

POSTAL HISTORY

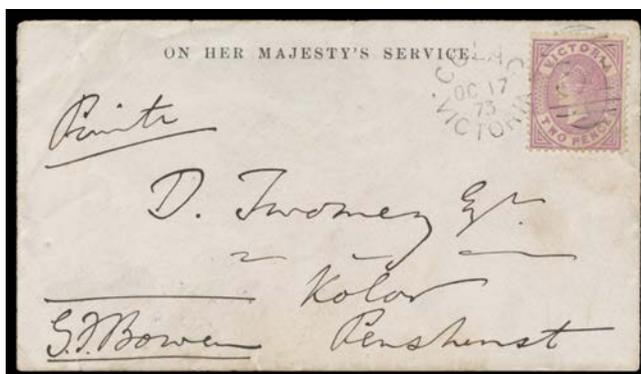


Lot 121

- 121** C B **1845** lengthy *Bunbury Correspondence* entire headed "William's Town December 10th 45" to Suffolk "Per Spartan" with boxed 'INDIA LETTER/DARTMOUTH' h/s & rated "8" in black, 'DARTMOUTH/MY15/1846' transit & 'BURY ST EDMUNDS' arrival b/s, redirected to "**Poste restante/Venice**" with rate calculation to "2/1" in red, 'PD'-in-oval h/s of London in red & superb boxed 'ShipLetter'-in-italics b/s, light 'JTALIEN'-in-oval h/s, then forwarded to "Cologne" (at the time, in France), red-ink stain on the address panel. *Ex Ray Kelly. [This is the earliest recorded item from Victoria to France, and any of the Italian States.* The earliest recorded by *Ben Palmer* are of 1850 & 1856 respectively]

The chatty contents include references to aborigines, political unrest & the need for Separation from New South Wales, and the discovery of gold, some five years before the first "official" finds! "...The practical importance of these Colonies appears to be overlooked and practical jokes one might almost suppose them to be are played upon the unfortunate colonists by each succeeding Minister...[One of the Port Phillip members of the Legislative Council] told the G-G that he would drive the people into a rebellion...another...has openly at public meetings and in the newspapers advocated armed rebellion to the measures of the FitzRoy Government...The sheep farmers are all getting disgustingly rich and have no means of investing their surplus money...Gold of the highest quality has been found on the Sydney side ..."

750



Ex Lot 131

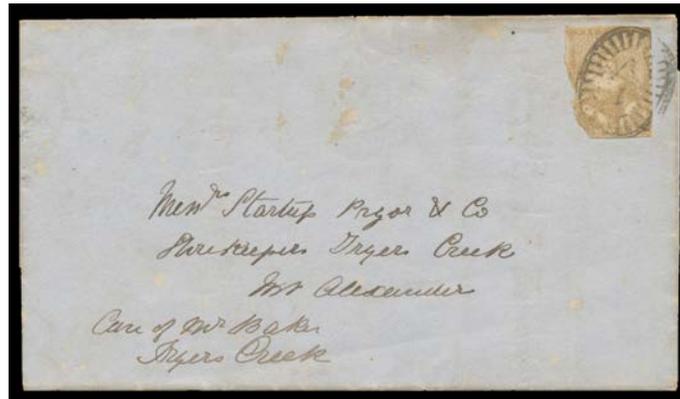
- 131** C/CL A/B **1869-84** **Governors' mail** comprising 1) 1869 OHMS cover with 'PRIVATE SECRETARY'S OFFICE' imprint & 'THE GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA' colourless embossing on the flap; 2) 1873 OHMS cover & enclosed letter both with Governor embossing & both signed "GF Bowen"; 3) two 1884 covers to the *Governor of South Australia* both signed "MNormanby". [*Viscount Canterbury* was Governor in 1866-1873; *Sir George Ferguson Bowen* 1873-1879; and the *Marquess of Normanby* 1879-1884] **(5 items)**

600

POSTAL HISTORY (continued)

