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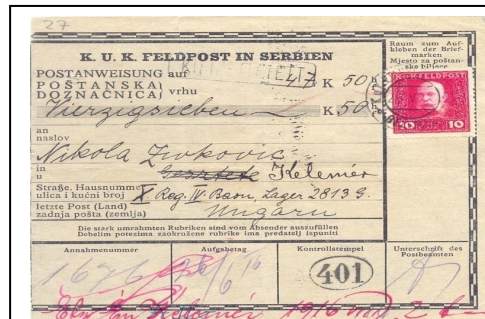
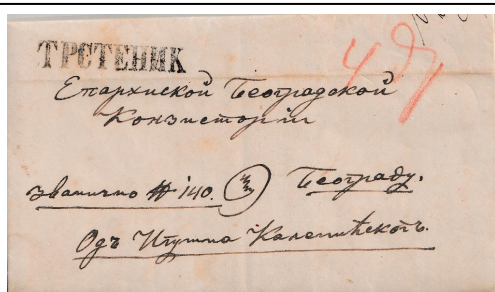
From 1 January 2025, YSG will no longer have formal membership and no subscriptions will be paid. Nick Coverdale will continue to produce Jugopošta on a quarterly basis as an electronic journal and this will be sent free of charge to anyone who requests it and provides their name and email address to the Editor. Therefore, should you wish to be added to the list to receive Jugopošta, please get in touch (editor@yugosg.org). Of course, as always, Jugopošta will continue to function only if readers and others are prepared to submit articles.

Eventually (timescale not specified at the moment), all editions of Jugopošta will be freely available in a public archive. In the meantime, some editions of Jugopošta from 101 onwards will be made freely available on the **yugosg.org** website and sales of 1 – 100 and monographs will continue to be on offer, with any money received going to a philatelic charity.

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Jugopošta



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From the Editor

This edition of Jugopošta isn't as large as the last edition (53 pages) but is still a good 41 pages. There are 5 articles. I am conscious that four of them relate to Serbian philately, but that probably makes up for a lack of such articles in the past.

Articles by Henk Buitenkamp and I concern the pre-stamp period and the article by Milan Radovanović concerns his particular area of interest – aspects of Serbia in World War I. The article by Vladimir Milić looks at the essays and proofs from Serbia's 1903 stamp issue and was previously published in the London Philatelist. Boštjan Petauer's review article takes us back to very early days in Carniola.

Once again, please continue to provide articles – I have one article for the September edition so far but, as usual, I need more.

Kingdom of Serbia 1903: The First Bicolour Issue – Essays and Proofs

by Vladimir Milić FRPSL

(Originally published in The London Philatelist Volume 135, pages 18 – 23 in the January – February 2026 issue and reproduced here with kind permission)

In the existing philatelic literature (Derocco, 1940; Rašić, 1979) the essays and proofs of the first Serbian bicolour issue are mentioned only in passing, without deeper analysis or systematisation. Precisely due to this gap, this article represents the first attempt at a complete systematisation of the known essays and proofs for the issue which, in this form, never entered circulation but, due to the sequence of historical events, was used for a provisional issue.

Historical Background

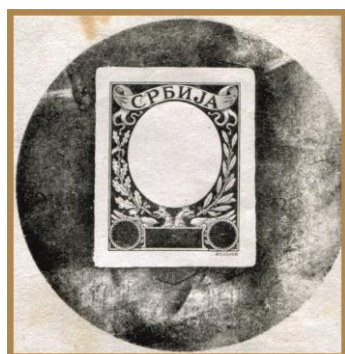
At the beginning of 1903, preparations were underway in Paris for a new postage stamp issue bearing the portrait of King Alexander Obrenović. The Serbian postal administration entrusted the design and engraving to the renowned French engraver Louis-Eugène Mouchon (1843 – 1914). However, the production process proved extremely complex, since the postal administration insisted on an accurate and precise depiction of the King's likeness.

Frame Proofs

One segment of the preparation for this issue, which later proved to be the easier part for the engraver Mouchon, was the creation of the appropriate frame of the stamp, with an empty elliptical space intended for the medallion with the king's portrait.

Within the frame, above the medallion, is a ribbon arched upward with the inscription “СРБИЈА” (SERBIA) in colour on a white background; on the left side is an oak branch, and on the right a laurel branch, forming an open wreath around the medallion. Below it there are the heads and the tips of the outspread wings of the white double-headed eagle, beneath which are a framed rectangle intended for the indication of the denomination “ПАРА” (PARA) or “ДИН.” (DIN.) and two circles intended for the numeral of the denomination. The design of the frame is bordered by a thin line. Below the image of the stamp, on the right side, the engraver's name Mouchon is written in small letters.

Essays for the frame of this issue are not known, while frame proofs are known today in two different colours: in black (Figure 1) and in red (Figure 2). Two types of paper were used for these proofs: thicker paper and thin paper.



*Figure 1:
frame
proof in
black*



*Figure 2:
frame
proof in
red*

Essays of the Medallion with the King's Portrait

The second segment of the preparations for this issue was the production of the elliptical medallion with the portrait of King Alexander Obrenović, which essentially formed the central element of the stamp itself. Mouchon was forced to change the engraving as many as three times before receiving approval.



Figures 3, 4 and 5: from the left Engravings I, II & III, each with its enlarged details.

The main characteristic of all three rejected engravings lies in the method of shading the King's face. Engraving I has complete line shading of the face, Engraving II has partial line shading of the face and Engraving III has dot shading of the face.

Engraving I

Complete line shading covers the entire face (Figure 3), creating a dark and serious expression. The effect was too sombre, which led to abandoning this version. This design has remained unknown in the literature until now, including Verner 1958, and can be considered one of the rarest unpublished designs in Serbian philately.

Engraving II

A modified version with partial line shading (Figure 4) attempted to solve the problem of insufficient definition of the facial features. In this variant, the King's face receives a noticeably lighter tone, which represented a correction to the objections to the first engraving. Despite these changes, the portrait was still not judged as sufficiently striking.

To date, only a photo-essay in enlarged format 34 mm x 44 mm has been recorded, made as a so-called "mirror-image" (Figure 6). The impression is on thicker paper without any denomination indicated. For Engraving II, no trial impressions of any kind are known to this day.



*Figure 6: Engraving II
photo-essay*

Engraving III – Bicolour Proofs

A version based on dot-shaded modelling of the face (Figure 5, shown on the previous page) was an attempt to achieve a realistic skin tone. The engraver Mouchon was satisfied with this solution and proceeded with colour trials, using various combinations of the frame and medallion colours. All trial impressions of Engraving III have no denomination indicated.

Although the literature (Rašić 1979) states that 50 different combinations are known, to date the existence of 40 different combinations of frame colour – medallion with the King's portrait - has been confirmed (Figure 7 and Table 1) combinations include all recorded shade variations of both the frame and the medallion.



Figure 7: different colours of the medallion on colour proofs based on Engraving III. An asterisk after some colour descriptions means that there are different shades. The total number of 40 confirmed combinations includes all recorded shade variations of both the frame and the medallion.

