI.

This cover was sent by Claude Gabriel Louis Albert Jourdan (1840-1898), who was captain of Combat Engineers and a member of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army as a military instructor. Captain Jourdan resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities.

Calves handstamp ..... E. 4,000-5,000





508 front and back





509 front and back

JAPAN, 1876, 2s Brown Olive (57). Cancelled by bold strike of quartered cork and tied by Tokyo double-circle datestamp on back of small cover from Captain Jourdan to his sister Madame Dumont, Lyon, France, perfect strike of Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on back, used with France, 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38), tied by one of two bold strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 3 Dec. 77" double-circle datestamp, Marseilles (Jan. 15, 1878) and Lyon (Jan. 16) backstamps

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING MIXED-FRANKING COVER FROM THE END OF THE DEGRON-KUN PERIOD, WITH A RARE COMBINATION OF THE JAPAN KOBAN AND FRANCE CERES ISSUES.

This cover was sent by Claude Gabriel Louis Albert Jourdan (1840-1898), who was captain of Combat Engineers and a member of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army as a military instructor. Captain Jourdan resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some). The cover offered here, postmarked December 3, 1877, is the latest use of the Degron-kun method to send mail (see Matsumoto book, p. 151).

## The Captain Jourdan Correspondence—covers sent without Degron-kun markings



510



511

FRANCE, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Horizontal strip of five, used with 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53), tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear strike of "Yokohama Japon 5 Oct 74" double-circle datestamp on small mourning cover from Captain Jourdan to Monsieur Jourdan, Lyon, France, for Madame Dumont, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 22 Nov. 74" double-circle datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Nov. 23), with original letter on matching blackbordered stationery datelined "Matsuhama 20 7bre 1874" (Sep. 20) from Captain Jourdan to his sister Benedicte (Dumont), which mentions writing from Nagasaki (see lot 510), Very Fine, a remarkable cover originating in Matsuyama, located on Shikoku Island about 400 miles from Yokohama, the franking on this cover from Captain Jourdan pays the 130c British Packet rate via Brindisi, French military mail that can be documented as originating from remote locations in Japan is very rare................. E. 1,000-1,500



FRANCE, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with pair of 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clearly struck "Yokohama Japon 5 Oct. 74" double-circle datestamp on small mourning cover from Captain Jourdan to Mons. Jourdan, Lyon, France, for Madame Dumont, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 22 Nov. 74" double-circle datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (Nov. 23), with original letter on matching black-bordered stationery datelined "Osaka 28 7bre 1874" (Sep. 28) from Captain Jourdan to his sister Benedicte (Dumont), Very Fine, another sequential letter and cover from Captain Jourdan during his travels in Japan, this one and the Sep. 20 letter from Matsuyama offered in the previous lot were carried on the same trip via Brindisi by British Packet....... E. 1,000-1,500



513—cover and original carte-de-visite enclosure

FRANCE, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with strip of three 1875, 10c Bister, Large Numerals (60; Yvert 54), tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly readable strike of "Yokohama Japon 4 Avril 76" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Mons. Jourdan, Lyon, France, for Madame Dumont, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 20 Mai 76" double-circle datestamp, Lyon receiving backstamp (May 21), with original letter on "AJ" stationery datelined "Yedo 3 Avril 1876" from Captain Jourdan to his sister Benedicte (Dumont), accompanying the letter is a carte-de-visite of Japanese temple on Osaka with pencil caption on back in his hand, Very Fine, written upon Captain Jourdan's return to Tokyo after his travels through Japan...... E. 750-1,000

### The Captain Lebon Correspondence



JAPAN, 1872, 1s Blue on Native Wove Paper (10). Vertical pair tied by two strikes of framed *ken* cancel ("examined") on European-size cover from Captain Lebon to his mother Madame Lebon, Paris, France, sender's directive "via Brindisi", boldly struck Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on back, used with strip of four and single France, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60) and 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53), tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 13 Mai 73" double-circle datestamp, red double-circle datestamp and matching rectangular handstamp on back, red framed "AFFRANCHISSEMENT/INSUFFISANT" handstamp and blue crayon "2" indicates this was over the 10gr weight limit for single rate, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 7 Juil. 73" double-circle datestamp, manuscript "1f70c" due marking (2 x 150c unpaid rate less 130c postage paid = 170c), Paris receiving backstamp (Jul. 7), some faults in the cover and stamps including an abrasion at center which affects 1s pair

FINE APPEARANCE. AN EARLY AND OUTSTANDING DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND FRENCH CERES ISSUES ALL ON THE FRONT AND WELL-TIED. UNDERPAID DEGRON-KUN COVERS ARE QUITE UNUSUAL.

This cover was sent by Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), who was captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This May 1873 Degron-kun cover is relatively early—only 15% of the covers recorded by Matsumoto are dated in 1873.

Ex Matsumoto. E. 5,000-7,500



JAPAN, 1872, 1s Blue on Native Wove Paper (10). Horizontal pair with corner sheet selvage, pale shade, tied by two light strikes of framed *ken* cancel ("examined") on European-size cover from Captain Lebon to Mme. Genevieve Lebon, Paris, France, sender's directive "via Marseilles", boldly struck Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on back, used with strip of four France, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60) tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold "Yokohama Japon 13 Juin 73" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, redirected in Paris to Dives, Cherbourg (Aug. 11), Paris (Aug. 11) and Dives (Aug. 12) backstamps, slight crease in strip, cover has minor creasing and small edge tears

VERY FINE. AN EARLY AND REMARKABLY BEAUTIFUL DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND FRENCH CERES ISSUES.

This cover was sent by Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), who was captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This June 1873 Degron-kun cover is relatively early—only 15% of the covers recorded by Matsumoto are dated in 1873. This was prepaid for the 100c rate by French Packet via Marseilles.

Ex Matsumoto. E. 5,000-7,500



516

# The spectacular quadruple-rate Degron-kun cover with the largest mixed franking on any Japanese cover—considered to be the most important of all Degron-kun covers

JAPAN, 1874, 1s Blue on Foreign Wove Paper (33). Syllabic 3, horizontal strip of five and three singles paying quadruple 2s internal rate, tied by light strikes of Tokyo double-circle datestamp on European-size cover from Captain Lebon to his mother Madame Lebon, Paris, France, perfectly struck Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the front of the cover, used with three 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), single 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38), strip of six and three singles of 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60) and single 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59)—amounting to 520-centimes in French postage, paying quadruple 130c rate by British Packet via Brindisi—tied by numerous strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Yokohama Japon 19 Oct. 74" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 4 Dec. 74" double-circle datestamp, Paris receiving backstamp (Dec. 5), some toning, creases and minor faults affect cover and stamps, but such trivial flaws are irrelevant in a postal artifact of this importance

OVERALL FINE APPEARANCE. ARGUABLY THE MOST IMPORTANT AND STUNNING OF ALL DEGRONKUN COVERS, THIS BEARS A SPECTACULAR ARRAY OF JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND FRENCH CERES ISSUES PAYING THE QUADRUPLE RATE FROM YOKOHAMA TO FRANCE BY BRITISH PACKET.

This cover was sent by Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), who was captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities.

Calves handstamp. E. 20,000-30,000





517 front and back

FRANCE, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Three, used with five 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53), tied by multiple strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 19 Janv. 74" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on small cover from Captain Lebon to his mother Madame Lebon, Paris, France, boldly struck Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on back, sent without Japanese franking, "Col. F. V. Suez Paq. F. 3 Mars. 3 8 Mars 74" octagonal datestamp, small piece of backflap missing, minor stamp flaws from placement near edge of cover, still Very Fine, unusual franking and desirable Degron-kun cover, ex Evans-de Violini .................................. E. 1,500-2,000



518

JAPAN, 1872, 1s Blue on Native Wove Paper (10). Horizontal pair, deep shade, some clipped perfs, tied by clear strike of Tokyo double-circle datestamp on European-size cover from Captain Lebon to Mme. Genevieve Lebon, Paris, France, sender's directive "via Marseilles", boldly struck Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the front at lower left, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 55) and 1872, 5c Yellow Green, (53; Yvert 53), tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, sharp "Yokohama Bau Francais 19 Mai 74" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, Japanese and Paris (Jul. 10) backstamps, 5c has piece torn off at top (probably when separated before use)

VERY FINE. AN EXCEPTIONALLY BEAUTIFUL DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND THREE-COLOR FRENCH CERES FRANKING.

This cover was sent by Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), who was captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This was prepaid for the 100c rate by French Packet via Marseilles.

Ex Matsumoto and illustrated in his book (p. 121). ..... E. 4,000-5,000



519

519 ⋈ JAPAN, 1874, 2s Yellow on Foreign Wove Paper (34). Syllabic 7, vivid color, tied by syllabic numeral in circle cancel on European-size cover from Captain Lebon to his mother Madame Lebon, Paris, France, sender's directive <sup>a</sup>via Marseilles", boldly struck **Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp** ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the front at lower left, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), 1873, 15c Bister, Large Numerals (61; Yvert 55) and 1872, 5c Yellow Green, (53; Yvert 53), tied by bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Japon 7 Dec. 74" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, Paris (Jan. 22, 1875) backstamp, with original letter datelined "Mito-Yaski 6 Debre 74" from the residence of Lord Mito in Tokyo, 15c has small part of corner torn off

VERY FINE. A COLORFUL AND RARE DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND THREE-COLOR FRENCH CERES FRANKING. THE MARKINGS AND STAMPS ARE ALL ON THE FRONT AND THE ORIGINAL LETTER IS INTACT, MAKING THIS ONE OF THE MOST DESIRABLE OF ALL DEGRON-KUN COVERS.

This cover was sent by Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), who was captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This was prepaid for the 100c rate by French Packet via Marseilles...... E. 4,000-5,000



JAPAN, 1874, 2s Yellow on Foreign Wove Paper (34). Syllabic 12, bright color, tied by syllabic numeral in circle cancel on European-size cover from Captain Lebon to his mother Madame Lebon, Paris, France, sender's directive "via Marseilles", boldly struck Degron-kun Type 1 hand-stamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the front at lower left, red Shimbashi Railway Station framed handstamp applied at right when posted (reported to be the earliest example of this marking, Matsumoto book, p. 147), Tokyo double-circle datestamp, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), 1873, 15c Bister, Large Numerals (61; Yvert 55) and 1872, 5c Yellow Green, (53; Yvert 53), tied by bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Japon 4 Janv. 75" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, Paris (Feb. 17) backstamp, with original letter datelined "Mito 3 Janvier" from the residence of Lord Mito in Tokyo, 80c minor flaws from placement over edge of cover

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND THREE-COLOR FRENCH CERES FRANKING. THE MARKINGS AND STAMPS ARE ALL ON THE FRONT AND THE ORIGINAL LETTER IS INTACT, MAKING THIS ONE OF THE MOST DESIRABLE OF ALL DEGRON-KUN COVERS.

This cover was sent by Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), who was captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This was prepaid for the 100c rate by French Packet via Marseilles.

Ex Matsumoto and illustrated in his book (p. 147). Calves handstamp...... E. 4,000-5,000



52 I

JAPAN, 1874, 2s Yellow on Foreign Wove Paper (34). Syllabic 12, bright color, tied by bold syllabic numeral in circle cancel on European-size cover from Captain Lebon to Mme. Genevieve Lebon, Paris, France, sender's directive "via Brindisi", boldly struck Degron-kun Type 1 hand-stamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the front at lower left, red Shimbashi Railway Station framed handstamp applied at lower left when posted, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57) and pair of 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Yokohama Japon 11 Janv. 75" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 27 Fevr 75" double-circle datestamp, Paris (Feb. 27) backstamp, with original letter datelined "Arsenal de Mito 10 Janvier 75" from the residence of Lord Mito in Tokyo, 25c pair minor flaws from placement over edge of cover, trivial edgewear and small piece of backflap missing

VERY FINE. A SPECTACULAR DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND FRENCH CERES ISSUE FRANKING. THE MARKINGS AND STAMPS ARE ALL ON THE FRONT AND THE ORIGINAL LETTER IS INTACT, MAKING THIS ONE OF THE MOST DESIRABLE OF ALL DEGRON-KUN COVERS.

This cover was sent by Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), who was captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This was prepaid for the 130c rate by British Packet via Brindisi.

Calves handstamp. E. 4,000-5,000



JAPAN, 1874, 2s Yellow on Foreign Wove Paper (34). Syllabic 17, bright color, cancelled by bold syllabic numeral in circle on small cover to Captain Lebon, Paris, France, a few characters of Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the back (most of the marking was on backflap which is missing), Tokyo double-circle datestamp on back, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), 1873, 15c Bister, Large Numerals (61; Yvert 55) and 1872, 5c Yellow Green, (53; Yvert 53), tied by bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel which importantly also ties Cherry Blossom stamp, partly readable "Yokohama Bau Francais 15 Fevr. 75" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, Paris (Apr. 2) backstamp, minor toning

FINE. A RARE DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND THREE-COLOR FRENCH CERES FRANKING.

This cover was sent to Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan, while he was on leave in Paris during the early part of 1875. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This was prepaid for the 100c rate by French Packet via Marseilles.

Calves handstamp. E. 2,000-3,000



JAPAN, 1874, 2s Yellow on Foreign Wove Paper (34). Syllabic 3, bright color, tied by bold syllabic numeral in circle cancel on small cover to Captain Lebon, Paris, France, partly complete Degronkun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the back (some of the marking is missing along with small piece of backflap), Shimbashi Railway Station red framed handstamp and Tokyo double-circle datestamp on back, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), 1873, 15c Bister, Large Numerals (61; Yvert 55) and 1872, 5c Yellow Green, (53; Yvert 53), tied by bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel which importantly also ties Cherry Blossom stamp, partly readable "Yokohama Bau Francais 15 Fevr. 75" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, Paris (Apr. 2) backstamp, minor toning and small edge faults

FINE. A RARE DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND THREE-COLOR FRENCH CERES FRANKING.

This cover was sent to Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan, while he was on leave in Paris during the early part of 1875. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This was prepaid for the 100c rate by French Packet via Marseilles.

Calves handstamp. E. 2,000-3,000



JAPAN, 1874, 2s Yellow on Foreign Wove Paper (34). Syllabic 12, intense shade, tied by syllabic numeral in circle cancel on back of small cover to Captain Lebon, Paris, France, clear strike of Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the back, Shimbashi Railway Station red framed handstamp and Tokyo double-circle datestamp on back, used with a remarkable combination of France, two 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), single 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59), strip of four 1873, 15c Bister, Large Numerals (61; Yvert 55) and single 1872, 5c Yellow Green, (53; Yvert 53), tied by bold strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel and partly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 22 Fevr. 75" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind. 8 Avril 75" double-circle datestamp also ties stamps, Paris (Apr. 9) backstamp, opened for display, 15c Large Numerals strip creased and slightly faulty from placement over edges of cover, Cherry Blossom stamp was torn in half when the flap was opened and is expertly repaired

FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXTRAORDINARY COMBINATION OF FRENCH CERES ISSUES—THREE DENOMINATIONS FROM TWO DIFFERENT ISSUES, INCLUDING THE SMALL AND LARGE NUMERALS VARIETIES OF THE 15-CENTIMES—USED WITH JAPAN CHERRY BLOSSOM ISSUE ON A DEGRON-KUN COVER FROM THE CAPTAIN LEBON CORRESPONDENCE.

This cover was sent to Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan, while he was on leave in Paris during the early part of 1875. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This was prepaid for the 130c rate by British Packet via Brindisi.

