



## African Studies Centre Leiden

# African Postal Heritage

APH Paper Nr 38

Ton Dietz

Madagascar before becoming a French Colony

January 2019

### Introduction

Postage stamps and related objects are miniature communication tools, and they tell a story about cultural and political identities and about artistic forms of identity expressions. They are part of the world's material heritage, and part of history. Ever more of this postal heritage becomes available online, published by stamp collectors' organizations, auction houses, commercial stamp shops, online catalogues, and individual collectors. Virtually collecting postage stamps and postal history has recently become a possibility. These working papers about Africa are examples of what can be done. But they are work-in-progress! Everyone who would like to contribute, by sending corrections, additions, and new area studies can do so by sending an email message to the APH editor: Ton Dietz ([dietzaj@asc.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:dietzaj@asc.leidenuniv.nl)). You are welcome!

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African Studies Centre Leiden

P.O. Box 9555  
2300 RB Leiden  
The Netherlands

Telephone	+31-71-5273372
E-mail	asc@asc.leidenuniv.nl
Website	<a href="http://www.ascleiden.nl">http://www.ascleiden.nl</a>
Facebook	<a href="http://www.facebook.nl/ascleiden">www.facebook.nl/ascleiden</a>
Twitter	<a href="http://www.twitter.com/ascleiden">www.twitter.com/ascleiden</a>
Countryportal	<a href="http://countryportal.ascleiden.nl">http://countryportal.ascleiden.nl</a>

Illustrations cover page:

ASC Leiden postage stamp Nederland (2011): ©African Studies Centre Leiden

Cape of Good Hope postage stamp 1853:

[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/7c/Cape\\_Triangular\\_Postage\\_Stamp.jpg/400px-Cape\\_Triangular\\_Postage\\_Stamp.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/7c/Cape_Triangular_Postage_Stamp.jpg/400px-Cape_Triangular_Postage_Stamp.jpg)

Egypt postage stamp 1914:

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Post\\_Stamp\\_Egypt.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Post_Stamp_Egypt.jpg)

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For Madagascar as an Autonomous and later Independent State see APH 40 (also: postmarks, and a note on sources).

1 Introduction, and before 1884



<http://www.stampworldhistory.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Madagascar2.png>

“Following their capture of Mauritius from the French in 1810 during the Napoleonic Wars, with ownership confirmed by the 1814 Treaty of Paris, the British saw Madagascar as a natural expansion of their influence in the Indian Ocean... The Merina King, Radama I, managed to unite Madagascar under one rule, benefiting from British weapons and military instructors...He signed treaties with the British, allowing Protestant missionaries and outlawing the slave trade...

When Queen Ranavalona I took power in 1828, relationships with foreign powers gradually soured. By the mid-1830s, nearly all foreigners had chosen to leave or were expelled, and British influence

was largely suppressed... An exception, the Frenchman Jean Laborde, was able to remain in the island to build foundries and an armament industry.

Meanwhile, the Queen's son Prince Rakoto (future King Radama II) had been under the influence of French nationals at Antananarivo. In 1854, a letter destined for Napoleon III that he dictated and signed was utilized by the French government as a basis for future invasion of Madagascar... He further signed the Lambert Charter on 28 June 1855, a document that granted Frenchman Joseph-François Lambert numerous lucrative economic privileges on the island,...including exclusive right to all mining and forestry activities, and exploitation of unoccupied land, in exchange for a 10% fee to the Merina monarchy... A coup to topple the Queen and replace her by her son was also planned, in which Laborde and Lambert were involved. Upon the death of the queen, her son took over as King Radama II in 1861, but he only ruled two years before ending by an assassination attempt. This assassination was treated as successful at the time, although later evidence suggests Radama survived the attack and lived to old age as a regular citizen outside the capital. He was succeeded to the throne by his apparent widow Rasoherina.

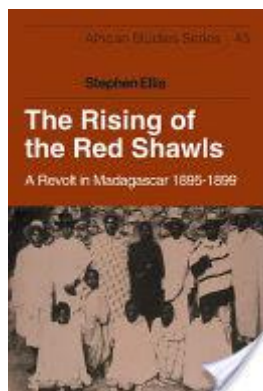
The Prime Minister Rainivoninahitrinony revoked the Lambert Treaty in 1863. From 1864, Prime Minister Rainilaiarivony endeavored to modernize the state by putting an end to slavery in 1877, modernizing the legal system in 1878 and setting up a new constitution in 1881... Under the anglophile Rainilaiarivony, British influence grew considerably in the economic and religious fields...

In the early 1880s however, the French colonial faction, the right-wing Catholic lobby and Réunion parliamentarians all advocated an invasion of Madagascar in order to suppress British influence there... The non-respect of the Lambert Charter and the letter to Napoleon III were used by the French as the pretext to invade Madagascar in 1883... Various disputes also helped trigger the intervention: the minority Sakalavas remained faithful to a French protectorate in the north of the island, a French national was killed in Antananarivo, and the Merina placed an order for the French flag to be replaced by the Madagascar flag in French concessions.. This triggered the first phase of the Franco-Hova War.... The First Madagascar expedition was the beginning of the Franco-Hova War and consisted of a French military expedition against the Merina Kingdom on the island of Madagascar in 1883. It was followed by the Second Madagascar expedition in 1895...

The decision was taken to send the naval division of Admiral Le Timbre... The French under Admiral Pierre.. bombarded the northwestern coast and occupied Majunga in May 1885... A column brought an ultimatum to Antananarivo, asking for recognition of French rights in northeastern Madagascar, a French protectorate over the Sakalava, recognition of French property principles and an indemnity of 1,500,000 francs...When the ultimatum was refused, France bombarded the east coast, occupied Toamasina, and arrested the English missionary Shaw... Meanwhile, Queen Ranavalona II died, as did Admiral Pierre, who succumbed to the fatigue of the campaign... Admiral Pierre was replaced by Admiral Galiber, and then Counter-Admiral Miot...A Treaty was signed in December 1885, the French interpreting it as a Protectorate Treaty, while Queen Ranavalona III and Prime Minister Rainilaiarivony denied it... The Treaty included the acceptance of a French resident in Antananarivo and the payment of an indemnity of 10 million...The Treaty however remained without effect, and would lead to the Second Madagascar expedition in 1895, which resulted in French colonization of Madagascar.”

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First\\_Madagascar\\_expedition](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Madagascar_expedition)

Stephen Ellis, later researcher at the African Studies Centre in Leiden, published a book about the resistance against French occupation between 1895 and 1899, the Rising of the Red Shawls.



[https://books.google.nl/books/content?id=CdZkAwAAQBAJ&printsec=frontcover&img=1&zoom=1&e\\_dge=curl&imgtk=AFLRE72NEHjaN\\_6nrvbE57wfcNqArqc3Z0niybby-A2jRtZY\\_oyX5N489bTDoxXhhmEVsaNoweRyo4qu-H7itqs2jzj4wa9JogByAiNhaKB7FUfWZp0jSltj9EnhxeF02T8oqBTJzvWH](https://books.google.nl/books/content?id=CdZkAwAAQBAJ&printsec=frontcover&img=1&zoom=1&e_dge=curl&imgtk=AFLRE72NEHjaN_6nrvbE57wfcNqArqc3Z0niybby-A2jRtZY_oyX5N489bTDoxXhhmEVsaNoweRyo4qu-H7itqs2jzj4wa9JogByAiNhaKB7FUfWZp0jSltj9EnhxeF02T8oqBTJzvWH)

“Originally published in 1985, this book examines the rising of the menalamba, the Red Shawls, against French colonial rule in Madagascar in the 1890s. Using the words of the Malagasy themselves and the archives of the Malagasy kings and queens, as well as European records, it tells from the inside the story of an Afro-Asian society at a moment of crisis. In the century before the French conquest, rising tensions between modernising kings, self-seeking Christian oligarchs and reactionary guardians of the ancient talismans had weakened the capacity of the kingdom to resist. But just two months after the French occupation of the capital the menalamba revivalist movement sought to restore the customs of the ancestors and expel the French from the island. The civil war of 1895-9, which was fully described here for the first time, has cast a shadow on Malagasy politics ever since.”

[https://books.google.nl/books/about/The\\_Rising\\_of\\_the\\_Red\\_Shawls.html?id=CdZkAwAAQBAJ&redir\\_esc=y](https://books.google.nl/books/about/The_Rising_of_the_Red_Shawls.html?id=CdZkAwAAQBAJ&redir_esc=y)

## Royal mail

According to David Feldman, Madagascar, Specialised collection of British, Norwegian & French Issues, 2010, Geneva, Spring Auction<sup>1</sup>.

“Neither the Kingdom of Imerina nor the other regions of Madagascar had any postal administration. A Royal Messenger Service was introduced in Imerina in 1790, utilizing runners on an ad hoc basis. By 1828, a corps of runners linked the capital, Tananarivo (Antananarivo) with the port of Tamatave on the east coast, with Fianarantsoa in the south central region, and with Maevatanana in the central north. During the reign of the last Queen, Ranavalona III (1883-97), pre-printed envelopes were used for official mail to the regional governors. In 1896, the last year of the Kingdom of Imerina's independence, the Malagasy Mail was established with a runner service from the capital to Tamatave. In one of the few portions of Madagascar not dominated by the Kingdom of Imeria, the King of Yfassy in the far north established a runner post service in 1878

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.davidfeldman.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/104\\_Madagascar\\_web.pdf](https://www.davidfeldman.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/104_Madagascar_web.pdf)

and again from 1882 which connected the mouth of the river Ifassy on the north-west coast to Vohemar on the north-east coast and onwards south to Sambava. this service linked the island of Nossi-bé (off the northwest coast) to the east coast.



King Radama I (1810-1828)

Queen Ranavalona I (1828-1861) Widow of and successor to Radama I; during the fierce Ranavalona I's reign, Christian missionaries were expelled and about 150'000 Malagasy converts were slaughtered.

King Radama II (1829-1863?), ruled as king between 1861 and 1863 (murdered).

[https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radama\\_II\\_van\\_Madagaskar](https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radama_II_van_Madagaskar)



Rasoherina (1814-1868), ruled as queen between 1863 and 1868

[https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rasoherina\\_van\\_Madagaskar](https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rasoherina_van_Madagaskar)

Ravalona II (1829-1883), ruled as queen between 1869 and 1883.

[https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ranavalona\\_II\\_van\\_Madagaskar](https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ranavalona_II_van_Madagaskar)



Ranavalomanjaka, Queen of Madagascar, known as Ranavalona III (1862-1917) or Rasoherina, ruled as Queen from 1883 to 1896 and died in exile in Algier in 1917; Rainilaiarivony was the Prime Minister of Queens Ranavalona II and Ranavalona III”.

Feldman gives examples of letters sent by Royal Mail in Madagascar during the pre-colonial years.

“1824 (11 Jan.) Folded lettersheet from King Radama I (1810-1828) to James Hastie, the British Civil Agent in Madagascar (1817-1826) thanking him for the medicine which has cured his fever, the letter was carried locally in the village of Ambohicourohitry. James Hastie accompanied the King throughout his campaigns to unite Madagascar.

1830 (1 July) Folded lettersheet from Ramiaramanana, possibly a son of the reigning Queen Ranavalona I (1828-1861), widow of Radama I, letter addressed to Lieutenant James Liardet onboard H.M. Sloop Jaguar (?) at Cape of Good Hope and now staying at Antananarivo. The prince is giving an account of his studies in demotic English.

1847 Letter from the Foreign Office to Her Majesty Ranavalona, Queen of Madagascar, regarding the signature of a peace treaty.

1861 (Oct) Folded lettersheet with instructions in Malagasy to hand the letter to the Europeans, i.e. Colonel Middleton’s mission.

1861 (4 Oct.) Folded lettersheet from the Commander-in-chief at Tamatave to Col. Middleton on his way to the Capital advising him how to treat local guides, marked with a cross for urgency.

1861 (13 Oct.) Folded lettersheet written on behalf of King Radama II at Antananarivo to Colonel Middleton, then on his way to the capital, “... The King is happy to hear of your near approach to His Capital...”

1861 (17 Oct.) Folded lettersheet from Rahaniraka, the Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to Colonel Middleton, delivered locally in Antananarivo.

1861 (22 Oct.) Folded lettersheet from Rahaniraka, Principal Secretary of State at the Palace of Antananarivo to Colonel Middleton on his way to Tamatave, top urgency indicated by the three crosses.

1861 (5 Nov.) Folded lettersheet in Malagasy from the Governor of Tamatave to Colonel Middleton, delivered locally.

1861 (16 Nov.) Folded entire from the Aide-de-Camp to the Commander-in-Chief in Antananarivo to Colonel Middleton, now in Mauritius.

1866 Letter to Her Majesty The Queen from a Missionary presenting therewith the first Bible in Malagasy.

1877 (4 May) Envelope from Rainilaiarivony, Prime Minister of Madagascar (to 1896) bearing his embossed seal, stamped at Mauritius with pair of 1863-72 1s orange, the 2s charge was four times the basic 6d letter rate to the UK.

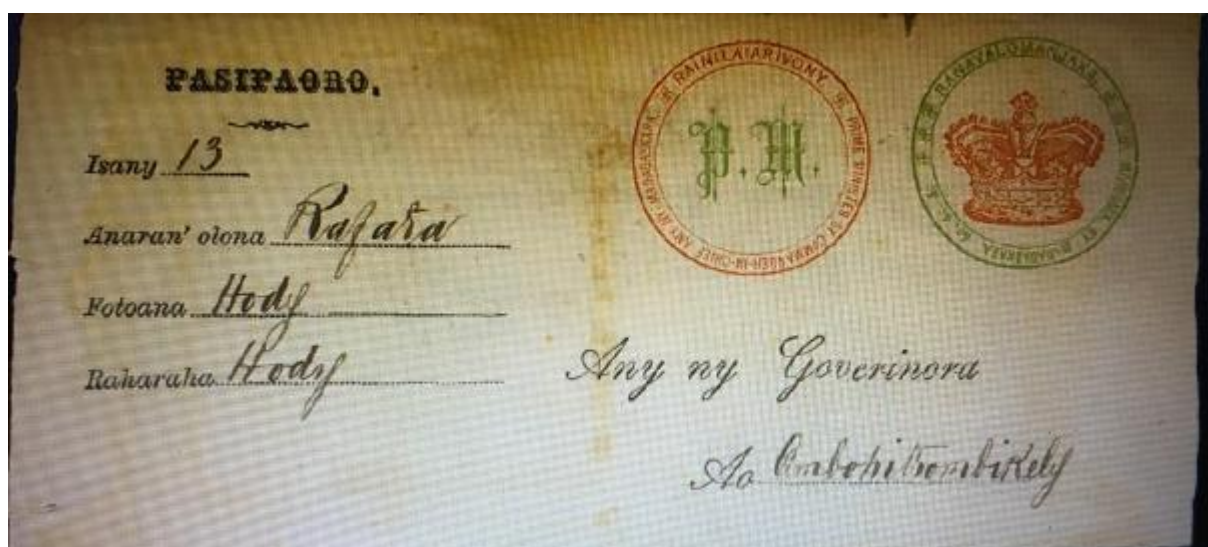
1880 Unused envelope with seal of Prime Minister Rainilaiarivony on backflap.

#### Official Passport Envelopes

1875 Official Passport Envelope, type I, from the Prime Minister in Antananarivo to the Governor of Ambohimandroso with seals of the Queen and the Prime Minister.

Circa 1885 Official Passport Envelope, type II, from the Prime Minister in Antananarivo to the Governor of Tamatave with seals of the Queen and the Prime Minister.

Circa 1885 Official Passport Envelope, type III, from the Prime Minister in Antananarivo to the Governor of Tamatave with seals of the Queen and the Prime Minister.



Circa 1885 Official Passport Envelope front, type III, from the Prime Minister in Antananarivo to the Governor of Ambohitrombikely with seals of the Queen and the Prime Minister”.



## British Missionary Mail

According to David Feldman, Madagascar, Specialised collection of British, Norwegian & French Issues, 2010, Geneva, Spring Auction.

"The LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY ("L.M.S.") started its work in Madagascar in 1818. By the 1880s, they had five principal mission stations in the inland portion of the country. Although the date that a regular mail service was established is not known, by the 1870s there was a system using native runners that connected the inland missions with the coast. In the 1880s, a service connected the capital, Tananarivo (later Antananarivo), with the east coast port (and British Consular seat) of Tamatave. Mail from the outlying British missions was usually bagged at Tananarivo. Mail charges were assessed by the British Consul's office and paid both for the "runner service" to Tamatave, and the fee for onward transmission from the port to destination via Mauritius, Reunion or Zanzibar".



Feldman gives various examples of letters sent during the early years:

"1823 (27 March) Folded entire from Antananarivo to A. Hankey, the treasurer of the Missionary Society in London, boxed 2-line INDIA LETTER / PORTMOUTH in red on face, docketed London 6th September, a very early runner mail item.

1828 (17 Nov.) Folded cover from four British Missionaries in Antananarivo to London, carried by ad hoc runners to Tamatave for further dispatch to Mauritius before arriving in London on 13 April 1829, 2-line MAURITIUS / POST-OFFICE hs on face INDIA LETTER / DOVER pmk and arrival cds on reverse.

1833 (12 March) Folded entire to London, carried by runner from Antananarivo to Tamatave, oval MAURITIUS / POST OFFICE and boxed 2-line INDIA LETTER / PORTSMOUTH pmk on face and reverse, also arrival bs.

1834 (17 July) Folded entire from Antananarivo to London, sent over Tamatave, COL. / POST OFFICE / MAURITIUS and boxed 2-line INDIA LETTER / BRISTOL pmks, London DE19 1834 arrival bs.  
1834 (16 Oct.) Folded entire from Antananarivo to London, despatched by private ship, reverse bears boxed LIVERPOOL INDIA SHIP LR. and LONDON 18 MR 1855 applied on arrival.  
1835 (20 July) Folded lettersheet dated Tamatave 20.07.1835 sent to London with crowned "General Post Office Cape of Good Hope," "India Gravesend" & London 05.12.35 backstamps.  
1863 (14 April) Small envelope with contents from missionary W. Ellis in Antananarivo to Wales, red SHIP LETTER s/line hs, sent via Tamatave and Mauritius (transit bs dated MY 14 63).  
1869 (1 Aug.) Folded entire from Antananarivo to London "by French Mail," sent via Tamatave and Mauritius where 1863-72 1s orange and 4d rose were applied and tied by B53 numerals, "9d" taxation marking and LONDON / PAID / 25 OC 69 arrival cds alongside, MAURITIUS SP 3 69 transit bs, also "1/5" purple annotation (1d for Madagascar plus 6d to Mauritius plus 10d to the UK).  
1874 (2 June) Envelope with contents from Antananarivo to London "Forwarded by Proctor Brothers / Tamatave," and sent via Mauritius where two each of the 1863-72 1s orange and 4d rose were applied and tied by B53 numerals, MAURITIUS JU 25 74 transit and DARWEN JY23 74 arrival bs.  
1878 (24 April) Incoming envelope to Tamatave from the UK Board of Trade, red LONDON- OFFICIAL PAID cds as well as Board of Trade handstamp.  
1879 (11 Nov.) Incoming mail cover from Middlesborough to Antananarivo, the postage reflects the triple rate of 2s6d for a letter to Mauritius (DE12 79 transit bs), for conveyance via Tamatave. The French, who blockaded the port, charged 2F10, and it was carried by runners to the capital; some peripheral faults. The letter is addressed to Isaac Sharp, a Quaker, who travelled extensively as a lay minister visiting Friends Foreign Mission stations.  
1882 OHMS cover from the vice-consulate in the capital (also representing Sweden and Norway since 1876) to the Norwegian missionary R.L. Aas in Morondova on the west coast, probably carried by runners to Majunga and then by ship to Morondova.  
1886 (28 June) Incoming mail cover from Sevenoaks, UK, to Antananarivo, franked with 1883-84 1/2d blue, 2 1/2d lilac and 5d green and addressed to British Missionary, sent via Mauritius and c/o British Consulate in Tamatave to avoid French blockade, bs PORT LOUIS / MAURITIUS JY23 80".

### French Postal Services prior to 1889



<http://img.collectorcircuit.com/boule1217/589.jpg>: "Nossi-Bé, Colonies générales, 1872-1877, 5c vert et 1877-1879, 30c brun OB C. MAYOTTE ET DEPces/NOSSI BE en bleu sur enveloppe pour la France avec C. RAON L'ETAPE en arrivée au verso. 23 février 1879. Rare, Yvert 17, 26".



[http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos\\_jpg\\_LD/10526.jpg](http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos_jpg_LD/10526.jpg) : "COLONIES GENERALES n° 5 40 ct orange type Aigle sur un petit fragment obl. c.à.d 'MAYOTTE ET DEP.es \* NOSSI-BE \* 29/12/77'".



<http://img.collectorcircuit.com/boule1217/590.jpg> : "Nossi-Bé, Colonies générales, 1878-1880, 25c noir sur rouge oblitéré C. à date en bleu du 16 juillet 1879 sur enveloppe de Mayotte pour les Vosges. C. COL. FR./PAQ. FR. N°7 du 3/8 et INDO-CHINE/PAQ. FR. MODANE (S.1897). Certaines dépêches venant de la Réunion et de Mayotte sont transbordées sur les paquebots en provenance d'Indochine à Aden. Débarquées à Naples, elles passent par le Mont-Cenis et reçoivent le C. de l'ambulant Modane à Paris 1879. Yvert 43".



<http://img.collectorcircuit.com/boule1217/591.jpg>: "Nossi-Bé, Colonies générales, 1878-1880, 25c noir sur rouge oblitéré C. à date en bleu sur enveloppe de Mayotte pour les Vosges par un navire commercial sans agent postal embarqué. C. UNION/MARSEILLE (S.252). Voie peu courante 16 octobre 1879. Yvert 43".

Feldman (2010, p. 82-84) gives examples of early mail services under French authority, prior to 1889.

