Lot   Type   Grading   Description   Est $A

POSTAL HISTORY

Ex Lot 118

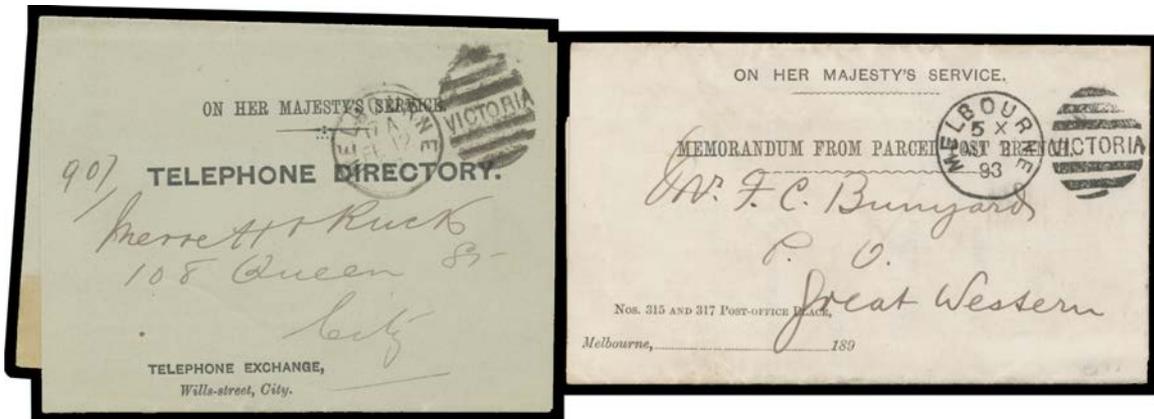| 118 | C | | Bundle with Classic frankings including 1856 OHMS with *Half-Length* 3d & apparently signed at lower-left by the famous explorer *Robert O'Hara Burke* (?), 1857 with postmaster's endorsement "Raglan/22 10 57" on the flap, 1859 with very fine BN '89', 1859 to Switzerland with *Queen-on-Throne* 6d pair, 1860 part-insurance company outer "turned" with *Emblems* 2d on both sides, 1861 from GB with 'MALDON' Crowned-Oval b/s, 1863 with *Beaded Ovals* 3d blue, 1864-65 with Redrawn 6d black x5 (one with very fine 'M' - via Marseilles - h/s of Geelong, another with manuscript cross-hatching cancel), 1869 mourning cover to London with *Laureates* 10d brown/pink, 1873 with rare franking of *Laureates* ½d on 1d x4 (faults) with light strikes of First Type BN '51' (rated RR) of Horsham, 1876 to London with *Woodblocks* 2/- green/yellow (a bit spotty), **(32)** | 1,000 |

Ex Lot 128

| 128 | C | | **1860s-1870s** array of covers with *Laureate* frankings with values to 1/-, better usages including 1d printed matter rates x2, 1d + *De La Rue* 2d to NSW, 2d strip of 3 to NSW redirected with NSW 2d added, 2d strip of 3 on *Bailliere's Victorian Atlas* advertising lettersheet to Tasmania, 3d orange to Hobart, 3d orange + 6d to Ireland, 1d pair 3d orange & 6d plus *DLR* 2d pair to Belgium (the second-earliest recorded from Victoria; not in *Ben Palmer's Census*), 4d with part-marginal inscription 'in each sheet' (very rare on cover), 10d brown/pink on mourning cover to GB & on two covers with different 'VIA MARSEILLES' embossings, '½ ½/HALF' on 1d - a rare solo franking - on makeshift address label on 1873 part-entire, 1868 Beechworth to France, 1869 1d on Ballarat town letter, etc, a very good source for early Melbourne duplexes, condition very mixed but many are fine to superb & all those mentioned are at least presentable. **(84)** | 2,000 |
| 133 | PS | B | **1889** 1d Postal Card with superb Ballarat duplex, to Melbourne with oval 'LIST ROOM/NO 1' d/s overstruck with large-part strike of the rubber 'NOT KNOWN BY/LETTER CARRIERS/MELBOURNE' handstamp (the only recorded example), redirected to Sydney, minor faults. | 100 |

Lot 135

POSTAL HISTORY (continued)