Ex Matsumoto. Calves handstamp. E. 3,000-4,000



JAPAN, 1876, 2c Brown Olive (57). Tied by quartered cork cancel on back of European-size cover from Captain Lebon (after his return from leave) to his mother Madame Lebon, Paris, France, sender's directive "Via Marseille", perfect bold strike of Degron-kun Type 5 handstamp with "Tegron" error ("Mr. Tegron [sic], Chief of French Mail Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the back, red framed handstamp with Tokyo and Yokohama double-circle datestamps on back, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), 1873, 15c Bister, Large Numerals (61; Yvert 55) and 1872, 5c Yellow Green, (53; Yvert 53), tied by mostly clear strikes of "Yokohama Japon 13 Juin 76" and "Yokohama Bau Francais 13 Juin 76" double-circle datestamps (a very unusual combination of both devices on one cover), Paris (Aug. 3) backstamp, opened for display and refolded at bottom, slightly toned

VERY FINE. A RARE AND EXTRAORDINARY DEGRON-KUN COVER IN MORE THAN ONE RESPECT—THE TYPE 5 HANDSTAMP WITH THE "TEGRON" SPELLING ERROR IS VERY RARE WITH ONLY SEVEN EXAMPLES RECORDED BY MATSUMOTO, AND THE USE OF THE KOBAN ISSUE IN A DEGRON-KUN MIXED FRANKING IS VERY UNUSUAL.

This cover was sent by Felix Frederic Georges Lebon (1845-1923), who was captain and Chief Artillery Instructor of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 17, 1872, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Captain Lebon resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo. His time in Japan spanned four years.

Only seven Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 5 handstamp, which he thinks was used at Koishikawa House after Captain Lebon returned from leave. As Matsumoto points out (pp. 156-157), the wording and configuration of the Type 5 handstamp is similar to Type 2, except that two dots are missing from the syllabic "de", which results in the "Tegron" error. As with Types 1 and 2, the Type 5 handstamp also misstates Degron's title. He was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities.

This was prepaid for the 100c rate by British Packet via Marseilles. It is worth noting the combination use of the "Yokohama Japon" and "Yokohama Bau Francais" datestamps. The French post office stopped using the "5118" dotted diamond cancel after May 30, 1876, and this June 13 cover shows an early use of the datestamp as an obliterator.

Signed Holcombe...... E. 5,000-7,500



526 front and back



JAPAN, 1875, 2s Yellow, Without Syllabic (54). Cancelled by quartered cork on back of European-size cover from Madame Lebon in Paris to her son, Captain Lebon, in Yedo (Tokyo), Japan, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", France, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60) four singles and 1875, 10c Bister, Large Numerals (60; Yvert 54), tied by "15" dotted star cancels, "Paris R. Bonaparte 5E/17 Mars" double-circle datestamp, red "Paris a Modane 17 Mars 76" and "Yokohama Bau Francais 1 Mai 76" double-circle datestamps on back, Artillery Arsenal (Tokyo) framed address handstamp on back (Matsumoto figure 16-26), Tokyo and Yokohama double-circle datestamps on back, part of backflap missing, Cherry Blossom stamp tied by gum toning, minor edgewear

VERY FINE. ONE OF APPROXIMATELY TWELVE KNOWN COVERS TO CAPTAIN LEBON WITH THE ARTILLERY ARSENAL MARKING.

This cover was sent by Madame Lebon to her son, Captain Felix Lebon, after his return to Tokyo. The French stamps pay the 110c rate by British Packet via Brindisi. The Japanese character rectangular handstamp on back has the Artillery Arsenal address in Tokyo, and the 2s Cherry Blossom stamp paid the internal postage. The Artillery Arsenal marking was evidently created exclusively for Captain Lebon's mail and was used briefly from February to July 1876 (Matsumoto book, p. 166). Eleven covers are recorded in Matsumoto book (p. 165), but we do not think this cover is in the list (there is a cover from his mother with Tokyo Apr. 27, 1876 arrival).

Calves handstamp. E. 3,000-4,000





527 front and back

### The famous and unique "Round-Trip" cover, sent between Tokyo and Hong Kong

527 ⋈ JAPAN, 1875, 2s Yellow, Without Syllabic (54). Small cover addressed to Captain Lebon "of french artillery", Hong Kong, China, with sender's directive "per french steamer" and "Till called for", sent by a French friend of Lebon's at the military school in Tokyo (the use of lower case "french" in address is characteristic of French writing), Degron-kun Type 2b handstamp in vermilion ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the back (attributed to Ichigaya House), 2s Cherry Blossom stamp on the address side cancelled by quartered cork, clearly struck Tokyo double-circle datestamp on back and Yokohama double-circle datestamp on front (dated same day, Jan. 17, 1876)—sent by mail to the French post office in Yokohama, pair of France, 1872, 30c Brown, Large Numerals (62; Yvert 56), paying rare 60c China Sea rate, tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Bau Francais 18 Janv. 76" double-circle datestamp carried to Hong Kong on the Messageries Maritimes Menzaleh, entered the British post office with "Hong-Kong A JA 24 76" circular datestamp on back, Lebon had left for Yokohama one day earlier on the Peninsular & Oriental Malacca, so the British clerk wrote in red manuscript "c/o French Consul, Yokohama", manuscript "4" (Hong Kong cents) due marking—carried back to Yokohama on Occidental & Oriental Steamship Co. Gaelic, "Yokohama A FE 11 76" British P.O. circular datestamp on back, line written through the vermilion Degron-kun handstamp and Artillery Arsenal (Tokyo) framed address handstamp clearly struck on back (Matsumoto figure 16-26), Yokohama and Tokyo double-circle datestamps (dated the same day, Feb. 12, 1876), a second Japan, 1875, 2s Yellow, Without Syllabic (54), affixed to back and cancelled by small circular cork, gum stains tie stamp, delivered to Captain Lebon at the military school, opened for display

VERY FINE. THIS FAMOUS ROUND-TRIP COVER IS THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND—IT TRAVELED FROM TOKYO TO HONG KONG AND THEN BACK TO TOKYO IN 26 DAYS, REQUIRING FRENCH, JAPANESE AND HONG KONG POSTAGE AND RECEIVING BOTH THE RARE TYPE 2b DEGRON-KUN AND THE ARTILLERY ARSENAL HANDSTAMPS.

Matsumoto devotes an entire section of his book to this cover (pp. 169-171). He first described it in an article in *Japanese Philately* (Vol. 44, no. 3) after its discovery in the Paris philatelic market in February 1989. This cover is still the only round-trip cover between Japan and Hong Kong with French and Japanese stamps.

Captain Lebon's correspondent in Tokyo used the Degron-kun system to send his letter to Hong Kong, but the letter arrived one day after Captain Degron left Hong Kong. The circumstances of this cover's journey virtually guarantee there is no other cover like it. As Matsumoto states (p. 170): "This round trip combination cover came to exist through this complicated and unusual situation, and no other similar examples are thought to exist."

The cover combines these rare elements: a) outbound mixed franking with a 2s Cherry Blossom stamp and French 30c Large Numerals pair paying the 60c China Sea rate, which is a rare rate in any form; b) outbound use of Type 2b Degron-kun handstamp, of which four are recorded by Matsumoto; c) inbound use of Lebon's Artillery Arsenal handstamp, of which 12 are known; and d) a second 2s Cherry Blossom franking for the return postage from Yokohama to Tokyo.

Calves and Roumet handstamps. E. 15,000-20,000



JAPAN, 1875, 4s Green on Foreign Wove Paper (42). Syllabic 3, cancelled by quartered cork on back of European-size cover from Madame Lebon in Paris to her son, Captain Lebon, in Yedo (Tokyo), Japan, vertical strip of four France, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60) tied by multiple strikes of "Paris R. St. Domque St. Gn. 6E/2 Juin 76" double-circle datestamp, "Yokohama Bau Francais 20 Juil 76" double-circle datestamp on back, Artillery Arsenal (Tokyo) framed address handstamp on back (Matsumoto figure 16-26), Tokyo and Yokohama double-circle datestamps on back, small opening tear at top left and into flap, Cherry Blossom stamp tied by gum toning

VERY FINE. THE LATEST OF APPROXIMATELY TWELVE KNOWN COVERS TO CAPTAIN LEBON WITH THE ARTILLERY ARSENAL MARKING—THIS IS ONE OF THREE WITH THE 4-SEN CHERRY BLOSSOM STAMP.

This cover was sent by Madame Lebon to her son, Captain Felix Lebon, after his return to Tokyo. The French stamps pay the 100c rate by French Packet via Marseilles. The Japanese character rectangular handstamp on back has the Artillery Arsenal address in Tokyo, and the 4s Cherry Blossom stamp paid the internal double-rate postage. The Artillery Arsenal marking was evidently created exclusively for Captain Lebon's mail and was used briefly from February to July 1876 (Matsumoto book, p. 166). Eleven covers are recorded in Matsumoto book (p. 165), and an additional cover is offered in lot 526. The cover offered here is the latest recorded use of the Artillery Arsenal handstamp.

Ex Matsumoto. Calves handstamp. With copy of 1983 Holcombe certificate...... E. 4,000-5,000



529 front and back

INDIA, 1868, 8a Rose (28; SG 73). Horizontal pair, tied by "CONSULAT GENERAL DE FRANCE" straightline handstamp and two strikes of diamond grid cancel, "Consulat General de Calcutta Inde Anglaise Republique Francaise" double-circle and "Calcutta India Paid Jan. 8" (1876) circular datestamp on back of European-size cover to Captain Lebon, Yokohama, Japan, sender's directive "Via Bombay through Hong-Kong", Bombay (Jan. 11) backstamp, clear strike of "Hong-Kong Marine-Sorter Singapore-to Hong-Kong JA 25 3 76" double-circle datestamp on back, "Yokohama A FE 11 76" British P.O. backstamp, bold strike of Artillery Arsenal (Tokyo) framed address handstamp on back (Matsumoto figure 16-26), Tokyo and Yokohama double-circle datestamps on back (Feb. 16), small piece torn from front of cover which probably had Japanese stamps amounting to 16-sen postage for 60gr weight, minor toning

DESPITE THE MISSING STAMPS, THIS REMAINS AN IMPORTANT POSTAL HISTORY ARTIFACT—IT IS THE ONLY RECORDED COVER FROM INDIA TO JAPAN WITH THE ARTILLERY ARSENAL HANDSTAMP.

Illustrated in Matsumoto book (p. 167)...... E. 2,000-3,000

#### **Other Correspondences**



JAPAN, 1874, 2s Yellow on Foreign Wove Paper (34). Syllabic 21, brilliant color, tied by bold syllabic numeral in circle cancel on small cover from Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Munier to his father, General Munier, Versailles, France, perfectly struck Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on back, red Shimbashi Railway Station framed handstamp on back, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57) and two 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by three strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clearly struck "Yokohama Japon 11 Janv. 75" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 27 Fevr 75" double-circle datestamp, Versailles (Feb. 27) backstamp

EXTREMELY FINE. A BEAUTIFUL DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND FRENCH CERES ISSUE FRANKING.

This cover was sent by Charles Claude Munier, who was appointed to succeed Marquerie as commander of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 27, 1874, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Lieut.-Col. Munier first resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo, but moved to Minami-Kogacho, Surugadai. He left Japan in 1880.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This was prepaid for the 130c rate by British Packet via Brindisi.

Illustrated in Matsumoto book (p. 123)...... E. 4,000-5,000



531 ⋈ JAPAN, 1876, 6s Yellow (60). Brilliant color, tied by Tokyo double-circle datestamp (repeated on back) on small cover from Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Munier to his wife, Versailles, France, boldly struck Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on back, red Shimbashi Railway Station framed handstamp on back, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57) and 1872, 30c Brown, Large Numerals (62; Yvert 56), tied by three strikes of "Yokohama Bau Français 6 Juin. 76" double-circle datestamp with another clear strike at left, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 30 Juil 76" double-circle datestamp, Versailles (Jul. 31) backstamp, 30c corner torn off

EXTREMELY FINE. A COLORFUL DEGRON-KUN COVER WITH AN EXTREMELY RARE MIXED FRANK-ING OF JAPANESE KOBAN AND FRENCH 30- AND 80-CENTIMES LARGE NUMERALS ISSUES.

This cover was sent by Charles Claude Munier, who was appointed to succeed Marquerie as commander of the French Military Mission to Japan. He arrived in Tokyo on May 27, 1874, and was employed by the Japanese Ministry of Army. Lieut.-Col. Munier first resided in the Instructors' House at Nagatacho in Tokyo, but moved to Minami-Kogacho, Surugadai. He left Japan in 1880.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This was prepaid for the 110c rate by British Packet via Brindisi...... E. 4,000-5,000



JAPAN, 1874, 1s Blue on Foreign Wove Paper (33). Syllabic 3, two singles tied by Tokyo double-circle datestamp (Jul. 14, 1874) on back of small cover from Joseph Auguste Cros, an infantry sergeant-major in Second Military Mission, to "Le Directuer des postes, Grenoble, Isere", France, handwritten Degron-kun address in Japanese on back—reads "Yokohama/Futsukoku Hikaykuya nite/Doguron kun/kika" and "Rikugunsho Oyatoi/Kyoshi/Kurosu", which translates to "Attention Mr. Degron, c/o French Mail Co., Yokohama" and "Cros, Instructor, Employee of Ministry of Army" (see Matsumoto book, p. 160)—the letter was received at the Ishigome Temporary Branch Post Office and sent to Tokyo main office, delivered to the French post office in Yokohama, France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59) and 1872, 5c Yellow Green, (53; Yvert 53), tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, "Yokohama Bau Francais 14 Juil. 74" double-circle datestamp struck on front and back, carried on the Messageries Maritimes Volga, Marseilles (Sep. 7), Grenoble (Sep. 8) and bold "Diron Dle. Des Postes Isere 8 Sept. 74" backstamps, there is also a framed Japanese character handstamp on back, opened on three sides and resealed, 5c stamp with small pieces out, others minor flaws

FINE. ONE OF TWO RECORDED COVERS WITH THE DEGRON-KUN MARKING IN MANUSCRIPT. A VERY UNUSUAL COVER FROM A FRENCH MILITARY OFFICER WHO RESIDED OUTSIDE THE INSTRUCTORS' HOUSE IN TOKYO.

This cover is the focus of a section of the Matsumoto book (pp. 160-161). It first appeared in a Robineau Paris sale in November 1995 and was the first example of a handwritten Degron-kun address—one other was subsequently recorded. Matsumoto theorizes that Sergeant-Major Cros found it inconvenient to go to the Instructors' House and use the Degron-kun handstamp, so he enlisted a Japanese resident to write the address in brush characters.

Ex Bekku. With 1995 Robineau certificate ...... E. 4,000-5,000



JAPAN, 1874, 1s Blue on Foreign Wove Paper (33). Syllabic 1, horizontal pair, cancelled by light strike of Tokyo double-circle datestamp (additional double-circle datestamp on back) on cover to Monsieur Orcel, Paris, France, bold strike of Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on front, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57) and pair of 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by light strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, partly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 21 Juil. 74" double-circle datestamp, red "PD" framed handstamp, "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 10 Sept. 74" double-circle datestamp, Paris backstamp (Sep. 11), 80c perf faults, small tear in cover at top right clear of stamps, minor edgwear, Cherry Blossom pair has some gum stains which seem to tie it to cover

FINE. A BEAUTIFUL DEGRON-KUN MIXED-FRANKING COVER WITH ALL OF THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS ON THE FRONT.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degron-kun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The hand-stamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Nearly 90% of the Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 1 handstamp. As Matsumoto points out (p. 151), the wording of the Type 1 handstamp is inaccurate. Degron was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities. This was prepaid for the 130c rate by British Packet via Brindisi. ...... E. 3,000-4,000



534 front and back



JAPAN, 1874, 2s Yellow on Foreign Wove Paper (34). Syllabic 20, cancelled by small segmented cork, used on European-size buff cover from French infantry lieutenant Jean Billet to Georges Fauconnet, then instructor at the Military School of Saint-Cyr, Seine-et-Oise, France, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", perfect strike of bluish green Degron-kun Type 3 framed handstamp on the front of the cover (same wording as Type 1—"Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama"), Tokyo and Yokohama backstamps (dated the same day, Aug. 3, 1875), sent to French post office in Yokohama, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), strip of three 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59) and 1872, 5c Yellow Green, (53; Yvert 53), tied by clear strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 2 Aout 75" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp, carried on the Peninsular & Oriental Sunda, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brid A. Mod 24 Sept. 75" double-circle datestamp, Saint-Cyr backstamp (Sep. 26), cover has light vertical crease through 80c stamp, small sealed tear at upper left corner, Cherry Blossom stamp has trivial gum toning

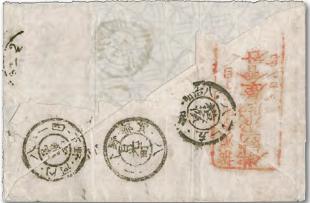
VERY FINE. A MAGNIFICENT MIXED-FRANKING COVER AND ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE TYPE 3 DEGRON-KUN HANDSTAMP—THE STRIKE ON THIS COVER IS MUCH SHARPER THAN THE OTHER KNOWN EXAMPLE.