Frame																
Medallion	Red	Carmine	Orange	Green*	Emerald	Dark green*	Light green	Turquoise	Blue*	Dark blue	Violet	Purple brown	Brown	Red brown	Grey*	Black
Orange								X								
Green*		X		X												
Violet			X										X			
Carmine											X					
Rose	X															
Brown	X		X													
Black*	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X

Table 1: Comparative view of frame colour combinations and medallion colours based on Engraving III. An asterisk after some colours means that there are different shades.



Figure 8: Engraving IV, with an enlarged detail.

Engraving IV – The Accepted Design

Dissatisfied with the models received from the engraver Mouchon, the Postal Administration in Belgrade sent to Paris a photograph of King Alexander in full profile, as the basis for a new proposal. Mouchon used precisely that photograph for the fourth engraving in sequence.

Line-shaded modelling of the face – a solution that lies between line shading and dot shading – was applied, while the neck and the area around the mouth and the eye retained partial line-shading. The King's portrait appears in bust, in profile facing left, in a general's uniform (Figure 8).

Based on Engraving IV, Mouchon produced three types of trial impressions:

- Monocolour proofs – adopted combinations of the frame's colour and denomination
- Bicolour proofs – unadopted combinations of the frame's colour and denomination
- Bicolour proofs – adopted combinations of the frame's colour and denomination.

Monocolour Proofs – Adopted Combinations of the Frame's Colour and Denomination

Individual trial impressions by the engraver with the denominations of 1, 5, 10, 15, 25 and 50 paras, and 1, 3 and 5 dinars, were produced using the finally adopted engraving of the King's portrait, Engraving IV. They were printed on soft, thin paper, and although they appear monocolour at first glance, all impressions show a subtle tonal difference: the medallion with the King's portrait is always printed in a slightly stronger shade than the surrounding frame (Figure 9). Monocolour proofs are known for all denominations.

Because of the extremely small number of surviving impressions, these monochrome trial pieces represent the rarest proofs within the preparations for the first bicolour issue. Furthermore, they have not been mentioned in the existing literature to date (Derocco, 1940; Verner, 1958; Rašić, 1979).



Figure 9: various monochrome proofs, from the left 5 PARA, 10 PARA, 25 PARA, 50 PARA and 5 DIN.

Bicolour Proofs – Unadopted Combinations of the Frame’s Colour and Denomination

The second type of proofs of the accepted graphic design was bicolour; the medallion was always printed in black, while the colour of the frame does not correspond to the finally adopted colour for the respective denomination.

To date, trial impressions of the 15-para value have been recorded, printed in a violet colour (Figure 10), which was later adopted as the frame colour for the 3-dinar value. Similarly, a trial impression of the 20-para value is known, printed in light violet, a colour that in the final selection was not adopted.



Figure 10: unadopted two-colour proofs, from the left 15 PARA, and 20 PARA.

Adopted Combinations of the Frame’s Colour and Denomination

Individual trial impressions by the engraver Mouchon, with the denominations of 1, 10 and 25 paras, as well as 5 dinars, were produced using the finally adopted engraving of the King’s portrait and in the accepted combination of colours that would later appear on the stamps. They were printed on larger pieces of soft paper (Figure 11).



Figure 11: adopted two-colour proofs, from the left 1 PARA, 10 PARA, 25 PARA and 5 DIN

Epilogue

The series of stamps consisted of 10 denominations: 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 50 paras, and 1, 3 and 5 dinars. The release of this issue into circulation was planned for the King's birthday, 2 August 1903. However, the assassination of King Alexander Obrenović V and Queen Draga Obrenović on the night between 28 and 29 May 1903 caused this issue never to be released as such.



Figure 12: a set of 10 stamps that arrived from Paris after the assassination of the King.

By telegraphing to Paris, it was requested that the new stamps be sent to Belgrade immediately. They arrived shortly thereafter, namely: the stamps from 1 para up to and including 1-dinar – completely finished; the 3-dinar stamps – printed and gummed, but still imperforate; and the 5-dinar stamps – only printed, without gum and without perforation (Figure 12), and in this state they were handed over to the State Printing Works, where over the King's portrait the state coat of arms was overprinted (Figure 13).



Figure 13: royal coat of arms overprints on the King's portrait. From the left 10 PARA, larger overprint, and 25 PARA, smaller overprint

By overprinting the state coat of arms over the medallion with the portrait of King Alexander Obrenović, the Shakespearean end of his reign and the political upheaval in the Kingdom of Serbia in 1903 was symbolically marked.

Although Mouchon's final issue never reached official release, its significance for Serbian classic philately is considerable. It marks a true turning point: the first Serbian bicolour postage stamp, with the ornamental frame in one colour and the medallion with the King's portrait printed in another.

The author expresses his gratitude to philatelists Milan Vujović and Aleksandar Boričić for the assistance provided during the preparation of this text.

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Unstamped mail of SERBIA up to 1870 – Part 2

by Henk Buitenkamp EAP, NAF

(Editor's note: the numbering of the figures continues from Part 1 of this article, see Jugopošta 157)

The Second Post Act

The second Post Act came into operation 27-10-1847.

Little is changed: tariffs are halved for letters, but nearby all letters are official.

The Third Post Act

The Third Post Act is dated 29-10-1849 and came into action 1-1-1850

*It was now possible to send private letters not prepaid; from 29-11-1852 only to places with a post office.

*If a private letter is sent prepaid the amount must be written on the rear; if not sent prepaid the amount must be written on the front.

*The porto is now based on two pillars: = weight

= distance in hours.

*Official letters are free of charge.

*In this period are introduced circular handstamps.

*For letters transiting Serbia 100 Para.

*Registering 40 Para; advice of delivery 40 Para.

We find more private letters, for more people can read and write. The schooling of people is started in 1833 by Miloš Obrenović.

weight in drama	porto in Para		value in groša	to pay in Para			
	Zone I <12 hours	Zone II >12 hours		Zone I gold	Zone I silver	Zone II gold	Zone II silver
<3	20	40	<100	5	15	10	30
3-4	40	80	100-200	10	30	20	60
4-6	60	120	200-300	15	45	30	90
6-8	etc. 80	160	300-400	etc. 20	60	40	120

Figure 11: the tariffs in this period

It was not unusual that post offices had to pay for their own ink for handstamps. So, we get a lot of colour differences: black, blue, green, red.