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A
135	PS	A	**1895** OHMS cover with printed 'MINISTER OF LANDS AND SURVEY' Frank & endorsed "L Colony" at lower-left, to Melbourne with very fine 'LEONGATHA/MY8/95/VICTORIA - 1592' duplex. The "Labour Colonies" of the 1890s were a little-known social experiment during the major economic depression of the 1890s. Most were run along charitable lines but the largest & most successful of them, at Leongatha, was "intended to fit men for a social order in which they hadn't had enough spunk to succeed and to which they were, in consequence, a menace" (from a book on the subject by *REW Kennedy*). This is the only Labour Colony item we have seen.	400

Ex Lot 147

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A
147	CPS		**OFFICIAL MAIL:** An excellent selection of envelopes including with imprints of Attorney-General (1857), Treasury (1859) & Public Lands, 1889 for Royal Mint, 1890 for Board of Health headed 'FREE BY ACT No 1011 SEC 9' & another unused (rare thus), 1901 mourning envelope for GPO registered to France, 1908 for Money Order Office with 'MO OFFICE/MELBOURNE VIC' cds in blue, etc; lettersheets including 1867 for GPO to be 'turned", 1872 for Accounts Branch, 1893 'MEMORANDUM FROM PARCEL POST BRANCH', 1894 'Notice of Withdrawal' (from *Post Office Savings Bank*), 1902 for Registrar-General, etc; postcards including 1889 for Registrar-General headed 'Free by Act of Legislature', 1910 Mines Department 'Particulars in Tendering for Slack Coal' with the reply-half still attached (not previously seen by us), etc; & various wrappers for Government Printer & Telephone Exchange; a few franked items & a few *Government Gazette* wrappers with *John Ferres'* "frank", etc, some duplication, postmark interest especially Melbourne duplexes, condition variable but many are fine to very fine. A very interesting lot that could be the subject for a single-frame or multi-frame exhibit. **(150 approx)**	1,250

OFFICIAL MAIL - FRANK STAMPS

We are pleased to present the most extensive collection ever formed of this interesting material. Max Watson is the first collector ever to assemble examples of every frank stamp recorded on cover. His collection incorporates Carl Stieg's extensive reference holdings & collection, key items from Hans Karman's and Guy Linfield's collections, plus several important recent discoveries. The collection is offered alphabetically by "department" (an expression that is used rather loosley as it includes many officials as distinct from departments or ministries). Unless stated otherwise, impressions are printed, in black. Die patterns & rarity ratings are from the definitive study "Franked! The Official Mail of Victoria 1864-1902" by Carl Stieg & Max Watson (2008). The book includes a census of all items recorded untiol that time: items offered here are shown as "S&W #---". Note that items from the 1860s are rare, and from the 1870s are scarce: this collection includes more than twice as many as were in the Karman and Linfield collections combined. It should be noted that handstruck franks are often incomplete or badly worn: thequality of such strikes here is generally above-average, with many being quite exceptional. Probably 95% of all franked items are envelopes: this collection includes many postcards, plus very elusive wrappers, parcel tags, address labels & even a lettercard.

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A
202	PS	A-	**CHIEF SECRETARY:** Die 5 (2mm arcs at sides) in black with 'QUARANTINE STATION/Point Nepean...' imprint at lower-left (*S&W* unrecorded), to Melbourne unusually with 'QUEENSCLIFF/AU29/90/VICTORIA - 70' duplex. [At this time, there was no post office & the mail was apparently taken across Port Phillip Heads & posted at Queenscliff. Point Nepean PO 1.4.1859; closed 1.1.1865. Quarantine Station PO opened 1.2.1898]	300

Ex Lot 208

OFFICIAL MAIL - FRANK STAMPS (continued)