The sender was Lieutenant Jean Billet, who was employed by the Ministry of Army from July 7, 1875, until December 31, 1878. He first resided at the Instructors' House in Nagatacho and then moved to Ichigaya. The addressee was Lieutenant Georges Fauconnet, who was employed by the Ministry of Army from May 28, 1875, until the end of 1879. This cover was sent before Lieutenant Fauconnet left for Japan, while he was still a teacher at the military school in Saint-Cyr.

For 50 years—from 1960 to 2010—this cover was the sole recorded example of the Type 3 Degron-kun handstamp. A second cover, also addressed to Lieutenant Fauconnet, surfaced in 2010 and was acquired by Takahashi Nobuo. These remain the only two known covers with the Type 3 handstamp.

Illustrated and discussed in Matsumoto book (pp. 153-154). Ex Koizumi, Kojima and Ninomiya..... E. 5,000-7,500





536 front and back





537 front and back

FRANCE, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with two 1873, 10c Bister on Rose (55; Yvert 58), tied by neat strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 27 Mars 76" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Mons. Fauconnet, Offranville, France, Degron-kun Type 1 handstamp ("Mr. Degron, Chief of French Mail Ship Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") struck twice on back, Tokyo and Yokohama double-circle datestamps on back, Marseille (May 9) and Offranville (May 11) receiving backstamps, one 10c stamp has rounded corner, Very Fine, a rare "Degron-kun" cover with the Type 1 handstamp, but no Japanese stamps were affixed (internal postage paid in cash).................. E. 750-1,000



JAPAN, 1875, 1s Brown (41). Syllabic 17, used with 1876, 2c Brown Olive (57), identical small quartered cork cancels, 1s Cherry Blossom tied and the 2s Koban tied by other markings on back of small cover to Jules de Monard, "Commandant le17me Bon de Chasseur a Pied a (Alancon) (orne) ou a la Suite du Bataillon", Alencon, France, bold strike of Degron-kun Type 5 handstamp with "Tegron" error ("Mr. Tegron [sic], Chief of French Mail Co., Honcho 5-chome, Yokohama") on the back between the two Japanese stamps which were obviously affixed after the marking was applied and positioned to avoid covering it, sent to the French post office in Yokohama, used with France, 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57), 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60) and 1875, 10c Bister, Large Numerals (60; Yvert 54), tied by light strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 13 Nov. 76" double-circle datestamp with additional strike at right, red "Paq. Ang. V. Brind A. Mod 31 Dec 76" double-circle datestamp, Alencon backstamp, opened for display

VERY FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY MIXED-FRANKING COVER WITH THE JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM AND KOBAN ISSUES AND THREE-COLOR FRENCH LARGE AND SMALL NUMERALS ISSUES. THE TYPE 5 HANDSTAMP WITH THE "TEGRON" SPELLING ERROR IS VERY RARE WITH ONLY SEVEN EXAMPLES RECORDED BY MATSUMOTO.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Only seven Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 5 handstamp, which he thinks was used at Koishikawa House. As Matsumoto points out (pp. 156-157), the wording and configuration of the Type 5 handstamp is similar to Type 2, except that two dots are missing from the syllabic "de", which results in the "Tegron" error. As with Types 1 and 2, the Type 5 handstamp also misstates Degron's title. He was never "Chief of French Mail Ship Co." (Messageries Maritimes). He was the postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, who prepared mail for French steamship packet sailings as part of his responsibilities.

With 2004 J-F Brun certificate..... E. 5,000-7,500



FRANCE, 1875, 10c Bister, Large Numerals (60; Yvert 54). Horizontal pair tied by two strikes of "Yokohama Japon 30 Juil. 77" double-circle datestamp, Degron-kun Type 4 handstamp with new title and address ("Mr. Degron, Postmaster, French Post Office, Settlement No. 134, Yokohama"), struck twice in bluish-green on front and back of printed matter wrapper from Lieutenant Billet to Madame Billet, Fismes, France, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", Tokyo and Yokohama datestamps (Jul. 28), Fismes receiving backstamp (Sep. 21), opened for display, minor faults, Matsumoto points to evidence of a missing Japanese stamp, but we are not so sure (Japanese postage might have been paid in cash)

FINE. ONE OF TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE TYPE 4 DEGRON-KUN HANDSTAMP AND THE ONLY PRINTED MATTER USAGE.

The sender was Lieutenant Jean Billet, who was employed by the Ministry of Army from July 7, 1875, until December 31, 1878. He first resided at the Instructors' House in Nagatacho and then moved to Ichigaya.

No later than January 1873, members of the French Military Mission began using the "Degronkun" method to send letters by Japanese mail to Henri J. Degron, postmaster of the French post office in Yokohama, for entry into the international mail system. The handstamped address to Postmaster Degron identifies covers sent by this method. Many of the covers have Japanese and French mixed frankings (the Japanese stamps have been removed from some).

Only two Degron-kun covers reported by Matsumoto have the Type 4 handstamp, which he thinks was used at Ichigaya House (the other also has a Type 1 handstamp). The Matsumoto book illustrates and discusses this wrapper (pp. 154-156), and points out the change in Degron's title to "Postmaster" from the incorrect "Chief of Mail Ship Co.", as well as the new address after the post office moved on December 27, 1875. The two 10c Large Numerals stamps overpay the 16c rate for printed matter (up to 100 grams). Matsumoto suggests evidence of a missing Japanese stamp at upper right, but we do not see traces of a stamp, just a small piece of an adhesive label. The other Type 4 cover has clear evidence of a missing Japanese stamp (illustrated in Matsumoto book, p. 155).



JAPAN, 1876, 2c Brown Olive (57). Cancelled by circular cork, Tokyo datestamp (Aug. 6, 1878) and bold bluish-green "Tokei Japan 6 Aug." circular datestamp on back of small cover to Mons. Gerard Martin, Chauny, France, Japanese characters on back read "Futsuyubinkyoku" ("French Post Office"), sent to French post office in Yokohama, France, 1870, 40c Orange (59; Yvert 38), tied by one of two clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 6 Aout 78" double-circle datestamp, carried on the Messageries Maritimes Volga, Marseilles (Sep. 22) and Chauny (Sep. 23) backstamps, opened for display

VERY FINE. A REMARKABLE OUTBOUND MIXED-FRANKING COVER OF THE "NON-DEGRON-KUN" VARIETY—DESCRIBED BY MATSUMOTO AS "UNIQUE" AND PICTURED ON THE BACK COVER OF HIS BOOK.

The Matsumoto book illustrates and describes this cover in detail (pp. 161-162), and it is the feature item on the back cover of the 2012 edition (it was shown in the 1997 edition on color plate 7). The cover was discovered in the philatelic market by Andre Roland around 1975, and when Roland's collection was dispersed, it was acquired by Matsumoto. The importance of the cover, apart from the rare mixed franking, is the method of sending mail to the French post office without the use of a Degron-kun handstamp. This cover was purely commercial in nature and not military, and the sender directed it to the French post office using Japanese ideograms. The 2s Koban stamp paid internal postage, and the 40c Ceres stamp overpaid the 35c G.P.U. rate. Matsumoto described this usage as "unique."

Ex Roland and Matsumoto..... E. 4,000-5,000



541

JAPAN, 1875, 4s Green on Foreign Wove Paper (42). Syllabic 2, tied by quartered cork cancel on back of European-size cover to Mons. Francois and Mme. Marie Coignet, Ikuno, Japan, originated in France with four France, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by "6317" dotted diamond cancels, "Lyon Les. Brotteaux 3E/29 Janv. 76" double-circle datestamp, Lyon-to-Marseilles (Jan. 29-30) backstamps, "Yokohama Japon 18 Mars 76" double-circle datestamp on back, three strikes of Coignet Ikuno Mine address framed handstamp on back ("Coignet, c/o Branch Office of the Bureau of Mining, Ikuno, Province of Tajima"), red "Yokohama Paid All Mar. 20" double-circle datestamp, bold "Hiogo Japan Mar. 23" backstamp, Japanese double-circle datestamps on back along with a corresponding circle handstamp (Ikuno Mar. 24 arrival), receipt docketing, 25c stamp at right has minor perf faults, right edge of cover slightly uneven and small hole at upper left, opened for display

VERY FINE. ONE OF FOUR RECORDED "IKUNO" COVERS WITH THE COIGNET ADDRESS HAND-STAMP, OF WHICH JUST TWO HAVE THE 4-SEN CHERRY BLOSSOM ISSUE. A BEAUTIFUL FRENCH-JAPANESE MIXED-FRANKING COVER.

This cover is illustrated and discussed in the Matsumoto book (pp. 162-164) as a sub-section of the "Inward Franco-Japanese Combination Covers." These inbound covers are addressed to locations where there was no Japanese foreign-mail office. They were received by the French post office in Yokohama and then sent by Japanese post to their destinations. The use of Japanese-character address handstamps and addition of Japanese stamps for internal postage are the distinguishing features of these rare covers. Of the Coignet covers with the Ikuno Mines handstamp (Matsumoto figure 16-25, p. 163), Matsumoto records four covers, including one which is a back only (missing the front). The cover offered here is one of two with a 4s Cherry Blossom stamp paying the double rate. The other is offered in this sale as lot 542.

With 2011 Philatelic Federation of Japan certificate...... E. 7,500-10,000



JAPAN, 1875, 4s Green, Without Syllabic (52). Cancelled by quartered cork on back of Europeansize buff cover to Madame Marie Coignet, Ikuno, Japan, Edouard Soubeiran's purple return address handstamp (roofing products), with strip of four France, 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by "2017" dotted diamond cancels, "Neuville-S-Saone 2E/11 Mars 76" double-circle datestamp, Lyon-to-Marseilles (Mar. 12) backstamp, "Yokohama Japon 27 Avril 76" double-circle datestamp on back, bold strike of Coignet Ikuno Mine address framed handstamp on back ("Coignet, c/o Branch Office of the Bureau of Mining, Ikuno, Province of Tajima"), red "Yokohama Paid All Apr. 27" double-circle datestamp, Ikuno receiving backstamp (Apr. 30)

VERY FINE. ONE OF FOUR RECORDED "IKUNO" COVERS WITH THE COIGNET ADDRESS HANDSTAMP, OF WHICH JUST TWO HAVE THE 4-SEN CHERRY BLOSSOM ISSUE. A BEAUTIFUL FRENCHJAPANESE MIXED-FRANKING COVER.

This cover is illustrated and discussed in the Matsumoto book (pp. 162-164, photo p. 166) as a sub-section of the "Inward Franco-Japanese Combination Covers." These inbound covers are addressed to locations where there was no Japanese foreign-mail office. They were received by the French post office in Yokohama and then sent by Japanese post to their destinations. The use of Japanese-character address handstamps and addition of Japanese stamps for internal postage are the distinguishing features of these rare covers. Of the Coignet covers with the Ikuno Mines handstamp (Matsumoto figure 16-25, p. 163), Matsumoto records four covers, including one which is a back only (missing the front). The cover offered here is one of two with a 4s Cherry Blossom stamp paying the double rate. The other is offered in this sale as lot 541. ......... E. 7,500-10,000

### FRENCH MILITARY MARKINGS

## FRENCH MILITARY MARKINGS



Both 544

543 

1862, 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22). Tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clear strike of "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama 18 Janv 68" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on small cover to Professor Beaudie, l'Orient, France, backstamped Marseilles (Mar. 5), Paris (Mar. 6) and l'Orient (Mar. 7), very trivial light soiling

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE COVER FROM THE FIRST FRENCH MILITARY MISSION TO JAPAN (1867-1868).

The First Military Mission, comprising 15 members, left Marseilles for Japan on November 19, 1866, and arrived at Yokohama January 13, 1867, aboard the *Alphee*. Additional personnel arrived later, bringing the total to 19 (6 officers and 13 non-commissioned officers). Their purpose was to train Japanese soldiers in infantry, cavalry and artillery techniques and tactics. On March 8, 1868, the Japanese government ended military training by French instructors, and the First Military Mission's employment contract was terminated effective September 14, 1868. The first group left Yokohama on October 17, and the rest followed on November 2, except for five members who defected and joined the anti-Mikado forces. (See Matsumoto book, pp. 48-50, for a more detailed account, from which this synopsis is drawn).

The "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama" (Correspondence of the Armies) datestamp was used to designate the special reduced rate for military mail. The earliest recorded use of this marking is April 16, 1867, on a cover illustrated in the Matsumoto book (p. 35). Covers from the First Military Mission in Yokohama, which must be dated in the period from January 1867 to November 1868, are extremely rare, a fact discussed in the Matsumoto book (pp. 49-50). One explanation for their rarity is the possibility most of the officers' mail was put into diplomatic bags and sent without passing through the French Post Office in Yokohama....... E. 2,000-3,000



545 ⋈ 1862, 20c Blue (26; Yvert 22). Tied by three strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel—two in black and one in red—exceptionally bold strike of "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama 17 Fevr. 68" double-circle datestamp and red "PF" framed handstamp on small cover to Madame Denans, Toulon, France, backstamped Marseilles and Toulon (Apr. 7), half of backflap missing

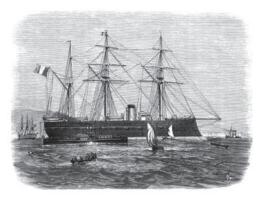
EXTREMELY FINE. A SUPERB STRIKE OF THE "CORR. D. ARMEES" DATESTAMP ON A RARE COVER FROM THE FIRST FRENCH MILITARY MISSION TO JAPAN (1867-1868). THE "5118" CANCEL STRUCK IN RED SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A MISTAKE THAT WAS CORRECTED—NO OTHERS ARE REPORTED IN RED.

The First Military Mission, comprising 15 members, left Marseilles for Japan on November 19, 1866, and arrived at Yokohama January 13, 1867, aboard the *Alphee*. Additional personnel arrived later, bringing the total to 19 (6 officers and 13 non-commissioned officers). Their purpose was to train Japanese soldiers in infantry, cavalry and artillery techniques and tactics. On March 8, 1868, the Japanese government ended military training by French instructors, and the First Military Mission's employment contract was terminated effective September 14, 1868. The first group left Yokohama on October 17, and the rest followed on November 2, except for five members who defected and joined the anti-Mikado forces. (See Matsumoto book, pp. 48-50, for a more detailed account, from which this synopsis is drawn).

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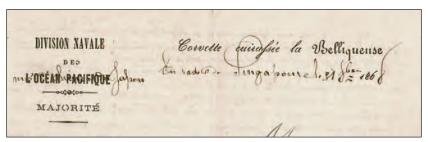
### FRENCH MILITARY MARKINGS





French ironclad corvette Belliqueuse

548



Detail of letterhead

1867, 20c Blue (33; Yvert 29). Tied by Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, mostly clear strike of "Corr. D. Arm. Lig. N P. Fr. No. 3 4 Nov. 68" Ligne N datestamp and red "PD" framed hand-stamp on small cover to Madame Bouguen, Brest, France, with original letter on printed "Division Navale de L'Ocean Pacifique" imprint changed in manuscript to "mis' D' Chine et Japon" and printed ship name "Corvette cuirassee la Belliqueuese", manuscript dateline "En rade de Singapore le 31 8bre 1868" ("Out of Singapore, 31 October 1868"), four-page letter in tiny handwritten French which mentions time spent in Japan (we cannot decipher the signature), back-stamped Marseilles (Dec. 4), Paris (Dec. 5) and Brest (Dec. 6), stamp has tiny corner crease from placement over edge of cover

VERY FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY COVER FROM A MEMBER OF THE FIRST MILITARY MISSION TO JAPAN WRITING ON BOARD THE FRENCH NAVAL VESSEL AT SINGAPORE AFTER LEAVING YOKOHAMA. THE "CORR.D. ARM." LIGNE N DATESTAMP IS EXTREMELY RARE, AND THIS USAGE IS OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE IN THE HISTORY OF FRENCH-JAPANESE POSTAL HISTORY.