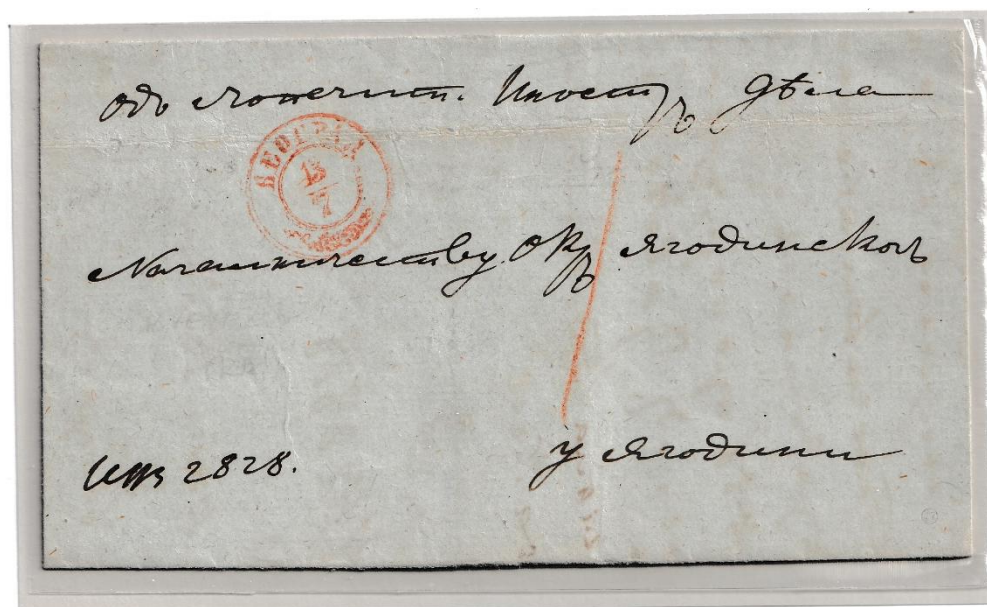


Figure 12: from BEOGRAD 13-7-1857 to Jagodina. Handstamp used mid-1857. Beograd was the first town with a circular handstamp (1855). Weight letter 1 dram. The red cancellation in Beograd is used from end May until beginning August 1857. As depart handstamp (according to Antic) only 4 letters are known. Route: Beograd - Kolari - Jagodina.

In this period some post offices were closed. Sometimes the name of the office is changed. I can show this process with three letters.

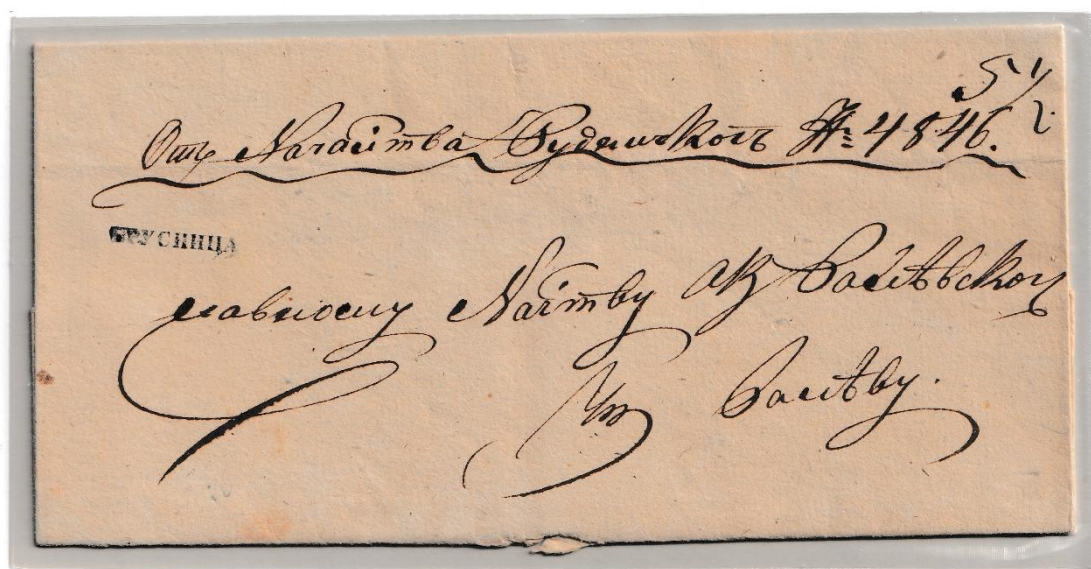


Figure 13: letter from BRUSNICA 12-8-1851 to Valjevo. Office is opened 25-12-1843 and closed end 1856 and removed to Despotovića. Handstamp used 1844-1856. Weight letter 5½ drama. Route: Brusnica – Valjevo.

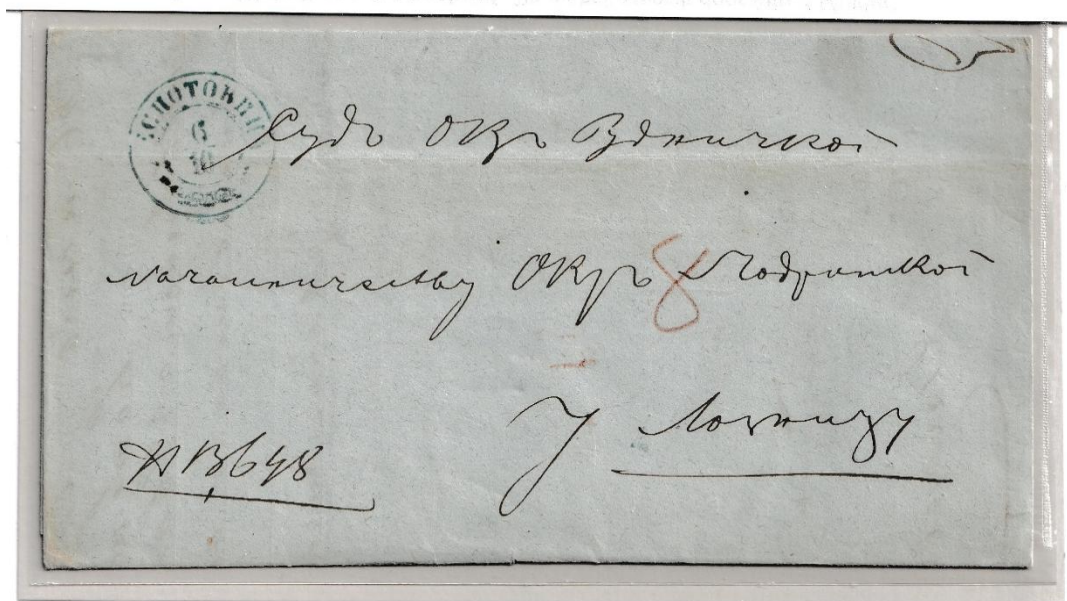


Figure 14: letter from DESPOTOVIČA 6-10-1859 to Loznica. Handstamp used 1857-1861. Office opened end 1856. Weight letter 8 drama. On 20-12-1859 the name is changed to Gornji Milanovac. Route: Despotoviča - Kragujevac - Batočina - Palanka - Kolari - Grocka - Palež - Šabac – Loznica.