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A
208	CPS		**- Exhibition envelopes etc** with various dies **1)** with 'INTERCOLONIAL EXHIBITION 1866' imprint at top (*S&W* #E1190; the only recorded example), a little soiled; **2)** with 'OFFICES OF THE/Commissioners of the Melbourne International Exhibition 1880/...' imprint with all printing inverted relative to the knife of the envelope (#580), unused & very rare thus; **3)** with 'Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne, 1888' imprint at L/L (#360), part-strikes of the 'EXHIBITION' duplex & cds on the reverse; **4)** ditto, long envelope (#E400), light vertical fold; **5)** 1897 with 'THE EXHIBITION TRUSTEES/...' imprint at L/L (*Ex Carl Stieg* but not in the census: *Hans Karman's* example sold for $414); **6)** 1893 wrapper with 'OFFICES OF/THE EXHIBITION TRUSTEES/...' imprint at L/L (#W110; the only recorded example), to New Zealand, faults but presentable; and **7)** 1880 parcel label with 'MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1880' imprint at top (unrecorded in the census), to Germany with very fine 'MC/97' & part-'EXHIBITION/NO29/80/VICTORIA' cds, soiled & repaired along central fold. A rare & desirable group. **(7)**	1,250

Lot 211

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A
211	C	B	**COMMANDANT LOCAL FORCES:** Light strike in dull blue on envelope with 'HEAD QUARTERS/Victoria Barracks' imprint at L/L & embossed crest in red on the flap (*S&W* #E30), 'EMERALD HILL/MY22/82/VICTORIA - 148' duplex, minor defects. Rated RR. [The embossing in red is actually superimposed on colourless 'VICTORIA/[crown]', the only such double-embossed flap known to us]	300

Lot 212

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A
212	C	A-	**- Very fine** strike in dull blue on envelope with 'CAPT COMMANDING/ST KILDA ARTILLERY' imprint at L/L (*S&W* #E20), 'PRAHRAN/MY2/83/VICTORIA - 69' duplex, minor opening fault on reverse otherwise superb. Rated RR. The only recorded item for this user.	500
238	C	A/B	**GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA:** 1892 & 1896 envelopes with Die 6 in violet (superb) or blue h/s, unusual Travelling Post Office usages with 'UP TRAIN/ MG7 /JA14/92/VICTORIA' cds or 'ENGLISH MAIL TPO/NO17/96/ + - VICTORIA' duplex. [See also Lot **281250**] **(2)**	150

TPOs: MELBOURNE-GEELONG-BALLARAT 1865-1890

Look at a map of Victoria & you will struggle to understand why the first railway line to Ballarat went via Geelong! The fact is, there was no direct line between Melbourne & Ballarat until 1890! Until that date all mail for Ballarat went via "the scenic route".

Lot 315

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A
315	S	A- A3+	**UP TRAIN 1:** Type 2 (Duplex) 'TPO/ 1 ' right-hand portion of the duplex superb cancel on *Bell* 2d. Rated RRRR: only 9 partial strikes on stamps - and no covers - are recorded.	100[T]

TPOs: MELBOURNE-GEELONG-BALLARAT 1865-1890 (continued)

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A

Lot 319

| 319 | C | B A1- | **DOWN TRAIN 1:** Type 2 (Duplex) largely very fine strike of MR13/72 - 'TPO/ 1 ' a bit indistinct against the blue stamp - tying *Laureates* 6d to cover with imprint of *Terminus Hotel (Geelong)* to Ballarat (b/s), part-flap removed & a little aged. Rated RRRRR on cover: the only recorded strike on cover. *Ex Roy Holland:* acquired for £312. [This & the next lot are further examples of the late fee having been reduced to 4d] | 600^T |

Lot 331

| 331 | C | B A2 | **DOWN TRAIN 2:** Type 2 (Duplex) largely very fine b/s of MR30/76 on cover from Melbourne to "Ascot/Nr Ballarat", 'CRESWICK' transit & light 24mm 'ASCOT' arrival b/s (the only recorded example), repaired flap tears. Rated RRRR on cover: four recorded. | 300^T |
| 332 | C | A- A1+ | - Type 3 (Small Octagon) superb b/s of JA18/89 on mourning cover from Ireland with GB 6d Jubilee tied by superb Dublin duplex, Melbourne arrival b/s, forwarded to Queenscliff & serviced on the train between Melbourne & Geelong, light 'QUEENSCLIFF' arrival backstamp. Rated R on cover but most examples are on mail between Melbourne-Geelong-Ballarat or Geelong-Ballarat, whereas this is from the much shorter Melbourne-Geelong sector. [With the original letter] | 150^T |

TPOs: BALLARAT-ARARAT-STAWELL 1876-1895

In 1876, the TPO service was extended westwards from Ballarat, to Ararat and later to Stawell. This service was withdrawn in 1895.