The First Military Mission, comprising 15 members, left Marseilles for Japan on November 19, 1866, and arrived at Yokohama January 13, 1867, aboard the *Alphee*. Additional personnel arrived later, bringing the total to 19 (6 officers and 13 non-commissioned officers). Their purpose was to train Japanese soldiers in infantry, cavalry and artillery techniques and tactics. On March 8, 1868, the Japanese government ended military training by French instructors, and the First Military Mission's employment contract was terminated effective September 14, 1868. The first group left Yokohama on October 17, and the rest followed on November 2, except for five members who defected and joined the anti-Mikado forces. (See Matsumoto book, pp. 48-50, for a more detailed account, from which this synopsis is drawn).

The French ironclad *Belliqueuse* ("Bellicose") was a wooden-hulled, armored corvette, built for the French Navy in the 1860s and designed as a cheap ironclad. She was the first French ironclad to sail around the world, which she did between December 1867 and May 1869 (source: Wikipedia).

This cover was sent by a member of the First Military Mission to Japan in 1867-1868. The writer was on board the *Belliqueuse* and used the printed letterhead, changing the geographic identity from "L'Ocean Pacifique" to "Mis' D Chine et Japon." The letter was carried on the Messageries Imperiales *Donnai* and *Peluse*, arriving at Marseilles December 4, 1868...... E. 2,000-3,000



549

549 ☑ Cor. D. Arm. Lig. S Paq. Fr. No. 1 3 Oct. 69. Clearly struck Ligne S double-circle date-stamp and "30" centimes handstamp on small cover to Mons. Perroux, Faverges, France, backstamped Marseilles (Nov. 20), Lyon (Nov. 20), Albertville (Nov. 21) and Faverges (Nov. 21), toned, otherwise Fine, sent by a member of the French military somewhere in the Far East and carried on a packet of the Messageries Imperiales Ligne S ...... E. 500-750



550

550 ⋈ 1867, 10c Bister (32; Yvert 28). Horizontal pair tied by bold "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clearly struck "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama 13 Avril 71" double-circle datestamp with red "PD" framed handstamp on small cover to Madame Brenoud, Serres, France, backstamped Marseilles (Jun. 5), Sisteron and Serres (Jun.6), small part of flap removed when opened, Extremely Fine, unusual franking for 20c military concession rate and scarce with the "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama" datestamp....... E. 500-750



55 I

1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Tied by perfect strike of "5118" dotted diamond cancel on cover to Ch. Chevier, Rosey via Givry, Saone-et-Loire, France, blue Ravel Blanc & Co. framed handstamp, sender's directive "Par Messagries Maritimes 7/6/71", originally struck with "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama" double-circle datestamp, the clerk realized his mistake and applied the "Yokohama Bau Francais 5 Juin 71" double-circle datestamp precisely on top of the "Corr. D. Armees" marking (truly a miracle), the Bureau Francais datestamp struck again, red "PD" framed handstamp, backstamped Marseilles (Jul. 30), Macon (Jul. 31) and Givry (Aug. 1), Extremely Fine, with 1959 R.P.S. certificate—the fact that a Royal certificate was sought in 1959 is an indication of how rare and valuable this cover was even 64 years ago................................... E. 1,000-1,500



552

552 ⋈ 1867, 20c Blue (33; Yvert 29). Tied by "5118" dotted diamond cancel with "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama 7 Mai 72" double-circle datestamp both struck in blue on small cover to Mons. Perroux, Faverges, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, backstamped Marseilles (Jun. 29) and Faverges (Jun. 30), top right corner of the front of cover torn off and patched with paper

FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE COVER WITH THE "CORR. D. ARMEES YOKOHAMA" DATESTAMP STRUCK IN BLUE AND SENT FROM YOKOHAMA TEN DAYS BEFORE THE SECOND MILITARY MISSION ARRIVED.

According to the Matsumoto book (p. 115), members of the Second Military Mission arrived in Yokohama on board the Messageries Maritimes *Godavery* on May 17, 1872. This May 7, 1872, cover and the October 3, 1869, cover offered in lot 549 are addressed to Monsieur Perroux in Faverges, so the sender (whose name we do not know) must have resided in Yokohama between the two military missions. Matsumoto notes that a few French officers returned to Japan and taught at the military school in Osaka (book, p. 49). ............................... E. 1,500-2,000

## The only known cover from the first Chief of the Second Military Mission in Japan





553 front and back

1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Used with 1862, 5c Yellow Green (23; Yvert 20), 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59), tied by three strikes of "5118" dotted diamond cancel, bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 23 Dec. 72" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on small cover with blue "Mission Mre. de France au Japon, Le Chef de la Mission" double-circle handstamp on front and matching blue official Chief of the French Military Mission handstamp in Japanese on back, addressed to Captain de Stabenrath, Gournay-en-Bray, France, redirected to Verneuil, back-stamped at Marseilles (Feb. 5) and Paris (Feb. 6-8), slightly worn vertical fold in cover, 5c tear and 80c rounded corner

FINE. THE ONLY RECORDED YOKOHAMA COVER FROM CHARLES ANTOINE MARQUERIE, THE FIRST CHIEF OF THE SECOND FRENCH MILITARY MISSION TO JAPAN.

### FRENCH MILITARY MARKINGS





554 front and back



- 556 ⋈ 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Two, tied by lightly struck "5118" dotted diamond cancel, clearly struck "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama 17 Juin 73" double-circle datestamp on cover to Mons. Charles Lebeau, Boulogne, France, red "PD" framed handstamp, backstamped Marseilles (Aug. 9), Paris (Aug. 10) and Boulogne (Aug. 11), a few minor toned spots, Very Fine, scarce use of "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama" datestamp on mail from the Second Military Mission to Japan..... E. 750-1,000



- 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Tied by one of two clear strikes of "Corr. D. Arm. Lig. S. Paq. Fr. No. 3 23 Aout 76" Ligne S double-circle datestamp on European-size cover to A. Lefournier, Landerneau, France, Marseilles (Oct. 7), Paris (Oct. 8) and Landerneau (Oct. 9) backstamps, receipt docketing indicates sent from Hakodate July 20 with a photograph, stamp slightly creased, Very Fine, rare French Packet military datestamp, the Messageries Maritimes *Tibre* was in Yokohama on August 23 and departed for Hong Kong ....... E. 1,000-1,500
- 559 
  1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Tied by one of two mostly clear strikes of "Cor. D. Arm. Lig. S Paq. Fr. No. 1 3 Janv. 77" Ligne S double-circle datestamp on small cover to A. Lefournier, Brest, France, Marseilles (Feb. 13), Paris (Feb. 14) and Brest (Feb. 15) backstamps, couple toned spots, Fine, scarce use of French Packet military datestamp on cover from Japan, ex Matsumoto....... E. 500-750
- 560 
   1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Tied by one of two partly clear strikes of "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama 14 Avril 77" double-circle datestamp on small cover to A. Lefournier, Brest, France, Marseilles (Jun. 7), Paris (Jun. 8) and Brest (Jun. 9) backstamps, neat docketing, minor toning, Fine, scarce use of French Packet military datestamp on cover from Japan ...... E. 500-750



- 561 

   1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Tied by one of two mostly clear strikes of "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama 4 Avril 77" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Madame Vallet, Cherbourg, France, Marseilles), Paris (May 23) and Cherbourg (May 24) backstamps, sealed tear at bottom, otherwise Fine, scarce use of French Packet military datestamp on cover from Japan.. E. 400-500
- 562 
   1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Tied by one of two partly clear strikes of "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama 30 Juil 77" double-circle datestamp on cover to Mons. Coullaut, Paris, France, redirected to Longeau, blue "Col. F. V. Suez Paq. F. 3 Mars. 3 2E/25 Sept. 77" octagonal datestamp, backstamped Paris (Sep. 25) and Longeau (Sep. 26), docketing on back, minor toning and part of flap removed, Fine, scarce use of French Packet military datestamp on cover from Japan.... E. 500-750



- 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60). Tied by one of two partly clear strikes of "Corr. D. Armees Yokohama 4 Decr 76" double-circle datestamp (with month inverted) on small cover to A. Lefournier, Brest, France, Marseilles (Jan. 16) and Brest (Jan. 18) backstamps, neat docketing, minor toned spots, Fine, scarce use of French Packet military datestamp on cover from Japan, ex Matsumoto, with copy of 1985 Robineau certificate ................................ E. 500-750

### INBOUND MAIL FROM FRANCE

# INBOUND MAIL FROM FRANCE



567

1857, 80c Dark Carmine (19; Yvert 17A). Three large margins, touched at left, tied by "1890" dotted diamond cancel, "Marseille 27 Aout 60" double-circle datestamp on folded printed letterhead of Catenot-Beranger & Cie to Spengler & Co., Nagasaki, Japan, sender's blue oval handstamp, addressed "care of Messr. Schut & Co. Decima"—Dejima was an old Dutch trading post on a man-made island off Nagasaki—carried by British Packet to Hong Kong, backstamped "Hong Kong C OC (?) 60" British P.O. circular datestamp, some staining and wear along file fold, slight bleed from writing

FINE. AN EXTREMELY EARLY LETTER FROM EUROPE TO JAPAN, SENT BY BRITISH PACKET TO HONG KONG AND FORWARDED TO NAGASAKI OUTSIDE THE MAILS.

The Matsumoto book (p. 7) states that the earliest example of a letter between Europe and Japan is dated April 7, 1860, nine months after the port of Yokohama was opened to foreigners..... E. 2,000-3,000



568





- 572 ⋈ 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Tied by perfect strike of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, boldly struck "Ligne M Paq. Fr. No. 1 10 Juil. 69" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on blue folded cover to Eccard & Rand, Yokohama, Japan, partly clear strikes of "Ligne S Paq. Fr. No. 1 19 (Aout) 69" and blue "Yokohama Bau Francais 25 Aout 69" double-circle datestamps on back, Very Fine, a scarce cover to Japan with the Messageries Imperiales Ligne M and S datestamps and the Yokohama receiving datestamp struck in blue, Calves handstamp...... E. 1,000-1,500
- 1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Tied by perfect strike of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, equally perfect "Marseille Paq. Fr. M No. 1 25 Dec. 69" Ligne M octagonal datestamp and "PD" framed handstamp on blue folded cover to Eccard & Rand, Yokohama, Japan, bold strike of "Yokohama Japon 17 Fevr. 70" double-circle datestamp on back, light toning along file fold, still Extremely Fine, a scarce cover to Japan with the Messageries Imperiales Ligne M datestamp and "Yokohama Japon" receiving datestamp, with 1989 Robineau-Pothion certificate (sale of "Dubus" collection)...

  E. 1,000-1,500
- 1862, 40c Orange (27; Yvert 23). Vertical pair, tied by clear strikes of Anchor in dotted diamond cancel, bold "Marseille Paq. Fr. M No. 1 7 Aout 69" Ligne M octagonal datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on blue folded cover to Eccard & Rand, Yokohama, Japan, Gibelin & Cie blue oval handstamp, partly clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 23 Sept. 69" and "Ligne S Paq. Fr. No. (?) 15 Sept." (without year) double-circle datestamps on back, fresh and Very Fine, a scarce cover to Japan with the Messageries Imperiales Ligne M and S datestamps .... E. 750-1,000



575



L'Armand Barbes being prepared for launch on October 7, 1870

## The fantastic voyage of the letter to Edouard Maussenet

1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Tied by dotted star cancel, "Paris R. St-Lazare 6E/5 Oct. 70" double-575 🖂 circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on folded letter carried across the lines by Ballon Monte during the siege of Paris and sent by mail to Japan, then returned by mail to France, letter datelined "Paris, Place Saint Georges 28. Mercredi, 5 Octobres 1870" from A. Maussenet and continued in the hand of another individual, addressed to Edouard Maussenet, Yokohama, Japan, with directives "Poste Restante", "Par Ballon Monte" and "Per Steamer Via Marseille"-carried on the Armand Barbes (the sixth flight out of Paris, piloted by Alexandre Trichet), departing October 7, 1870, and crash landing in an oak tree in the forest of Epineux on the same day-from Marseilles the letter was carried by the Peninsular & Oriental steamer Salsette, departing October 23, 1870, on her only voyage from that port to Egypt, then by P&O Candia, Orissa and Aden, the last arriving at Yokohama on December 10, where "Yokohama Bau Français 10 Dec. 70" double-circle datestamp was struck on back—the addressee had already left Japan and the letter was marked with the return address in red manuscript "28 Place St. Georges, Paris" (the address in the dateline), no Yokohama departure datestamp, but based on Marseilles backstamps (February 10 and 11, 1871), this was carried on the Messageries Maritime *Godavery*, departing Yokohama December 25, 1870, then by *Phase* and *Provence*, departing Hong Kong January 4, 1871, arriving Marseilles February 10 (its first passage through the Suez Canal)—at Marseilles the return address was changed from Paris to Brest—very trivial degree of wear along folds

VERY FINE. THIS COVER TOOK ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE VOYAGES IN POSTAL HISTORY—IT ESCAPED THE BESIEGED CITY OF PARIS ON A BALLOON, WHICH CRASH LANDED ON A TREE, THEN TRAVELED ON FOUR STEAMSHIPS OF THE PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL LINE TO JAPAN, ONLY TO BE RETURNED TO FRANCE ON THREE STEAMSHIPS OF THE MESSAGERIES MARITIME LINE, ONE OF WHICH MADE ITS FIRST VOYAGE THROUGH THE RECENTLY OPENED SUEZ CANAL. ONLY EIGHT BALLON MONTE COVERS TO JAPAN ARE RECORDED, OF WHICH FOUR HAVE YOKOHAMA DATESTAMPS CONFIRMING ARRIVAL IN JAPAN.

The Matsumoto book (p. 64) lists four Ballon Monte covers to Japan:

- 1) Paris Oct. 5, 1870 datestamp, 80c Napoleon Laureate stamp, to Ed. Maussenet, Yokohama, carried on *Armand Barbes*, Yokohama Dec. 10, 1870 receiving datestamp, returned to France, Marseilles Feb. 10, 1871 receiving datestamp, **the cover offered here**
- 2) Paris Oct. 17, 1870 datestamp, 80c Napoleon Laureate stamp, to Ed. Maussenet, Yokohama, carried on *Victor Hugo*, Yokohama Dec. 10, 1870 receiving datestamp, returned to France, Marseilles Feb. 10, 1871 receiving datestamp, illustrated in Matsumoto (p. 65)
- 3) Paris Oct. 25, 1870 datestamp, 80c Napoleon Laureate stamp, to Mons. Dubief, Osaka, carried on *Le Vauban*, Yokohama Dec. 25, 1870 receiving datestamp, ex Walske
- 4) Paris Oct. 25, 1870 datestamp, 80c Napoleon Laureate stamp, to A. Real & Co. (Dubief was an employee), Osaka, carried on *Le Vauban*, Yokohama Dec. 25, 1870 receiving datestamp, illustrated in Matsumoto (p. 66), ex Haub ("Erivan"), **the cover offered in lot 576**

Each of the four listed covers was prepaid at the 80-centimes rate to Japan and has a French post office datestamp confirming arrival in Yokohama. In addition to these four covers, there are at least four Ballon Monte covers addressed to French military personnel serving in the Far East. Three are listed in Matsumoto book (p. 66) and one is offered in lot 577. These covers have 20c stamps paying the military concession rate. They do not have Yokohama receiving datestamps, so they were probably delivered to the French naval vessels stationed in Yokohama.

Only two of the recorded Ballon Monte covers to Japan were returned to France (numbers 1 and 2 in the list, both to the same addressee). Our firm offered another Ballon Monte cover from the same correspondent to Edouard Maussenet (Sale 906, lot 1107), postmarked Paris October 29, 1870, but addressed to San Francisco, California. Evidently, Edouard left Japan for the United States, but news of his departure did not reach his family in Paris until after the October 5 and 17 letters were sent by balloon.

