

Lot Type Grading Description

Est \$A

**TPOs: MELBOURNE-WODONGA 1873-1932****Lot 398**

**398** PS A A1 **UP TRAIN 12:** Type 2 (22½mm CDS with Stops at Sides) very fine b/s of MY7/85 on NSW 1d Envelope uprated with 1d & 2d all tied by light strikes of what appears to be a mailbag seal overwritten with manuscript "X" cancels, from Sydney - firm's cachet on the flap - to Melbourne (b/s). A very appealing usage. Rated RR: the ERD on cover.

200<sup>T</sup>**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 & Vaugh. However, as Colin Tabcart 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 445**

**445** PS B A2 **TYPE 2 (DUPLEX):** 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.

400<sup>T</sup>