Lot 338

| 338 | S | A A3 | **UP TRAIN 7:** Type 2 (Duplex) part-strike with 'TP[O]/ 7 ' on *Bell* 2d. Rated RRRR on stamps, with only four partial strikes & no covers recorded. | 150^T |

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A

TPOs: MELBOURNE-SANDHURST/BENDIGO 1865-1927

Lot 349

| 349 | C | B A1 | **UP TRAIN 3:** Type 1 (Large Vertical Oval) very fine b/s of FE2673 on cover with *DLR* 2d tied by superb Sandhurst duplex, to Buninyong - 11km S of Ballarat - but missent all the way to Ballarat (part-b/s) where placed on the next Up service with light but generally very fine strike of the MG1 Large Oval, faint 'BUNINYONG RY STN' transit (the earlier of only two recorded strikes) & Buninyong duplex arrival b/s (affected by repaired flap tear). **The only recorded cover with two different Up Large Vertical Ovals**. [Illustrated at page 46] | 500^T |

Lot 350

350	C	B A1	- Type 1 (Large Vertical Oval) very fine b/s of AP2473 on cover with *De La Rue* 2d tied by very fine 'DUNOLLY/ VICTORIA - 239' duplex, to Sebastopol with Castlemaine & Ballarat transits & very fine 'SEBASTOPOL' b/s (the only recorded example), unclaimed there but forwarded a month later with light 'SMYTHESDALE' transit & fine 'ROSS'S CREEK' arrival cds (the only recorded example) on the face, repaired flap tears. The latest recorded usage.	300^T
353	CPS	A- A1	- Type 2 (Duplex) very fine strike of MR1/81 tying *Laureates* 6d to cover to Scotland, Melbourne & British 'EDINR & CARLISLE SORTING TENDER/ + ' transit backstamps; and superb strike of AU2/95 on 1d Postal Card Bendigo-Collingwood. [It appears the duplex was withdrawn in the second half of 1890, then returned to service in 1895: rated RRR on cover in the second period of use] **(2)**	300^T
354	PS	A A1+	- Type 2 (duplex) superb strike of JY6/97 on stampless 'ON HEALTH BUSINESS ONLY' lettersheet (advising of a smallpox outbreak), 'KYNETON' transit & light 'METCALFE' arrival b/s. Rated RRR on cover in the second period of use. An excellent & most unusual usage on OHMS Free Postal Stationery. *Ex Max Watson*.	200

Lot 359

| 359 | C | B A2- | **DOWN TRAIN 3:** Type 2 (Duplex) largely very fine b/s of OC24/78 on cover with *Bell* 2d tied by superb recut BN '145' & very fine 25mm 'CHEWTON' cds alongside, Sandhurst arrival b/s, flap removed & small repair at the top. Rated RRRRR, with only three examples, all on cover, recorded. | 500^T |

TPOs: MELBOURNE-SANDHURST/BENDIGO 1865-1927 (continued)

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A

Lot 366

| 366 | S | A/B A2 | **UP TRAIN 4:** Type 2 (Duplex) very fine part-strike of AU31/72 & another of the '[T]PO/ 4 ' portion on *De La Rue* 2d pair (one damaged). Rated RRRRR with only a few part-strikes, and no covers, recorded. This is the most "complete" example known. Illustrated at page 59. | 100^T |

Lot 375

| 375 | S | A A3+ | **DOWN TRAIN 4:** Type 2 (Duplex) superb strike of MR11/72 of the datehead only on *De La Rue* 2d. Rated RRRRR, being the only recorded strike of the datehead. Only one example of the 'TPO/ 4 ' portion has also been recorded. [Illustrated at page 59!] | 150^T |

TPOs: MELBOURNE-WODONGA 1873-1932

| 383 | PS | A A1+ | **UP TRAIN 5:** Type 2 (Duplex) superb cancel of MY28/85 on 1d Postal Card, Geelong transit and part 'GERMANTOWN' arrival b/s. Rated RR: the ERD on cover. [The message is headed "Kensington" which is part of North Melbourne, requiring TPO processing in the last mile of the route. The origin may have been "Kevington", near Jamieson, which could have allowed for carriage west to Seymour. Then again, the origin may have been "Kensington Hill" - 12km ESE of Geelong, on the Bellarine Peninsula - which was renamed Leopold Hill 1.7.1884, but then it shoulldn't have gone anywhere near TPO 5! What fun! During World War I, Germantown was renamed Grovedale on 1.3.1916]