The October 7, 1870, balloon flight—the sixth out of Paris—is one of the more famous of the Ballon Monte flights. Piloted by Alexandre Trichet, the *Armand Barbes* carried the Minister of Interior, Leon Gambetta, and another passenger, Eugene Spuller, along with 100 pounds of mail containing the Maussenet letter offered here. The balloon crash-landed on an oak tree in Bois Favier, a forest near Epineux. The mail and all three men survived the crash.

The Maussenet covers to France are discussed in Matsumoto book (pp. 64-66) and in Scamp French Mail Paquebot Far East Itineraries, Volume 2 (pp. 203-204)...... E. 20,000-30,000

### INBOUND MAIL FROM FRANCE

## One of four recorded Ballon Monte covers to Japan with receiving datestamps





Detail of backstamp

576

1868, 80c Rose (36; Yvert 32). Tied by dotted star cancel, "Paris R. Des Vlles. Haudrtes. 5E/25 Oct. 70" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on cover carried across the lines by Ballon Monte during the siege of Paris and sent by mail to Japan, addressed to Messr. Fabre Boern & Co., Yokohama, for forwarding to A. Real & Co., Osaka, sender's directive "par Ballon Monte" and "Via Marseille"—carried on the Vauban (the 19th flight out of Paris, piloted by Guillaume), departing October 27, 1870, and landing at Vigneaules-les-Hattonchatel (Saint Mihiel) on the same day—backstamped with "Marseille (12) 3E/2 Nov. 70" and "Yokohama Bau Francais 25 Dec. 70" double-circle datestamps—the Matsumoto book (p. 66) states that this arrived in Yokohama December 25 on the Peninsular & Oriental Ellora, in late October 1870 the Franco-Prussian war interfered with the P&O route through Marseilles and a switch was made to Brindisi, so we are unable to provide the exact itinerary, from Yokohama it was forwarded to Osaka outside the mails—opening faults at right expertly repaired including the addition of a small piece at lower right and part of the backflap at upper right, stamp has a sealed tear

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. ONLY EIGHT BALLON MONTE COVERS TO JAPAN ARE RECORDED, OF WHICH FOUR HAVE YOKOHAMA DATESTAMPS CONFIRMING ARRIVAL IN JAPAN. AN OUTSTANDING POSTAL ARTIFACT FROM SEVERAL PERSPECTIVES.

The Matsumoto book (p. 64) lists four Ballon Monte covers to Japan:

- 1) Paris Oct. 5, 1870 datestamp, 80c Napoleon Laureate stamp, to Ed. Maussenet, Yokohama, carried on *Armand Barbes*, Yokohama Dec. 10, 1870 receiving datestamp, returned to France, Marseilles Feb. 10, 1871 receiving datestamp, **the cover offered in lot 575**
- 2) Paris Oct. 17, 1870 datestamp, 80c Napoleon Laureate stamp, to Ed. Maussenet, Yokohama, carried on *Victor Hugo*, Yokohama Dec. 10, 1870 receiving datestamp, returned to France, Marseilles Feb. 10, 1871 receiving datestamp, illustrated in Matsumoto (p. 65)
- 3) Paris Oct. 25, 1870 datestamp, 80c Napoleon Laureate stamp, to Mons. Dubief, Osaka, carried on *Le Vauban*, Yokohama Dec. 25, 1870 receiving datestamp, ex Walske
- 4) Paris Oct. 25, 1870 datestamp, 80c Napoleon Laureate stamp, to A. Real & Co. (Dubief was an employee), Osaka, carried on *Le Vauban*, Yokohama Dec. 25, 1870 receiving datestamp, illustrated in Matsumoto (p. 66), ex Haub ("Erivan"), **the cover offered here**

Each of the four listed covers was prepaid at the 80-centimes rate to Japan and has a French post office datestamp confirming arrival in Yokohama. In addition to these four covers, there are at least four Ballon Monte covers addressed to French military personnel serving in the Far East. Three are listed in Matsumoto book (p. 66) and one is offered in lot 577. These covers have 20c stamps paying the military concession rate. They do not have Yokohama receiving datestamps, so they were probably delivered to the French naval vessels stationed in Yokohama.

Illustrated in Matsumoto book (p. 66), where reported as a relatively recent discovery in Paris (the certificate is dated 2006). Ex Erivan Haub. Calves handstamp and copy of 2006 certificate........

E. 15,000-20,000

### Ballon Monte cover to French naval officer in Asia



577

577 ⋈ 1867, 20c Blue (33; Yvert 29). Tied by "38" dotted star cancel, "Paris R. Des Feuillantines 5E/11 Nov. 70" double-circle datestamp and red "PD" framed handstamp on small folded letter dated November 9 (1870) from Lucie Veron to "Monsieur Veron Bellecourt, Capitaine de frigate a bord de la Venus, Station des mers de Chine et Japan" with directive "fair suivre" (forward) and "Par ballon monte"—carried on the Daguerre (the 28th flight out of Paris, piloted by Sylvain Jubert), departing November 12, 1870, hit by Prussian gunfire and landed on a farm near Jossigny, one of the five bags of mail was thrown overboard and the other four along with the pilot and both passengers were captured—the military concession rate is paid by the 20c stamp, there are no backstamps, minor split along top fold

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE BALLON MONTE LETTER ADDRESSED TO CAPTAIN VERON-BELLECOURT ON THE FRENCH FRIGATE VENUS IN CHINA AND JAPAN REGION.

Covers from this flight are known with arrival markings indicating that the one mail bag thrown overboard reached a post office. The absence of markings on this cover make it difficult to determine whether it was actually sent to the French fleet in China or Japan, as addressed, or was part of the mail captured by Prussian forces.

Calves handstamp. E. 7,500-10,000

### INBOUND MAIL FROM FRANCE



578 front and back

578 ⋈ 1870, 20c Blue, Ty. II, Bordeaux Issue (44; Yvert 45). Four singles and pair tied by "1818" dotted diamond cancels, lightly struck "(Rennes?) (78) 1E/7 Avril" (no year date, but 1871) doublecircle datestamp on small cover to French naval officer on "la corvette cuirasse l'alma" (armored ship Alma), sender's directive "Par Brindisi & Alexandrie", a puzzling array of backstamps including (in approximate chronological order): Marseilles-to-Paris (Apr. 8), Pest Hungary (Apr. 14), Jaszbereny Hungary (Apr. 19), Trieste (Apr. 19?), Lyon (Apr. 24), Marseilles (Apr. 25) and finally "Yokohama Bau Français 23 Juin 71" double-circle datestamp, the last seems to be the final destination based on address and dates, straightline "AFR. INSUFF." (insufficient postage) at top but no evidence postage was collected, part of backflap missing and stamps have defects, nonetheless a remarkable Bordeaux Issue cover sent to Japan during the Franco-Prussian War, the round-trip to Jaszbereny in Hungary may have been the result of misreading the address...... E. 750-1,000





580 579

579 ⋈ 1863, 40c Pale Orange (35; Yvert 31). Horizontal pair used with vertical pair 1871, 25c Blue (58; Yvert 60), tied by "15" dotted star cancels and "Paris R. Bonaparte 6E/14 Juin 72" double-circle datestamp on European-size cover to Captain Lebon in Yedo (Tokyo), Japan, sender's directive *voie de Brindisi*", red "P.P." framed handstamp, Paris (Jun. 15) and **"Yokoĥama Bau Francais 27**" Juil. 72" double-circle receiving datestamp, pencil docketing, Very Fine, attractive 130c rate cover to this well-known French military officer in Tokyo, privately carried from Yokohama to Tokyo, ex Matsumoto, with copy of 1983 Holcombe certificate...... E. 400-500

580 ⋈ 1872, 80c Rose, Large Numerals (63; Yvert 57). Used with 1871, 15c Bister (56; Yvert 59) and 1872, 5c Yellow Green (53; Yvert 53), tied by "20" dotted star cancels, "Paris R. St. Domque-St. Gen. 6E/17 Juil. 74" double-circle datestamp and red "P.P." framed handstamp on European-size cover to Captain Lebon in Yedo (Tokyo), Japan, sender's directive "voie de Marseille", red "P.P." framed handstamp, "Yokohama Japon 31 Aout 74" double-circle receiving datestamp, pencil docketing erased, Very Fine ..... E. 400-500



Both 581

1870, 40c Orange, Ty. I (59; Yvert 38). Single and pair used on two separate covers addressed to Basil Chamberlain, Yokohama, Japan, both with "par Brindisi" directive, single and double 40c rates, stamps tied by "Hyeres Var" double-circle datestamp, Nov. 9, 1877 (single) and Mar. 1, 1878 (double), backstamped with French datestamps, Yokohama receiving backstamps (Dec. 26 and Apr. 20), each with red "Yokohama Paid All" double-circle datestamp (Dec. 27 and Apr. 21) applied at the Foreign Mail office, Japanese writing for forwarding to Tokyo Naval School, Tokyo double-circle receiving datestamps, Very Fine, an attractive and unusual pair of covers showing forwarding of mail within the Japanese postal system ................................. E. 500-750



Detail of backstamp



582

1879, 25c Yellow on Straw, Ty. II (99; Yvert 92). Used with 1877, 10c Black on Lavender, Ty. II (91; Yvert 89), tied by one of two strikes of "Bordeaux Gironde 13E/11 Sept. 80" double-circle datestamp on folded letter to Pignatel & Co., Nagasaki, Japan, backstamped "Shang-Hai Chine 1 Nov. 80" French P.O. double-circle datestamp, turned over to the Imperial Japanese Postal Agency with perfect strike of "I.J. Postal Agency. Shanghai. Nov. 3" double-circle datestamp, bold strike of "Nagasaki Japan. Nov. 5" receiving datestamp on the front of the letter, Extremely Fine, a rare cover from France to Japan after the French post office in Yokohama closed on March 31, 1880, this beautifully demonstrates how mail was exchanged through the French and Imperial Japanese post offices in Shanghai. E. 500-750

## INBOUND MAIL FROM COUNTRIES OTHER THAN FRANCE

## Argentina and France mixed-franking cover with Yokohama "Advertised" datestamp



583

ARGENTINA, 1877, 8c Lake (34). Tied by lightly struck Messageries Maritimeo Buenos Aires double-circle handstamp on European-size cover to F. Ozier, Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan, used with France, 1876, 20c Red Brown, Ty. I (70) and block of four 25c Ultramarine, Ty. II (81), tied by multiple strikes of "Buenos-Ayres Paq. Fr. J No. 4 24 Juin 77" Ligne J octagonal datestamp, underpaid with "T" in triangle handstamp, blue crayon "0,80" 80-centimes due marking, backstamped Bordeaux (Jul. 20), Marseilles (Jul. 21), "Yokohama Bau Francais 21 Juil 77" double-circle and "Yokohama. Japan. Sep. 27" circular datestamp (day modified in pencil), "Advertised Yokohama Oct. 1" double-circle datestamp and matching "Due 16" in circle handstamp (16 sen equals 80 centimes)

VERY FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY MIXED-FRANKING COVER WITH ARGENTINE AND FRENCH STAMPS FOR INTERNAL AND FRENCH PACKET POSTAGE, AND JAPANESE POSTAL MARKINGS FOR POSTAGE DUE AND "ADVERTISED" HANDLING.

Argentina joined the General Postal Union (later U.P.U.) on April 1, 1878. Therefore, internal postage was paid and French stamps added for the G.P.U. rate to Japan. The 120c French franking underpaid the G.P.U. rate (40c per 15 grams). 80c postage due was calculated, which is equivalent to the 16-sen represented by the "Due 16" marking applied at Yokohama. ..... E. 5,000-7,500

# Argentina and France mixed-franking cover to Kagoshima Prefecture





584 front and back

ARGENTINA, 1877, 8c Lake (34). Tied by boldly struck "Buenos Aires Ago 24" (1877) double-circle datestamp on cover to F. Ozier, Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan, used with France, 1876, 1fr Bronze Green, Ty. I (76; Yvert 72) and 20c Red Brown, Ty. I (70; Yvert 67), tied by clear strikes of "Buenos-Ayres Paq. Fr. J No. 6 24 Aout 77" Ligne J octagonal datestamp, backstamped Bordeaux (Sep. 20), Marseilles (Sep. 21) and "Yokohama Japon 10 Nov. 77" double-circle datestamp, red "Yokohama Paid All Nov. 11" double-circle datestamp on the front, Japanese forwarding notation and Japanese character double-circle datestamps on back, slight toning

VERY FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY MIXED-FRANKING COVER WITH ARGENTINE AND FRENCH STAMPS FOR INTERNAL AND FRENCH PACKET POSTAGE.

# Argentina and France mixed-franking cover to Kagoshima Prefecture





585 front and back

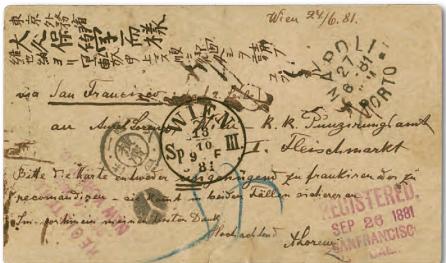
ARGENTINA, 1877, 8c Lake (34). Tied by boldly struck "Buenos Aires (O.M.) 8 Oct. 77" (Aug. 8) rectangular framed datestamp on cover to F. Ozier, Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan, used with two strips of three France, 1876, 20c Red Brown, Ty. I (70; Yvert 67), tied by partly clear strikes of "Buenos-Ayres Paq. Fr. J No. 2 8 Aout 77" Ligne J octagonal datestamp, backstamped "Yokohama Bau Francais 28 Oct. 77" double-circle datestamp, red "Yokohama Paid All Oct. 30" double-circle datestamp on the front, Japanese forwarding notation and and Japanese character double-circle datestamps on back, slight cover wear and small tear at top, some minor faults in French stamps from placement along edge

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING AND VERY RARE MIXED-FRANKING COVER WITH ARGENTINE AND FRENCH STAMPS FOR INTERNAL AND FRENCH PACKET POSTAGE.

Argentina joined the General Postal Union (later U.P.U.) on April 1, 1878. Therefore, internal postage was paid and French stamps were required for the G.P.U. rate to Japan... E. 3,000-4,000

# Austria and Japan Cherry Blossom mixed franking on registered postal card





586 front and back

AUSTRIA, 1875, 10kr Blue, Fine Print (37). Used with 1876, 3kr Green, Fine Print (35), tied by two strikes of "Wien 24/6 11-12M 81" (Jun. 24, 1881) circular datestamp on registered 5kr Rose Postal Card from Aurel Lorenz (a Vienna philatelist) to Mr. Pakuoi(?)-Okubo, Foreign Office, Tokyo, Japan, message on back in German requesting the addressee to return the card by registered mail, "Recommandirt" in circle registry handstamp applied in Vienna, backstamped Napoli (Jun. 27) on initial trip to Japan, upon arrival the card was re-addressed in Japanese, Japan, 1875, 20s Rose (48), Syllabic 8, cancelled by tiny circle of wedges, Japanese character double-circle datestamps front and back, "Tokio Japan 9 Sep." circular datestamp struck twice on front, faint purple "Registered Yokohama 10 Sep. 1881" octagonal datestamp at center of front, red manuscript "Registered No. 13" applied in Japan, backstamped with purple San Francisco (Sep. 26) and New York (Oct. 4) registry datestamps, blue handstamped registry markings applied in U.S., finally a bold "Wien Sp III 18/10 9 F 81" receiving datestamp struck on back, completing the round trip, slight creasing and small tears

VERY FINE. A TRULY REMARKABLE EXAMPLE OF PHILATELIC MAIL SENT AROUND THE WORLD, WITH AUSTRIAN AND JAPANESE STAMPS PAYING U.P.U. POSTAGE AND REGISTRATION FEES. PROBABLY THE ONLY COMBINATION OF ITS KIND EXTANT.