"1828 Lettre en PORT PAYE de Toulouse du 18.05.28 pour un Capitaine à l'île de Sainte Marie de Madagascar par l'île Bourbon avec marque P30P TOULOUSE et dateur 19 mai, 1828, mention manuscrite "reçu le 19 novembre, répondu le 7 décembre," taxe manuscrite "6" au dos, TB, très rare destination"

" 1829 Lettre datée de Sainte Marie de Madagascar avec long texte personnel (écrite par le Capitaine Bellet de la lettre précédente) pour Toulouse, cachet d'entrée Pays d'Outremer Par, dateur 11.10.1829, TB, grande rareté"

"1870 Lettre de Tamatave pour l'île Maurice avec taxe mauricienne "6d to pay" et càd d'arrivée au dos 26.12.70, TB, rare"

"1876 Lettre de Tananarive pour la France avec taxe manuscrite "7," càd St Denis Réunion 12.07.76 au dos et griffe encadrée M&I, càd arrivée Aix les Bains 15.08.76, texte intéressant d'un missionnaire faisant construire la cathédrale "nous avons ici beaucoup d'ennemis, des ennemis du catholicisme mais aussi de la France... votre république va se laisser engloutir par les communards," TB, rare".

“1885 Enveloppe pour la France avec carte de visite de Paul Germinet Lieutenant de Vaisseau Commandant la “Romanche et texte sur la situation, très rare càd rouge “Corps Exp Madagascar L T 30.09.85,” au dos signature de Germinet et cachet Ancre, arrivée 22.10.85, rarissime”

La première date connue du cachet Antananarive 1886 Enveloppe avec càd Antananarive 14.08.86 pour Paris avec cachet violet “RESIDENCE DE FRANCE MADAGASCAR” (répété au dos) et càd bleu Réunion 01.09 St Denis, au dos rare càd Ligne (Réunion, Madagascar) 28.08.86 et càd Paris étranger 21.09.86 en rouge, TB, extrêmement rare “.

Feldman (2010, p.133-134) also gives examples of stamps used in Nossi-Bé prior to 1889.

“1859 80c Aigle oblitéré par le rare losange NSB en spectaculaire bloc de 17 avec une paire et un isolé rajoutés pour faire un bloc de 20, TB, un extraordinaire multiple pour exposition ..”

“1859-94, Groupe de 26 oblitérés des colonies générales utilisés à Nossi-Bé dont rare losange NSB sur Aigle 20c en paire, 40c et Cérès 80c, càd Mayotte - Nossi-Bé sur Aigle 10c et Cérès 80c (x2), Alphée Dubois, Taxe noirs ou de couleurs dont 1F marron, gen. B/TB, peu courant”.

“1874 40c Aigle (déf.) +30c Cérès obl. losange NSB sur enveloppe pour la France avec rare càd bleu “Corr. d’Armées 21.05.74 Nossi-Bé,” càd d’arrivée Ajaccio au dos avec visa du chef du Service Judiciaire, TB, très rare”.

“1879 Superbe tricolore en double port pour l’Allemagne avec Aigle 40c orange +Cérès 5c vert +Sage 25c bleu oblitéré par un joli càd bleu Nossi-Bé 25.01.79, càd rouge Col. Fr. V. Brind. 28.02.79 et arrivée Hamburg 02.03.79 au dos, le tarif UGP à 35c n’a duré que de mai 1878 à février 1879, fraîcheur exceptionnelle, une pièce d’exposition d’extrême rareté”.

## 2 United States Government Mail Service, 1882

According to David Feldman (2010, p. 61) “The U.S. Government Mail Service is known to have existed in 1882, but no information is available about its lifespan. The service provided that letters were sent once a month by runners from the capital to Majunga on the north coast and to Morondava on the west coast. The minimum postage to Majunga was 33 cents. As the postage for mail to Morondava was double that, it can be assumed that the letters went by ship from Majunga to Morondava and not by runners direct from the capital to the west coast”.

Feldman gives an example of a letter set via this mail service: “1882 Envelope to Rev. Aas in Morondava with ms in red “Kind c/o V.F.W StanwoodEsq., U.S. Consular Agent,” marked “Haster” i.e. urgent, very fine & only recorded example from this mail service”.



### 3 British postal services in Madagascar; 1884-1895

“British posts. British interests in Madagascar organised two different posts on the island. A runner service between Tananarive and the French Post Office at Tamatave was organised by British residents before 1884. It was made official by the British Vice Consul in 1884. It used locally produced stamps between 1884 and 1897 after which stamps were discontinued but the service continued with handstruck marks... During the French war of occupation the British ran an inland postal service using special stamps between January and September 1895. This was not an official service of the British Post Office”.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage\\_stamps\\_and\\_postal\\_history\\_of\\_Madagascar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_Madagascar)

According to Feldman (2010, p. 22-50) adhesive stamps were only used between 1884 and 1886; between 1887 and 1895 letters were sent (with or without French stamps, and the cachet of the ‘British mail Antananarivo’ or ‘British consular mail Antananarivo’, or ‘British vice-consulate Antanarivo’, or ‘British vice-consulate Mojunja’.

#### **1884-1886 B.C.M, with cachet ‘British vice-consular mail’, and ‘letter’.**

Feldman (2010, p. 22-23) gives the following values, and varieties:

Magenta stamp (1884-1886)						
Value	Black cachet				Violet cachet	
	Without diagonal control line		With diagonal control line		Without diagonal control line	
	With full stop after B and M	With hollow stop after B or M	With full stop after B and M	With hollow stop after B or M	With full stop after B and M	With hollow stop after B or M
6d	p. 22	p. 22			p. 22	p. 22
1sh	p.22 + 23			p. 23		
1s6d		p. 23	p. 23			
2s	p. 23	p. 23				
Red-rose stamp (1886)						
	Without diagonal control line		With diagonal control line		Without diagonal control line	
6d	p. 28		p. 27+28	p. 27+28		



[http://www.firstissues.org/images/Mad\\_bcm\\_sg1.jpg](http://www.firstissues.org/images/Mad_bcm_sg1.jpg) (magenta with black handstamp).



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/709.jpg> ; rose-red; 1886; with diagonal control line)



One shilling: Source: Stamp circuit (magenta, with black cachet)

One shilling and sixpence: <https://i450v.alamy.com/450v/ma1wrr/stamp-of-british-post-in-madagascar-1884-16d-magenta-bcm-black-handstamp-pos-2-or-3-hollow-stop-after-m-scott-7-7-ma1wrr.jpg> (magenta, with black cachet) .



[https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSikRUC-4cQmtmbE\\_ucCb\\_bAoCLyNLJHZxhLRUbamggS5iw8mxn](https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSikRUC-4cQmtmbE_ucCb_bAoCLyNLJHZxhLRUbamggS5iw8mxn) one shilling, with black cachet, used; and a postal packet stamp, one penny, black cachet, used; see later).



2 shilling: [http://www.kelleherauctions.com/lotphotos\\_SAN/702/653175.jpg](http://www.kelleherauctions.com/lotphotos_SAN/702/653175.jpg) (Magenta, with black cachet).

**1884-1886, B.C.M., with 'British vice-consular mail' cachet, and 'postal packet'.**

Feldman (2010, p. 22-23) gives the following values, and varieties:

Magenta stamp (1884-1886)						
Value	Black cachet				Violet cachet	
	Without diagonal control line		With diagonal control line		Without diagonal control line	
	With full stop after B and M	With hollow stop after B or M	With full stop after B and M	With hollow stop after B or M	With full stop after B and M	With hollow stop after B or M
1d	p.24	p.24	p.24			
2d	p.25	p.25	p.25			
3d	p.25	p.25	p.25			
4d 1 oz		p.26			p.26	p.26
4d 1>4oz			p.27	p.27		

**1886, B.C.M., with 'British Consular Mail cachet, and 'postal packet'**

Feldman (2010, p. 28 and 29) gives: 4d black without diagonal control line, with and without a hollow stop after "B".



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/6f/Stamp\\_BCM\\_Madagascar\\_1884\\_1d.jpg/800px-Stamp\\_BCM\\_Madagascar\\_1884\\_1d.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/6f/Stamp_BCM_Madagascar_1884_1d.jpg/800px-Stamp_BCM_Madagascar_1884_1d.jpg): “Briefmarke der britischen Konsulatspost, Ausgabe 1884”. Postmark Tananarive.

<https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1884-sg5-used-0.jpg>: “MADAGASCAR (BRITISH) 1884 SG5 Used. 1884 1d (1oz) magenta 'POSTAL PACKET', cancelled by red ink line, very fine with corner gumming intact. Scarce in this quality. Ex Mayer”.

Feldman (2010, p. 24, 25 shows examples of used stamps, with blue crayon crosses, sometimes also red and blue, as well as five red bar cancel.



[https://sites.google.com/site/firststampsafrika/\\_/rsrc/1467125457360/home/first-stamps-of-madagascar/61%20stamps%20first%201884-86%20Stamps%20of%20Madagascar%20-%20British%20Consular%20Mail.jpg](https://sites.google.com/site/firststampsafrika/_/rsrc/1467125457360/home/first-stamps-of-madagascar/61%20stamps%20first%201884-86%20Stamps%20of%20Madagascar%20-%20British%20Consular%20Mail.jpg). Example of the 2d with British vice-consular mail and 4d with Consular Mail. Also second edition one penny and 4 ½ penny, see later.



<https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1884-sg7-used-0.jpg>: “MADAGASCAR (BRITISH) 1884

SG7 Used. 1884 3d (3oz) magenta "POSTAL PACKET", hollow stop after "B", cancelled by red ink line, with corner gumming intact. Fine and very scarce. BPA cert (2005)". With diagonal control line.

<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/nkoAAOSwqDhbJQdc/s-l1600.jpg> 2 examples of four pence, but 1>4oz adjustment.

1886



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/British-Post-Madagascar/Postage-stamps/A9-s.jpg>: " 1886 Handstamped "British Consular Mail" - Stamp Size: 45 x 68mm".

[https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1886-sg12-mint\\_0.jpg](https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1886-sg12-mint_0.jpg): "MADAGASCAR (BRITISH) 1886 SG12 Mint. 1886 4d (1oz) magenta 'POSTAL PACKET', 'CONSULAR MAIL' handstamp in black, unused with corner gumming intact. Minor toning as often, still a really fine example of this rare stamp".

Feldman (2010: p.29) also gives an example of an invoice for postal charges dated July 1886. These postal charges were assessed for carrying mail from the inland missions to the coast, and for prepayment of further postage overseas.

### 1886 Second issue: British Consular mail cachet/hand stamp

Feldman (2010, p. 34-45) shows the following types

**Type 1: with dot; Type II: without dot; Type III 'Postage' 24.5mm**

**R = Roulette I, III, see annex at the end of this APH.**

Value	Type I			Type II			Type III	
	Black	Red	Violet	Black	Violet	Without cachet	Black	Violet
1d				p.40	p.40	p.39RIII		
1 ½ d	p.34 RIII			p.40	p.40			
2d				p.40	p.40			
3d		p.34 RI		p.40	p.40	p.39RIII		
4d							p.43+45	P.43+44
4 ½ d		p.34RI		p.40	p.40			



6d				p.40	p.40			
8d			p.35RI				p.45	
9d			p.35RI					
1sh							p.44+45	
1sh6d							p.44+45	p.44
2sh							p.44+45	p.45



One penny: <http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/713.jpg> : “S.G. #33a, 1886 1p Rose, Type II, without handstamp seal, mint with o.g., a few small thin spots, very fine appearance; the seal omitted varieties are exceedingly rare; signed Holcombe”.

<http://www.stampboards.com/images/maturin1/STAMPS%20AFTER%209-6-10/MADAGASCARCOUNSELORMAIL200PIFR.jpg>. One penny, with violet handstamp.

Three half pence:

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/d/d4/Stamp\\_BCM\\_Madagascar\\_1886\\_1.5d.jpg/220px-Stamp\\_BCM\\_Madagascar\\_1886\\_1.5d.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/d/d4/Stamp_BCM_Madagascar_1886_1.5d.jpg/220px-Stamp_BCM_Madagascar_1886_1.5d.jpg) : “A stamp of the earlier British post in Madagascar supported by the British Vice Consul”.

Two pence: [http://www.kelleherauctions.com/lotphotos\\_SAN/702/653184.jpg](http://www.kelleherauctions.com/lotphotos_SAN/702/653184.jpg) (Stop after “Postage”, and violet handstamp).



Three pence: <http://www.stampcircuit.com/stamp-Auction/colonial-stamp-co/8227274/lot-715-madagascar-colonial-stamp-co-auction-128-public> Black handstamp; with stop after “Postage”.



<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/09/16/cb/0916cb1583cb87713b4cb8275a526acf.jpg> Black handstamp, stop after "Postage", and blue crayon marks for used; also known: five-bar violet cancel (Feldman, 2010)

Four pence: [http://www.kelleherauctions.com/lotphotos\\_SAN/702/653183.jpg](http://www.kelleherauctions.com/lotphotos_SAN/702/653183.jpg) . Without stop after "Postage".

<https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTSA-EoJmfbo1g2bskiy0Pjv3EkB-nMF4luVJE4OEmDsgZAaUeiw> Idem.



4 ½ penny illustration not yet found.

Six pence (and one penny):

<https://d1stvyu4yyf2jr.cloudfront.net/modules/auctions/14/pics/big/3371ec1199017dfeff3c9bc79a4a834f2e23fd84.jpg>



Eight pence: illustration not yet found.

Nine pence: <https://www.sandafayre.com/philatelicalicles/articleimages/madagascar.jpg>:

"Madagascar British Consular Mail. The large and fragile issues of 1884-86 have always remained scarce and highly prized by collectors. They are usually to be found with small faults due to being gummed at just the top corners so the stamps could be removed for overseas mail, and replaced in transit by Mauritius or Reunion stamps, and the same practice for local stamps being marked Paid when the stamp had been removed, it is a wonder that any have survived! From 1883, the mail from the British community at Antananarivo (the capital) was sent by runner to the British Consulate at

Tamatave, where it was forwarded through the French Post Office. The stamps were issued the following year by the British Vice-Consul Mr W.C. Pickersgill, who reorganised the Postal arrangements and issued the stamps for local and overseas mail.”.

One shilling: <https://i.pinimg.com/originals/3b/5f/6d/3b5f6da4ef4a196767d640d4fa5a8297.jpg>  
Without a stop after “Postage”.



One shilling and sixpence: <http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/714.jpg> : “S.G. #46b, 1886 1/6 Rose, Ty. III, with "British Consular Mail" handstamp in violet, attractive mint example of this scarce value, strong deep colors and sharp well struck seal, corner o.g., hinge thin at top as is typically found, very fine appearance”. Feldman (2010, p. 44; 45) gives examples of Type III, both with black and violet handstamps.

Two shillings: [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/\\_PlhSnhoINPc/TDNN4PNc\\_eI/AAAAAAAAABWA/B6uU-gbpNrM/w1200-h630-p-k-no-nu/madcon.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_PlhSnhoINPc/TDNN4PNc_eI/AAAAAAAAABWA/B6uU-gbpNrM/w1200-h630-p-k-no-nu/madcon.jpg): “Between 1884 and 1886, the British Consulate in Madagascar, then a French protectorate, produced stamps for use by British citizens residing there (Scott #1-58). At the time, the island was rife with disputes between the two colonial powers and also with the native population which, oddly enough, wished to govern itself. The Consular Mail stamps were gummed in one corner shortly before they were used, and often torn off of envelopes by postal clerks, as they were not accepted as legitimate postage by the Universal Postal Union. Most of the remaining unused examples do not have gum, and most of the used are faulty to some degree. Estimates of quantities produced range from under 100 for the rarest of these stamps to about 4,000 for the most common”.



[https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSDFTpr4euyq\\_qZV0t-0m2nDF005yAIBCIVNqnmBKGmQbVnsztxtQ](https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSDFTpr4euyq_qZV0t-0m2nDF005yAIBCIVNqnmBKGmQbVnsztxtQ) Includes 4 ½ and 8 pence



<https://stampauctionnetwork.com/X/0718/602.jpg> ; Includes 4 1/2 pence

**1886 'British vice consulate Antananarivo' hand stamp**

Feldman (2010, p. 34-45) shows the following types

**Type 1: with dot; Type II: without dot; Type III 'Postage' 24.5mm**

**R = Roulette I, II, III, see annex at the end of this APH.**

Value	Type I		Type II	Type III
	Black	Violet	Black	Violet
1d	p.30 RIII	p.30RII	p.35+36+37 RIII	
1 ½ d	p.30 RII	p.31RI and II	p.37R?	
2d		p.31RII, III		
3d	p.31RI	p.32RII	p.37+38 RIII	
4d				p.40+41

4 ½ d	p.32RI	p.32RI	p.39RIII	
6d			p.39RIII	
8d				p.41+42
9d	p.32RI	P.33RI		
2sh				p.43



One penny: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/British-Post-Madagascar/Postage-stamps/C-s.jpg> One penny with violet handstamp.

One penny and halfpence: illustration not yet found.



Two pence:

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/b8/Stamp\\_BCM\\_Madagascar\\_1886\\_2d.jpg/800px-Stamp\\_BCM\\_Madagascar\\_1886\\_2d.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/b8/Stamp_BCM_Madagascar_1886_2d.jpg/800px-Stamp_BCM_Madagascar_1886_2d.jpg): "Briefmarke der britischen Konsulatspost, Ausgabe 1886".

Three pence:

[https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1886-sg30-mint\\_0.jpg](https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1886-sg30-mint_0.jpg) : "MADAGASCAR (BRITISH) 1886 SG30 Mint. 1886 3d rose, 'POSTAGE' 29½mm without stops, 'VICE-CONSULATE' handstamp in violet, unused with corner gumming intact. Insignificant trace of thinning mentioned for accuracy, still really fine for this very scarce stamp, much fresher than usually found".





Four pence: <https://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/d/l225/m/mr-rykUFGhatvU-fp0bMMvA.jpg> .



Four pence half penny:

<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/77/5e/a5/775ea5177722c46406de6c049c5ba0ee.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1130/1521.jpg>

Six pence: source: stamp circuit. Sixpence without a stop after "Postage".



Eight pence: <https://c8.alamy.com/comp/MA1WTM/stamp-of-british-post-in-madagascar-8d-rose-violet-vice-consulate-seal-type-iii-no-stop-after-postage-24mm-but-stop-after-value-on-brownish-toned-paper-pos-2-scott-23a-23a-MA1WTM.jpg>

<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/9b/cc/f6/9bccf61d656939f47eda0a8c861676ba.jpg>



Nine pence:

[https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1886-sg20a-mint\\_0.jpg](https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1886-sg20a-mint_0.jpg): "MADAGASCAR (BRITISH) 1886 SG20a Mint. 1886 9d rose, 'POSTAGE' 29½mm with stops, 'VICE-CONSULATE' handstamp in violet, unused with some gum in both top corners. Trivial blemishes (small annotation on reverse) but far above average. An attractive example of this very scarce stamp".

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/711.jpg> : "S.G. #20a, 1886 9p Rose, Ty. I, "British Vice-Consulate" handstamp in violet, a very rare strip of four, which represents the complete sheet, completely intact, each stamp with o.g. in two corners, right stamp with a thin, a couple other tiny thin specks, small closed tear at top of third stamp, a few minor toned spots, overall of very fine appearance; any Madagascar Consular stamp in an intact strip of four is difficult to find, but to encounter one of the scarcer stamps such as this is nearly impossible, this particular sheet is believed to be unique".



Two shillings: [http://www.kelleherauctions.com/lotphotos\\_SAN/702/653182.jpg](http://www.kelleherauctions.com/lotphotos_SAN/702/653182.jpg) .

Feldman (2010, p. 46): "In 1887 the use of the stamps of the British consular service were suppressed, allegedly because the British Consul, J.G. Haggard, was irritated by the frequent requests of philatelists for examples, despite, as Robert Low put it, "its many advantages as regards accountancy". The mails reverted to the complicated system prior to 1884, with all letters and parcels prepaid in cash. The hand-stamped seals, including a modified one reading "BRITISH / MAIL / ANTANANARIVO" (the old seal with "CONSULAR" removed) continued in use as a form of control, until they were replaced by datestamps". Feldman (2010, p. 46-49) includes examples of envelopes bearing a violet cachet BRITISH / CONSULAR MAIL / ANTANANARIVO sent in 1887, and in 1888-1892



with BRITISH / MAIL / ANTANANARIVO. On p. 50 we can find an example (1893) with BRITISH / CONSULATE / MADAGASCAR, and (in 1894) with BRITISH VICE-CONSULATE ANTANANARIVO and BRITISH VICE-CONSULATE MOJUNGA. In 1895 there was a postal notice announcing the discontinuation of the subscription to the British mail as a result of postage stamps being introduced". (Feldman, 2010, p. 51).

1895, new series



[http://www.stampboards.com/images/mickrach/various1\\_zps1da628f2.jpg](http://www.stampboards.com/images/mickrach/various1_zps1da628f2.jpg)



[https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1895-sg55a-used\\_0.jpg](https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1895-sg55a-used_0.jpg) : "MADAGASCAR (BRITISH) 1895 SG55a Used. 1895 (1 Jan) typeset 2s black/bright rose, variety Italic "2" at left (R1/2 on the setting of 6), fine c.t.o. with violet cds". Postmark Antananarivo.

<http://commonwealthstampsopinion.blogspot.com/2012/01/madagascar.html> : "In 1890, the British accepted the formal imposition of a French protectorate on Madagascar in return for French acknowledgment of the British protectorate in Zanzibar (for the same reason the British had ceded

the island of Heligoland to the Germans). The Malagasy themselves were less prepared to accept this and the French bombarded and occupied the harbours of Toamasina and Mahajanga in December 1894 and January 1895 respectively. These flagrant acts of imperialism were followed by a French force marching on and attacking Antananarivo with a bombardment of the royal palace which resulted in the deaths of many of the Malagasy. While this assault on the Malagasy was taking place, the government of Queen Ranaivalona III agreed that a syndicate of British merchants in the capital, including the Vice-Consul, should operate an inland postal service during the period of the war with France. Mail was sent to Vatomandry and forwarded via Durban where the stamps of Natal were added. The first issue of stamps prepared for the service was typeset by the London Missionary Society Press at Antananarivo in the values of 1d, 4d, 6d, 8d, 1s, 2s and 4s and were released in January 1895. A second issue which had been typographed by John Haddon & Co. of London was released in March 1895 and depicted Malagasy runners in six values:- 2d, 4d, 6d, 1s, 2s and 4s. The French entered the capital on 30 September 1895 and the British inland mail postal service was discontinued. The six values of the second issue are depicted below”.