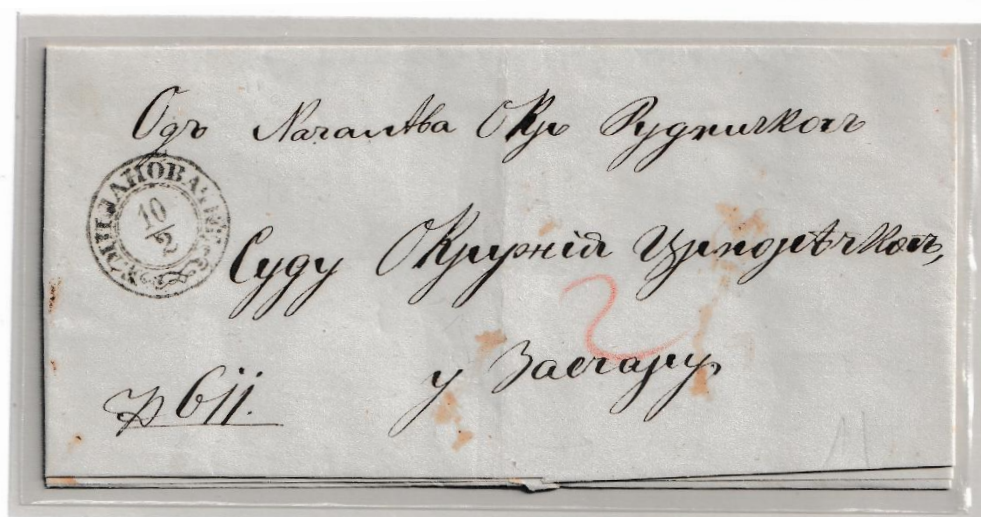


Figure 15: letter from GORNJI MILANOVAC 10-2-1863 to Zaječar. Handstamp used 1860-1877. Office opened as such 20-12-1859. Weight letter 2 drama. Route: Gornji Milanovac - Brza Palanka - Negotin – Zaječar.

If a letter is brought at home (for instance an express letter) there must be paid 10 Para to the courier. Also must be paid that fee if the letter is an official letter.

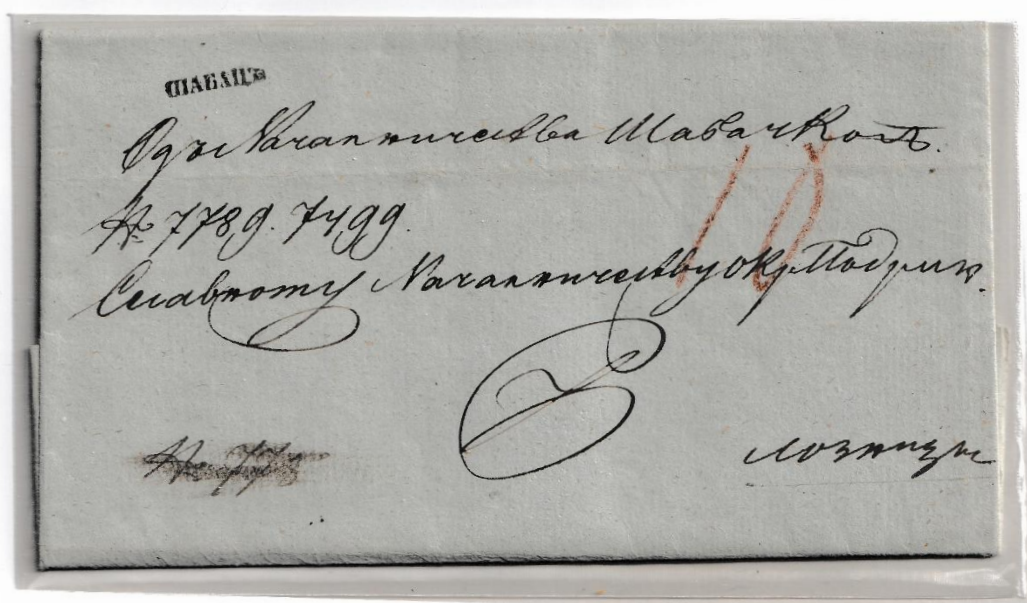


Figure 16: letter from ŠABAC (30-1-1852 date letter inside) to Loznica. This letter is a special delivery at home and therefore is paid 10 Para. Route: Šabac – Loznica

Sometimes we find on the letter an indication for special delivery.

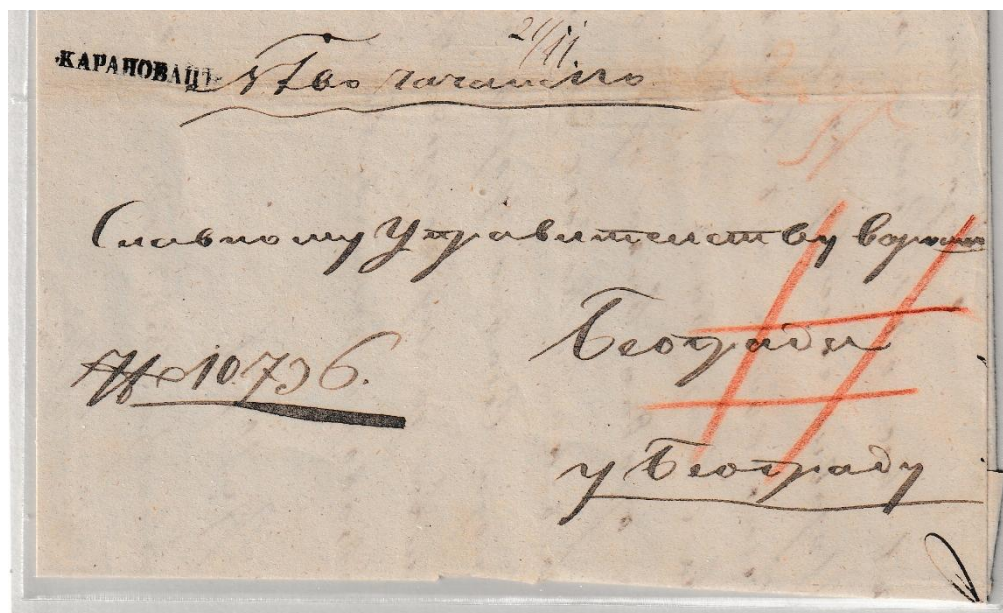


Figure 17: letter from KARANOVAC (14-11-1853 date inside) to Beograd. # = delivery as soon as possible. Route: Karanovac – Čuprija – Jagodina – Kolari – Beograd

At the beginning of 1846 Beograd and Kragujevac received date handstamps: 43 loose elements → 12 for the months and 31 for the days and no holder for it!!!! → very impractical. Very rare Beograd has used these date stamps - mainly in combination with straight-line handstamps. Kragujevac has never used it.