NB: In the Handbook, the TPO 5 Up Train markings are incorrectly numbered. | 150^T |

Lot 384

| 384 | PS | A- A1 | - Type 2 (Duplex) very fine cancel of MR27/89 on 3d red/green Postal Card with message in Swedish, to Sweden but not uprated or taxed until arrival with manuscript "80" in blue & superb 'T'-in-inverted-triangle, largely very fine Swedish 'PXKP No 2 A...U' TPO cds, faint bends. Illustrated at page 66. [An excellent example of a relatively common postmark in uncommon circumstances: these cards paid the rate to the UK only via Italy. Additional postage was required to European destinations. Pre-1891 commercial usages are very scarce] | 250^T |

Lot 386

| 386 | D | A- A1+ | **DOWN TRAIN 5:** Type 2 (Duplex) superb cancellation of AU11/84 on *Bell* 1d green x2 on small piece. Rated RRRRR, being the earliest - and the only complete example - of only three recorded strikes, all on loose stamps. [Illustrated at page 71] | 200^T |

TPOs: MELBOURNE-WODONGA 1873-1932 (continued)

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A

Lot 389

| 389 | S | A A3 | **UP TRAIN 6:** Type 3 (Duplex) very fine strike of the 'TPO/ 6 ' portion only on *Naish* Redrawn 2d violet. Rated RRRRR: the only recorded example. Illustrated at page 71. [It cannot be stated with certainty that this is an Up duplex, but that is far more likely than a Down type] | 100ᵀ |

TPOs: SEYMOUR-NUMURKAH

A branch line from Seymour - on the main line to Wodonga & on from there via Albury to Sydney - to Shepparton opened in January 1880 but it was only in 1888, by which time the line had been extended to Numurkah, that TPO services commenced.

| 409 | PS | A A1+ | **DOWN TRAIN 17:** Type 1 (Octagon) superb cancel on 1d Postal Card with printed advice for *Roller Flour Mills*, to the baker at Yarram with 'YARRAM YARRAM' duplex b/s. Rated RRRR: seven usages on cover recorded. Illustrated at page 84. | 200ᵀ |

TPOs: MELBOURNE-PORT ALBERT

The South Gippsland Line to Port Albert was completed by January 1892. Molnar & Waugh state at page 147 "formal TPO services did not commence...until 1898", using the re-allocated Numbers 2 and 7. However, as early as mid-1894, at least de facto TPO 20 & 21 services were operating, using manuscript postal markings. Molnar states TPOs 20 & 21 were shelved because of fiscal belt-tightening during the catastrophic economic depression of the mid-1890s.

| 436 | C | A A2 | **DOWN TRAIN 7:** Type 1 (Duplex) largely very fine cancel of JY18/08 on 1d pink on PPC to Outtrim. Rated RRRR: five examples on cover recorded. [Outtrim, named after the then *Minister for Mines*, is 12km SSW of Korumburra in the Strzelecki Ranges. Coal was discovered locally in 1892 & the *Victorian Railways* sourced most of their coal needs from there for many years. The coal ran out before World War II & the settlement declined to the point where it became a virtual ghost town] | 200ᵀ |

TPOs: ROYAL MAIL STEAM SHIPS, HOBSONS BAY

We agree with Molnar & Waugh's assertion that this subject should be included here, because it was, in effect, a precursor to the English Mail TPO railway service. The RMSS service operated on the pier where letters were received for last-minute delivery by small boat to the departing Royal Mail ship. The service commenced as early as March 1862 and its discontinuance in late-January 1887 coincided with introduction of the English Mail TPO service.

Lot 439

| 439 | S | A/B A3 | **TYPE 1 DUPLEX:** Largely very fine strike of the datehead portion 'RMSS/ V /MY26/64/HOBSONS BAY' on Perf 12 1/- Octagonal, and a more complete strike of JA26/64 on Perf 12 2/- *Woodblock*; also a similar strike of the Type 2 duplex RMSS/ T /DE17/85/HOBSONS BAY' on Large Stamp Duty 5/- claret/yellow. The 2/- & 5/- are illustrated at page 95.