Feldman (2010, p. 52-54) gives various examples of these postage stamps used on envelopes: one to Germany via Durban (1895, 4d, together with Natal stamp), one to Mauritius (1895, 4d, together with Natal stamp), a wrapper to New York (1895, 1d, together with Natal stamp), a wrapper to London (1895, 1d, together with Natal stamp), an envelope to London (1895, 1d, together with Natal stamp), a newspaper fragment to London (1895, 1d, together with Natal stamp), an envelope to London (1895, 2x 8d, together with 4 Natal stamps), and a cover to Tamatave in Madagascar (1895, with 4d and 1Sh). Feldman (p. 55) also shows that the values have been printed as tête bêche pairs.



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/716.jpg>: ""BRITISH CONSULAR MAIL ANTANANARIVO" circular handstamp in violet, on 1887 cover from Madagascar to St. Helens, England, France 25c Black on red tied by Tamatave 17 Oct. 87 c.d.s., Paris and Liverpool transit backstamps, St. Helens receiver of Nov. 14, cover with light vertical filed fold not affecting stamp or markings, stamp with trivial toned spot, fine." Postmark Tamatave.

1895, British Inland Mail



<http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-XGdfLwGevPQ/TyUWzqT750I/AAAAAAAAAfA/o1wwka8OKxg/s320/sc000054c802.jpg>



<http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-miwAxDQWlew/TyUWapRQB1I/AAAAAAAAAe0/fkIHcITnUE/s320/sc000054c803.jpg>



<http://2.bp.blogspot.com/--gipTW0fhv8/TyUWA8hHjNI/AAAAAAAAAeo/HUOb1KLFT1E/s320/sc000054c801.jpg>





<https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/83118524.jpg>



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d0/Stamp\\_BIM\\_Madagascar\\_1895\\_4d.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d0/Stamp_BIM_Madagascar_1895_4d.jpg) :

“Stamps from the 1895 British inland postal service.” Imperforate between.

[http://img.collectorcircuit.com/files/grosvenor-auctions/stampauction/auction-british-empire-and-foreign-countries-postage-stamps-and-postal-history/8262\\_0.jpg](http://img.collectorcircuit.com/files/grosvenor-auctions/stampauction/auction-british-empire-and-foreign-countries-postage-stamps-and-postal-history/8262_0.jpg): “Madagascar: British Inland Mail: 1895 (Mar.) 4d. horizontal and vertical pair, 1s. horizontal pair, all variety imperforate between, mint, a few creases, otherwise fine.”.

Feldman (2010, p. 55-56) shows the Master die proof, and the proof of all six values in red. It also shows that the imperforate between varieties also exist for Voamena (both horizontal and vertical). On p. 58 an example is given of a Sikajy stamp pair imperforate between as a horizontal pair. On p. 59 there is a block of six Kirobo imperforate proof stamps, and a horizontal pair of the Kirobo imperforate between variety, as well as the Loso imperforate variety, vertical pair. On p. 60 Feldman presents an imperforate proof block of Ariary and a horizontal pair with imperforate between of Ariary.



[https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/132686750738\\_/Madagascar-2-British-Inland-Mail-MH-J1502.jpg](https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/132686750738_/Madagascar-2-British-Inland-Mail-MH-J1502.jpg)

[https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/232801942913\\_/British-Madagascar-1895-6d-Inland-Mail-scarce-used.jpg](https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/232801942913_/British-Madagascar-1895-6d-Inland-Mail-scarce-used.jpg) Postmark Antananarivo.



[https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/201385737618\\_/Madagascar-sg-62-Used-1895-British-Inland-Mail.jpg](https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/201385737618_/Madagascar-sg-62-Used-1895-British-Inland-Mail.jpg)

[https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/201385736206\\_/Madagascar-sg-57-Used-1895-British-Inland-Mail.jpg](https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/201385736206_/Madagascar-sg-57-Used-1895-British-Inland-Mail.jpg)

[https://www.picclickimg.com/00/s/MTYwMFgxMjAw/z/fYgAAOSw1fha2Ss5/\\$/British-Madagascar-Inland-Mail-Roavoamena-4d-1.jpg](https://www.picclickimg.com/00/s/MTYwMFgxMjAw/z/fYgAAOSw1fha2Ss5/$/British-Madagascar-Inland-Mail-Roavoamena-4d-1.jpg)





[https://www.picclickimg.com/00/s/MTYwMFgxMjgw/z/RmcAAOSwcTRa05sr/\\$/6-x-MADAGASCAR-British-Inland-Mail-1895-Unused- 1.jpg](https://www.picclickimg.com/00/s/MTYwMFgxMjgw/z/RmcAAOSwcTRa05sr/$/6-x-MADAGASCAR-British-Inland-Mail-1895-Unused- 1.jpg)

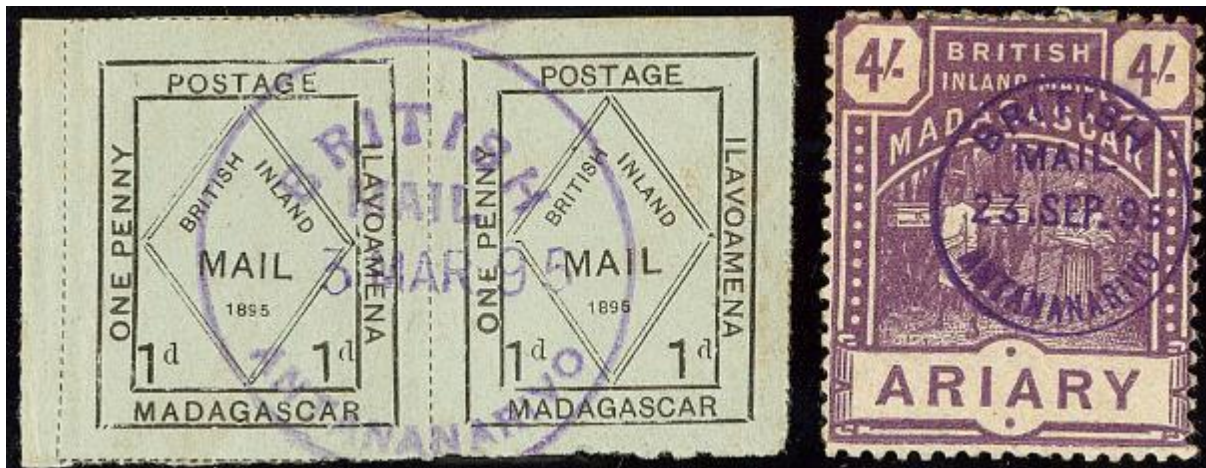
[https://www.picclickimg.com/00/s/MTYwMFgxMjgw/z/4MkAAOSw2KBa05sy/\\$/6-x-MADAGASCAR-British-Inland-Mail-1895-Unused- 1.jpg](https://www.picclickimg.com/00/s/MTYwMFgxMjgw/z/4MkAAOSw2KBa05sy/$/6-x-MADAGASCAR-British-Inland-Mail-1895-Unused- 1.jpg)



<https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/m/a/madagascar-british-1895-sg58-cover- 0.jpg>: "MADAGASCAR (BRITISH) 1895



SG58 Cover. 1895 (8 JLY) cover to Leicester, franked by 1895 (Mar) 4d rose, paying inland postage, centrally cancelled (as usual) by small violet "BRITISH MAIL ANTANANARIVO" cds, dated "9 JUL 95", in combination with Natal 2½d bright blue (SG 113), paying external postage, tied in transit by Durban "JY 30 95" cds. Leicester arrival backstamp of "AU 26 95". The original despatch date (8 JLY) endorsed in M/S on reverse and confirmed by recipient's pencil docket on face. Minor tones and slight creasing but a rare and splendid cover".



<http://www.roumet.com//photos/550/2788.jpg>

Feldman (2010, p. 57) shows letters with Roavoamena stamps, to Oxford England (1895, together with Natal stamp), to London (idem) and to Tamatave (1895, only with the Roavoamena stamp). On p. 58 there is an example of a letter sent to Tamatave with 2d (Voamena) and 6d (Sikajy), on p. 59 a registered envelope to the USA, with a Kirobo stamp, and four Natal stamps, on p. 60 an official letter with a Loso stamp to Tamatave. On p.61 five values on a letter fragment can be found, sent to Tamatave.

Probably in 1895 an essay was made of a 'leaping lion' type. Feldman (2010, p. 61) gives three values: 10c, 20c, and 50c, and calls it a 'mysterious issue'.

### **Annex: David Feldman, Introduction to the British Consular Mail Issues (Geneva, 2010, Spring Auctions).**

During the 19th Century "Scramble for Africa," Madagascar, despite being roughly the same size as all of France, was not considered much of a prize - no obvious mineral deposits to exploit, difficult access to the interior, a fierce royal family of the Kingdom of Imerina that dominated several smaller surrounding kingdoms (and eventually absorbed them). But the mission David Livingstone expounded as the Colonial Duty, to bring the "three C's of Commerce, Christianity and Civilisation" to Africa, was fulfilled in part by the Norwegian and the British missionaries, whose stations were located in the vast interior, and by the French, whose mail packets linked the port of Tamatave (and later other coastal towns as well) to the outside world via Natal, Réunion, the Seychelles or Zanzibar. As there were no roads on the island until about 1900 (when railway construction began as well), communication between the capital, Tananarivo (soon renamed Antananarivo) and the mission stations or the ports depended on a system of runners using established footpaths. As in Uganda in this period, the runners expected to be paid for their services. And the French needed to be paid for those letters they carried that could not be sent collect.

The British Vice-Consul at Tananarivo was responsible for collecting from the senders (sometimes months after the fact) and remitting to the French. In 1884, the newly-appointed British Consul at Tamatave, W.C. Pickersgill, (consul as well for Sweden & Norway), organized the British Consular Mail. He had the local British mission press produce a set of "labels" which were sold to pre-pay the charges internally (between missions or just to the coast) or all the way to the destination overseas. Each label thus incorporated the cost of running the mail over 350km to or from Tamatave.

The labels of both the First and Second issues were gummed only at one corner, and were affixed to the envelopes only until they reached Tamatave, where the British consular agent removed them prior to turning the mail over to the French for onward transmission. The French fees were still debited to the British Consulate, which in theory had already collected from the senders by means of the sale of the labels. According to the late Robson Lowe, there were only four covers known still bearing labels, one of which was destroyed and the others generally considered to be faked. Before we delve into some of the details of the British Consular issues, please note there are several common factors:

**PAPER:** All were printed on thin, inferior wood pulp paper most closely resembling newsprint. Because of its soft surface and low density, it thins on the slightest pretext, even with careful hinging, and we estimate that at least 80% of surviving examples are thin, even if only slightly. Great care should be exercised when removing old hinges, erasing pencil notations or other handling. The paper also provides a welcoming home for both bacteria (which cause the problem known as "foxing") and for toning due to exposure to smoke or sunlight.

**GUM:** a dab of gum, probably of local gum tree origin, was applied usually to the top left or top right corner of each stamp (often slightly overlapping the adjacent). Rarely, the gum can be found at the bottom right or left, and still less frequently at a top and a bottom corner.

**CONTROL HANDSTAMPS:** Two different circular handstamps were applied as controls or validations, one reading "BRITISH VICE-CONSULATE / ANTANANARIVO" and with large central British Arms, and another reading "BRITISH / CONSULAR / MAIL / ANTANANARIVO" with smaller central Arms. Each of these was struck in black and in violet, and the second also exists in red on the 3d and 4½d of the first type of the second issue. A very few examples of the second issue reached collectors with these handstamps omitted (11 different are recorded by Gibbons). This auction catalogue follows on the heels of the dispersals of the Frederick Mayer and Dr. Gene Scott collections, and is noteworthy for the following distinction: it references, for the first time to our knowledge, the two distinct types of rouletting found on the second issue! Since the accurate cataloguing of stamps must be based on apparent distinctions, lack of prior notice of this important and evident variation, and the relative scarcity of the combinations, leaves open the possibility of further catalogue numbering (or sub-numbering) for these issues. After all, if the stamps of Finland or Thurn & Taxis or Wurttemberg are distinguished by type and/or frequency of the roulettes, why shouldn't the stamps of Madagascar be treated likewise?

## First Issues

A notice in the *Madagascar Times* (the British newspaper printed in Antananarivo) in March 1884 stated that "postal franks" could now be purchased at the Vice-Consulate for pre-payment of postal services. The rate for a letter was 2d for each 15 grams (about ½ oz.) for the runner service charge to Tamatave, plus postage to the destination (which could be prepaid in French Post Office stamps). Printed matter or parcel rates were 1d per 1 oz. runner charge plus onward postage. Thus, a ½ oz. letter was prepaid with a 6d adhesive (2d runner charge + 4d foreign mail postage), while a 1 oz. packet cost 4d (1d runner charge + 3d postage). Stamps were produced for both inland use (paying runner charges only) and for foreign mail (runner charge + postage). The stamps were typographed on the press of the British mission at Antananarivo (analogous to the British missionaries' printing of the Uganda Typesets at a later time). The Robson Lowe *Encyclopedia ...* tantalisingly gives the printing format as sheets of 8 (two rows of four) while the Gibbons catalogue gives "horizontal strips of four." The plating and extant multiples clearly show four subjects, but the possibility exists that sheets were printed using the "print and turn" method, giving two strips head-to-head on one sheet of paper, later guillotined prior to sale; thus, both citations above would be correct, though no printing sheets or tete-beche items have survived to confirm this. Most of the local printings were done in magenta ink on the rough wove newsprint-type paper; one value (6d; SG n° 11) was printed in red in 1886. The letter rate stamps (both internal and to overseas) were inscribed "LETTER;" the printed matter/parcel rate stamps were inscribed "POSTAL PACKET." The central portion of the stamp gave the weight in ounces, while the face value was expressed in letters only. The original 1884 issues were struck only with the "British Vice Consulate" seal in black or in violet. Inscribed "POSTAL PACKET" were values of 1d (1 oz.), 2d (2 oz.) and 3d (3 oz.) for internal use, and 4d (1 oz.) for overseas mail. Stamps inscribed "LETTER" were issued in values of 6d (½ oz.), 1/- (1 oz.), 1/6 (1½ oz.) and 2/- (2 oz.). Violet handstamps (as opposed to the "normal" black) were applied to the 4d Packet and 6d Letter stamps of 1884. A new printing of the 4d (1 oz.) Packet stamp in 1886 was also struck with the "Consular Mail" handstamp in both colours. Also in 1886, the 6d (½ oz.) Letter stamp was freshly printed in red ink, presumably because the magenta ink was no longer available.

A separate collection could be made of these issues with diagonal red inked lines. Though the Robson Lowe *Encyclopedia ...* states these lines are found on "early printings," they are found on issues of 1886 as well. Gibbons states these are "cancelled to order," but that is still being debated (and in our opinion extremely unlikely). One theory is that they were applied as controls to mail of the British Consular Service or other governmental agency, as opposed to civilian mail of the missionaries. However, it is also possible that these were

applied for accounting purposes to indicate usage for mails sent under cover in one parcel to the coast, to obviate the need for applying, cancelling and later removing the stamps individually. One provisional is readily found among these issues: the 4d / 1 oz. value with the weight altered to "4" oz. by manuscript. This provisional, usually found with red diagonal control line, presumably was necessitated by a shortage of local printed matter rate stamps of this value, whereas those for the foreign printed matter rate were little utilized. It is possible that the re-appearance of the original 4d / 1 oz. value in 1886 but with different seal handstamp was intended to protect against "unofficial" manuscript revaluation of the overseas stamp for the local rate. Two other provisionals, 1d on 1/- (with "SHILLING" erased and "PENNY" written in red ink), and one with "4½d" on 1/- and initialled "W.C.P." (the initials of the Consul) also in red ink, with a line Collectors of these issues have long noted the "open periods" or, to use the British term, "hollow stops" occurring after the letters "B" or "M" on some positions of some values.



Hollow stop after "B"

Hollow stop after "M"

Gibbons lists the values on which these occur as hollow stop after "M" for the 1/- and 1/6 values and hollow stop after "B" for the others, but adds that the former was also seen on the 2d and 3d, and the hollow stop after both "B" and "C" on the 6d. Of positions showing normal periods or "stops," some show a break at the inner frame line at left, just above the value line. Though I have noted this for only the 1d, 2d, 3d and 4d "Packet" stamps and the 6d "Letter" issue, the presumption that all of these stamps were printed from a standing form with changes to the typography as required would indicate that it should occur on other values as well. If one were to assume that the stamps were printed by forms of four subjects, then one position of each value would show a "hollow stop" after "B" or "M," another the inner frame line break, and the other two would be relatively "normal." Gibbons posits that what can easily be proven for the Second Issue (i.e. typeset forms of two subjects) applies as well to this First Issue. If this were so, then two positions of each strip of four would show the hollow stops, and two would show the broken inner frame line, but the relative "population" of these seems to indicate that four positions had been set, not two.

## Usage

As mentioned under "common factors," the stamps were intended to be affixed at Antananarivo and torn off at Tamatave. Thus used examples are almost invariably reduced (slightly to drastically) to minimize any disfigurement. Cancellation was by means of crayon in the form of a check mark (typically) or other squiggle and (exceptionally) by the fivebar handstamp found on the Second Issues; no date stamps were available for the British Consular Mail. British Consular Mail.

## Second Issues

Though some authorities have written these were produced by John Haddon & Co. of London (who in fact printed the 1895 Pictorial issues), the underlying stamps were typographed by the missionary press, in sheets of four subjects. Handstamped seals in both types used for the First Issue were again applied at Antananarivo, in three colors: black, violet and the rare red. Stamps also exist with these seal handstamps omitted; they are very elusive. The forms used to print the stamps show evidence of at least five settings: three vary in typography of the stamps themselves, two in the types of rouletting applied between the stamps. We should examine in turn the basic typographic elements of TEXT and FRAMES; the roulettes were part of the setting of the frames. There are three basic types of TEXT:

Type I: "POSTAGE" 29½ mm long; *periods* ("stops") after "POSTAGE" and the currency (i.e. "PENNY.")

Type II: As Type I but *no periods* after "POSTAGE" or currency.

Type III: "POSTAGE" 24 mm long; *no periods*.

Not all values were produced by each major setting (as a glance at any standard catalogue will show). The combination of rate and weight expressed by the first issues was abandoned in favour of denominations alone, from 1d through 2/-.

### FRAMES

The red frames around the text were composed using standard border type, which showed some minor damage, dents, wear, etc. which enables positions of the printing formes to be readily identified. Each sheet of four subjects was printed from a forme of two subjects, repeated twice. Thus a type flaw found at position 1 will repeat at position 3. and so on. So one can speak of the positions of the form as "left" and "right" as well as "1" or "2." The border elements for the right position (sheet positions 2 & 4) stayed relatively constant throughout the printings of all three text types.





Top and bottom left corners of the RIGHT frame (sheet positions 2 & 4)

The frame of the left position, however, varies somewhat from text type to text type, and even within the total print run of any given text type. The variations will be discussed further below. **Separation** was effected by means of vertical rouletting incorporated in the printing forme for the frames. Contrary to the description given in the standard catalogues, that rouletting consists of "short colored lines," the truth is more complex. For the earliest sheets printed, the roulettes were nearly colourless *percé en arc* at both sides (or at one side with the other having the natural straight-edge of the paper). Subsequently, one side showed the coloured short-lines roulette on one side and the *percé en arc* roulette on the other. Finally, the sheets were rouletted completely with the short coloured lines. Heretofore, no catalogue or handbook has mentioned the *percé en arc* roulettes on one or both sides of text type I stamps, though we have seen a few dozen examples of the former and fewer than ten of the latter. Examples of the *percé en arc* on both sides can be seen as lots 40086, 40088, 40094 (a sheet of 4!), 40096 and 40100-101.

For the purposes of this auction catalogue, we refer to roulettes as:

**Roulette I:** *Percé en arc* at both sides, or on one side with the other imperforate

**Roulette II:** *Percé en arc* at one side, the other rouletted in short coloured lines

**Roulette III:** Rouletted in short coloured lines on both sides, or on one side with the other imperforate

The table on the next page shows which values exist in which combinations of stamp and roulette types, seal types and colours. Given the complexity of the variables involved, a "complete collection" is wellnigh impossible, though a representation of all text and roulette types as well as all values is more attainable.

## TEXT TYPE I

The first sheets produced undoubtedly showed rouletting *percé en arc* at the center and the right side of the frame forme of two subjects. Stamps which show this on both sides are among the scarcest of the Consular Mail issues, while those showing this only on one side, with the other imperforate, can still be distinguished by this fact alone from later printings. At some point, printing was halted and rouletting in short coloured lines was inserted at the right edge of the form, appearing to the right of positions 2 and 4 of the finished sheet. These early printing stamps were all of Type I (Types II and III are not known with *percé en arc* roulettes), with "POSTAGE" measuring 29½ mm and with periods after "POSTAGE" and the currency (e.g. "PENCE."). Thus the earliest printings can be considered to comprise any Type I stamps with *percé en arc* roulettes at one or both sides. The first printing includes the 4½d value, with red handstamped "British Consular Mail" seal (reportedly five or fewer examples, all used, are known). Also, as noted in the chart, both of the two higher values in Type I were produced as part of the early printings; only the five low values were additionally printed with coloured-line roulette at both sides. Besides the location of the different rouletting types, another way to distinguish these early printings is by typography of the **FRAMES**. Stamps from the subsequent printings of Type I show distinct breaks or flaws in some of the outer coloured border elements of both positions, absent in the earlier printing, but continuing on (at other locations) for stamps of Type II. The plating of the left position frame of Type I stamps shows three variations: the first shows a broken top left corner. At some point, this was replaced, but breaks developed in the outer arch of the right center border element. Finally, this too was replaced, but the inner right part of the bottom border element to the right of the center appears broken. This last can also be noted on some stamps of Types II (but not for all values, indicating that this defect was corrected for part of the Type II printing).