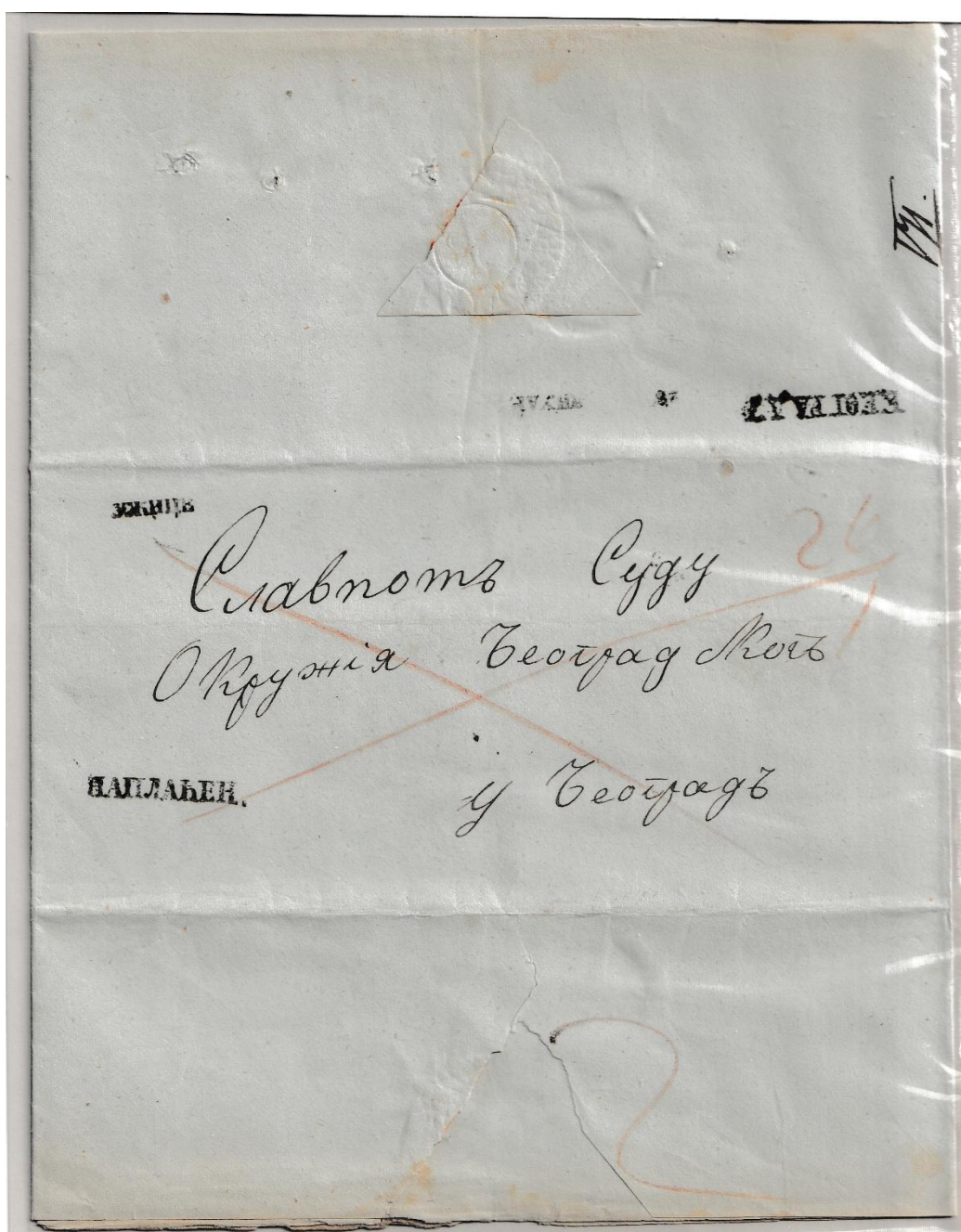


Figure 18. Letter from UŽICE 26-1(1855) to Beograd. The receiving office has used a straight-line handstamp in combination with date stamps: 28 ЯНУА. = 28 January. Post paid handstamp - НАПЛАЧЕН. Letter zone 2. No weight indication. Paid 2 Groša. In red written on the rear. Route: Užice - Valjevo - Palež – Beograd.

Sometimes as office did not get an official handstamp, then they write the name on the letter or they have made a handstamp by a local craftsman.

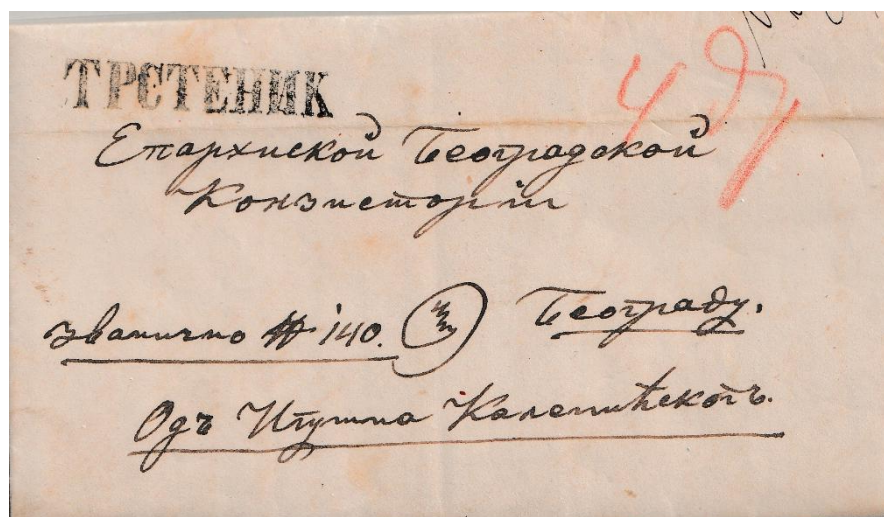


Figure 19. Letter from TRSTENIK (28-11-1864) to Beograd. This office is opened end 1861. First in 1863 a local craftsman has made the handstamp. It is used until 1879. It is the only town with this type handstamp. Route: Trstenik - Kragujevac - Brzan - Velika Plana - Kolari – Beograd.

Some towns have used an emergency handstamp. Kruševac had received a straight-line handstamp in 24-3-1844. This handstamp is worn out in 1864. They used in 1865 an emergency handstamp made by a local craftsman.