Strikes can be identified from the datehead diameter: measured from the 'R' to the 'B' of 'BAY', Type 1 is 20½mm; Type 2 is 22mm. In addition, the space between the 'R' & 'H' is 4½mm on Type 1 & only 3mm on Type 2. On Type 1, there is a large dot between the 'R' & 'H'; it is omitted from Type 2. | 250ᵀ |

Lot 440

440 C   B A2- **-** Two largely very fine but overlapping cancels of JA4/70 on *Laureates* 10d brown/pink - rounded corner - & 1/- on cover with 'SCOTTS HOTEL/.../COLLINS STREET' imprint in red on the flap, to Suffolk "Via Marseille", 'SAXMUNDHAM/FE21/70' arrival b/s, repaired flap tear. Carried per "Malta" ex Melbourne 4/5.1.1870; "Hindostan" ex Galle 26.1.1870; and "Tanjore" ex Alexandria 13.2.1870, arrived Marseilles 18.2.1870. *Ex Roy Holland:* acquired for £840. Rated RRRR: six examples on cover recorded. Illustrated at page 95.

The service was inherently inefficient & expensive to run. Thus, in July 1864, a late fee of 2/- was imposed. This was halved to 1/- in September 1865. Of the eight covers recorded, one predates imposition of the late fee, five bear 1/- late fee, and one has 2d late fee only because it was an irregular posting of a private shipletter, as distinct from a contract packet letter. No cover with 2/- late fee has been recorded.

For many years, no covers were on the market because *Roy Holland* had managed to acquire all seven of the then known covers! The only other cover known to us was discovered recentlly in a collection of Melbourne duplexes!   2,000^T

TPOs: ROYAL MAIL STEAM SHIPS, HOBSONS BAY (continued)

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A

Lot 441

| 441 | C | A- A1 | **TYPE 2 DUPLEX:** Two largely very fine to superb but overlapping cancels of JL1/84 on *Laureates* 6d & *Bell* 1/- on cover to Gloucestershire "Per *Ravenna*", 'CHELTENHAM/AU11/84' arrival b/s, some very minor soiling. Carried per "Ravenna" ex Melbourne 1.7.1884; "Bokhara" ex Galle 19.7.1874; and "Surat" ex Alexandria 5.8.1884, arrived Gravesend 11.8.1884. *Ex Roy Holland:* acquired for £960. Rated RRRRR: the later of only two examples recorded on cover and, therefore, **the latest RMSS Hobson's Bay cover.** | 3,000[T] |

TPOs: ENGLISH MAIL TRAVELLING POST OFFICE

This service, by rail Melbourne-Ballarat-Horsham-Serviceton then per South Australian Railways to Adelaide, commenced operations on 19.1.1887. Until the direct Melbourne-Ballarat Line was commissioned in 1890, the English Mail "express" trains still ran via Geelong. The long-held belief that the new service allowed late mails to "beat" the mail boat out of Melbourne to Adelaide is repeated by Molnar & Waugh. However, as Colin Tabeart demonstrates in "ANZUK Mails 1881-1900", it's only partly correct. The Orient Line continued to operate between London & Melbourne. However, for P&O, which carried the vast majority of the English mails, the through rail service resulted in Adelaide becoming the terminus for mails between Australia & England. Les Molnar also states that the English Mail TPO service was terminated in 1917 because of World War I, and that later mails went trans-Pacific via the United States & then trans-Atlantic. This is incorrect. The Trans-Australian Railway was opened in October 1917, resulting in Fremantle (WA) becoming the terminus of the Australia-England ocean mails, which remained the preferred route to Europe, England and even the Americas.