Successive variations of border elements (see above).

Stamp Type	Type I – R1 or II				Type I - RIII				Type II				Type III			
Seal Type	A		B		A		B		A		B		A		B	
Seal Color	B	V	B	V	B	V	B	V	B	V	B	V	B	V	B	V
1p	x	x			x		x	x		x	x	x				
1½p		x	x			x	x			x	x	x				
2p	x	x			x		x				x	x				
3p		x					x			x	x	x				
4p														x	x	x
4½p*	x	x					x				x	x				
6p										x	x	x				
8p			x	x										x		
9p		x	x	x												
1/-															x	x
1/6p															x	x
2/-															x	x

\* Also exists with red handstamped seal, Type B, on stamp Type I, roulette I

### TEXT TYPE II

"POSTAGE" and value line at bottom same as Type I, but without "stops." Six values were produced, from 1d to 6d (the 6d was produced only in Type II). Roulette type III (short colored lines at both sides). Sheets of this value confirm printing from two "plates" or formes of two subjects; the distance between the words "POSTAGE" is the same between positions 1 & 2 and 3 & 4 but can vary slightly between pairs of positions 2 & 3. The stamps were struck with the Vice-Consulate seal in violet only, and the Consular Mail seal in black and in violet, known for all six values. Unlike Type I stamps, where the red (border) print is key to determining plate position, the black print on Type II stamps serves the same purpose. Each value shows distinctions between left and right forme positions.

1d Value: Left: raised "Y" of "PENNY" - Right: normal "Y"

1½d Value: Left: final "E" of "PENCE" raised. Right: uneven "HALFPENCE"

2d Value: Left: smaller "N" and raised "E" of "PENCE" Right: taller "N" of "PENCE"

3d Value: Left: rising "NCE" of "PENCE" - Right: "PENCE" level

4½d Value: Left: 1 st "N" of "PENNY" smaller, with left vertical stroke thin - Right: both "N" of "PENNY" normal

6d Value: Left: wide and raised final "E" of "SIXPENCE" Right: back of final "E" of "SIXPENCE" thin

The red print of the stamps also shows variations; for example, the large "6" of the 6d value shows uncoloured spots in positions 2 & 4 of the sheets (printing forme right position).

### TEXT TYPE III

The word "POSTAGE" is much shorter (24½mm) and there is a period after the value line. Used to print five values. The 4d and the three Shilling values (1/-, 1/6, 2/-) were only printed in Type III; the 8d was also produced in Type I. Known with violet Vice-Consulate seals, and violet and black Consular Mail seals. Note that for the left position of the red printing form, the bottom frame element on the right side has its lower half offset inward, while for the right position, the second border element from the left at the bottom has its inner right line broken (seen for nearly all of the values). Other distinctions include:

4d Value: Left: thin "P" of "PENCE" - Right: "NCE" of "PENCE" raised

8d Value: Left: "EI" of "EIGHT" slopes downward; final "E" of "PENCE" slightly lower - Right: final "E" of "PENCE" slightly higher

1/ Value: Left: smaller, thinner "0" of "ONE"

1/6 Value: Left: lowered "CE" of "SIXPEN" - Right: raised period  
after "SIXPEN"

2/6 Value: Right: thinner 1 st "L" of "SHILLINGS"

Note that for all the "London Printings," poor printing technique resulted in partial doubling (so-called "kiss" doubling) of portions of the black print, most evident in the black value lines which often show a "ghost" a little offset upward. This is to be considered normal, but dramatic examples of this may be worth a premium.

## Suppression of the Issue

In 1887, only three years after the British Consular stamps were introduced, the new British Consul, J.G. Haggard, had his fill of requests from philatelists for examples, and ordered the issue suppressed, in the words of Robson Lowe, "in spite of its many advantages as regards accountancy." The mails reverted to the complicated system in use prior to 1884, with letters and parcels prepaid in cash at Antananarivo and carried by runner to Tamatave for handing over to the French P.O. there. The handstamped seals continued to be struck, however, now directly on the covers, as a form of control.

*Compiled by Karol Weyna*



#### 4 French consular mail; 1889-1895

1889

05 on 10c Colonies, M1



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/243.jpg>: "MADAGASCAR, 1889, 5c on 10c Black on Rose (1; Yvert 1). Original gum, crisp impression, Fine, only 1,200 were printed, ex Wyer".

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/719.jpg>: "Maury #1d, 1889 "05" Surcharge on 10c Black on lavender, one without surcharge, a very rare used horizontal pair, the right stamp the error, choice centering and very fresh, with strong and intact perforations, neat 24 September 1889 postmarks, extremely fine; very few such error pairs exist; signed Behr, A. Brun and Calves". Postmark Tamatave.

05 on 25c, M2



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/244.jpg>: "ZoomMADAGASCAR, 1889, 5c on 25c Black on Rose (2; Yvert 2). Original gum, h.r., well-centered, fresh shade, Very Fine, only 1,200 printed, signed Calves".



<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/35/56/ff/3556ff6370635a031b0d488fde507fc1.jpg>

Feldman (2010, p. 84) has the same issue: "1889 05 sur 10c noir sur lilas en BLOC de 6 coin de feuille avec en marge rarissime cachet 1 bleu "RESIDENCE DE FRANCE \* TAMATAVE," pli horizontal sur les deux timbres du milieu, les deux timbres du bas sont sans charnière, TB et probablement unique, superbe pièce d'exposition".

Feldman (2010, p. 85) gives a bloc of six with different varieties, including mistakes: "Extraordinaire bloc de six avec variétés du numéro 1 1+1a+1b+1d 1889 Bloc de six timbres avec càd Tamatave, présentant différentes variétés: -la rarissime erreur 25 sur 10c oblitéré plume pour annulation; - surcharge RENVESSEE 05 sur 10c; -surcharge normale x2; -surcharge verticale de haut en bas; - surcharge verticale de bas en haut; Pièce d'exposition unique, signé Roumet".

25 on 40c, M3



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/245.jpg>: "MADAGASCAR, 1889, 25c on 40c Red on Straw (3; Yvert 3). Original gum, lovely bright color, insignificant gum wrinkle, Very Fine, signed Miro".

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/721.jpg>: "Yvert #3, 1889 "25" Surcharge on 40c Red on straw, rich color on fresh paper, o.g., small h.r., fine; only 1,200 stamps were surcharged; signed Pantell and Schlessinger".

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/722.jpg>: "Yvert #3a, 1889 "25" Surcharge on 40c Red on straw, inverted surcharge, choice mint single also showing a partial double surcharge which is also inverted, with large portion of "5" of "25" beneath the first, particularly well centered and very fresh, o.g., small h.r., extremely fine and rare; signed A. Brun and Calves and accompanied by 2002 Roumet certificate; ex-Gilbert".



[http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos\\_jpg\\_LD/11825.jpg](http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos_jpg_LD/11825.jpg)

Feldman (2010, p. 86) shows the stamp used on a letter to Mauritius : "1889 25 sur 40c rouge-orange obl. Tamatave 08.04.89 sur lettre pour Maurice avec arrivée 12.04.89 au dos, TB, très rare", as well as a postmark B53 (Mauritius).

1891

05 on 40c, M4, 15c on 25c, M5, 5c on 10c, M6





<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Madagascar/Postage-stamps/B-s.jpg>

<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Madagascar/Postage-stamps/C1-i.jpg>

<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Madagascar/Postage-stamps/D-i.jpg>



<https://assets.catawiki.nl/assets/2017/11/25/5/7/c/57cd0ea6-5f76-4b86-a8f0-766fde0cb895.jpg>

Postmark Tamatave.



[http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos\\_jpg\\_LD/11817.jpg](http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos_jpg_LD/11817.jpg) Postmark Tamatave

Feldman (2010, p. 87) gives an example of this same value, but with an incomplete "0" ("0" brisé).  
And also two used on letters:

"1891 05 sur 40c rouge-orange obl. Tananarive 20.10.91 sur lettre pour la Belgique avec arrivée  
22.11.91 au dos, cachet de ligne La Réunion à Marseille 28.10.91, TB, très rare sur courrier"

"1891 05 sur 40c rouge-orange obl. Tamatave 13.06.91 sur lettre locale, TB".



<https://assets.catawiki.nl/assets/2016/6/4/5/2/3/5237a2ea-2a27-11e6-8a7a-731f3c6680ec.jpg>

Postmark Tamatave.



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/723.jpg>: "Yvert #6a, 1891 "5" Surcharge on 10c Black on lavender, double surcharge, fresh mint example showing both surcharges boldly, o.g., l.h., very fine; signed J-F Brun".

5c on 25c, M7

Feldman (2010, p. 88) gives this value, together with others, on a letter to Reunion: "1891 Les quatre surchargés de 1891 sur lettre recommandée de Tamatave 06.08.91 4+5+6+7 pour la Réunion avec arrivée 11.08 au dos, TB, rare".

He also gives another example of mixed frankings: "1891 Lettre recommandée pour Paris avec 05 sur 40c rouge-orange en bande de 4 avec 4+5 interpanneau +15 sur 25c noir sur rose (x2) obl. Tananarive 01.05.91, cachet Ligne T, arrivée 30.05.91 au dos, TB, très rare".

1891 new series

Feldman (2010, p. 92-100) gives many examples of this series, also on letters.





<http://colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L400xH338/Madagascar008-013-dd075.jpg>

5c., M8



<https://www.cherrystonestamps.com/thumb.asp?filename=81602&dw=300&dh=300>:

“Madagascar, 1891 5c black, without gum as issued, thin, signed Calves”,

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/c4/Stamp\\_Madagascar\\_1891\\_5c.jpg/220px-Stamp\\_Madagascar\\_1891\\_5c.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/c4/Stamp_Madagascar_1891_5c.jpg/220px-Stamp_Madagascar_1891_5c.jpg): “The 1891 issue was printed on sheetlets of 10 stamps. The

hand preparation of the die meant that each of the 10 positions had its own identifying traits. The differences usually pertain to the number of dots (points) in the two rows above and below the value. A quick count of the dots in the two pair of rows will usually discern the type, as well as indicate forgeries.”.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage\\_stamps\\_and\\_postal\\_history\\_of\\_Madagascar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_Madagascar)

10c, M9



<https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/35339913.jpg>

<http://zenius.kalnieciai.lt/africa/madagascar/madagascar1891.jpg> Postmark Tamatave, 1891

<https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/75025329.jpg> Postmark Tananarive, 1891

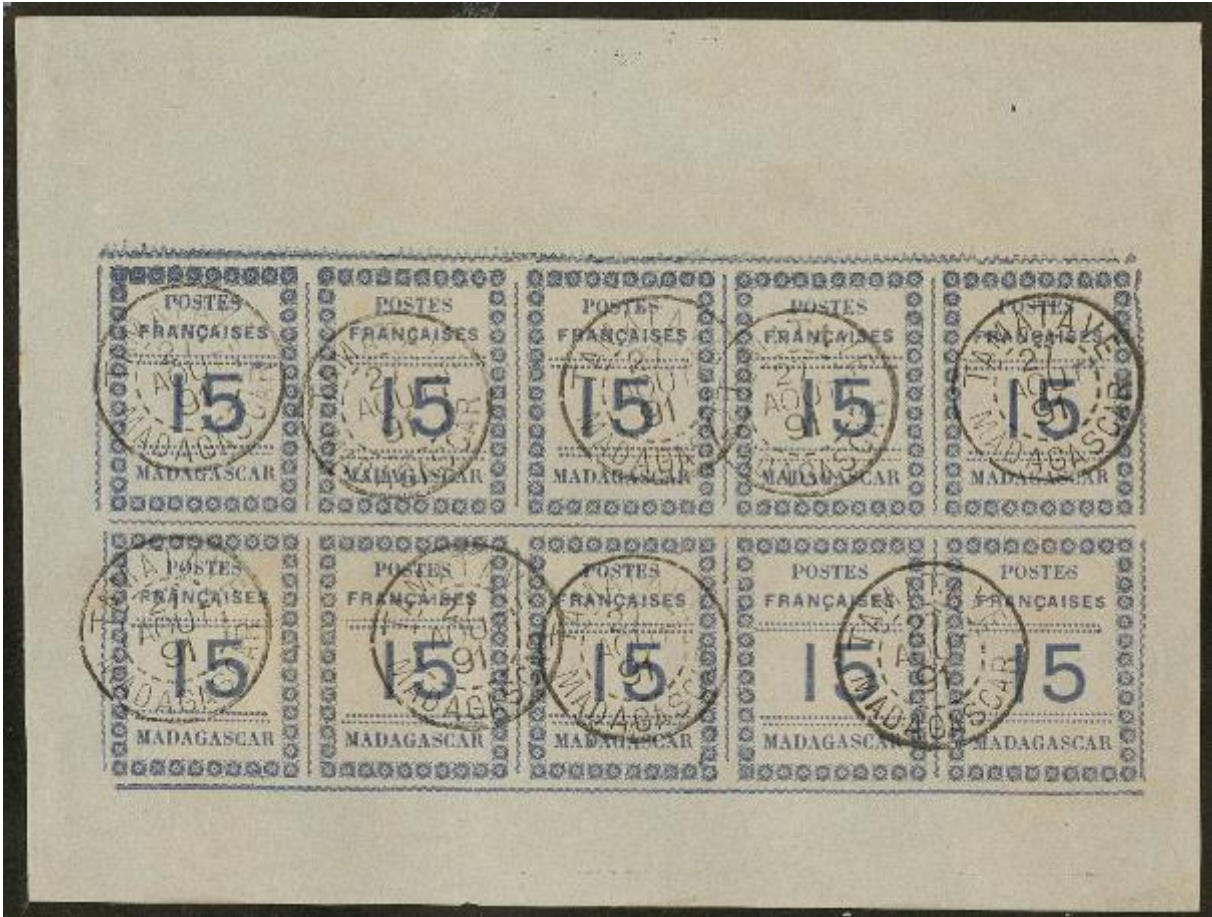
15c, M10



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Madagascar/Postage-stamps/E2-i.jpg>

<https://www.stamp-one.com/stamps/pv/c119/54212.jpg> Postmark Tamatave, 1891 and 1894





<http://www.roumet.com/photos/550/2717.jpg>

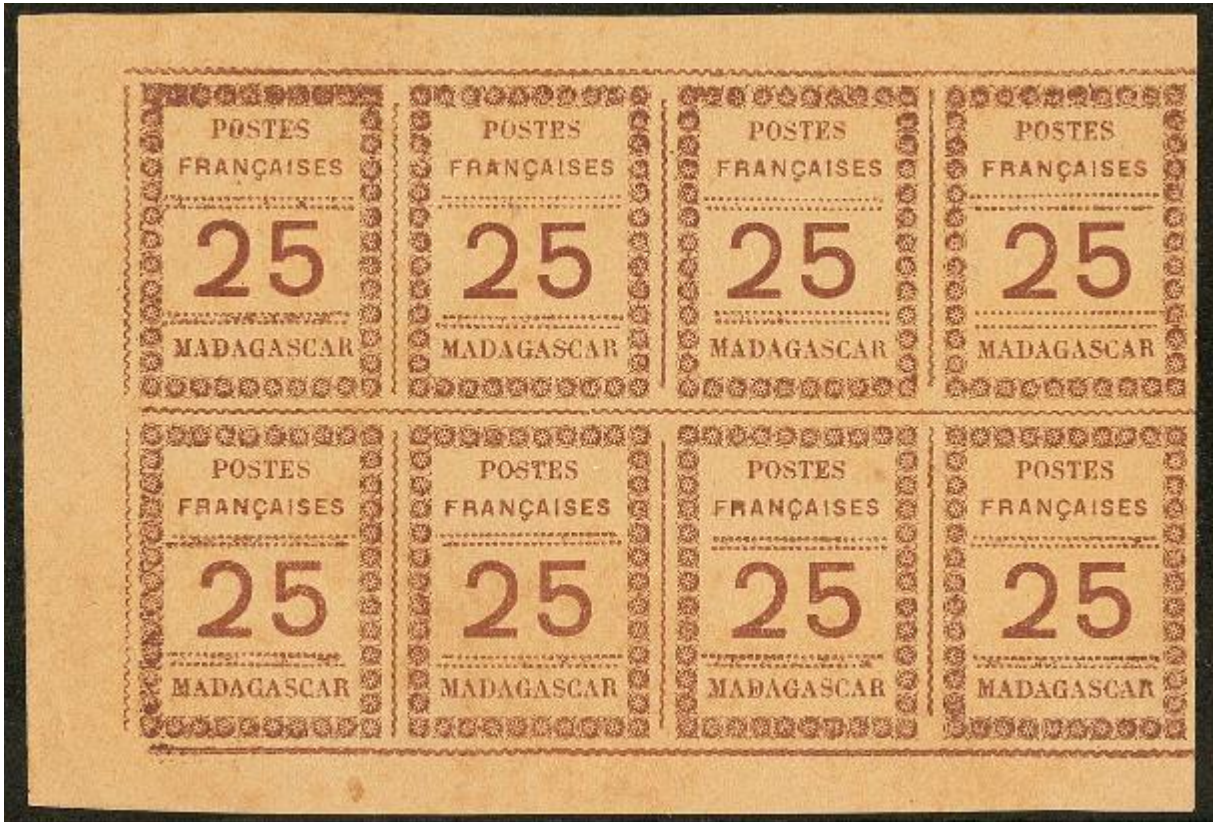
25c, M11



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Madagascar/Postage-stamps/E3-i.jpg>



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/727.jpg>: "Yvert #11, 1891 25c Brown on buff, bottom margin single tied along with French Colonies 1c Black on lilac blue and 4c Claret on lavender (#46, 48) tied by 31 October 1894 datestamps to registered cover to Paris, octagonal "Australie/Paq.Fr.T No. 6/16 Nov 94" transit and Paris backstamp, last name of recipient expunged and cover with mounting adhesions and tear on reverse, fine and rare usage; signed J-F Brun (Scott #11)".



<http://www.roumet.com/photos/550/2718.jpg>

1Fr, M12



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/246.jpg>: "MADAGASCAR, 1891, 1fr Black on Yellow (12; Yvert 12). Without gum as issued, framelines visible on all four sides, sharp impression, without the thins and other faults that are usually found on this issue, Very Fine, signed Calves".



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/726.jpg>: “Yvert #8a-12a, 1891 5c-1Fr. Typeset issue, without gum as issued, a stunning group of full panes of ten showing all ten types, the 5c-25c values each with full-sized sheet selvages, the 1Fr. cut close but well clear of designs, 5c-15c with a couple trivial faults in the selvage only, the 1Fr. with shallow thin affecting the top left pair and tiny thins on the top right stamp, otherwise very fine; first three signed Champion and 1Fr. signed Miro”.

5Fr, M13



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/247.jpg>: “MADAGASCAR, 1891, 5fr Violet & Black on Lilac (13; Yvert 13). Without gum as issued, full framelines visible on three sides, partial framelines at left, strong impression, Very Fine, a rare stamp, especially in this fault-free condition, signed Calves and with 2006 Francois Feldman certificate”.

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/724.jpg>: “Yvert #8-13, 1891 5c-5Fr. Typeset issue cplt., without gum as issued, each with ample to large margins, some small thins as usual not affecting the rare 5Fr. value, otherwise very fine; 1Fr. signed Bloch and Calves and 5Fr. signed A. Brun and Miro and accompanied by 1975 Miro certificate”.

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/725.jpg>: “Yvert #8-10, 12-13, 1891 5c-15c, 1Fr. and 5Fr. Typeset issue, complete but for the common 25c value, each with neat 1891 postmark, ample to large margins, 5Fr. usual shallow thinned spots, otherwise very fine; 5Fr. signed Calves and Pantell”



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/729.jpg>: “Yvert #13, 1891 5Fr. Violet and black on lilac, used with socked-on-the-nose 27 February 1892 datestamp, ample to large margins, natural paper inclusion and a couple tiny thin specks as usual, otherwise very fine; signed Calves and Kohler (Scott #13)”. Postmark Tamatave.



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/730.jpg>: “Yvert #13, 1891 5Fr. Violet and black on lilac, seldom seen used horizontal strip of three, each stamp cancelled by neatly struck 31 August 1891 postmark, ample to large margins, the right stamp with a pressed-out vertical crease at left, the left pair completely sound, very fine; a rare multiple as only 1,000 stamps were printed; each signed Calves (Scott #13)”. Postmark Tamatave.

Feldman (2010, p. 102) shows proofs of unissued stamps for the Occupation Forces of Madagascar: “Planche de 22 essais “Corps d’Occupation de Madagascar / Service Militaire / Postes / Franchise 2/5,” qq rousseurs et plis, extrêmement rare, peut-être unique:”.

## 5 Nossi Bé; French Postal Services, 1889-1898



<http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-4a7NYCOM4Zc/U1aobmikXZI/AAAAAAAAATys/rpeBOQNV-00/s1600/madagnosy-nossi-be.jpg>

[http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-LWzjy-U1\\_18/U1apiQX7BJI/AAAAAAAAATy4/Ogo9mcEUGq4/s1600/nosybe.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-LWzjy-U1_18/U1apiQX7BJI/AAAAAAAAATy4/Ogo9mcEUGq4/s1600/nosybe.jpg)

1889

5 on 10c, M1



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Bé/Postage-stamps/A-s.jpg>

5 on 20c, M2

Illustration not yet found

15 on 20c, M3



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/A2-s.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/287.jpg>: "NOSSI-BE, 1889, 15c on 20c Red on Green (7; Yvert 4). Original gum, lightly hinged, vibrant colors. VERY FINE. A HANDSOME ORIGINAL-GUM EXAMPLE OF SCOTT NO. 7, OF WHICH ONLY 150 EXAMPLES WERE PRINTED. Signed Buhler and with 2010 Calves certificate".

25 on 30c, M4



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/A3-i.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/288.jpg>: "NOSSI-BE, 1889, 25c on 30c Brown (8; Yvert 5). Unused (no gum), fresh color, Very Fine, a scarce stamp, ex Wyer, signed A. Brun".

<http://p1.philaworld.de/FILE/GPKATAUK/39/4B/394B12/s618717.jpg>: "1889, Nossi-Bé (Madagascar), "25" surcharge on 30 C. brown, blue cancellation "NOSSI-BE 30 JUIL 89". VF. Yvert no 5".