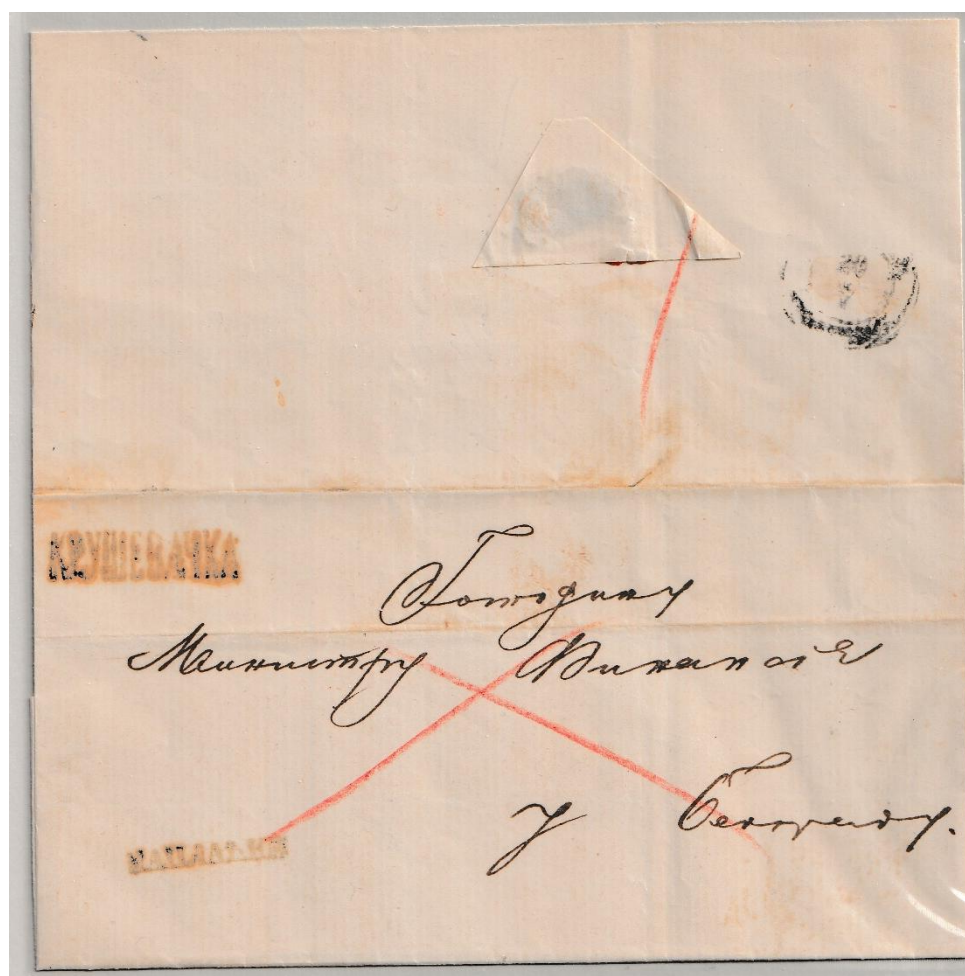


Figure 20: KRUŠEVAC (22-7-1865) to Beograd. Ink was a problem. Here is used a rare blue ink of a very bad quality. Post paid handstamp. Letter zone 2. No indication of the weight. Paid 1 Groš. On the rear written in red 1. Route: Kruševac - Čuprija - Brzan - Velika Plana - Saraorci - Grocka - Beograd

I close the end of this period with a money letter.

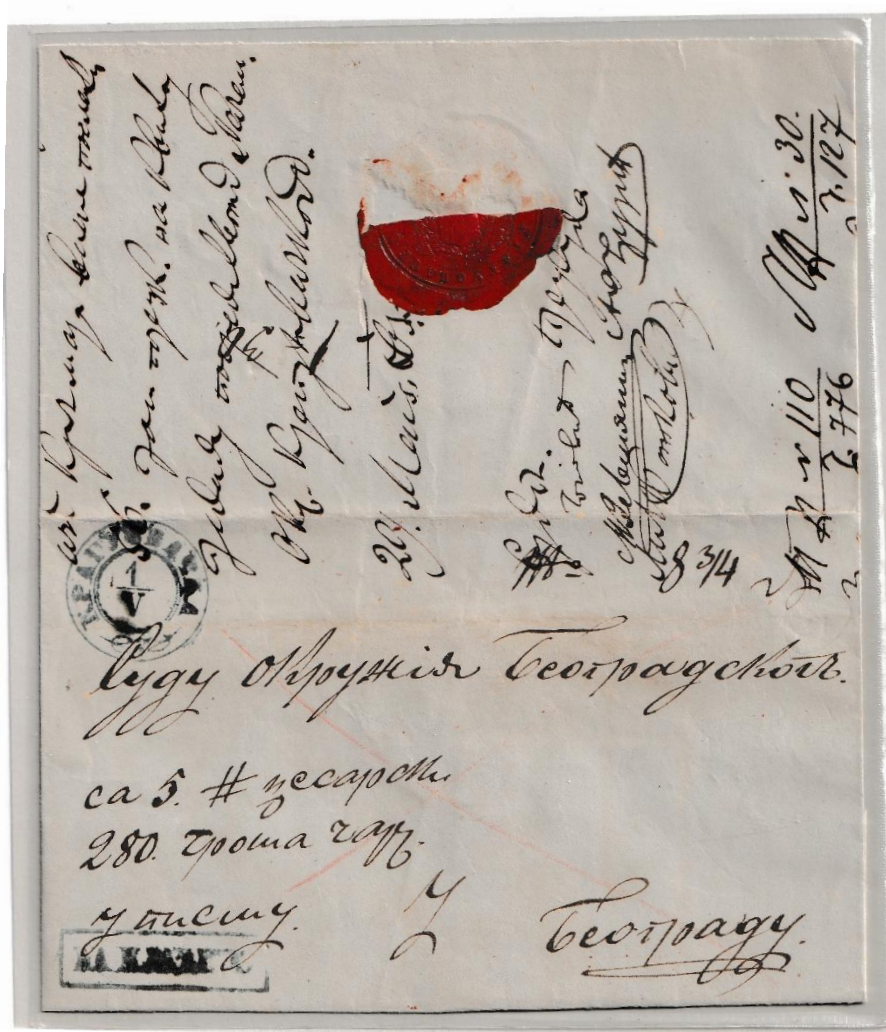


Figure 21: Kragujevac 1-5(1863) to Beograd. Handstamp in green is very rare and only used middle 1863. Post paid handstamp. Private letter. Weight $8\frac{3}{4}$ drama. Letter zone 2.

Paid: weight $8\frac{3}{4}$ drama 200
 5 ducats = $5 \times 56 = 280$ Groša $\rightarrow$ 30
 230 Para.

Is written in black on the rear

Route: Kragujevac - Brzan - Velika Plana - Saraorci - Grocka - Beograd

The Fourth Post Act

The Fourth Post Act came into operation 1-5-1866. The idea was that this Post Act came in working at the same moment that the first postage stamps were to be issued, but the first day of issue of the stamps is 1-7-1866.

So this period must be divided in: period I 1-5-1866 // 1-7-1866

period II 1-7-1866 and later.

Period I

Official letters free of charge

For letters is given up the division in 2 zones.

For money letters 2 zones stay: zone 1 < 20 postal hours --- zone 2 > 20 postal hours

Private letters can be sent pre-paid or unpaid

For every 5 drama -- 20 Para

Registration 40 Para

Advice 40 Para

Period II

Private letters must be pre-paid and thereby franked with stamps

Other tariffs stay the same as Period I

The post office in Carniola in Valvasor's time and a comparison with non-European mail delivery systems

by Boštjan Petauer FRPSL

In his work "The Glory of the Kingdom of Carniola (*ger* Die Ehre Des Herzogthums Crain)", published in 1689 and which Slovenians have in full translation for the first time, the Carniolan nobleman, polyhistorian and member of the Royal Society in London, Janez Vajkard Valvasor (*ger* Johann Weichard Valvasor - 1641-1693), also discusses postal matters in Carniola and compares them with postal matters in other, non-European countries.

Carniola is discussed in five parts and in their conclusion also the post office in each of them; its text, written in an interesting manner of that time, is given in an abbreviated form, without losing any of its content. For the sake of easier understanding, I have added some notes, explanations and years; this is written in *italics*.

Gorenjska (upper Carniola): Among the things that civilize a country and through which it is possible to obtain messages about foreign affairs, we should not only include visiting foreign countries, but also the postal system: it not only facilitates travel or pilgrimage of young people and other people in a hurry, and it also enables extremely fast communication about unusual things that have happened in other places. The Duchy of Carniola is also best equipped with such a commendable and useful institution: so that everyone can not only communicate at a distance with their pen on certain regular days, but also, in the event that they have to travel alone, they can get horses for their journey in exchange for money.

In Gorenjska, in the first fifth of Carniola, there is only one post office, namely Podpeč, three miles from Ljubljana, on the Radomlja River, and this is the second after Ljubljana in the direction of Graz. It is managed by Georg Ernst Kraa, receiving payment from the court chamber from the hands of the postmaster from Ljubljana. The post office is located in a good, fertile place, favourable for travellers and they are received with all the necessary comfort, and very good food and drink are also available there.