It is remarkable that this card found its way back to Vienna, since there is no English address on the front. The original sender's address is embedded in the message on back. ....  $E.\ 7,500-10,000$ 

# Austria franking on the last mail received at the French Post Office in Yokohama





587 front and back

AUSTRIA, 1875, 10kr Blue, Fine Print (37). Two, tied by "Landstrasse Wien 31/1 80" circular datestamp on buff cover from a diplomatic secretary at the Japanese Embassy in Vienna to Tokyo, Japan, addressed in Japanese and German, carried on the Messageries Maritimes *Tibre*, arriving Yokohama March 28, 1880, clear strikes of Yokohama Bau Francais 28 Mars 80" double-circle datestamp and "Yokohama Mar. 28 1880" circular datestamp on back, along with Japanese double-circle datestamp receiving datestamp, corner of one 10kr stamp is missing

VERY FINE DESPITE NEGLIGIBLE STAMP FLAW. AN EXTREMELY RARE INBOUND COVER FROM AUSTRIA AND THE LAST MAIL TO BE HANDLED BY THE FRENCH POST OFFICE IN YOKOHAMA, WHICH CLOSED THREE DAYS LATER WITHOUT ANY MAIL PACKET DEPARTURES OR ARRIVALS DURING THOSE FINAL DAYS.

Illustrated and discussed in the Matsumoto book (pp. 182-183). Calves handstamp. ...... E. 2,000-3,000

## Canada "Cents" issue cover to Japan with San Francisco large "PAID ALL"



588

CANADA, 1859, 10c Red Lilac (17; SG 38). Tied by grid cancel and "Montreal C.E. PM DE 17 67" duplex datestamp on blue folded letter dated Montreal, December 13, 1867, from Thomas H. Howell to Charles Thorel, "Japan, care of J. B. Williams Esqr., 305 Front Street, San Francisco Cal.", with sender's directive "Via Panama", the city destination "Yokohama" was written by the forwarder in San Francisco, who paid 10c additional postage for the blanket steamship rate to Japan, perfect bold strike of magenta large "PAID ALL" double-line circle handstamp—carried on Pacific Mail Steamship Co. China, departing San Francisco Jan. 13, 1868, arriving Yokohama Feb. 7—horizontal file fold and scattered bleached spots

VERY FINE. A SPECTACULAR EXAMPLE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO LARGE "PAID ALL" HANDSTAMP ON A COVER FROM CANADA TO JAPAN VIA SAN FRANCISCO—BELIEVED TO BE A UNIQUE CANADA "CENTS" ISSUE USAGE.

This cover is illustrated and discussed in the Frajola-Scamp-Perlman book (pp. 80-81). The authors present their analysis of the use of the San Francisco "Paid All" marking, which we quote verbatim: "This cover, mailed at Montreal, Canada on December 17, 1867, was addressed to be sent, via Panama, to a San Francisco agent for Charles Thorel who was in Yokohama. After carriage from New York City, via Panama, to San Francisco, it was redirected by the San Francisco agent to Yokohama. It was then carried from San Francisco by the PMSS steamer *China* on her second trip, which departed on January 13, 1868 (WT7). Because the cover was addressed to Japan and did not transit Hong Kong, it was not subject to the provisions of the treaty. The use of the 'Paid All' handstamp was possibly applied by the San Francisco office to indicate that the steamship blanket-rate postage had been adequately prepaid. The Canadian stamp only paid the letter as far as San Francisco and the additional ten cents for trans-Pacific carriage was likely paid in cash by the agent." Walske described this in his exhibit as the earliest recorded use of the large "Paid All", and Dale Forster reported about eight covers known with the marking (*Chronicle* 223).

Ex Nickle, Kramer and Walske. With 2003 P.F. certificate..... E. 10,000-15,000

## St. Pierre & Miquelon to Yokohama in search of the addressee



589

CANADA, 1872, 6c Yellow Brown (39; SG 98). Horizontal pair used with 1870, 1c Yellow (35; SG 75), tied by quartered cork cancels, "St.-Pierre-et-Miquelon 19 Nov. 76" double-circle datestamp on European-size cover to Mons. Georges Bousquet (legal advisor to the Japanese government), Yokohama, Japan, sender's blue oval handstamp and directive "Via New York & San Francisco", backstamped at Halifax (Nov. 22) and Montreal (Nov. 25), red "Detroit Paid All Nov. 29(?)" exchange office circular datestamp, magenta "San Francisco Paid All Jan. 3?" (1877) circular datestamp and matching "2 Cents" credit handstamp (in accordance with the provisions for transit mail to or from Japan), red "Yokohama Paid All Jan. 24" double-circle datestamp, Tokyo (Jan. 24) and Yokohama (Jan. 27) double-circle datestamps on back, forwarding slip with Japanese writing and additional datestamps, "Advertised Yokohama Apr. 2" double-circle datestamp, red crayon "5", stamp and cover faults do not undermine the remarkable qualities of this cover

FINE. IT IS DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE ANOTHER COVER EXISTS THAT FOLLOWED THE SAME JOURNEY—SENT FROM ST. PIERRE & MIQUELON TO YOKOHAMA WITH CANADA SMALL QUEENS STAMPS PAYING THE RATE TO JAPAN VIA THE UNITED STATES, AND AFTER FAILING TO FIND THE ADDRESSEE, THE YOKOHAMA POST OFFICE ADVERTISED THE COVER.

Ex Horst Mueller and shown on his website, where he described it as "a favourite of mine." ....... E. 5,000-7,500



590 front and back

CANADA, 1873, 3c Orange Red (37; SG 105). Tied by circle of wedges cancel, faintly struck "Brighton SP 17 84" circular datestamp on cover to Tokyo, Japan, with original letter enclosure, underpaid for 5c rate, "T" in circle handstamp, Windsor (Sep. 19) and San Francisco (Sep. 26 and Oct. 7) backstamps, "Due" in circle handstamp with pencil "4" sen applied in Japan (double the deficiency), backstamped with "Yokohama 29 Oct. 1884" experimental datestamp with star (Nishino-Tani type), additional double-circle datestamps and rectangular Japanese characters handstamp, pair of Japan, 1883, 2s Carmine Rose (73), tied by framed handstamp, edge nicks mostly at right, small tear in one Japanese stamp, otherwise Fine, very unusual......................... E. 750-1,000



591



592 front and back



593

## Bavaria 1862 Issue franking on cover to Yokohama via Marseilles



594

BAVARIA, 1862, 18kr Vermilion Red (14; Michel 13a). Used with 1862, 12kr Yellow Green (13; Michel 12), both neatly cut all around down to or slightly into framelines, tied by two strikes of "356" cogwheel cancel, bold "Nurnberg 8-9 29 Nov. 1866" double-circle datestamp on blue folded letter to Thorel Ziegler & Co., Yokohama, Japan, on printed Ludwig Memminger columnar sheet with directive "pr Medina" inside and "uber Marseille" below address, magenta "P.D." handstamp, partly readable red French Strasbourg transit double-circle datestamp (Nov. 30), blue "Yokohama Bau Francais 5 Fevr 67" double-circle datestamp on back, received in early 1867 after the Great Fire of November 1866, horizontal file fold, light toning

FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE BAVARIA FRANKING FOR THE 30-KREUZER RATE TO JAPAN VIA MARSEILLES.

This extraordinary cover comes from the Charles Thorel & Company (also Thorel Ziegler & Company) correspondence. It was part of a previously unknown group of Thorel covers sold by the Dr. Wilhelm Derichs auction house in Germany on August 29, 2014. This group consisted of 50 letters, all addressed to the Thorel firm in Yokohama, franked with various stamps of various German States, the North German Confederation, Great Britain and the United States. These letters were found in their original unfolded condition, just as they might have reposed in a business file, lying dormant in a stamp collection located in a house in the eastern Ruhr city of Castrop-Rauxel. The auction catalogue speculated that the letters had been in the family's possession for more than a century and assured prospective buyers that all of the letters in the find were included in the sale and no more remained in the family's possession. Other covers from the Thorel correspondence have been in collector hands as far back as the 1920s or 1930s.

Charles (or Karl) Thorel was one of many western merchants doing business in Japan after the 1858 Harris Treaty formalized commercial relations between the United States and Japan. Thorel partnered with a Swiss-born merchant named Karl Ziegler in the silk-trading firm of Thorel Ziegler & Company. The company was based in Yokohama and operated from 1865 to 1868, at which point the partnership dissolved. Thorel continued in business under the name Charles Thorel & Company, and Ziegler went on to form Ziegler & Company with an employee, Arnold Dumelin, who later served as the Swiss consul general in Yokohama....... E. 5,000-7,500

## Bavaria 1867 18-kreuzer Coat of Arms Issue on cover to Yokohama via Brindisi



595

BAVARIA, 1867, 18kr Red (22; Michel 18). Large margins, used with 1870, 7kr Ultramarine (26; Michel 25Xa), tied by perfect strike of "Kissingen VII 27 6" (June 27, 1872) semi-circle datestamp with another strike on blue folded cover to Edouard de Bavier, Yokohama, Japan, sender's directive "Via Bremen & Brindisi", red "P.D" handstamp, blue crayon "W fr" marking, backstamped Brindisi (Jun. 30) and Alexandria (Jul. 20), with "Hong-Kong C AU 2 72" and blue "Yokohama A AU 10 72" British P.O. datestamps on back, 18kr has slight wrinkle, cover with folds clear of stamps, minor wear

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE BAVARIA  $1867\ 18$ -KREUZER COAT OF ARMS IMPERFORATE ON COVER TO JAPAN.

The 25-kreuzer franking pays the rate from Bavaria to Japan via Brindisi. With 2010 Schmitt certificate describing the cover as "possibly unique."...... E. 5,000-7,500



- NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION, 1868, 5gr Bister (6; Michel 6). Used with 1868, 1gr Rose (4; Michel 4) and 2gr Ultramarine (5; Michel 5), tied by two strikes of "Elberfeld/Barnhof/24 1 \* 6-7" (Jan. 24, 1868) framed datestamp with another strike on blue folded letter to Charles Thorel & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Schennis & Co. backstamp and sender's directive "via Marseille & Suez", red "P.D" handstamp with some bleaching from oily ink, blue "Prusse Erquelines 3E/25 Janv. 68" circular datestamp, perfect strike of "Yokohama Bau Francais 21 Mar 68" double-circle datestamp on back, Very Fine, a beautiful three-color franking on a rare cover from the North German Confederation to Japan............................... E. 1,000-1,500
- NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION, 1868, 5gr Bister (6; Michel 6). Used with 1868, 2gr Ultramarine (5; Michel 5) and 1869, 1gr Rose (16; Michel 16), tied by clear strikes of "Glauchau-Gera Z. 2. 10 III" (Mar. 10, 1869) double-circle datestamp on folded letter to Charles Thorel & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Hering & Jung oval handstamp and directive "via Triest", blue manuscript "77" rate (weiterfranco 7 groschen), backstamped Trieste (Mar. 12), "Hong-Kong C AP 20 69" and "Yokohama A MY 1 69" British P.O. datestamps on back, soiled along horizontal file fold, otherwise Very Fine, attractive three-color franking and rare use to Japan ....... E. 1,000-1,500
- NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION, 1869, 2gr Ultramarine (17; Michel 17). Four singles used on 1869, 1gr Rose entire, stamps tied by multiple strikes of "Burtsheidt 4-5N. 19 8 71" (Aug. 19, 1871) double-circle datestamp on cover to Lieut. Commander Oscar F. Heyerman, U.S. Navy, on board the U.S. Flagship Colorado, Yokohama, Japan, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", backstamped Brindisi (Aug. 23), "Hong-Kong C OC 3 71" and blue "Yokohama A OC 15 71" British P.O. datestamps on back, docketing notes over back in ink and pencil, very minor toning, Very Fine, the Colorado was the flagship of the U.S. Asiatic Squadron, she brought the U.S. minister to China and Korea on a diplomatic mission in 1871, in June 1871 two Korean forts fired on the Colorado and in response the forts were destroyed................................. E. 1,000-1,500

## Prussian 1866 10-silbergroschen on cover from Saxony to Yokohama via Marseilles



599

PRUSSIA, 1866, 10sgr Rose on Goldbeater's Paper (21; Michel 20). Large even margins, tied by one of two strikes of "Ronneburg XI 68 5/III" (Mar. 5, 1868) double-circle datestamp on blue folded letter to Thorel Ziegler & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Hering & Jung (Saxony) oval handstamp and directive "via Marseille", magenta "P.D." framed handstamp, red crayon rate notation, blue "Prusse Forbach 7 Mars 68" datestamp, no markings on back, stamp has tiny sealed tear at left which probably occurred when it was separated along the roulette, immaterial considering its otherwise superb condition and the tendency of this paper to have serious faults

EXTREMELY FINE. A TREMENDOUS RARITY—THE PRUSSIAN 1866 10-GROSCHEN IS SELDOM SEEN AS A SINGLE FRANKING ON COVER, AND THIS USE TO JAPAN IS EXTRAORDINARY.

This extraordinary cover comes from the Charles Thorel & Company (also Thorel Ziegler & Company) correspondence. It was part of a previously unknown group of Thorel covers sold by the Dr. Wilhelm Derichs auction house in Germany on August 29, 2014. This group consisted of 50 letters, all addressed to the Thorel firm in Yokohama, franked with various stamps of various German States, the North German Confederation, Great Britain and the United States. These letters were found in their original unfolded condition, just as they might have reposed in a business file, lying dormant in a stamp collection located in a house in the eastern Ruhr city of Castrop-Rauxel. The auction catalogue speculated that the letters had been in the family's possession for more than a century and assured prospective buyers that all of the letters in the find were included in the sale and no more remained in the family's possession. Other covers from the Thorel correspondence have been in collector hands as far back as the 1920s or 1930s.

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## Prussian triple-rate franking on cover to Yokohama via Marseilles



600

PRUSSIA, 1865, 3sgr Bister (20; Michel 18a). Two horizontal pairs used with 1861, 2sgr Ultramarine (18; Michel 17a) and 1sgr Rose (17; Michel 16), tied by multiple strikes of "Elberfeld Bahnoff 8 4 \* 6-7" (Apr. 8, 1867) framed datestamp on blue folded letter to Thorel Ziegel & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Schennis & Co. backstamp and directive "Via Marseille & Suez", blue crayon "2" for double rate, red "P.D" handstamp, blue "Pruss Erquelines 9 Avril 67" double-circle datestamp, bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 2 Juin 67" double-circle datestamp on back, very faint toning, 3sgr at right with rough separation in margin, another has tiny corner crease

EXTREMELY FINE. A SPECTACULAR THREE-COLOR FRANKING FOR THE DOUBLE RATE FROM PRUSSIA TO JAPAN VIA MARSEILLES.

This extraordinary cover comes from the Charles Thorel & Company (also Thorel Ziegler & Company) correspondence. It was part of a previously unknown group of Thorel covers sold by the Dr. Wilhelm Derichs auction house in Germany on August 29, 2014. This group consisted of 50 letters, all addressed to the Thorel firm in Yokohama, franked with various stamps of various German States, the North German Confederation, Great Britain and the United States. These letters were found in their original unfolded condition, just as they might have reposed in a business file, lying dormant in a stamp collection located in a house in the eastern Ruhr city of Castrop-Rauxel. The auction catalogue speculated that the letters had been in the family's possession for more than a century and assured prospective buyers that all of the letters in the find were included in the sale and no more remained in the family's possession. Other covers from the Thorel correspondence have been in collector hands as far back as the 1920s or 1930s.

# Prussian double-rate franking on cover to Yokohama via Marseilles



60 I

PRUSSIA, 1865, 3sgr Bister (20; Michel 18a). Two horizontal pairs and single tied by multiple strikes of "Elberfeld Bahnoff 16 3 \* 6-7" (Mar. 16, 1867) framed datestamp on blue folded letter to Thorel Ziegel & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Schennis & Co. backstamp and directive "Via Marseille 

Suez", blue crayon "2" for double rate, red "P.D" handstamp, blue "Pruss Erquelines 17 Mars 67" double-circle datestamp, clearly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 9 Mai 67" double-circle datestamp on back

EXTREMELY FINE. A RARE FRANKING FOR THE DOUBLE RATE FROM PRUSSIA TO JAPAN VIA MARSEILLES.