25 on 40c, M5, imperforated



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/283.jpg> : "NOSSI-BE, 1889, 25c on 40c Red on Straw (1; Yvert 1). Original gum, lightly hinged, wonderfully rich color on fresh paper, large margins all around,



Very Fine and choice, a handsome and choice example of this exceedingly scarce stamp, ex Gibraltar and Gross, signed A. Brun and Calves”.

<http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/frcol/noss1.jpg>

<http://pictures.auktionen-gaertner.de/auction/8707/618707-000000.jpg>

25 on 40c, M6



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/A5-s.jpg>

1889



[http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L484xH192/NossiBeArrete1889\\_06\\_05-2-f5a1d.jpg](http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L484xH192/NossiBeArrete1889_06_05-2-f5a1d.jpg)

5c on 10c, M7



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/B-i.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/284.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1889, 5c on 10c Black on Rose (3; Yvert 8). Original gum, minor h.r., crisp impression. FINE. A RARE ORIGINAL-GUM EXAMPLE OF SCOTT NO. 3. Signed Calves and with 2012 Roumet certificate”.



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/286.jpg>: "NOSSI-BE, 1889, 5c on 10c Black on Lavender (5; Yvert 2). Original gum, h.r., remarkably well-centered, fresh shade and a crisp impression. EXTREMELY FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY QUALITY ORIGINAL-GUM EXAMPLE OF SCOTT NO. 5. This is the finest centered copy we have ever seen. Ex Neal Allen and Wyer. Signed Calves and with 1998 Behr certificate".

5c on 20c, M8



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/285.jpg>: "NOSSI-BE, 1889, 5c on 20c Red on Green (4; Yvert 9). Original gum, typical centering for this stamp, brilliantly rich colors. FINE. THE RAREST NON-ERROR STAMP OF NOSSI-BE. ONLY A TINY NUMBER OF ORIGINAL-GUM EXAMPLES EXIST. Ex Gibraltar and Gross. Signed A. Brun and Roumet".

25c on 40c, M9



<http://pictures.auktionen-gaertner.de/auction/8720/618720-000000.jpg>: "1889, Nossi-Bé (Madagascar), "25c" surcharge on 40 C. red, blue cancellation "NOSSI-BE 13...". VF. Signed Brun.".

1890

025 on 20c, M10



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/290.jpg> : “NOSSI-BE, 1890, 25c on 20c Red on Green (11; Yvert 13). Original gum, well-centered, intense color, Very Fine and choice, only 400 printed, with 2009 Sismondo certificate”.

025 on 75c, M11



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/293.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1890, 25c on 75c Carmine on Rose (14; Yvert 14). Original gum, mild h.r., fresh color, slightly rounded corner perf at top left, Fine, only 400 printed, with 2009 Sismondo certificate”.

025 on 1Fr, M12



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/296.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1890, 25c on 1fr Bronze Green on Straw (17; Yvert 15). Original gum, h.r., well-centered and fresh, Very Fine and choice, only 400 printed, ex Wyer, signed Roumet”.

<http://www.jennes-und-kluettermann.de/ng/70/jpg/big/70-958-0.jpg>: “25 C. a. 1 Fr. oliv mit blauem K2 NOSSI BE, tadellos aber ein paar Tintenflecken”.

1890

25c on 20c, M13



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/D-i.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/289.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1890, 25c on 20c Red on Green (10; Yvert 10). Original gum, rich colors, Fine, only 400 printed, signed A. Brun”.

25c on 75c, M14



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/292.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1890, 25c on 75c Carmine on Rose (13; Yvert 11). Original gum, rich color, Very Fine, only 400 printed, ex Wyer, signed A. Brun and Roumet”.

<https://www.jennes-und-kluettermann.de/ng/72/jpg/big/72-747-0.jpg>

25c on 1Fr, M15



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/295.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1890, 25c on 1fr Bronze Green on Straw (16; Yvert 12). Original gum, lightly hinged, lovely rich color, Very Fine, only 400 printed, ex Wyer, signed Richard”.



1890

25c on 20c, M16



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/E-i.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/291.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1890, 25c on 20c Red on Green (12; Yvert 16). Original gum, strong colors, Fine, only 200 were printed, with 2012 Roumet certificate”.



<http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/frcol2/nosstyp1.jpg>: “Apparently, some of these types were printed together, here a strip of three stamps with all the 25 c on 20 c types”. Partly postmark Nossi Bé.

<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L377xH428/NossiBe010-018-07a07.jpg>

25c on 75c, M17





<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/294.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1890, 25c on 75c Carmine on Rose (15; Yvert 17). Original gum, h.r., bright color, a very scarce stamp, only 200 printed, with 2008 Sismondo certificate”.

<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/E1-i.jpg>

25c on 1Fr, M18



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/297.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1890, 25c on 1fr Bronze Green on Straw (18; Yvert 18). Full original gum, wonderfully rich color, Fine and very scarce, only 200 printed, signed Calves”.

1891 Postage due



<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L369xH291/NossibeTx001-006-b86f6.jpg>

0.20 on 1c, MP1



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/300.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1891, 20c on 1c Black on Lilac, Postage Due (J1; Yvert TT1). Large part original gum, strong shade, Fine, only 300 printed, signed Calves and with 2009 Sismondo certificate”.

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/301.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1891, 20c on 1c Black on Lilac Blue, Inverted Surcharge (J1a; Yvert TT1b). Original gum, h.r., sharp impression, Fine, a rare error, signed Calves and with 2014 Behr certificate”.

0.30 on 2c, MP2



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/302.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1891, 30c on 2c Brown on Buff, Postage Due (J2; Yvert TT2). Original gum, small h.r., deep color and an intense impression, Very Fine, only 300 printed”.

0.35 on 4c, MP3



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/304.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1891, 35c on 4c Claret on Lavender, Postage Due (J4; Yvert TT4). Original gum, bright and fresh, Fine, only 250 printed, signed Roumet”.

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/305.jpg>: “ZoomNOSSI-BE, 1891, 35c on 2c Brown on Buff, Inverted Surcharge (J4a; Yvert TT4a). Original gum, fresh color, Fine, only a tiny fraction of the 250 printed received the inverted surcharge, with 2014 Behr certificate”.

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/306.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1891, 35c on 4c Claret on Lavender, Postage Due, Surcharge on Back (J4b; Yvert TT4b). Original gum, strong impression of the surcharge, Fine, a rare and most unusual error, with 2014 Behr certificate”.

0.35 on 20c, MP4



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/307.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1891, 35c on 20c Red on Green, Postage Due (J5; Yvert TT5). Part original gum, strong colors, Fine, only 250 printed, signed Bernichon”.

0.50 on 30c, MP5





<https://cdn.verbolia.com/api/images/H4sIAAAAAAAAAEAFWPwU4CMRCGX6Xp2dkOrujKDROMHsQDGL2R7jJ0q22XtFPBGN!JZ!DJrISQeJnDN5N!vv9TPkUnJ7Jn3qaJUtZrQwlwVK3JddpvCRJrtI0ViMvWrJyOhpTOHdshKERUddOoi+ZaXdW4QhytwpCShZaA9Z4gQA0IY4SUI9TYQRtzgEB5A0mHBGbwvvyxJpTZ9eQcRegGJvh4p8gwukQoUdxWr1sjz+Stdq7V3dt!791udzI+qv4VUWva/6OwYUJOHgl!ox5kHvrc!+jqzpWU7OEU!s2a65L6gpaOqYYtBMS9qXMz!XCzuxc1MLKcvMzH!+RZYjVEschRL69tIQn79AggF+ZRUAQAA/nossi-be-taxe-n-050-sur-timbre.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/303.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1891, 50c on 30c Brown on Bister, Postage Due, Inverted Surcharge (J3a; Yvert TT3a). Original gum, mild h.r., rich color, rounded corner at top left, Fine and rare”.

1F on 35c, MP6



<https://cdn.verbolia.com/api/images/H4sIAAAAAAAAAEAFWPTU7DMBCFr2J5BYipHRroz65IrWBBWbQV7KqJ00ldHCeyJ7QlcSfOwMkwVvWJ7TdPb973KVfBybHcMrdxrJStsalIOu9tyBmsW4LlyNb0PHG6VmuHoSKFnWHbeKW1Vrnuq9FwpPJssNY6W!smRgsFAeOBwMMdZCXELkD!1sC7bRwx+MaGI9th5wkMeQ7pM7QYSrQMHNKKMqCNEG2VEkXoPJIGCT4Y8oGGVN!btZW8ljN0rkDz9t9k/v9+fHU7j!9TUhkrshINlquEoc6p5woOtu!qBbLVIOb7R+sxe7la3CQ0Tmjim4JFpSYcUk!PnxJR3E!Fcvl6FfOfb3FxdSmyMvh0QsxtXQQS8usXugddYmgBAAA=/nossi-be-taxe-n-1f-sur-timbre.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/308.jpg>: “NOSSI-BE, 1893, 1fr on 35c Violet on Orange, Postage Due, Surcharge on Back (J6b; Yvert TT6b). Original gum, strong impression of the surcharge, Fine, a rare and unusual error, with 2014 Behr certificate”.

1891 Postage due





<https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/78066279.jpg>

5c on 20c, MP7



<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L500xH290/NossibeTx007-014-41090.jpg>

10c on 15c, MP8



<http://philatelie-passion.com/boutique/catalog/images/0838.jpg>

<https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRds7wXJntQ1xIOuR7umUS7e0RkJcwGI7xu1BYLCY90WKLj0XtVA>

15c on 10c, MP9



<http://philatelie-passion.com/boutique/catalog/images/0839.jpg>

<https://www.roumet.com/photos/548/2386.jpg>: "Taxe. No 13. – TB".

25c on 5c, MP10



<http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/frcol2/nossp16d.jpg>

<http://philatelie-passion.com/boutique/catalog/images/0648.jpg>

<https://www.roumet.com/photos/548/2380.jpg>: "Taxe. No 10, deux dents à peine courtes mais TB".

1891, Postage due

0.10 on 5c, MP11; 0.15 on 20c, MP12





<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L371xH145/NossibeTx015-017-52c8c.jpg>



<https://cdn1.yvert.com/l-Moyenne-146440-n-16-timbre-nossi-be-taxe.net.jpg>

0.25 on 75c, MP13



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/309.jpg>; NOSSI-BE, 1891, 25c on 75c Rose on Lavender (J17; Yvert TT 17). Original gum, lightly hinged, well-centered, bright color, Very Fine, a select quality example of this elusive stamp, only 150 printed”.

1892



<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L500xH145/NossiBe018-022-4fc1c.jpg>

25c on 20c, M19



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/F-i.jpg>

50c on 10c, M20



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/F1-i.jpg>

[https://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img\\_large/auction/000/428/192/279\\_001.jpg?v=0](https://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/000/428/192/279_001.jpg?v=0)

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/298.jpg>: "NOSSI-BE, 1893, 50c on 10c Black on Rose, Inverted Surcharge (24a; Yvert 20a). Original gum, sharp impression, Very Fine, signed A. Brun".

75c on 15c, M21





[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/e/ed/Nossi-Be\\_75c\\_on\\_15c\\_1893.jpg/220px-Nossi-Be\\_75c\\_on\\_15c\\_1893.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/e/ed/Nossi-Be_75c_on_15c_1893.jpg/220px-Nossi-Be_75c_on_15c_1893.jpg); “Marke von Nossi-Bé aus dem Jahre 1893, Aufdruck zu 75 Centimes auf einer 15-Centimes-Marke”.

[https://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img\\_large/auction/000/477/704/013\\_001.jpg?v=350](https://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/000/477/704/013_001.jpg?v=350)

1Fr on 5c, M22



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/F3-i.jpg>

<https://www.roumet.com/photos/548/2364.jpg>: “Surcharge renversée. No 22a. – TB”.

1893

10c, M23 a and b



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/G-i.jpg>

<http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-8aBMh1Ew7I/U1V9hAzZUDI/AAAAAAATxA/-nSp2muEN5k/s1600/NossiBe28.jpg>

15c, M24



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/G1-i.jpg>

<http://www.stamp-one.com/stamps/pv/c114/54658.jpg>

20c, M25 I and II



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/299.jpg>: "NOSSI-BE, 1893, 20c Red on Green, Black Overprint (30; Yvert 25). Large part original gum, bright colors, Very Fine, signed Calves".

<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Nossi-Be/Postage-stamps/H-s.jpg>

<https://i.ebayimg.com/thumbs/images/g/wX0AAOSwNSxVWfhD/s-l225.jpg>

1894: 'NOSSI-BE' M26-38



<https://assets.catawiki.nl/assets/2016/3/26/0/9/e/09e00466-f380-11e5-8e6f-b29d8ac98302.jpg>

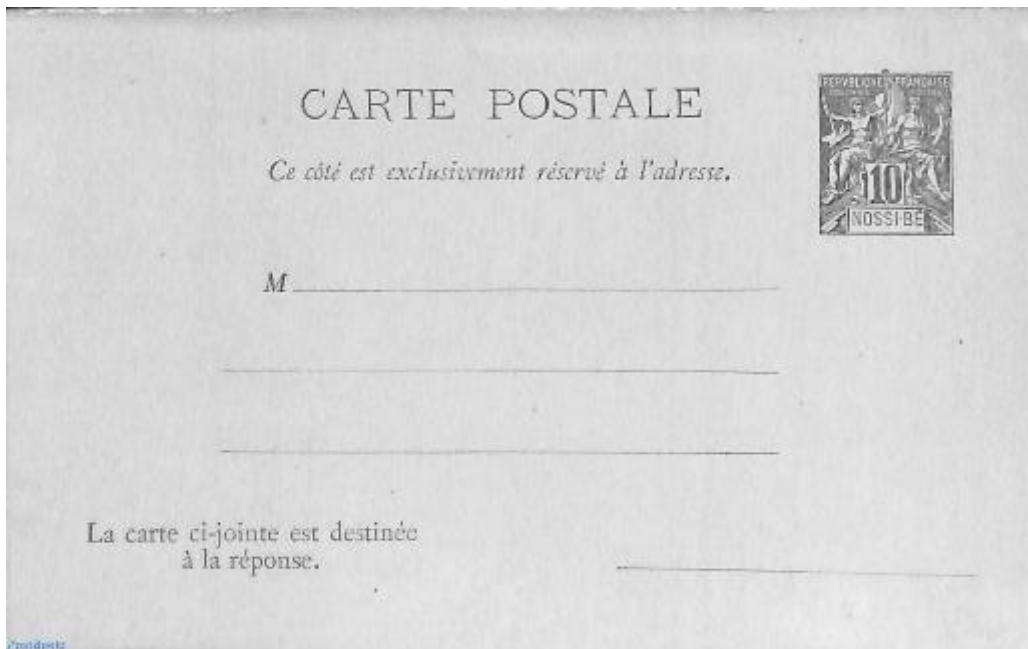


<http://pictures.auktionen-gaertner.de/auction/1865/591865-000000.jpg>: "1895. Stampless envelope endorsed 'Corps Expeditionnaire de Madagascar' addressed to Paris cancelled by Nossi-Be double ring '7th Avril' with '2nd Etps Aux Armees 2/Madagascar' double ring '9th Avril', routed via French paquebot with 'Cor D. Arm Lig. T. Paq. Fr. No 1' date stamp '16 Avril' on face (Salles 2161). Rare item from the French Occupation of Nossi-Be."



<http://p1.philaworld.de/FILE/GPKATAUK/1D/D9/1DD926/s592027.jpg>: "1898. Nossi-Be Postal stationery envelope 5c green cancelled by Vatomandry Madagascar double ring addressed to Tamatave with receiver on reverse. Scarce item of printed matter from Nossi-Be."





<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbnbp2.jpg> : "1893, Nossi Bé, Reply Paid Postcard 10/10c".



[https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/small\\_image/400x400/67330acb2b8da843bfbbe0b5818dfc4a/m/b/mnbu2a.jpg](https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/small_image/400x400/67330acb2b8da843bfbbe0b5818dfc4a/m/b/mnbu2a.jpg) : "1892, Nossi Bé, Envelope 15c, 116x76mm".





<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbnbu2b.jpg> : "1893, Nossi Bé, Enveloppe 15c, 122x95mm".



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbnbk1.jpg> : "1893, Nossi Bé, Card Letter 15c".



<http://p1.philaworld.de/FILE/GPKATAUK/39/4B/394B1A/s629519.jpg> : "1903, 15 C blue on greenish postal stationery envelope, on reverse uprated with vertical pair Madagascar 5 C yellow-green/red, tied by blue cds "2 MADAGASCAR", 15 DEC 03, via transit octagonal maritime dater "LA REUNION A MARSEILLE 1 / L.U.No.3", 18 DEC 03, sent to Brussels in Belgium. F/VF condition".



[http://www.behr.fr/illus\\_vso35/1660.jpg](http://www.behr.fr/illus_vso35/1660.jpg)



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbnbk3a.jpg> : "1893, Nossi Bé, Card Letter 25c".



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbnbu3a.jpg> : "1893, Nossi Bé, Envelope 25c, 116x76mm".





[https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/small\\_image/400x400/67330acb2b8da843bfbbe0b5818dfc4a/m/b/mbnbu3c.jpg](https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/small_image/400x400/67330acb2b8da843bfbbe0b5818dfc4a/m/b/mbnbu3c.jpg) : "1893, Envelope 25c, 146x112mm"



<https://c7.alamy.com/comp/KW3J97/nossi-vey-postmark-1894-KW3J97.jpg> :Postmark Nossi-Vey, 1894.

1895 Nossi Bé 'Effects de Commerce': MARIANNE type, 10c-90c and 1F-10F.

<http://www.jbarefoot.co.uk/pdfs/Madagascar.pdf>



[https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSYobD017I3hdHD3ZJhWg9MObzr\\_R--DPUMmvMXF\\_rnCdgTOKDUrA](https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSYobD017I3hdHD3ZJhWg9MObzr_R--DPUMmvMXF_rnCdgTOKDUrA) Revenue Society: Nossi Bé and others (Dahomey and Soudan Fr).

## 6 Diego Suarez; 1890-1898

“Diego-Suárez is a city at the northern tip of Madagascar in Antsiranana province. It was a French colony in the late 19th century until it was returned to Madagascar in 1896. It was renamed as Antsiranana in 1975. Postage Stamps: the colony issued its own postage stamps from 1890 to 1894, managing to produce over 60 types in that short time”.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage\\_stamps\\_and\\_postal\\_history\\_of\\_Diego-Su%C3%A1rez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_Diego-Su%C3%A1rez)

1885 Revenue stamps



5c: John Barefoot, with permission, and thanks <http://www.jbarefoot.co.uk/pdfs/Madagascar.pdf>

[http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos\\_jpg\\_HD/7087.jpg](http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos_jpg_HD/7087.jpg): “DIEGO SUAREZ OCTROI Deux timbres à 5 ct et 50 ct sur papier chamois type Femmes Occidentale et Africaine. Timbres émis sans gomme et imprimés en 1885”.

John Barefoot: “Fee for customs duty on goods leaving the town of Diégo Suarez. At the end of the 19th century, the Customs Post marked the limit of the European quarter and separated it from "the bush". Next to the 5c and 50c there is also 1Franc. “c1885. European and African women. Litho by F. Terrenry, Diégo Suarez. Printed in sheetlets of 4 x 5c, 2 x 50c, 2 x 1F (may have been printed in sheets of larger size, but only known now in sheetlets of this format). Buff paper. Imperf. ... Stamps with black or violet circular cancel (especially multiples or sheets) are cancelled officially as an invalidation, after Diégo Suarez was joined administratively with the rest of Madagascar and the city frontier taxes were abolished”. <http://www.jbarefoot.co.uk/pdfs/Madagascar.pdf>



<http://stampmall.com.au/images/images/73269.jpg> : “Diego-Suarez 1890's Service du Port Circular”.



1890-1891

15c on 1c, M1<sup>2</sup>



<http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/frcol/dieg1.jpg> : "1890 Stamps of the french colonies, surcharged by hand in violet".

<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L252xH151/DiegoSuarez001-002-2be56.jpg>

15c on 5c, M2



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/152.jpg> : "DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1890, 15c on 5c Green on Greenish (2; Yvert 2). Unused (no gum), strong color and impression, Fine, signed A. Brun".

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/153.jpg> : "DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1890, 15c on 5c Green on Greenish, Inverted Surcharge (2a; Yvert 2a). Unused, with a large paper remnant on reverse, rich color, Fine, a rare surcharge error, signed Champion".

<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/o~oAAOSww9xZEYx8/s-l300.jpg> Postmark Diego-Suarez. Corr. d'Armees.

15c on 10c, M3

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<sup>2</sup> M = Michel Katalog Nord- und Ostafrika, 2005, Madagaskar, pp 727-822.



<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L126xH150/DiegoSuarez003-2a5b7.jpg>

15c on 20c, M4



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/154.jpg> : "DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1890, 15c on 20c Red on Green (4; Yvert 4). Unused (no gum), well-centered, bright color, Very Fine, signed A. Brun".

<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L124xH146/DiegoSuarez004-03ae4.jpg>

<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/QWgAAOSwblZZEY1N/s-l300.jpg>

15c on 25c, M5



<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L128xH152/DiegoSuarez005-7c7a8.jpg>

<http://www.stamp-one.com/stamps/pv/c114/54636.jpg>

1890



<http://www.colfra.org/IMG/jpg/DiegoSuarez006-009.jpg>



<https://www.cherrystonestamps.com/stamps/84965.jpg>

1c, M6



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/155.jpg>: "DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1890, 1c Black (6; Yvert 6).

Original gum (scarce on this issue), h.r., ample to large margins, Very Fine and scarce, signed A. Brun and with 2003 Roumet certificate".

5c, M7





<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/156.jpg>: "DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1890, 5c Black (7; Yvert 7).

Original gum, h.r.'s, exceptionally large margins all around, sharp impression, Extremely Fine, a scarce stamp, especially difficult to find in this choice original gum condition, signed A. Brun and Roumet".