Lot 443

| 443 | C | A+ A2 | **TYPE 2 (DUPLEX):** Largely very fine cancel of JE8/88 on Large Stamp Duty 1/6d rosine on cover to Germany "p Orizaba", German 'KB BAHNPOST/11/JUL/88' TPO transit & 'HAMBURG' arrival b/s. Superb! Carried per *Orient Line* "Parramatta" ex Melbourne 8.6.1888, arrived Naples 9.7.1888. Illustrated at page 51. [Absent from *Ben Palmer's Census*] | 400[T] |

TPOs: ENGLISH MAIL TRAVELLING POST OFFICE (continued)

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A
444	C	C B2	- Largely fine b/s of DE13/89 on *Pfaff Pinschof & Co* cover to Germany "Per SS Britannia/Via Brindisi" with rare franking of Large Stamp Duty 2/6d yellow-orange + *Naish* 3d x2, 'HANNOVER' arrival b/s of 19.1.1890, rather spotty but a rare postal fiscal franking. Carried per "Britannia" ex Adelaide 16.12.1889, arrived Brindisi 16.1.1890. [*Ben Palmer's Census* Germany #89]	250ᵀ

Lot 445

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A
445	PS	B A2	- Largely very fine b/s of MR10/96 on an Up Train usage of 1d Envelope uprated with *Astley* 1d & *Reading* 1d tied by Hamilton duplex of the same date, to Massachusetts with Melbourne transit b/s of MR11/96 & San Francisco b/s of APR9/1896 that prove carriage & processing on the east-bound service, minor soiling. This and the next lot are **rare non-English Mail usage**. *Ex George Bowman:* acquired directly from *Prestige* in 2007 for $500.	400ᵀ

Lot 446

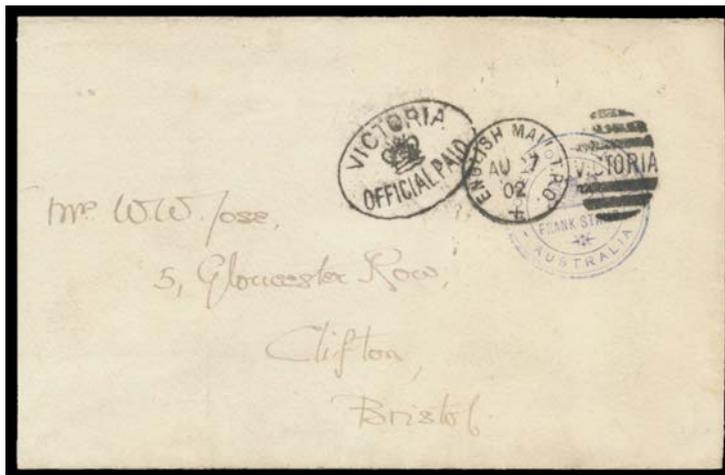| Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A
446	C	A B1-	- Largely fine cancel of MY9/98 tying *Naish* 4d to double-rate cover with *Bank of New Zealand (Melbourne)* imprint on the flap, to a bank at Esperance WA & endorsed "Per Direct Boat/Via Adelaide", very fine Adelaide transit b/s of MY20/96 & light 'ESPERANCE BAY/MY29/96/WA' arrival b/s. Another very unusual English Mail TPO usage that was sent only as far as Adelaide by the accelerated service, then placed on a coastal steamer that took up to 9 days to reach Esperance. [Esperance was a sleepy hamlet on the Great Australian Bight. However, it experienced a boom in the mid-1890s because it offered the shortest &, at the time, quickest access to the newly discovered goldfields at Coolgardie, Norseman & elsewhere, some 200km due north from the coast]	250ᵀ

TPOs: ENGLISH MAIL TRAVELLING POST OFFICE (continued)

Lot	Type	Grading	Description	Est $A

Lot 449

| 449 | C | A+ A1 | - Very fine cancel of AU27/02 across largely very fine 'GOVERNOR-GENERAL/[Arms]/FRANK STAMP/AUSTRALIA' h/s in blue on cover with 'GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF AUSTRALIA/[Arms]' embossed in blue on the flap, to England with superb 'VICTORIA/[Crown]/OFFICIAL PAID' h/s as required on franked mail going abroad. A terrific TPO usage. Unlisted in the *Stieg & Watson Census*, where only four other envelopes with the flap embossing - three of them mourning types - are recorded. The franking privilege was withdrawn 31.10.1902, making this a very late usage (and the second-latest *Governor-General* envelope recorded by *Stieg & Watson*).

It is almost certain that the duplex & Official Paid h/s were struck in the same ink, suggesting that the h/s was part of the TPO "furniture". However, there is no such marking on Lot **281230**, which raises the previously unexpected possibility that the Official Paid handstamp was allocated to the *Governor-General* for use on his mail to the Old Country! | 750[T] |