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Charles (or Karl) Thorel was one of many western merchants doing business in Japan after the 1858 Harris Treaty formalized commercial relations between the United States and Japan. Thorel partnered with a Swiss-born merchant named Karl Ziegler in the silk-trading firm of Thorel Ziegler & Company. The company was based in Yokohama and operated from 1865 to 1868, at which point the partnership dissolved. Thorel continued in business under the name Charles Thorel & Company, and Ziegler went on to form Ziegler & Company with an employee, Arnold Dumelin, who later served as the Swiss consul general in Yokohama....... E. 3,000-4,000



PRUSSIA, 1865, 3sgr Bister (20; Michel 18a). Horizontal pair used with 1861 2sgr Ultramarine (18; Michel 17a), tied by multiple strikes of "Elberfeld Bahnoff 16 4 \* 6-7" (Apr. 16, 1867) framed datestamp on blue folded letter to Thorel Ziegel & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Schennis & Co. backstamp and directive "Via Marseille & Suez", red "P.D" handstamp, blue "Pruss Erquelines 17 Avril 67" double-circle datestamp, bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 9 Juin 67" double-circle datestamp on back, Very Fine, an attractive and rare use to Japan............................... E. 1,000-1,500



603

PRUSSIA, 1865, 3sgr Bister (20; Michel 18a). Horizontal pair used with 1861 2sgr Ultramarine (18; Michel 17a), tied by multiple strikes of "Elberfeld Bahnoff 8 1 \* 6-7" (Jan. 8, 1867) framed datestamp on blue folded letter to Thorel Ziegel & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Schennis & Co. backstamp and directive "Via Marseille & Suez", red "P.D" handstamp, blue "Pruss Erquelines 9 Janv 67" double-circle datestamp, clearly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 8 Mars 67" double-circle datestamp on back, stamps slightly toned, otherwise Very Fine, a rare use to Japan ...... E. 750-1,000



PRUSSIA, 1865, 3sgr Bister (20; Michel 18a). Horizontal pair used with 1861 2sgr Ultramarine (18; Michel 17a), tied by multiple strikes of "Elberfeld Bahnoff 16 7 \* 6-7" (Jul. 16, 1867) framed datestamp on blue folded letter to Thorel Ziegel & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Schennis & Co. backstamp and directive "Via Marseille & Suez", red "P.D" handstamp, blue "Pruss Erquelines 17 Juil. 67" double-circle datestamp, clearly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 7 Sept 67" double-circle datestamp on back, stamps slightly toned, otherwise Very Fine, a rare use to Japan ...... E. 750-1,000



605

PRUSSIA, 1865, 3sgr Bister (20; Michel 18a). Horizontal pair used with 1861 2sgr Ultramarine (18; Michel 17a), tied by multiple strikes of "Elberfeld Bahnoff 9 2 \* 6-7" (Feb. 9, 1867) framed datestamp on blue folded letter to Thorel Ziegel & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Schennis & Co. backstamp and directive "Via Marseille & Suez", red "P.D" handstamp, blue "Pruss Erquelines 10 Fevr 67" double-circle datestamp, clearly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 5 Avril 67" double-circle datestamp on back, 3sgr corner crease, otherwise Very Fine, a rare use to Japan.... E. 750-1,000

# Extremely rare Saxony 1863 5-neugroschen Coat of Arms franking on cover to Japan



606

SAXONY, 1863, 5ngr Gray Blue (20b; Michel 19). Vertical pair tied by two bold strikes of "56" numeral grid cancel, "Ronneburg VIII 67. 15/XI" (Nov. 15, 1867) double-circle datestamp on blue folded letter to Thorel Ziegler & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Hering & Jung oval handstamp and directive "Via Preussen & Frankreich", red "P.P." handstamp, red "Prusse Forbach 17 Nov. 67" double-circle datestamp, red crayon "7 wf" (weiterfranco 7 groschen) rate, Glauchau-Gera (Nov. 15) and bold "Yokohama Bau Francais 15 Janv. 68" double-circle datestamp on back, light toning along horizontal file fold and stamps faintly toned

VERY FINE. ONE OF THE MOST OUTSTANDING SAXONY 1863 ISSUE COVERS EXTANT, BEARING A PAIR OF THE 5-NEUGROSCHEN COAT OF ARMS PAYING THE RATE TO JAPAN. A WONDERFUL POSTAL HISTORY ARTIFACT FROM THE THOREL CORRRESPONDENCE.

This extraordinary cover comes from the Charles Thorel & Company (also Thorel Ziegler & Company) correspondence. It was part of a previously unknown group of Thorel covers sold by the Dr. Wilhelm Derichs auction house in Germany on August 29, 2014. This group consisted of 50 letters, all addressed to the Thorel firm in Yokohama, franked with various stamps of various German States, the North German Confederation, Great Britain and the United States. These letters were found in their original unfolded condition, just as they might have reposed in a business file, lying dormant in a stamp collection located in a house in the eastern Ruhr city of Castrop-Rauxel. The auction catalogue speculated that the letters had been in the family's possession for more than a century and assured prospective buyers that all of the letters in the find were included in the sale and no more remained in the family's possession. Other covers from the Thorel correspondence have been in collector hands as far back as the 1920s or 1930s.

Charles (or Karl) Thorel was one of many western merchants doing business in Japan after the 1858 Harris Treaty formalized commercial relations between the United States and Japan. Thorel partnered with a Swiss-born merchant named Karl Ziegler in the silk-trading firm of Thorel Ziegler & Company. The company was based in Yokohama and operated from 1865 to 1868, at which point the partnership dissolved. Thorel continued in business under the name Charles Thorel & Company, and Ziegler went on to form Ziegler & Company with an employee, Arnold Dumelin, who later served as the Swiss consul general in Yokohama................. E. 7,500-10,000

# Colorful Thurn & Taxis triple-rate franking to Japan



607

THURN & TAXIS, 1859, 10sgr Orange (14; Michel 19). Vertical pair, vivid shade, large margins to slightly in, used with 1859. 5sgr Lilac (13; Michel 18), large margins to just touched, tied by "300" target cancel, "Hamburg. Th. & T. 5N-6N 6/2" (Feb. 2, 1867) circular datestamp on folded letter to Thorel Ziegler & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Maschwitz & Co. backstamp and directive "p Overland Mail", red crayon "3" for triple rate, red "PD" handstamp, red "Tour-T. Forbach 8 Fevr. 67" double-circle datestamp, red crayon marking at upper left, partly readable "Yokohama Bau Francais 5 Avril 67" double-circle datestamp on back, light soiling along file fold

VERY FINE. A SPECTACULAR THURN & TAXIS TRIPLE-RATE FRANKING ON COVER FROM HAMBURG TO JAPAN FROM THE THOREL CORRRESPONDENCE.

This extraordinary cover comes from the Charles Thorel & Company (also Thorel Ziegler & Company) correspondence. It was part of a previously unknown group of Thorel covers sold by the Dr. Wilhelm Derichs auction house in Germany on August 29, 2014. This group consisted of 50 letters, all addressed to the Thorel firm in Yokohama, franked with various stamps of various German States, the North German Confederation, Great Britain and the United States. These letters were found in their original unfolded condition, just as they might have reposed in a business file, lying dormant in a stamp collection located in a house in the eastern Ruhr city of Castrop-Rauxel. The auction catalogue speculated that the letters had been in the family's possession for more than a century and assured prospective buyers that all of the letters in the find were included in the sale and no more remained in the family's possession. Other covers from the Thorel correspondence have been in collector hands as far back as the 1920s or 1930s.

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# A spectacular and rare Thurn & Taxis quadruple-rate franking to Japan



608

THURN & TAXIS, 1859, 10sgr Orange (14; Michel 19). Vertical strip of three with top sheet margin, other sides large to slightly in, used with 1866, 2sgr Blue, Rouletted (31; Michel 49), tied by "300" target cancels, "Hamburg. Th. & T. 1N-2N 23/5" (May 23, 1867) circular datestamp on blue folded letter from Maschwitz & Co. to Thorel Ziegler & Co., Yokohama, Japan, part-printed shipping invoice with vignette of the Goddess of Commerce in a harbor, sender's directive "per Overland Mail", red crayon "4" for quadruple rate, red "PD" handstamp, red "Tour-T. Forbach 20 Mai 67" double-circle datestamp, smudged but still readable "Yokohama Bau Francais 20 Juil 67" double-circle datestamp on back, bottom of strip slightly creased from placement long edge

VERY FINE. AN IMPORTANT THURN & TAXIS COVER FROM HAMBURG TO JAPAN WITH A STRIP OF THE 1859 10-SILBERGROSCHEN AND SINGLE 2-SILBERGROSCHEN FROM THE 1866 ROULETTED ISSUE PAYING THE QUADRUPLE RATE TO JAPAN.

This extraordinary cover comes from the Charles Thorel & Company (also Thorel Ziegler & Company) correspondence. It was part of a previously unknown group of Thorel covers sold by the Dr. Wilhelm Derichs auction house in Germany on August 29, 2014. This group consisted of 50 letters, all addressed to the Thorel firm in Yokohama, franked with various stamps of various German States, the North German Confederation, Great Britain and the United States. These letters were found in their original unfolded condition, just as they might have reposed in a business file, lying dormant in a stamp collection located in a house in the eastern Ruhr city of Castrop-Rauxel. The auction catalogue speculated that the letters had been in the family's possession for more than a century and assured prospective buyers that all of the letters in the find were included in the sale and no more remained in the family's possession. Other covers from the Thorel correspondence have been in collector hands as far back as the 1920s or 1930s.

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# Striking Thurn & Taxis double-rate cover to Japan



609

THURN & TAXIS, 1859, 10sgr Orange (14; Michel 19). Large margin at right to slightly in, used with vertical pair of 1866, 3sgr Rose, Rouletted (32; Michel 50), tied by bold strikes of "300" target cancel, "Hamburg. Th. & T. 5N-6N 15/6" (Jun. 15, 1867) circular datestamp on folded letter from Maschwitz & Co. to Thorel Ziegler & Co., Yokohama, Japan, sender's directive "via Marseille", red crayon "2" for double rate, red "PD" handstamp, red "Tour-T. Forbach 17 Juin 67" double-circle datestamp, partly clear "Yokohama Bau Francais 5 Aout 67" double-circle datestamp on back

VERY FINE. A RARE THURN & TAXIS COVER FROM HAMBURG TO JAPAN WITH THE  $1859\ 10$ -SILBERGROSCHEN AND PAIR OF 3-SILBERGROSCHEN FROM THE  $1866\ ROULETTED$  ISSUE PAYING THE DOUBLE RATE VIA MARSEILLES.

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# A beautiful Thurn & Taxis triple-rate cover to Japan



610

THURN & TAXIS, 1859, 10sgr Orange (14; Michel 19). Two, large margin at right to slightly in, used with 1859, 5sgr Lilac (13; Michel 19), tied by clear strikes of "301" target cancel, "Bremen. Th. & Tx. 1N-6N 24/11" (Nov. 24, 1866) circular datestamp on cover to M. H. Gildemeister, Kniffler & Co., Yokohama, Japan, sender's directive "p Overland Mail via Marseille", manuscript "3" for triple rate, red "P.P." handstamp, red "Tour-T. Forbach 26 Nov 66" double-circle datestamp, red crayon rate at lower left, clearly struck blue "Yokohama Bau Francais 20 Janv. 67" double-circle datestamp on back, received about two months after the Great Fire of November 26, 1866, part of backflap removed, lightly cleaned

VERY FINE. A RARE THURN & TAXIS COVER FROM BREMEN TO JAPAN WITH THE 1859 5- AND 10-SILBERGROSCHEN STAMPS PAYING THE TRIPLE RATE VIA MARSEILLES.

From the Kniffler & Co. correspondence ...... E. 7,500-10,000



- THURN & TAXIS, 1866, 3sgr Rose, Rouletted (31; Michel 50). Vertical pair and single wrapped around edge of letter and the one stamp torn in half, tied by bold strikes of "300" target cancel, "Hamburg. Th. & T. 5N-6N 8/5" (May 8, 1867) circular datestamp on folded letter from Maschwitz & Co. to Thorel Ziegler & Co., Yokohama, Japan, sender's directive "p. Overland Mail", red "PD" handstamp, red "Tour-T. Forbach 10 Mai 67" double-circle datestamp, boldly struck "Yokohama Bau Francais 5 Juil. 67" double-circle datestamp on back, folded open for display, Fine and rare cover from the Thorel correspondence ................................. E. 1,000-1,500



GERMANY, 1872, 2gr Ultramarine (5; Michel 5). Three used with 1872, 1gr Rose (4; Michel 4), tied by multiple strikes of "Kotzschenbroda 72 XII 21/1" (Jan. 21, 1872) double-circle datestamp on 1gr Rose entire to Lieut. Commander Oscar F. Heyerman, U.S. Navy, on board the U.S. Flagship Colorado, Yokohama, Japan, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", "P.D." framed handstamp, "Hong-Kong C MR 8 72" British P.O. datestamp on back but no Yokohama receiving mark, docketing notes, slightly rough opening at right, otherwise Very Fine, a rare Germany Eagle Issue cover to Japan, the Colorado was the flagship of the U.S. Asiatic Squadron, she brought the U.S. minister to China and Korea on a diplomatic mission in 1871, in June 1871 two Korean forts fired on the Colorado and in response the forts were destroyed ............................... E. 1,500-2,000



614

GERMANY, 1872, 5gr Bister (6; Michel 6). Used with 1872, 1gr Rose (4; Michel 4) and ¼gr Violet (1; Michel 1), tied by multiple strikes of "Kotzschenbroda 72 7 22/2" (Feb. 22, 1872) double-circle datestamp on 1gr Rose entire to Lieut. Commander Oscar F. Heyerman, U.S. Navy, on board the U.S. Flagship Colorado, Yokohama, Japan, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", "P.D." framed handstamp, Verona (Feb. 24) backstamp, "Hong-Kong C AP 1 72" British P.O. datestamp on back but no Yokohama receiving mark, docketing notes, minor edgewear, Very Fine, a rare Germany Eagle Issue cover to Japan, the Colorado was the flagship of the U.S. Asiatic Squadron, she brought the U.S. minister to China and Korea on a diplomatic mission in 1871, in June 1871 two Korean forts fired on the Colorado and in response the forts were destroyed... E. 1,500-2,000



615





617

617 ☑ CHINA, Ningpo to Kanagawa, Japan, via Shanghai, 1862. Small cover addressed to Lieut. A. H. Markham, H.M.S. Centaur, in Japan, with sender's notation of origin at lower left "E.J. Dec. 3rd/62 NING-PO", put into the British mail at Shanghai with "Shanghae Paid O DE 9 62" circular datestamp on back and red crayon "4" (pence) prepaid rate, manuscript "p.p. at Ningpo" which must mean "postage paid at Ningpo", with original letter datelined "H.M.G.B. 'Flamer' Ningpo, December 2nd /62", some minor toning, still Very Fine, a past owner noted this is the earliest prepaid cover from Ningpo to Japan with a rate of 4p (or 8c), but we have no way to verify that statement, Markham eventually became Admiral Sir Albert Hastings Markham, his naval career spanned 50 years and included many exploits, Arctic exploration, as well as some controversy over the sinking of the H.M.S. Victoria in 1893, he also designed the flag of New Zealand ..... E. 400-500