15c, M8



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/7a/1890\\_15c\\_stamp\\_of\\_Diego\\_Suarez.jpg/220px-1890\\_15c\\_stamp\\_of\\_Diego\\_Suarez.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/7a/1890_15c_stamp_of_Diego_Suarez.jpg/220px-1890_15c_stamp_of_Diego_Suarez.jpg): "Marke von Diego-Suarez aus dem Jahr 1890"

<https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSeyF1bFA8odbmjaBSjEIT9ZGvXUeVal32VG6yfabSwsLzkQ0x8>

25c, M9



<http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/frcol/diego4.jpg>

1891

5c, M10



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/157.jpg>; "DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1891, 5c Black (10; Yvert 10). Full original gum, large balanced margins all around, crisp impression, Extremely Fine, not an easy stamp to find in this select original gum quality, with 2009 Sismondo certificate".

<http://www.jennes-und-kluettermann.de/ng/71/jpg/big/71-484-0.jpg>

1891

5c on 10c, Colonies, M11; 5c on 20c Colonies, M12



<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L245xH145/DiegoSuarez011-012-8c769.jpg>



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/158.jpg>: "DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1892, 5c on 10c Black on Lavender, Inverted Surcharge (11a; Yvert 11a). Unused (no gum), strong color, Fine, signed A. Brun".

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1049/1761.jpg>

[http://www.harmerschau.com/lotphotos\\_large/96/141389.jpg](http://www.harmerschau.com/lotphotos_large/96/141389.jpg)

1892; 'DIEGO SUAREZ' on French Colonies, M13-24

1c; 2c; 4c; 5c; 10c; 15c; 20c; 25c; 1F





<https://assets.catawiki.nl/assets/2016/2/3/0/4/4/0448f398-ca84-11e5-88dd-48e3139bdb92.jpg> (and M5, ad MP8 and 9).



<http://www.stamp-one.com/stamps/pv/c114/54643.jpg>





<https://www.ceres.fr/img/vso/V165/471969.jpg>



30c: <http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/159.jpg>: “DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1892, 35c Brown on Bister (21; Yvert 21). Unused (no gum), fresh color, Fine, only 150 were printed, signed Calves”.

35c: <http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/160.jpg>: “DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1892, 35c Black on Yellow (2; Yvert 22). Original gum, unusually well-centered, strong color and a detailed impression, Extremely Fine, an especially scarce stamp in this extraordinary quality, only 250 printed, signed Calves and with 1993 Behr certificate”.



75c and 1F: <https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/aEYAAOSwdx1aJqmS/s-l300.jpg>

1F: <http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/frcol/dieg24.jpg>



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbdsk2.jpg> : "1892, Diego Suarez, Card Letter 25c".

1891-1892 Postage due

5c; MP1; 50c; MP2



<http://www.colfra.org/local/cache-vignettes/L389xH144/DiegoSuarezTx001-002-92688.jpg> (and M10).





<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/161.jpg>: "DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1891, 5c Violet and 50c Black, Postage Dues (J1-J2; Yvert TT1-TT2). 5c unused (no gum), 10c original gum, h.r., large margins all around, fresh colors, Very Fine and choice, both signed A. Brun".

<http://www.stamp-one.com/stamps/pv/c114/54645.jpg>



<https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQv2wCIYbFrh5hVUAqgUvhwQCVG57CM1SBI9qMw6NQHMycWshUCow>

1892; 'Diego Suarez et Dependances', M25-37

1c; 2c; 4c; 5c; 10c; 15c; 20c; 25c; 30c; 40c; 50c





<https://i.pinimg.com/236x/fb/40/df/fb40df4b737eefd4342f99831ff53812--commerce-lwren-scott.jpg>

<http://www.stampworldhistory.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Diego-Suarez.jpg>



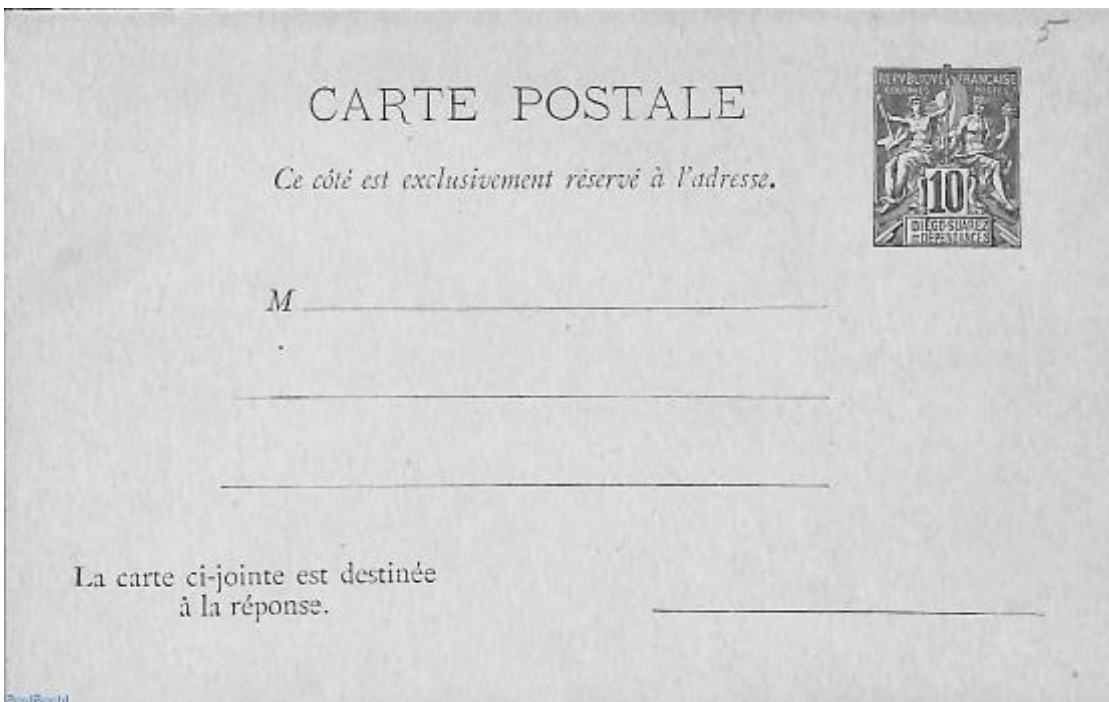
75c: <http://www.jennes-und-kluettermann.de/ng/71/jpg/big/71-488-0.jpg>



1F: <https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/DCMAAOSwBjdZ~3fD/s-l300.jpg>



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbdsp3.jpg> : "1893, Diego Suarez, Postcard 10c".



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbdsp4.jpg> : "1893, Diego Suarez, Reply Paid Postcard 10/10c".





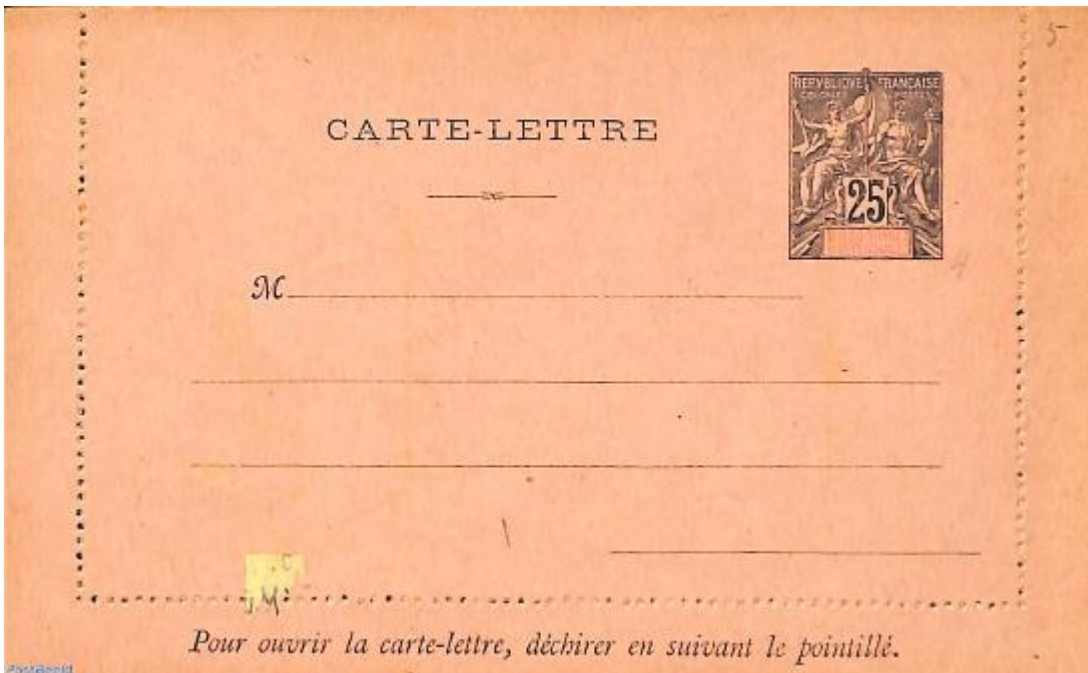
<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbdsk3.jpg> : "1893, Diego Suarez, Card Letter 15c".



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbdsu3a.jpg>: "1893, Diego Suarez, Envelope 15c"



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbdsu5b.jpg>: "1894, Enveloppe 15c, 122x95mm".



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbdsk4.jpg>: "1893, Diego Suarez, Card letter 25c".

1892 Postage due on Colonies, MP3-13

1c, MP3; 2c, MP4; 3c, MP5



[https://www.mysticstamp.com/pictures/stamps\\_default/DiegoSuarez-J3-5.jpg](https://www.mysticstamp.com/pictures/stamps_default/DiegoSuarez-J3-5.jpg)

4c, MP6



<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/hslAAOxy4eJTNaEn/s-l300.jpg>

5c, MP7

Illustration not yet found

10c, MP8



<http://www.stamp-one.com/stamps/pv/c114/54646.jpg>

15c, MP9





<https://assets.catawiki.nl/assets/2016/12/14/7/2/b/72be5d1a-c1e9-11e6-9a48-66f5b59195eb.jpg>

20c, MP10



<https://i.ebayimg.com/thumbs/images/g/8KAAAOSwyYFZ7ff2/s-l225.jpg>

[https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/282984420922\\_/FRENCH-COLS-DIEGO-SUAREZ-1892-20c-Postage-Due.jpg](https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/282984420922_/FRENCH-COLS-DIEGO-SUAREZ-1892-20c-Postage-Due.jpg)

30c, MP11



<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/-ROAAOSww5Rafd7C/s-l300.jpg>

60c, MP12



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/162.jpg> : "DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1892, 60c Black, Postage Due (J12; Yvert TT12). Original gum, h.r., large margins, irregular cut at bottom right corner, crisp impression, Very Fine, only 150 printed, signed Calve".

<http://www.stamp-one.com/stamps/pv/c114/54647.jpg>



<https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSYO9bmUXVkDmG8E-WXy9hv-dcCN00FpT1WwiKl2exAAWRDH7qY>

1F, MP13



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/163.jpg>: "DIEGO-SUAREZ, 1892, 1fr Brown, Postage Due (J13; Yvert TT13). Original gum, small h.r., large balanced margins all around, rich color and a well incised impression, Extremely Fine, a highly desirable example of this rare stamp, ex Wyer, with 1999 Calves certificate".

<https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/59216851.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/336.jpg>

1894; 'Diego Suarez', M38-50

1c, 2c, 4c, 5c, 10c



1c: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K-i.jpg>

2c: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K1-i.jpg>

4c: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K2-i.jpg>

5c: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K3-i.jpg>

10c: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K4-i.jpg>

15c, 20c, 25c, 30c





15c: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K5-i.jpg>

20c: <https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/LbYAAOSwoddabGc1/s-l300.jpg>

25c: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K7-i.jpg>

30c: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K8-i.jpg>

40c, 50c, 75c, 1F



40c: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K9-i.jpg>

50c: <http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/frcol/diegfor4.jpg>

75c: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K11-i.jpg>

1F: <https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Diego-Suarez/Postage-stamps/K12-i.jpg>



[http://www.behr.fr/illus\\_vso35/1655.jpg](http://www.behr.fr/illus_vso35/1655.jpg) Postmark Fianarantsoa, 1901.



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbdsu4.jpg> : "1894, Diego Suarez, Enveloppe 5c".



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbdsp5.jpg> : "1894, Diego Suarez, Postcard 10c".



[https://philaseiten.wavecdn.net/up/5994835/8/1/7dad7ca0\\_h.jpeg](https://philaseiten.wavecdn.net/up/5994835/8/1/7dad7ca0_h.jpeg) [Postmark Kathiawar, British India, 1898].





<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbdsu5a.jpg> : "1894, Diego Suarez, Envelope 15c 116x76mm"



[https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/302755093954\\_/1894-French-colony-stamps-Diego-Suarez-25c-MH-SC.jpg](https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/302755093954_/1894-French-colony-stamps-Diego-Suarez-25c-MH-SC.jpg)

## 7 Sainte Marie de Madagascar; 1894-1898



<http://www.riakeresort.com/images/localizzazione.png>

1894



<http://www.roumet.fr/photos/542/3096.jpg>

1c, M1



<http://www.stampworldhistory.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Sainte-Marie-de-Madagascar.jpg>

2c, M2



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/83/Stamp\\_frcolonies\\_madagascar.jpg/220px-Stamp\\_frcolonies\\_madagascar.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/83/Stamp_frcolonies_madagascar.jpg/220px-Stamp_frcolonies_madagascar.jpg): "Marke zu 2 Centimes von St. Marie de Madagaskar".

<http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-4lxOJrLCT6o/VNZhL6PG1JI/AAAAAAAAAXQQ/wV-LEwHL-G8/s1600/SteMariedeMadagascar2.jpg>; Postmark Ste Marie.

4c, M3; 5c, M4



[https://www.stampcommunity.org/uploaded/dopsen/20160203\\_20160203\\_080212.jpg](https://www.stampcommunity.org/uploaded/dopsen/20160203_20160203_080212.jpg)

10c, M5





<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Ste.-Marie-de-Madagascar/Postage-stamps/A4-i.jpg>

15c, M6



<https://www.hipstamp.com/uploads/cache/0903fc77f83016466b5c2c7adc049817-250x286.png>

20c, M7



25c, M8; 30c, M9; 40c, M10; 50c, M11



<https://assets.catawiki.nl/assets/2017/7/6/5/e/5/5e5bca0c-5aee-4116-a80b-9998331abb32.jpg>

75c, M12



<https://www.hipstamp.com/uploads/cache/75e793cdf04f64ce649e2284ef3d8afe-250x286.png>

<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/NY0AAOxy5jxSbNfp/s-l500.jpg>

1F, M13



<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/N1oAAOxyM89SbNSq/s-l500.jpg>

[http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos\\_jpg\\_HD/11838.jpg](http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos_jpg_HD/11838.jpg)

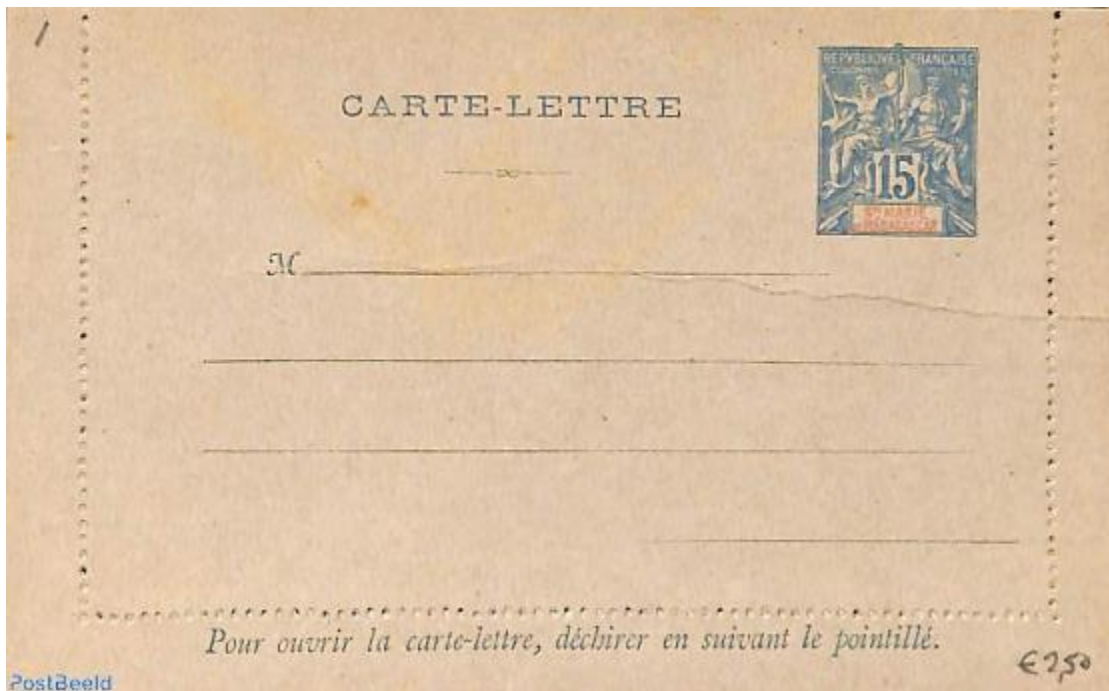


<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbsmu1.jpg>: "1894, St. Marie de Madagascar, Enveloppe 5c".



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbsmp2.jpg>: "1894, St Marie de Madagascar, Reply Paid Postcard 10/10c".





<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbsmk1.jpg> : "1894, Sainte Marie de Madagascar, Card Letter 15c".



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbsmk2.jpg> : "1894, St. Marie de Madagascar, Card Letter 25c".

In June 1889 Sainte Marie became part of French Madagascar.

## 8 Norwegian Missionary Mail; 1894

According to the Billig Catalogue<sup>3</sup> “the Norwegian Mission in Madagascar established a private parcel service in 1875. Thirteen years later this service, connecting most of the important towns, was opened to the public and to the British Consulate and Malagasy Government for letters. Stamps were issued later for the prepayment of postage; government letters were carried free”.

Feldman (2010, p 63-79) presents many examples, starting with the pre-stamp era from 1875 onwards. “The Norwegian Missionary Society established a regular postal service in 1882, linking the capital, Tananarivo (Antananarivo) with Fandriana in the Vakinankaratra region (located near the capital in the central part of the island) and subsequently extended the service to all 20 of the Norwegian missionary stations there and in Bara and in North Betsileo. The extremely elusive adhesives for use by this service were issued in 1894 and used until 1897”. But there have been mail exchanges from 1875 onwards.

### Early missionary mail:

“1875 (26 Dec.) Envelope from the Missionary Haslund at Fihasinana (The Highland Mission) addressed to Stavanger in Norway, “Paid” added by British runner service to Tamatave, letter then carried by the Bark Elieser to Stavanger..”

“1875 (20 May) Cover front from the Missionary Haslund at Fihasinana (The Highland Mission) sent to Norway, “Paid” added by British runner service to Tamatave, addressed to the Bark Elieser at Cape Town, and returned to Antananarivo having missed the recipient..”.

“INBOUND MAIL: 1876 (15 Sept.) Envelope from Böstad, West Norway over Bergen to Ilàka in the Madagascar highlands, two “T” tax markings despite ms “paid” at bottom left, also ms “über Neapel” with transit via Italy before French ship carried the letter to Mauritius and from there to the forwarding agents Proctor Bros. in Tamatave, reverse bears NAPOLI 26 SET 76 transit, French Steamer LIGNE “T” ds and MAURITIUS OC20 76 cds, ... The Rev. Franz Friederich Bekker had established a mission in Ilàka where he stayed from 1874 to 1880. The letter was carried by runners from Tamatave to Antananarivo and on to Antsirabe in Vakinankaratra and finally to Ilàka just south-west of Fisakana”.

“Circa 1880s Envelope addressed to the Norwegian Missionary on the West Coast Rev. R.L. Aas at the mission station of Bethela (Betel), sent by the Hova Governor of Menabe (a coastal province of the Kingdom of Sakalava) whose residence was in the garrison town of Mahabo...”.

“ 1880 (Nov.) Envelope from Norway to Rev. Aas based in Morondava, letter was sent within another envelope to the forwarding agent H&T McCubbin in Natal, annotations written by a missionary colleague on reverse, E.A. Bertelsen, that this letter was inside a letter addressed to him (received 22 November 1880)”.

“Circa 1880s Envelope from Razafindrazaka, for several years the Hova Governor of Menabe and addressed to Rev. Aas, seal on reverse with indications of his immediate ancestry..”.

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<sup>3</sup> Billig's Specialized Catalogues Volume 6 Handbook of the Private Local Posts Hardcover – 1950 by E.F. Hurt and L.N. & M. Williams (Author).

“Circa 1880s Envelope from a member of the Royal Court addressed to Rev. Aas, monogram on reverse with “M” for Mpanjaka (i.e. the Sovereign), probably the Queen of Imerina rather than the King of Sakalava..”.

“ 1880s Envelope to Rev. Aas at Bethel, address written in the typical aniline ink much used by the Norwegian Mission, comment at the left translates into English to “This letter of mine has gone both nights and days to get to Bethel,” a remarkable runner post document”.

“ 1880(?) Undated envelope from Stavanger, Norway to Antananarivo for Rev. Borchgrevink, the head of the Norwegian Highland Mission, carried by runners from Tamatave to the capital, the letter was mailed from Norway inside a collective dispatch, possibly sent just prior to 1880 before Rev. Aas left Norway for Madagascar or during the period 1888-92 when he had home leave..”

“1881-86, Lot of 22 covers, mostly addressed to Rev. Aas, noted various Missionary handstamps incl. Olaf Nome, Rev. Aas, H.M. Andersen, also “forwarded by Capt Wicks,” “by favor of Mr.Oman,” etc., ...”.

“1882 (6 April) Envelope from Stavanger via Paris, Marseille, Mauritius, Tamatave and Antananarivo to Rev. Minsaas in Fihasinana, correctly franked 35ö for overseas mail, French entry pmk on face and MARSEILLE-ETRANGER cds on reverse, carried by runners from Tamatave to Antananarivo and from there to Fihasinana, a run which took at least two weeks, .. Rev. Lars Fredrik Minsaas was the Missionary in charge of the Fihasinana station north of Fianarantsoa from 1875 to 1886”.