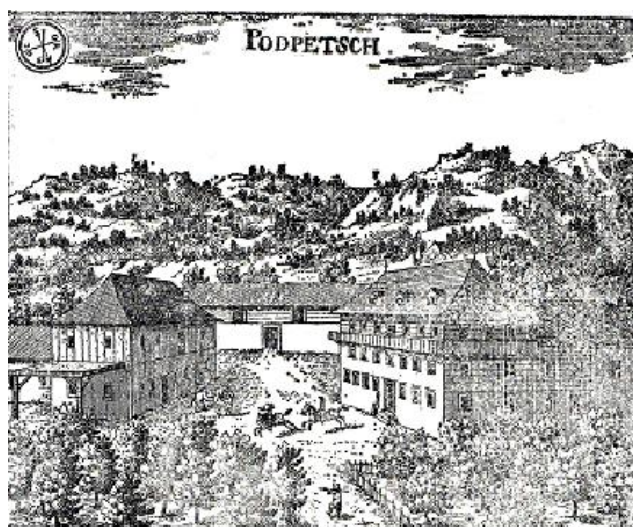


Figure 1: post office (right) and other facilities of Podpeč pri Lukovici station

Dolenjska (Lover Carniola, the other part of Carniola): The main post office is in Ljubljana. Regular mail from Vienna arrives there every Thursday, and continues on the same day to Vrhnika and from there to Gorizia and Venice. In 1573, Archduke Charles of Austria established a post office with runners who ran on foot from Ljubljana to Graz and vice versa. A little later, in 1588, for better transport and general benefit, a post office with riders was introduced from Graz to Ljubljana and from there through the County of Gorizia to Venice. At the request of the Archduke, the noble landowners of Carniola determined that they would give 200 guilders annually to the postmaster in Ljubljana. This was on the condition that the post office would receive and forward both ordinary matters of noble landowners, officers and servants of landowners, as well as their mail, free of charge, and that extraordinary mail would be forwarded exceptionally. From Venice the mail arrives every working day (or business day) to Ljubljana; but soon it goes on to Podpeč (Lukovica) and from there to Graz and Vienna. The same comes every working day from Karlovac and goes every Friday from Ljubljana to Višnja gora and then to Trebnje, Novo mesto, Metlika and Karlovac. From Klagenfurt and Rijeka and many other places only ordinary messengers run. At present the postmaster is Mr. Wolf Sigmund Baron Strobelhof (Bikalški). In Višnja gora there is another post office from Ljubljana towards Karlovac and this too is maintained by the most illustrious countrymen. The current administrator is Johannes Florian Tschitsch . The third station is located in Trebnje, every week the mail goes to Ljubljana and Karlovac. And just like the one above, this station is maintained by Johann Halbertaler. The fourth postal station on the way to Karlovac is in Novo Mesto; in terms of operations and maintenance, everything is the same as the previous one, and it is now taken care of by Nicola Liskurin .

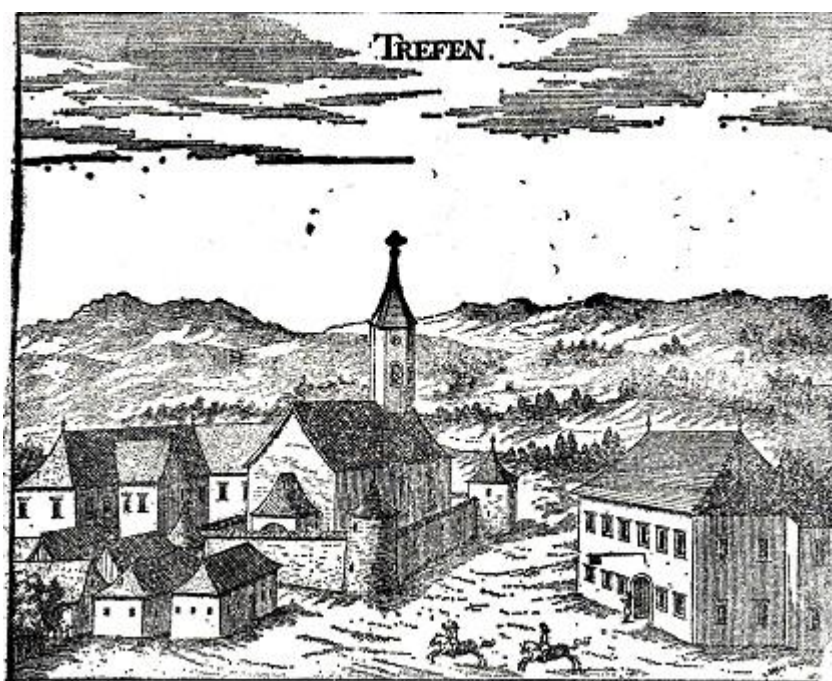


Figure 2: post office (right) of the post office in Trebnje

In central Carniola (the third third) there is only one post office, in Metlika. From here the mail goes every week to Karlovac, as well as to Novo mesto and from there to Ljubljana. It is maintained by the laudable provincial estates, and the current administrator is Adam Parr.

In Notranjska (inner Carniola) the first post office is in Vrhnika (Ober-Laybach). The mail usually goes from here along the Ljubljanica River to Ljubljana, and very rarely by horse on land, because the river ride is much more comfortable (the same applies to the ride in the opposite direction). From Vrhnika to Gorizia via Hrušica, the mail goes by horse on land, but the road is bad. This post office is paid for by the court chamber, and Johann Hoffman is currently in charge of it. The second post office is Hrušica, which is located in the middle of the worst wilderness, which offers no joy, and it is most pleasant when it is over; for far away you do not come across a single house, the forest extends far into Turkey (*meaning Turkish Bosnia, which Sultan Mohammed II occupied in 1463, i.e. in Valvasor's time*).

Nevertheless, at this post station, if a traveller wants to eat, he gets the best food on the table and is served in such a way that he is satisfied and can only wonder how it is possible that they have anything at all that can be put on the table in such a wild, uninhabited and uncomfortable place. The station is far from any inhabited houses. That is also why the mail carriers are well equipped with guns and no coward will dare to live here. It has been tried to be robbed many times, so no one is allowed to carry money, silver, gold and equipment with them - only the most necessary. The mail from here goes every week to Vrhnika, then to Ljubljana, and also to Sveti Križ (Saint Cross) and Gorizia. It is maintained in the same way as the one in Vrhnika, and is currently maintained by Johann Baptista Nußdorfer .



Figure 3: post office in Hrušica (in Hrušica Forest)

Istria (part five) includes the area bordering the Venetian Republic (the northern part of present-day Istria - *this is also evidence of where at least part of Istria once belonged*). Valvasor does not report on postal stations in this part.

Valvasor now turns to examining foreign, especially non-European, postal delivery systems. As we will see, some of these systems were quite cruel to ordinary citizens.

The post office does not operate only in Europe, part of it also operates outside of it, but it is not as well organized and generally useful there as in France, Italy, Germany, Poland, Sweden and Denmark.

The rulers of Asia have such an arrangement for conveying mail by horsemen that it often surpasses ours in speed, but there this mail is not for the general benefit and for general business, but serves only the supreme ruler, his ministers and officials.