GREAT BRITAIN, 1867, 6p Dull Violet (50; SG 106). Horizontal pair tied by two strikes of "E Liverpool 16 NO 67 54" duplex datestamp and "466" oval grid cancel on folded letter in German to C. Hildebrand, care of Messr. Grosser & Co., Nagasaki, Japan, blue Pranger & Son Liverpool oval backstamp, sender's directive "via Marseille" crossed out and "pr. french Packet" written below, the rate via Southampton was 1sh (as prepaid), but the Marseilles route was 1sh4p, thus this was underpaid, clear strike of "EXCC/OZ DEFICIENT POSTAGE 4 BRITISH SHARE OF FINE 6" with rates in manuscript and the total of 10p written as "10" over the whole marking, red London backstamp (Nov. 18), "Hong-Kong C JA 7 63" backstamp and corresponding "COLONIAL SHARE OF FINE" framed handstamp with manuscript "6" entered as amount and the total of "1/4" 1sh4p due in the same hand—carried on the P&O Benares from Southampton, which fits the Jan. 7 arrival date—Nagasaki was no longer a port of call on this P&O route after September 1867, so this was carried privately for the final leg, slightly toned, still Very Fine, the "Colonial Share of Fine" handstamp applied in Hong Kong is very rare, and covers to Japan are also quite rare in this period—the use to Nagasaki is extraordinary ................................ E. 1,000-1,500



619



- GREAT BRITAIN, 1873, 1sh Pale Green (64; SG 150). Plate 10, used with 1873, 3p Rose (61; SG 144), Plate 17, wing margin, tied by two strikes of "14 E Glasgow AP 27 75" duplex datestamp and "15" grid cancel on black-bordered mourning envelope to professor at Imperial College, Yedo (Tokyo), Japan, "Hong-Kong Marine-Sorter Singapore-to Hong-Kong MY 29 / 7 75" double-circle datestamp and blue "Yokohama A JU 11" British P.O. datestamp on back, Very Fine .. E. 400-500



624

625 and detail of backstamp

- MALTA, Great Britain, 1873, 1sh Pale Green (A72; SG Z80). Plate 11, tied by "A25" oval grid and "D Malta NO 27 75" duplex datestamp on European-size cover to Basil Hall Chamberlain, Yokohama, Japan, clear strike of "Hong-Kong Marine-Sorter Singapore-to Hong-Kong DE 28 / 6 75" double-circle datestamp on back, "Yokohama A JA 12 76" receiving backstamp, Very Fine, rare use of Great Britain stamp from Malta to Japan....................... E. 500-750



626 front and back

INDIA, 1865-67, 2a Brownish Orange (23; SG 63). Horizontal strip of four tied by two clear strikes of "121" grid and "Aden. Steamer Point FE 16" duplex datestamp on back of folded letter datelined Aden Feb. 14 (1874) from Thomas Lewin to a Miss Wiggins, whom he recently met on board a vessel, care of U.S. Consul, Yokohama, Japan, with directive "Via Hong Kong & China", "Hong-Kong C MR 17 74" and blue "Yokohama A MR 27 74" British P.O. backstamps, "ADVERTISED" straightline handstamp applied in Yokohama indicating letter was advertised in local newspaper, stains, flap torn open through one datestamp, still attractive and Fine, scarce inbound cover from Aden to the British P.O. in Yokohama with a rare "Advertised" marking................. E. 500-750





627 front and back



- INDIA, 1882, ½a Green (36; SG 85). Tied by Benares Jul. 12, 1896 datestamp on cover to Count Finkenstein, care of German Consulate, Yokohama, Japan, short-paid with "T" in circle hand-stamp, an array of backstamps (Bombay, Tuticorin, Hong Kong, Yokohama) and seven native paper forwarding slips affixed in Japan, red manuscript "Cts 20" (centimes) deficiency notation, 40 centimes postage due paid by pair of Japan, 1888, 4s Oliver Bister (77), tied by rectangular handstamps, minor wear and toning, still Fine and fascinating inbound use with Koban Issue.....

  F. 300-400
- 629 MINDIA, 1897, "One Anna" Surcharge on 1½ Blue International Postal Card. Cancelled by Dwarahat datestamp, Apr. 5, 1897 dateline, to Rev. H. B. Swartz in Hirosaki, Japan, from a friend in India, mentions using the postal card instead of an envelope so the "boys may have one of its kind", usual array of transit markings all struck on the address side, slightly toned, Fine ...... E. 100-150

# Block of four Italy 1867 20-centesimi London Print on cover to Yokohama



630

630 
ITALY, 1867, 20c Sky Blue, De La Rue (35; Sassone L26). Block of four tied by bold strikes of "17" dotted rectangle cancel and "Milano 28 Gio 68 6.8" (Jun. 28, 1868) circular datestamp on folded letter to Giovanni Ghirardi, Yokohama, Japan, bold blue "Societa Bacologica Fratelli Ghirardi & Ci" oval handstamp, printed letterhead of the same firm, Brindisi (Jun. 30) backstamp and "Alexandria JY 10 68" datestamp on the front, backstamped with perfect strike of "Hong Kong & Singapore Line Marine Sorter B" double-circle, "Hong-Kong C AU 12 68" and "Yokohama A AU 24 68" British P.O. datestamps on back

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE COVER FROM ITALY TO JAPAN WITH A BLOCK OF THE 1867 20-CENTESIMI VITTORIO EMANUELE II ISSUE, PAYING THE 80-CENTESIMI RATE VIA BRINDISI, AND THE HONG KONG MARINE SORTER MARKING.

Signed E. Diena. With 2005 Raybaudi certificate. .... E. 2,000-3,000



Detail of backstamp



- 631 ⋈ ITALY, 1867, 20c Blue, De La Rue (35; Sassone L26). Five singles tied by "181" dotted rectangle cancel, bold "Milano Staz. 25 Set 71 7.S" circular datestamp on buff cover from Penci & Ferrario (backstamped) to Charles Giussani, Yokohama, Japan, sender's directive "Via Genova", "P.D." handstamp, backstamped faint Brindisi datestamp, "Alessandria D' Egitto Poste Italiane 6 Ott 71" Italian P.O. datestamp, "Alexandrie Egypte 6 Oct. 71" French P.O. double-circle datestamp, "Suez Paq. Fr. N No. 3 8 Oct. 71" Ligne N octagonal datestamp applied on the M.I. Tigre, "Yokohama Bau Francais 17 Nov. 71" French P.O. double-circle datestamp, Very Fine, an attractive cover from Italy to Japan via Adriatic & Oriental steamer to Egypt and then by Messageries Imperiales Lignes N and S to the French Post Office in Yokohama ................................ E. 750-1,000
- 632 ☑ ITALY, 1866, 60c Lilac, Torino Printing (32; Sassone T21). Used with 1867, 20c Sky Blue (35; Sassone L26), tied by bold "181" dotted rectangle cancels, "Milano Staz. 8 Gen 75 7 S" (Jan. 8, 1875) circular datestamp on blue folded letter to Raud & Co., Yokohama, Japan, Cesare Bozzotti blue oval handstamp, red "P.D" handstamp, light but clear strike of "Hong-Kong Marine-Sorter Singapore-to Hong-Kong FE 10 /18 75" double-circle datestamp on back, blue "Yokohama A FE 24 75" British P.O. backstamp, Very Fine, attractive 80c rate cover to Japan ............ E. 500-750
- 633 MITALY, 1866, 60c Lilac, Torino Printing (32; Sassone T21). Used with 1866, 30c Brown (30; Sassone T19), tied by bold "132" dotted rectangle cancels, "Spezia 19 Feb 75" circular datestamp on small cover to Midshipman Seabury aboard the U.S.S. *Iroquois*, care of U.S. Consul, Yokohama, Japan, "P.P." handstamp, "Hong Kong C AP 4 73" backstamp, backflap removed leaving small part of a Brindisi datestamp, minor toning, Fine, scarce............................... E. 500-750

# Extraordinary combination of Italian and French stamps on a cover to Yokohama, Hong Kong and Australia



634

ITALY, 1877, 20c Orange (36; Sassone 28). Three singles placed in different corners, each tied by "152" barred oval cancel, "Spezia 22 10-77 I S" (Oct. 22, 1877) circular datestamp on folded cover to commander of the Italian naval ship Cristoforo Colombo in "Hong Kong or Yokohama via Hong Kong", sender's blue oval backstamp and directive "By French Packet", backstamped Brindisi (Oct. 23), "Hong-Kong Marine-Sorter Singapore-to Hong-Kong DE 26 /6 77" double-circle and "Yokohama DE 14 77" British P.O. datestamp, forwarded to Hong Kong, with additional pairs of France, 1870, 40c Orange, Ceres (59; Yvert 38) and 1877, 10c Black on Lavender, Sage (91; Yvert 89), affixed over two Italian stamps, former tied by two clear strikes of "Yokohama Bau Francais 17 Dec. 77" double-circle datestamp, latter left uncancelled, backstamped "Hong-Kong DE 24 77" British P.O. datestamp, forwarded a second time to Sydney, Australia, "Sydney JA 22 78" receiving backstamp, magenta ink used to cross out "Hong Kong" and "Australia", some ink erosion, folds which do not affect stamps

VERY FINE. A TRULY SPECTACULAR AND UNIQUE COMBINATION OF ITALIAN AND FRENCH STAMPS ON A WELL-TRAVELED COVER FROM ITALY TO JAPAN, HONG KONG AND AUSTRALIA IN SEARCH OF AN ITALIAN NAVAL OFFICER.

With 2000 Bolaffi and 2018 Eichele certificates..... E. 5,000-7,500



"Jamaica Three Pence 1877 Paid" Red Circular Handstamp on Printed Postal Card. Manuscript squiggle through the "Paid" handstamp, addressed to the British Consulate in Hiogo, Japan, clear strike of "British Consulate Hiogo" red oval handstamp, Very Fine, an extremely rare and non-philatelic use of a postal card from Jamaica to Japan, based on the line through the "Paid" marking and the consulate handstamp, this was carried outside the mails by diplomatic pouch ................................ E. 1,000-1,500

# Beautiful Netherlands 1864 Issue franking on cover to Yokohama via Marseilles



636

NETHERLANDS, 1864, 15c Orange (6). Two singles, used with pair of 1864, 10c Lake (5), tied by clear strikes of "FRANCO" framed handstamp, red "Middelburg 22/6 12-5 67" (Jun. 22, 1867) circular datestamp on blue folded letter to Randon & Co., Yokohama, Japan, A.H.G. Fokker blue oval handstamp and directive "via Marseille", red "P.D." handstamp, red "Pays-Bas Valnes. 24 Juin 67" double-circle datestamp, bold strike of "Yokohama Bau Francais 15 Aout 67" double-circle datestamp on back

VERY FINE. A COLORFUL AND EXCEEDINGLY RARE COVER FROM THE NETHERLANDS TO JAPAN WITH A WILLIAM III FRANKING PAYING THE 50-CENT RATE VIA MARSEILLES.

There are very few covers from the Netherlands to Japan in the period when the 1864 William III Issue was current. This was acquired in a Postiljonen sale more than 15 years ago. ..... E. 3,000-4,000



637 METHERLANDS, 1867, 50c Gold (12). Beautiful rich color, tied by "FRANCO" framed handstamp, clear strike of "Goes 12M-4A 4 Feb 69" double-circle datestamp on cover to Captain P. Toutenhoofd, care of the Dutch Consul, Yokohama, Japan, red "P.P." handstamp, Paris and Marseilles datestamps (Feb. 26), clear strike of blue "Yokohama Japon 20 Avril 69" double-circle datestamp on back

EXTREMELY FINE. A SUPERB AND RARE COVER FROM THE NETHERLANDS TO JAPAN WITH A SINGLE FRANKING OF THE  $1867\ 50$ -CENT WILLIAM III GOLD ISSUE.

This was acquired in a Postiljonen sale more than 15 years ago..... E. 1,500-2,000



638

NETHERLANDS, 1867, 50c Gold (12). Deep shade, tied by "FRANCO" framed handstamp, clear strike of red "Brummen 7 Apr 68" double-circle datestamp on cover to Nagasaki, Japan, "P.P." handstamp, "Pays-Bas Arrqs-Paris 8 Avril 68" double-circle datestamp, clear strike of "Shang-Hai Bau Francais 25 Mai 68" double-circle datestamp on back, this must have been forwarded to Nagasaki from Shanghai, dampstained with some effect on address, piece of backflap missing, presentable and Fine appearance, rare.............................. E. 750-1,000





640

640 

SINGAPORE/SHIP LETTER/18 OC/Bo. Framed handstamp on small cover to Dr. Mourier, Yokohama, Japan, clear strike of greenish-blue "Hong-Kong C OC 14 65" British P.O. circular datestamp on back, manuscript "4" with another "4" written below and a total of "8" pence due, combination of two 4p inter-port rates, Very Fine, extremely rare use ....... E. 1,000-1,500

# Quadruple-rate Sitting Helvetia franking on cover to Yokohama, arriving in the first mail after the Great Fire of November 1866



641

SWITZERLAND, 1862, 1fr Gold (50). Four singles, tied by "St. Gallen 9 Oct. 66 9M" (Oct. 9, 1866) double-circle datestamp on blue folded cover (outer address sheet) from J. B. Durler to Kniffler & Co., Yokohama, Japan, sender's directive "via Marseille", red crayon "4" for quadruple rate, "PD" framed handstamp, backstamped Geneva (Oct. 10) and Marseilles (Oct. 11), "Suisse Amb. Marseille E 10 Oct. 66" double-circle datestamp on front, no Yokohama arrival datestamp, but based on the Marseilles Oct. 10 date, this probably arrived on the Messageries Imperiales Alphee on November 12 or 13, the first mail to arrive after the Great Fire of November 26, 1866, toned spots and trivial oxidation in gold ink of stamps

FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY QUADRUPLE-RATE FRANKING WITH THE 1862 ONE-FRANC SEATED HELVETIA ISSUE—THIS COVER ARRIVED IN YOKOHAMA SHORTLY AFTER THE GREAT FIRE OF NOVEMBER 26, 1866.

With 1976 Zumstein certificate..... E. 3,000-4,000



- SWITZERLAND, 1867, 50c Violet (59). Used with 1867, 10c Carmine (53), tied by "Basel 29 VII 74 7" (Jul. 29, 1874) circular datestamp on 25c Green entire to J. R. Merian, Ziegler & Co., Yokohoma, Japan, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", "PD" handstamp, blue crayon rate, backstamped Torino (Jul. 31), Brindisi (Aug. 1), ultramarine "Hong-Kong Marine-Sorter Singapore-to Hong-Kong SP 6 / 15 74" double-circle and blue "Yokohama A SP 21 74" British P.O. datestamp on back, Very Fine, attractive and rare cover from Switzerland to Japan with Hong Kong Marine Sorter datestamp...... E. 750-1,000
- SWITZERLAND, 1867, 50c Violet (59). Tied by "Basel 8 XII 75 6" (Dec. 8, 1875) circular datestamp on 25c Green entire to J. R. Merian, Ziegler & Co., Yokohoma, Japan, sender's directive "Via Brindisi", "PD" handstamp, red crayon rate, backstamped Geneva (Dec. 8), Brindisi (Dec. 11), ultramarine "Hong-Kong Marine-Sorter Singapore-to Hong-Kong JA 12 / 20 76" double-circle and "Yokohama A JA 31 76" British P.O. datestamp on back, Very Fine, attractive and rare cover from Switzerland to Japan with Hong Kong Marine Sorter datestamp ............... E. 750-1,000



645EX



646EX

 $646 \bowtie$ Important Balance of the Magnolia Collection of Covers from France to Japan. 29 covers and one front (30 items total), a wonderful range of frankings and usage spanning nearly 20 years from 1867 to 1884, including well-known commercial and military correspondences (Chamberlain, Eccard & Raud, Fauconnet, Lebon, Maussenet, Ozier, Pignatel, Real, Thorel and others), British and French Packet rates including 100c, 120c and 130c (some double rates) paid with multicolor combinations, strips and blocks, mixed issues, includes three to military personnel with single 25c frankings (1871-73), a few later including front with 1fr and 10c Sage Issue, April 1880 cover after closing of French P.O. with Japanese Yokohama and Hiogo receiving datestamps, three stampless covers (one carried outside the mails, two with due markings), although minor faults are to be expected, overall Fine with many Very Fine covers, several ex Matsumoto and most sourced from auctions in France—the magnitude of the Magnolia collection makes this balance lot far more comprehensive and valuable than one would ordinarily encounter, worth careful examination (a complete scan of contents in PDF form will assist bidders who cannot view the actual lot) ......(Photo Ex/Website PDF) E. 5,000-7,500



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# 艾華 AVA auctions

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