“1882(?) Envelope from native to missionary David Olaus Jakobsen, based at the station Betania by Morondava, text reads “To D. Jakobsen and his likeminded friends by the mouth (of the river) Morondova,” ..”.

“ 1882 Small envelope addressed to Rev. Aas with title “Sakaiza” (friend), docketed “Modtaget 12/8 1882,” ..”.

“1882 (25 April) Envelope from Aalesund, Norway to Fianarantsoa, sent through France and from there probably via French Packet to Port Louis in Mauritius (bs 5 JU 82). The Colonial Postmaster in Port Louis debited the account of the Norwegian Mission and wrote “Paid” at bottom left. Once it arrived at Tamatave, where the agents Proctor Bros. handled the item. It continued by runner post to Antananarivo and further to Fianarantsoa in Vakinankaratra. Docketed “Motaget 13.7.1882” on reverse,..Rev. B.P. Joh Svendsen was a missionary in Fianarantsoa from 1880 to 1885”.

“1892 (28 Feb.) Envelope from the Norwegian Missionary Arne Walen and addressed to Illinois in the U.S., written at Fianarantsoa at the end of February 1892, sent via Tamatave, Marseille, Paris and New York, with missionary’s personal cachet on reverse..”.

“1896 (14 April) Parcel card from Bergen, Norway to the Norwegian West Coast Mission at Tuléar, paying 3Kr 06 for a 5kg parcel going through Germany, France and French Steamer to Majunga, only recorded example of this card sent overseas..”.

“1897 (13 May) Envelope from the printers of the NMS stamps to Rev. Aas, heading at top “Ambohijanahary Lager & Kommission,” docketed “besvaret 13/7-97” alongside, only the Highland



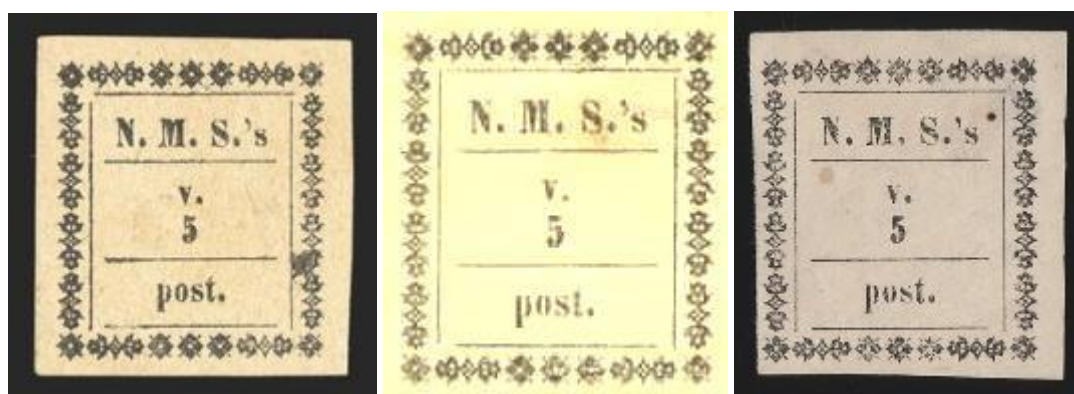
Mission made use of the NMS stamps but the printing office were certainly offering other services as well”.

**N.M.S. Postage stamps, from 1894 onwards.**

5v. = 5 Varidimiventy Value

“1894 (May ?). Types 1 and 2. Type-set in the Mission Press at Antananarivo by Pastors Borchgrevink and Lono and printed in sheets of 12 (5 vari) or 9 (1 era 5 vari). Yellow gum unevenly applied by hand, or ungummed. Imperf....

1894. Types 3 and 4. Values in sterling...1/3 penny black and 1 penny black. .. The post closed down at the end of 1899”.



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/0/03/Norwegian\\_Missionary\\_Stamp\\_1894.jpg/220px-Norwegian\\_Missionary\\_Stamp\\_1894.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/0/03/Norwegian_Missionary_Stamp_1894.jpg/220px-Norwegian_Missionary_Stamp_1894.jpg): “niedrigste Wertstufe der norwegischen Missionsmarken von 1894”.

<http://scandps.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/1955/12/Exhibit0079-01.jpg>: “In the second half of the 19th century, the Norwegians Missionary Society (Det Norske Missionselskab), opened a number of mission stations on the tropical island of Madagascar”.

<http://www.statusint.com/photo/4788.jpg> : “Norwegian Missionary Society: 1894-95 Type-set Local Post 5v, imperf. F-VF UN as issued, tiny thin, 4 margins. Facit MI.1, Maury”.



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/797a.jpg>: "Facit #MI1, 1894 5v Missionary stamp, lot consisting of one unused single, two used singles and one used vertical pair, cancelled by ms. as always, all but one single have full large margins all around, the pair has some faint toning, one used single with a tiny pinhole, otherwise fine-very fine; an attractive lot of these seldom seen Missionary stamps".

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/797b.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/797c.jpg>



<https://www.cherrystoneauctions.com/auctionscans201104/1839.jpg>: "MADAGASCAR Norwegian Missionary Society - Local Post. 1896 complete outer wrapper addressed to Miss K.Nilsen, Ft.Dauphin, Madagascar, franked with 5v. Typeset on white toned paper, dated 24.4.96 in manuscript, fine and very rare usage, signed Roger Calves, Peter Holcombe, with 1996 certificates from each, also L.N. Williams cert. In 1896 Madagascar became a French Colony, with its own postal system".

Feldman (2010, p. 70-76) gives many additional examples:

"5v Black, first printing (large setting on buff paper), complete unused sheet of 12..ex Hurt"

"5v Black, first printing (large setting on buff paper), cancelled by ms "Ihosi 4 /1 97" on envelope to Fianarantsoa in Vakinankaratra, wonderful corner example, ..ex Hurt"

"5v Black, first printing (large setting on buff paper), cancelled by ms "4/12-95" on cover to Ambohimaninga (close to Antananarivo), cover somewhat roughly opened at top and stamp with insignificant tiny corner crease at upper right..."

"5v Black, second printing (narrow setting on buff paper), complete mint sheet of 12.. ex Hurt"

"5v Black, second printing (narrow setting on buff paper), a trio comprising unused and used examples and a used vertical pair on piece.."

"5v Black, second printing (narrow setting on buff paper), cancelled by ms "31/8 95" on envelope from Ihosi to Fianarantsoa in Vakinankaratra, somewhat rough opening at top but not affecting adhesive, insignificant peripheral foxing,.. ex Hurt"



“5v Black, third printing (narrow setting on white paper), complete mint sheet of 12 showing “cracked plate” varieties at positions 10 and 12, .. the rarest of the three printings.., ex Hurt”

“5v Black, third printing (narrow setting on white paper), in vertical STRIP OF THREE, cancelled by ms “Ranomena 1/11 96” on envelope to the French Resident in Antsirabe, cover is franked at the parcel rate of 1e 5v and may have been attached to a parcel originally, a few cover tears of which one affects the strip at top, unique multiple franking and one of the most important items of the Norwegian Missionary Mail”

“5v Black, third printing (narrow setting on white paper), cancelled by violet FIHASINANA / 6 NOVEMBER / XXX 1896 XXX cds on envelope to Antananarivo, cover with some peripheral faults. The ONLY KNOWN cover with this cancellation, made at the postmaster of Finasinana’s own initiative. An exceptional and very rare item”.

“5v Black, third printing (narrow setting on white paper), a used single with tiny thin plus a very fine used example on piece ..”

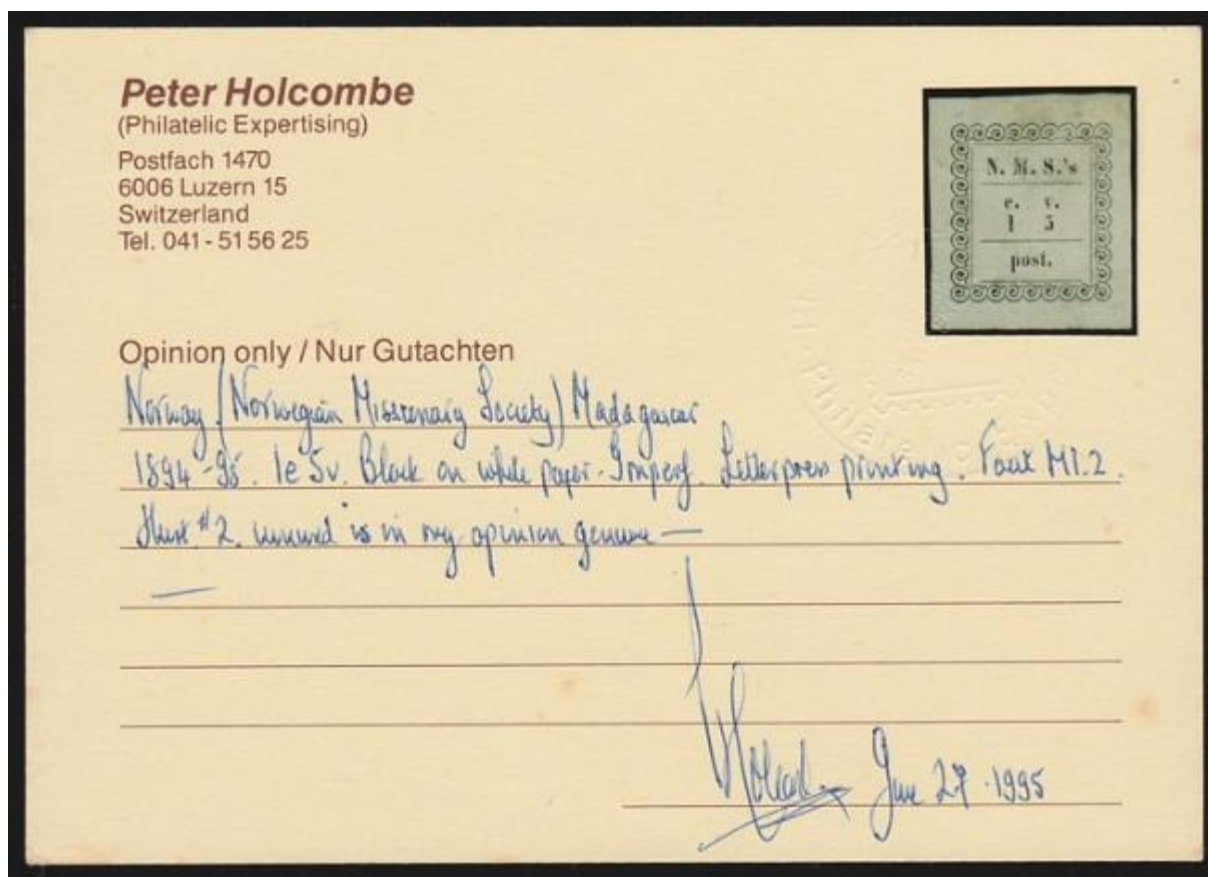
“5v Black, third printing (narrow setting on white paper), horizontal strip of three cancelled by manuscript “Antsirabe 13/2-96,” some creases and a few stains on reverse, the rate of 1e 5v corresponds to the sending of a 1lb parcel,..”

“5v Black, lot of five used singles (four with date ms and one with French P.O. cds applied on arrival, cert. BPA), and one vertical pair (originally a strip of three), ..”

1e. 5v.= 1 Eranambatry 5 Varidimiventy Value



<http://www.stampcircuit.com/stamp-Auction/status-international/8182396/lot-2780-world-madagascar-british-consular-status>



<http://www.statusint.com/photo/2801-1.jpg>

Feldman (2010, p. 77) also gives a few examples:

“1e5v Black on white paper, reconstructed sheet of nine comprising block of six plus single and pair, light creasing and minor stains, pos. 9 with asterisks in two corners”.

“1e5v Black on white paper, two unused corner singles plus two used singles, ..”.

1/3 penny black: Illustration not yet found

Feldman (2010, p. 77-78):

“1/3d Black, cancelled by ms “11/10 94” on envelope from Ihozy to Fianarantsoa in Vakinankaratra, vertical filing crease and somewhat rough opening at right, this is believed to be the ONLY example with British Currency on cover. Note: stamps with local and British currency were used by the same correspondents, leaving open the question why both were printed, UNIQUE, ex Hurt. A key item of the Norwegian Missionary mail”.

“1/3d Black on white paper, cancelled by missionary initials on small piece, light diagonal crease, fresh & fine, scarce”.

1/3d Black on white paper, two used singles with ms cross or “12-12-94” ms, light staining on one and small thin on the other, scarce duo”.

1 penny



<http://img.collectorcircuit.com/files/grosvenor-auctions/stampauction/auction-british-empire-and-foreign-countries-postage-stamps-and-postal-history/8229.jpg>: “Madagascar: Norwegian Missionery Society 1894 1d. black, used with manuscript cancellation, rare”.

Feldman (2010, p. 79) gives two examples of the one penny issue:

“1d Black and 1/3d black, complete reconstructed sheet of nine including two intact se-tenant 1d+1/3d, a few tiny thins, an exceptional and extremely rare item”

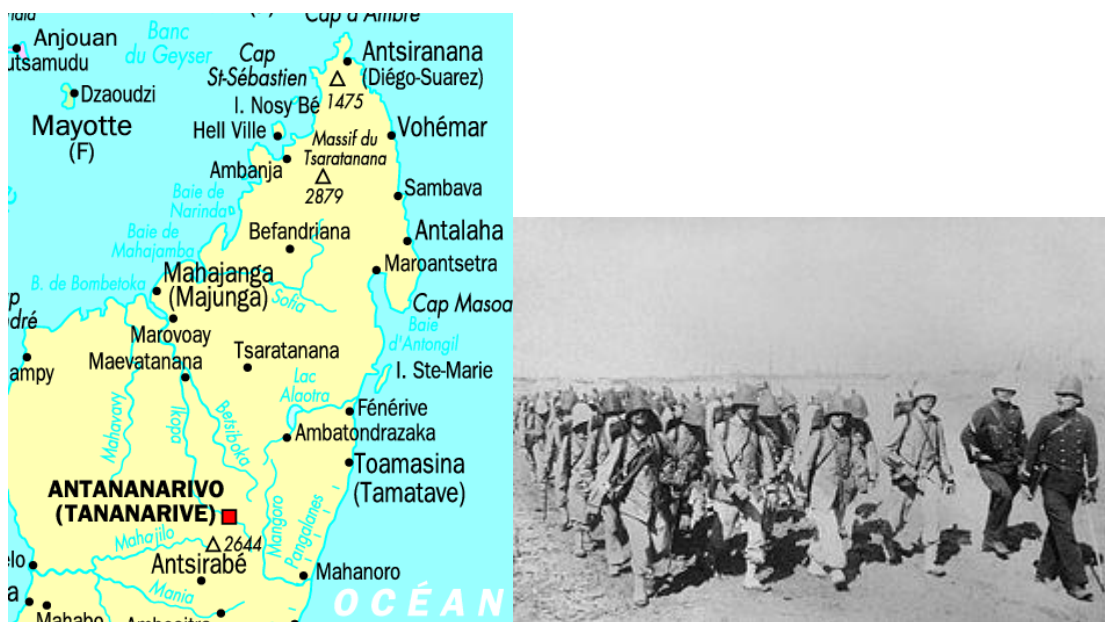
“ 1d Black on white paper, horizontal STRIP OF THREE, cancelled by horizontal pen stroke, left example showing tiny thin and corner crease, an exceptional multiple, cert Norsk Filatelistforbund”.





<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/798.jpg> : "1892 cover from the Norwegian Missionary in Madagascar, two French Colonies 25c stamps tied by Tananarive 1.3.92 c.d.s. on cover to Lisbon, Illinois, with blue handstamp of Rev. A. Walden of the Norwegian Missionary on the backflap, Paris and New York transits, cover opened for display, fine; a very rare early cover of the Norwegian Missionary in Madagascar".

## 9 Majunga (now Mahajanga); 1895



<http://www.chez-nina.com/photos/carte-mada-2aa.gif>

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/2/20/FrenchTroopsMadagascar.jpg/300px-FrenchTroopsMadagascar.jpg>: “French infantry landing at Majunga, May 1895”.

“The **Second Madagascar expedition** was a French military intervention which took place in 1894–95, sealing the conquest of the **Merina Kingdom** on the island of **Madagascar** by **France**. It was the last phase of the **Franco-Hova War** and followed the **First Madagascar expedition** of 1883–85. Madagascar was at the time an independent country, ruled from the capital of Antananarivo by the Merina dynasty from the central highlands...The French invasion was triggered by the refusal of Queen Ranaivalona III to accept a protectorate treaty from France... despite the signature of the Franco-Hova Treaty of 1885 following the First Madagascar expedition... Resident-general Charles Le Myre de Vilers broke negotiation and effectively declared war on the Malagasy monarchy...An expeditionary corps was sent under General Jacques Duchesne... First, the harbor of Toamasina on the east coast, and Mahajanga on the west coast, were bombarded and occupied in December 1894 and January 1895 respectively... Some troops were landed, but the main expeditionary force however arrived in May 1895, numbering about 15,000 men, supported by around 6,000 carriers”.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second\\_Madagascar\\_expedition](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Madagascar_expedition)

Feldman (2010, p. 133-134) gives various examples of stamps used in Majunga .



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/250.jpg>: "MADAGASCAR, 1895, 15c on 25c Black on Rose, Sideways Black Majunga Surcharge (22C; Yvert 5). Neat February 1895 circular datestamp, intense color and impression. VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE MAJUNGA PROVISIONAL. Only a tiny number exist, all used. Even fewer are known is this sound choice quality. Ex Wyer. Signed Bernichon and Calves".

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/791.jpg>: "Yvert #1, 1895 "0.15" Red manuscript surcharge on 25c Black on rose, Majunga provisional, choice appearing example of this rare stamp, used as are all known copies, incredibly well centered, light 25 February 1895 first day of issue postmark, expertly repaired, which is not noted on the certificate, extremely fine appearance; fewer than twenty genuine examples have been recorded and this is one of the most attractive examples available; signed Bernichon and Calves and accompanied by 2008 Calves certificate (Scott #22A)".



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/3/3b/Majunga\\_Provisional\\_1895.jpg/220px-Majunga\\_Provisional\\_1895.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/3/3b/Majunga_Provisional_1895.jpg/220px-Majunga_Provisional_1895.jpg): "Majunga-Provisorium, 1-Franc-Marke handschriftlich in 0,15 Franc geändert".

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/249.jpg> : "MADAGASCAR, 1895, 15c on 1fr Bronze Green on Straw, Red Majunga Surcharge (22B; Yvert 2). Light February 1895 circular datestamp, fresh color. FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLE OF THE 15-CENTIMES ON 1-FRANC MAJUNGA PROVISIONAL THAT EXISTS ONLY USED. Signed Roumet and Calves".

<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Majunga/Postage-stamps/A1-i.jpg>

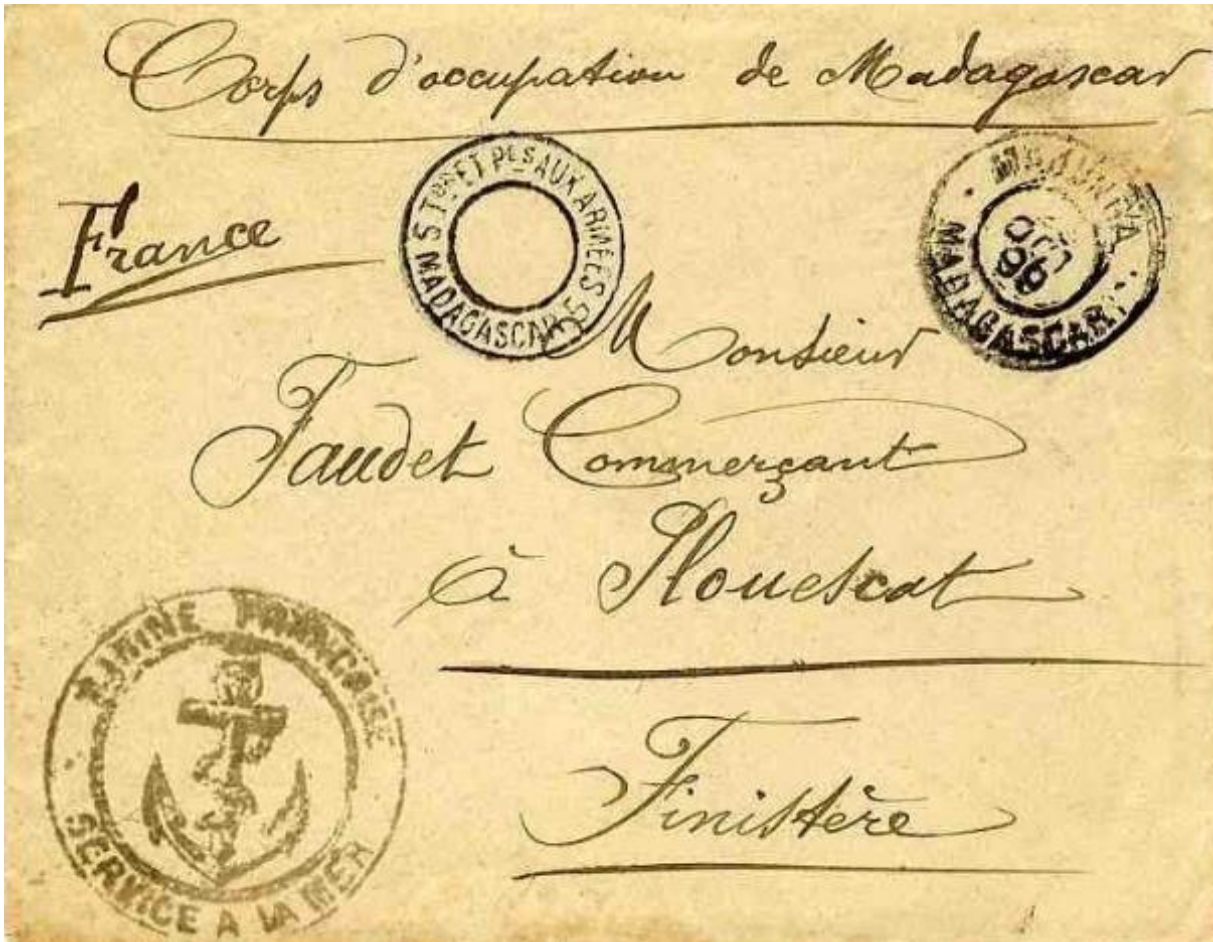




<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/251.jpg>: "MADAGASCAR, 1895, 15c on 1fr Bronze Green on Straw, Sideways Black Majunga Surcharge (22D; Yvert 4). February 30, 1895 circular datestamp, large selvage at top, rich color, an especially sharp black surcharge, with a portion of the original red manuscript still visible. VERY FINE. AN EYE-CATCHING EXAMPLE OF THE RARE 15-CENTIMES ON 1-FRANC BLACK MAJUNGA PROVISIONAL. This example is one of the finest of the minute number known (all used). Ex Wyer. Signed Gilbert and A. Brun".