Lot Type Grading Description

Est \$A



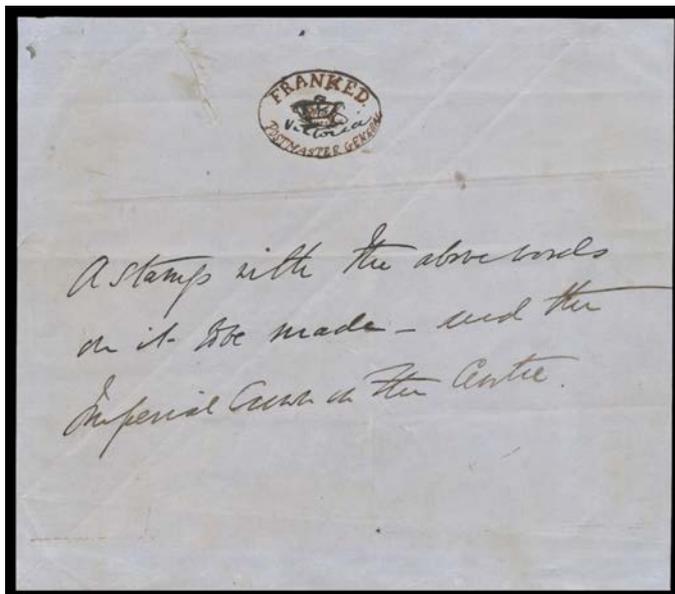
Lot 145

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| 145 | C | B | <p>GOLDFIELDS EXPRESS COVERS: a similar part-entire similarly addressed, defective 2d Half-Length & fine Melbourne b/s of JA*6/1853, light 'FORREST CK/JA*3/1853/VICTORIA' alongside indicates that this is the "reply-half" of a letter that originated at what was later Castlemaine (9km NNW of Fryers Creek). The writer states: "I have this day posted a registered letter contg £100 in notes...On Monday next I shall send you a further sum by private escort and the letter containing the receipt will also be sent by the Escort...I enclose a printed form of the Private Escort Arrangements for the coming year and also send you a few stamps as all letters sent by the Escort must be stamped as if sent by post". A very important letter providing information re this little-known but essential, if provisional, Goldfields service.</p> |
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500

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 loosely 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 until 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: the quality 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 188

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| 188 | L | B | <p>GENESIS OF THE FRANKS: 1864 Post Office memorandum (171x194mm) giving instructions for the preparation of a frank stamp for use on official mail, in accordance with the hand-drawn pen & ink sketch on the reverse inscribed 'FRANKED/[crown]/POSTMASTER GENERAL' with "Victoria" added in another hand, plus an appended note of the price of £3 to procure same from <i>de Gruchy & Co</i> of Melbourne, minor folds & a bit aged on the face. A highly important historical document. <i>Ex Hans Karman</i>. Illustrated at page 2.</p> |
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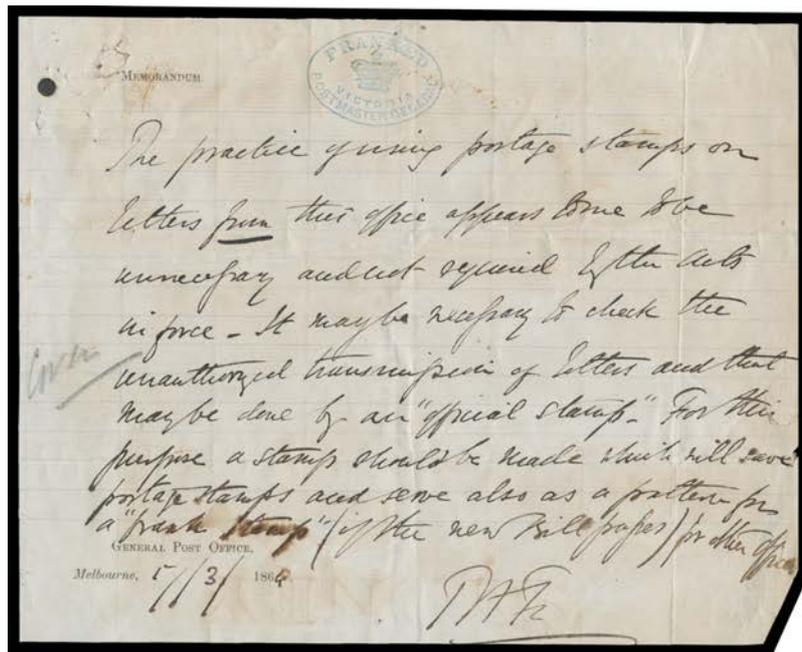
2,500



OFFICIAL MAIL - FRANK STAMPS (continued)

Lot Type Grading Description

Est \$A

**Lot 189**

- 189** L B - 1864 Post Office memorandum (230x185mm) dated "5.3.1864" & initialed "THF" (*Postmaster-General TH Fellows*) stating "The practice of using postage stamps on letters from this office appears to me to be unnecessary and not required by the Acts in force. It may be necessary to check the unauthorized transmission of letters and that may be done by an official stamp. For this purpose a stamp should be made which will save postage stamps and serve also as a pattern for a 'frank stamp' (if the new Bill passes) for other offices", with a light but very fine strike of the 'FRANKED/[crown]/VICTORIA/POSTMASTER GENERAL' handstamp (40x28mm) as foreshadowed in the previous lot in blue at the top of the document, horizontal folds & minor aging not affecting the handstamp. Another highly important historical document, with the only recorded strike of the handstamp. *Ex Hans Karman*. Illustrated at page 1. [Max Watson acquired this and the previous lot at the *Charles Leski Auction* of 24.3.2004 for \$6325]

One of the innovations in the new *Postal Act* that came into force on 3.6.1864 was the providing of frank stamps to Ministers of the Crown and military commanders in the Colony. These were to have effect from 3.8.1864.

2,500

VICTORIAN NON-PHILATELIC LITERATURE

- 482 L A/B Box of useful references including "Place Names of Victoria" by Blake, "Southern Invasion/Northern Conquest...the Founding of Melbourne" by Harcourt, "Letters from Victorian Pioneers" (1898, facsimile edition 1983), "Western Victoria: its Geography Geology & Social Condition" by Bonwick (1857, 1970 reprint), "Letters of Charles Joseph La Trobe", "A History of the Parliament of Victoria 1856-1990" by Wright, "Port Phillip Gentlemen" by de Seville, "Not So Eminent Victorians" by Selleck & Sullivan, etc, most are very fine. (11)

50