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/796.jpg>: "Yvert #6, 1895 "15" Upright handstamped surcharge on 25c Black on rose, Majunga provisional, bold surcharge on a stamp that did not receive a prior manuscript surcharge, used as are all known examples, cancelled by well struck 28 February 1895 datestamp, very well centered, fresh and very fine; clearly one of the nicest examples of this rarity among the scant few to have survived; signed Bernichon, A. Brun, Calves and Champion (Scott #22C).



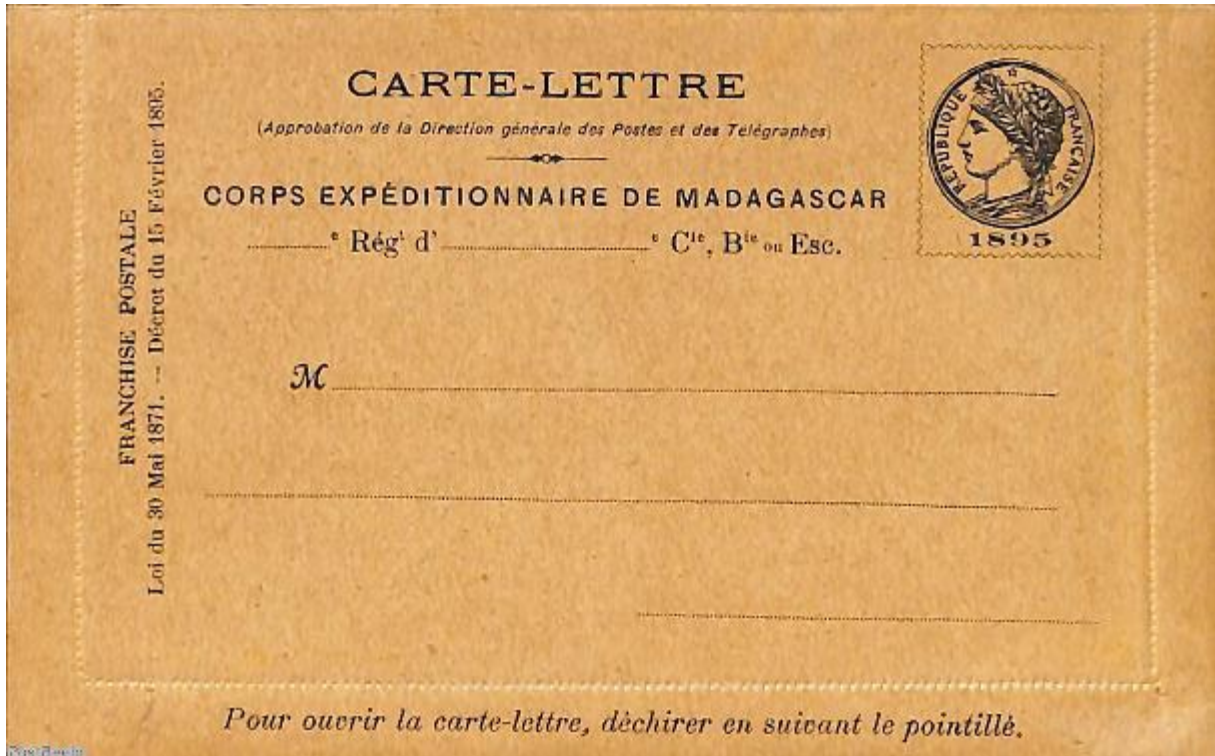
<https://www.cherrystonestamps.com/stamps/63787.jpg>: "Madagascar, 1899 free frank to France, endorsed "Corps d'occupation de Madagascar", with "Majunga" cds and "Marine Francaise Service a La Mer" naval cachet, some toning & parts of backflap missing".



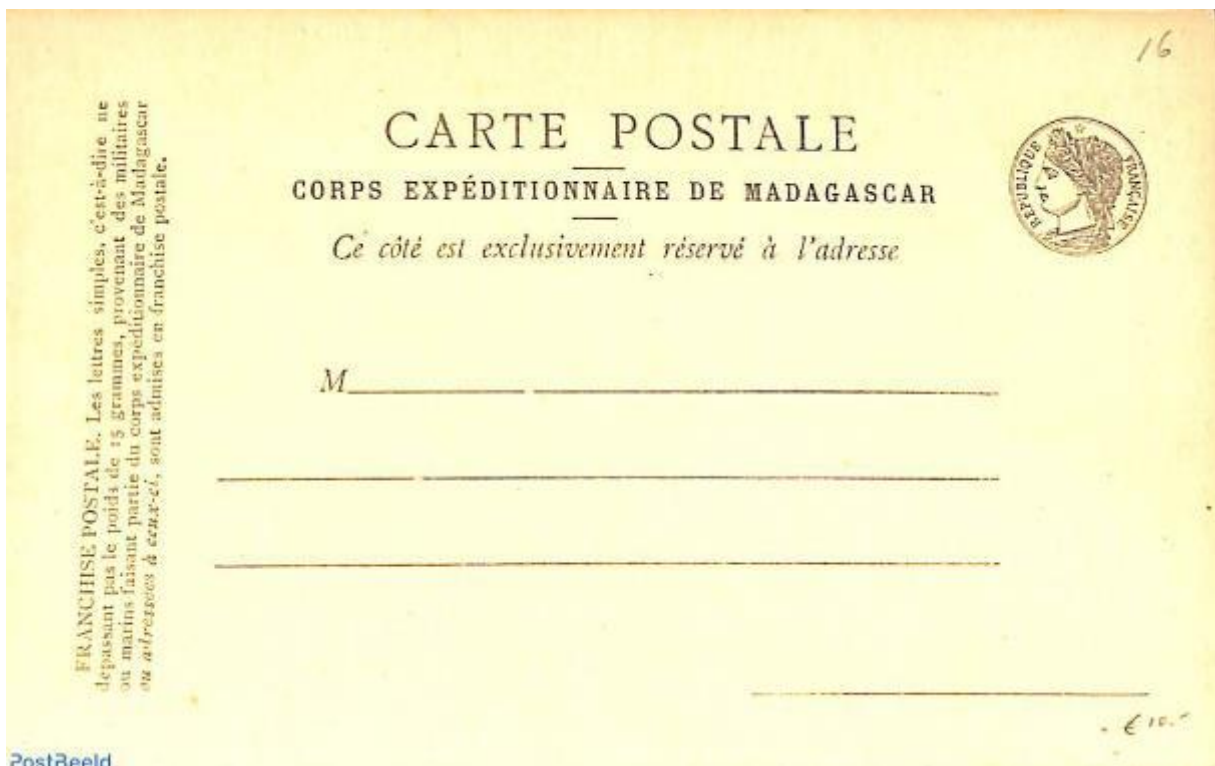
<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/135/732.jpg>: "1901 Cover from Majunga to Italy franked by horizontal pair 1895 5c Green and single 40c Red on straw (#14, 18), plus Diego-Suarez 1893 50c Carmine on rose (#48) and Nossi-Be 1894 10c Black on lilac (#31), all tied by four strikes of blue "Majunga, Madagascar/24 MARS, 01" datestamps to registered cover to Catana, Italy, arrival backstamp, very fine; a very colorful mixed franking usage from Majunga".



## 10 Madagascar French Protectorate; 1895-1896



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbki.jpg>: "1895, Card letter, Corps Expeditionnaire de Madagascar".



<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbmp16.jpg>: "1895, Reply Paid Postcard, military post".



[https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mb\\_895.jpg](https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mb_895.jpg) : "1895, Army Postcard".



[https://philaseiten.wavecdn.net/up/4741039/4/1/2101e7b0\\_h.jpeg](https://philaseiten.wavecdn.net/up/4741039/4/1/2101e7b0_h.jpeg) Postmark Corps Exped. De Madagascar LV No 1, 1895.





[http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos\\_jpg\\_HD/9674.jpg](http://www.marsanoux-philatelie.fr/photos_jpg_HD/9674.jpg)

Feldman (2010, p. 103-108) gives many examples of the stamps used during the period of the French Protectorate.

1895

5c, M14; 10c, M15; 15c, M16; 25c, M17; 40c, M18



<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Madagascar/Postage-stamps/F-i.jpg>

<https://www.cherrystonestamps.com/stamps/81162.jpg>

<https://www.cherrystonestamps.com/stamps/81194.jpg>

<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Madagascar/Postage-stamps/F3-i.jpg>

<https://www.cherrystonestamps.com/stamps/81195.jpg>: "1895 40c red on straw, hinge remnant".

50c, M19; 75c, M20; 1Fr, M21





<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Madagascar/Postage-stamps/F5-i.jpg>

<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Madagascar/Postage-stamps/F6-i.jpg>

<https://swmedia-4cd6.kxcdn.com/media/catalogue/Madagascar/Postage-stamps/F7-i.jpg>

5Fr, M22



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1091/248.jpg> : "Yvert #14-22, 1895

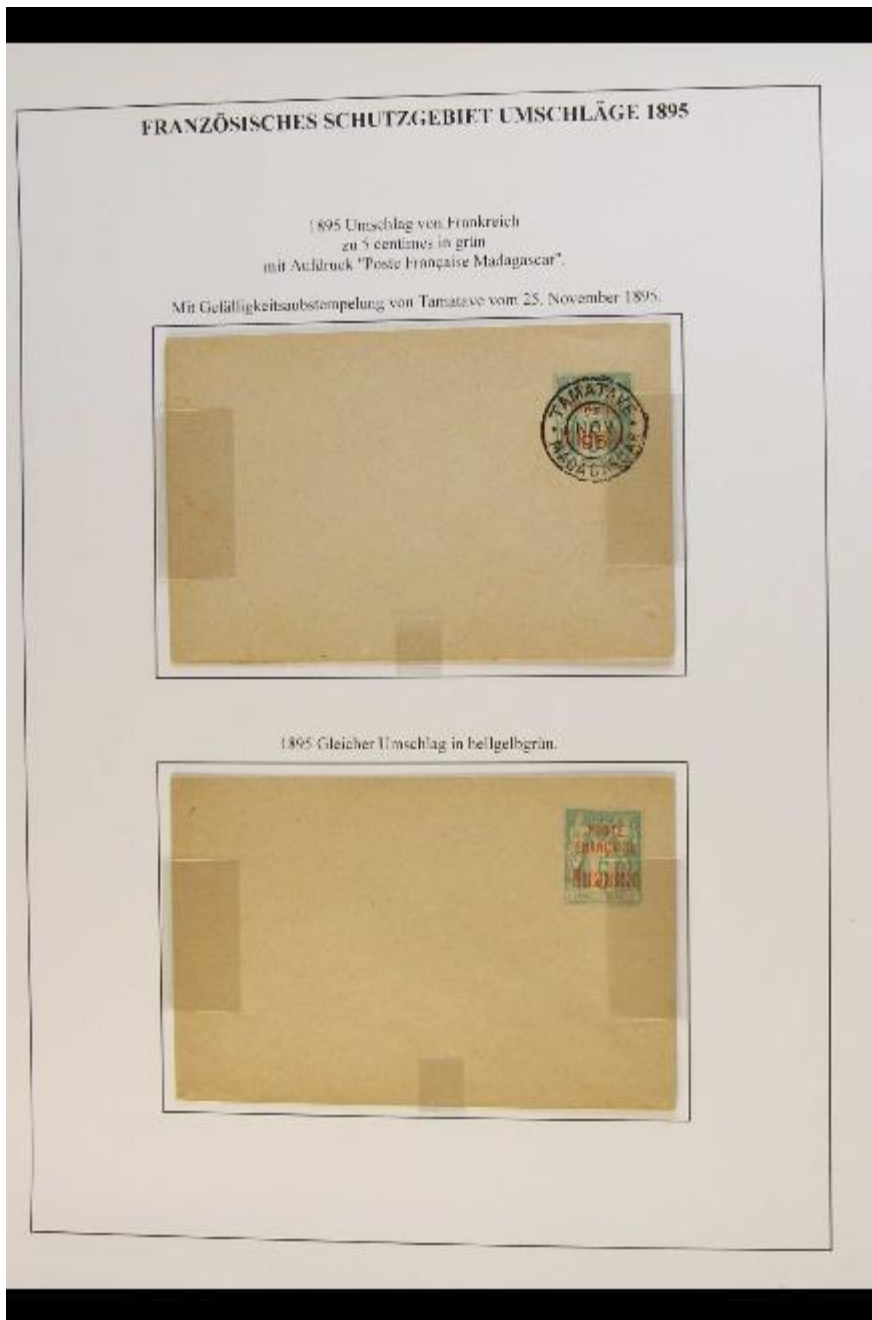
"POSTES/FRANCAISE/Madagascar" Overprints on 5c-5Fr. Peace and commerce cplt., attractive mint set, generally well centered, o.g., some h.r., 1Fr. with a few blunt perfs. at top, otherwise fine-very fine; 5Fr. signed Miro".

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/8e/Madagascar\\_5Fr\\_1896.jpg/220px-Madagascar\\_5Fr\\_1896.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/8e/Madagascar_5Fr_1896.jpg/220px-Madagascar_5Fr_1896.jpg): "Marke zu 5 Francs aus der Aufdruckserie von 1896".

1895ff Postcards and envelopes

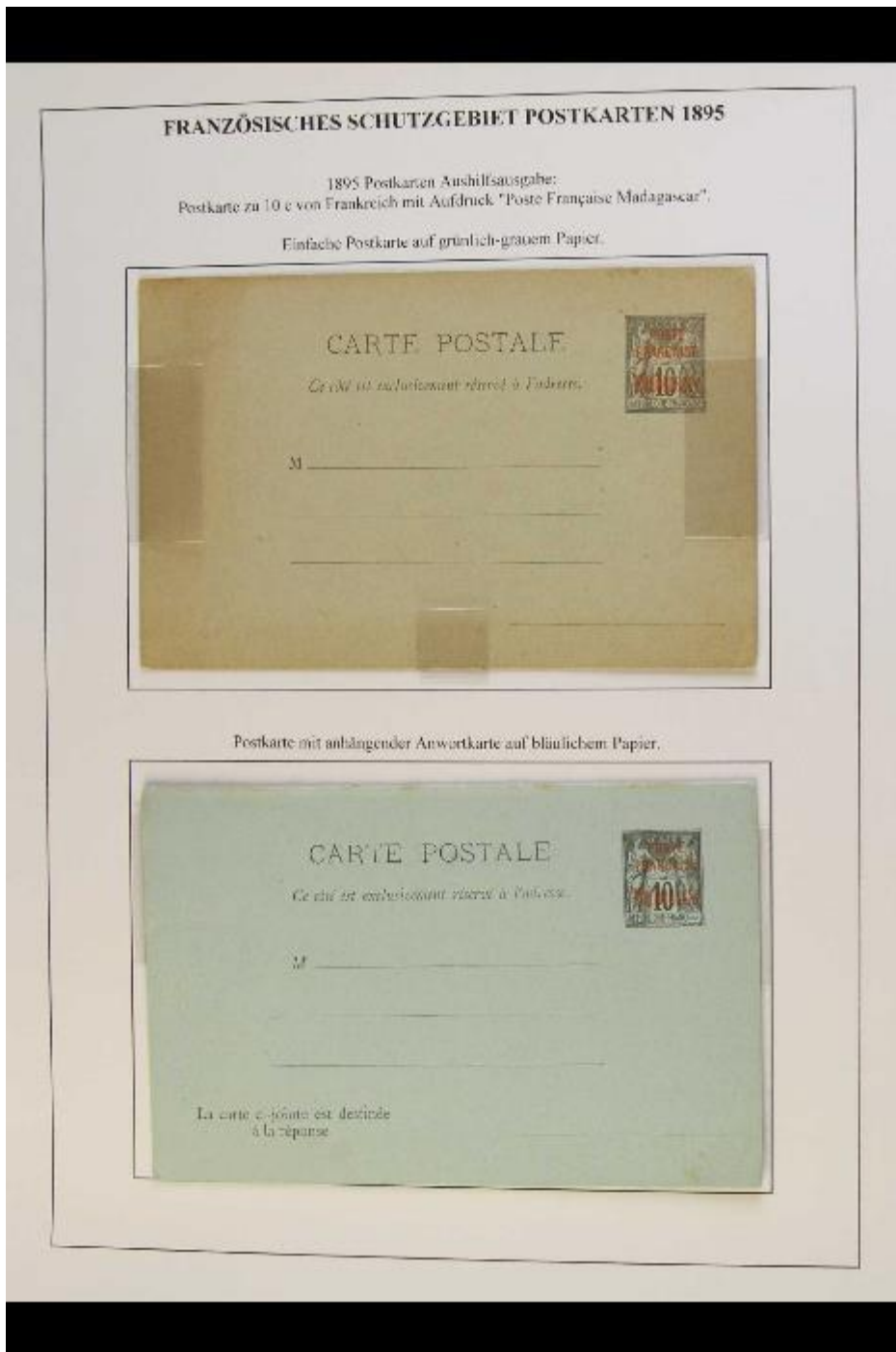


<https://www.postbeeld.com/media/catalog/product/cache/2/image/1084eaaaa28a28e8b9e9f6dcb7f87dee/m/b/mbu1.jpg>: "1895, Envelope 5c".

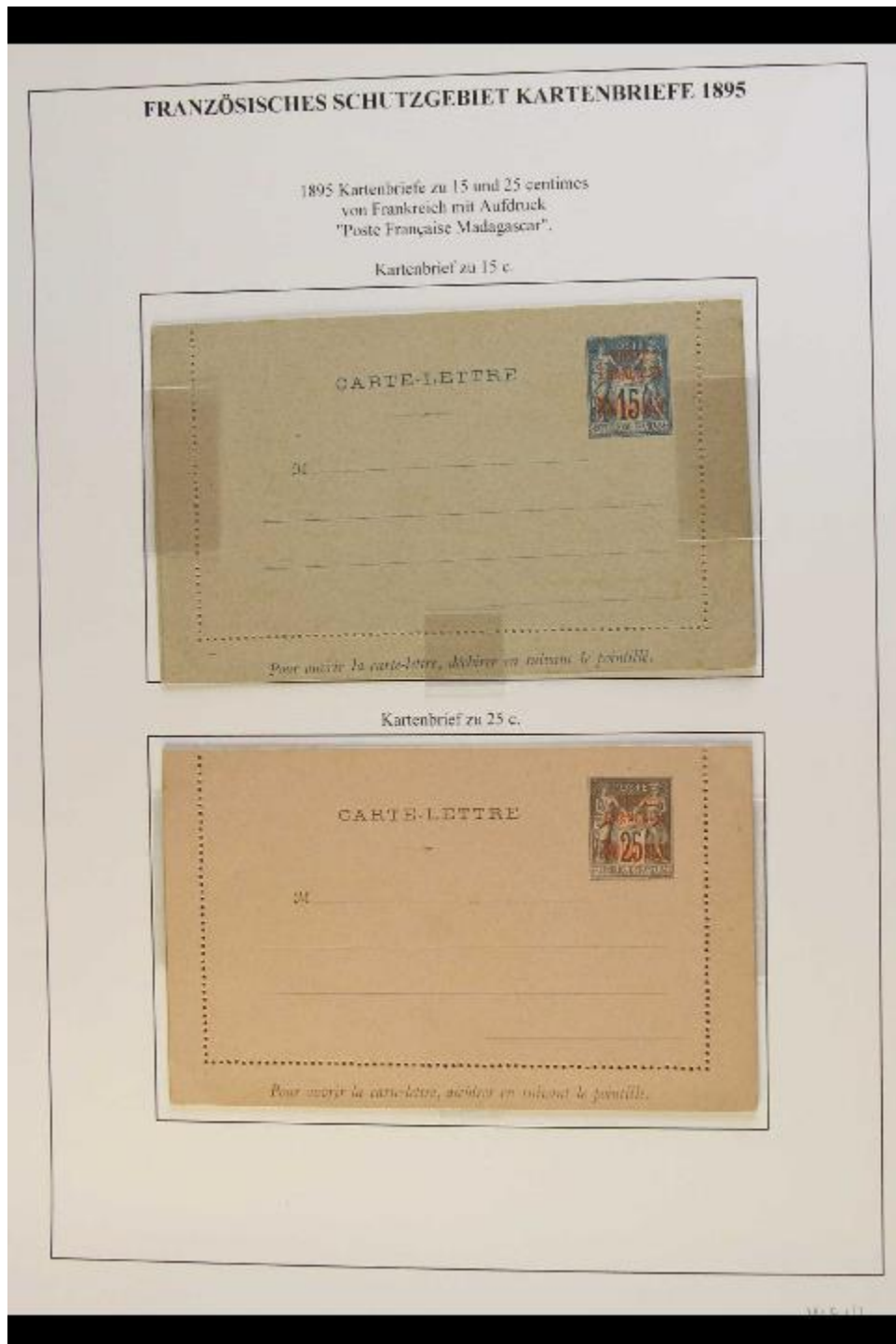


[https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/75025814\\_1.jpg](https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/75025814_1.jpg) Postmark Tamatave





[https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/75025814\\_2.jpg](https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/75025814_2.jpg)



Postcard 15c ad 25c: <https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/75025814.jpg> : "MADAGASCAR POSTAL STATIONERY 1895 unused group comprising 5c and 5c+5c Postal Cards, 5c Envelope (also a further example cto with "Tamatave" cds), plus 15c and 25c Letter Cards."