In China, at each resting place, certain fast runners are posted, who deliver royal and other official mail to a specific place in a short time. This is worthy of respect, because often, despite the enormous distances, the mail reaches its destination in just a few days. The Tartar-Chinese kings once maintained special postal stations for 300 to 400 horses along certain country roads, in total there were over 10,000 such stations in the country with a total of 200,000 horses, and all of them were at the disposal of the ruler and his messengers and postal riders. The speed of transmission of messages from the farthest borders of the empire to the court could rival lightning (*well, here Valvasor is exaggerating a bit*). In between such post stations there were other dwellings for runners, each of whom wore a large number of tinkling bells or bells on his belt, so that other runners could hear him coming from afar and prepare to take the letters from him without losing time and carry them with the speed of the wind to the next station, where another runner took his place.

The same is true in many Indian kingdoms, such as **the Golconda kingdom**, (*"round-shaped hill", a city and fortress in South India, 11 km from Hyderabad, was the capital of the medieval Qutb dynasty Shahi between 1518 and 1687*), the runners are even faster than the postmen themselves. This is because at every place along the country roads, every two miles, there are small huts in which two or three runners stay, one of whom quickly takes the letter from the one in front and runs on. In India, most roads have trees planted on both sides, but where there are none, there are small piles of stones every five hundred paces, which the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages have to paint white from time to time, so that the messengers can recognize the route even in the dark of night or during the rains. The runners receive a regular annual payment for their work, but the post is intended only for the ruler and the administrative authorities, and not for everyone.

In Persia, however, the matter is somewhat more difficult for the common people, and such an order is not customary in any oriental province. If a Persian royal courier sets out, the royal stableman gives him a horse and a man to run after the horse to bring him back. If this courier meets someone on horseback on the way, he can order him to dismount. And this happens quite often, especially if the messenger feels that his horse is tired. The one who dismounted can run after his horse or must send someone to bring it back for him. This is often abused, because such a rider must not resist the messenger, even if he could, because such a thing would immediately cost him his head. The chappars (in Persian) often abuse this even when there is no need to change their horses, only that the riders give them something to leave them alone.

The same custom prevailed **in Turkey** until Murad III (1546-1595). *During the time of Suleiman (known in Europe as the Magnificent -1494-1566)*, when there were no post offices or post offices in Turkey like in the Christian world, according to sources from that time, a courier simply come

to a house, whether Muslim or Christian, and took fresh horses, if they had any. People had to give up the horse without resistance, otherwise they would lose their lives. They sent horses, even if they were noble, and rode them until they were exhausted. If one survived and the master wanted to get it back, he had to follow the courier and bring him back himself. In addition, similar to Persia, if a messenger met a traveller on horseback, he could ask him to dismount and hand over the horse to him. This custom was still quite common under Selim II (1524-1574). Furthermore, according to Baron Ungnad, (*probably the Baron of Sovneški, Ivan III, 1493-1564, who fought against the Turks several times*) Turkish couriers had the power to take the horse of anyone they met, no matter what they were riding, and ride it. The man to whom this was done had to run after them and take his horse back. This rarely happened to Muslims, but very often to Christians, so that as soon as they saw the imperial courier, they quickly hid from him, together with their horse and cargo. This burden eventually became so severe that entire villages fled together and hid somewhere in the wilderness. Only Amurat III established certain post offices where the messengers could be supplied with the necessary horses.

Valvasor also makes a comparison with the post offices of ancient times, namely the post offices of the Persian **king Cyrus**. (600/576 - 530/529 BC. who is considered the founder of the postal cavalry and not the Roman **emperor Augustus** (*Gaius Julius Caesar Octavian Augustus, 64 BC–14*, who was generally thought to have invented the post horsemen). He also mentions the runners of **Alexander the Great**. (356 – 323 BC). He gives several reasons why the postal service in his time was better than that in antiquity.

The Russian post offices travel as quickly and promptly as some in Europe, and they also take with them anyone who asks for it; but he must first show a passport issued by the Grand Duke. They have post horses along all the great provincial roads, so that everyone can get ahead without delay. The mailmen ride extremely fast at full gallop, regardless of the distance. They do not let the horse be fed, rested, or put in a stable until they reach the place where they must go and get fresh horses there, and they do not care if the horses fall or die on the way. They are ordered to ride day and night, after they have done their work. Therefore, the Grand Duke can learn every 8 days what is happening on the borders and in other places in the country. If this is not done and this does not happen, then the postillions are thrown into stinking towers and whipped on their backs until their skin falls off. To avoid such punishment, the messenger must carry the mail many miles and ride an incredibly long journey in 14 days in order to complete the Grand Duke's business. However, the post reliably carries correspondence from Moscow to Lithuania, Germany and Holland.

Valvasor then compares post offices in Carniola and elsewhere in Europe, comparing them to past mail delivery systems as well as those in non-European countries. He lists 5 reasons why today's European post offices are better than the aforementioned ones:

1. Today's post offices do not only carry letters from great lords as they once did, but also letters from ordinary people, and therefore serve everyone.
2. In former times, the post offices were not bound to a particular day, although they were on constant alert, but operated only when it was the will of the king or his nobles. Today's post offices, however, leave on certain days regularly twice a week; but if something

extraordinary happens that cannot wait for the regular postal days, extraordinary couriers are dispatched.

3. At that time, mail only went within one's own country or kingdom, but ours is connected to all European kingdoms. And so we can also find out news from foreign countries or almost from all over the world.
4. Ancient mail travelled only along main roads, while ours also connects smaller towns through designated couriers.
5. At our post offices (especially in Germany, France, Italy, Spain and England) it is not only possible to deliver letters, but people who are travelling alone can get horses for a fee and be transported to a certain place. In antiquity, however, horses were intended only for postal traffic and the travel of officials. In European Christian countries this is easier than elsewhere, where, whether in war or peace, the air is clean or unclean, and at post offices you always have to show your passport first.

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Serbian POWs and money

by Prof.dr.Milan Radovanović

Dealing with the postal history of Serbia in the Great War, as it is known, is complex and very extensive. It includes on the one hand the postal history of the Kingdom of Serbia on its soil in the period from 1914 - 1915 and on the other side outside the country in exile in the territory of the Kingdom of Greece from 1916 - 1918 year. Furthermore, as Serbia in the period 1915 - 1918 was occupied, its postal history refers to Serbia under occupation by the Allies - Austro-Hungary, Germany and Bulgaria. Further, the field of study is to the prisoner of war mail and the like.

During the study of postal history of the part of Serbia occupied by the Austro-Hungarian Empire was observed insufficiently known postmarks used on the postal money order form. The following Figure 1 shows the postal money order form sent from Belgrade (the postmark K.u.K Etappenpostamt, Belgrade from 26 June 1916) to a Serbian prisoner of war in Gesztete, Hungary. The postal money order is rerouted from this place to Kelemer, Hungary too. The usual bilingual (German-Croatian) money order was franked with 10 hellers (issue 'Franz Josef').

27

K. U. K. FELDPOST IN SERBIEN

POSTANWEISUNG auf
POSTANSKA
DOZNAČNICA) vrhu
Trizigischeu K 50

an
naslov
Nikola Zupkovic
in
u
Gesztete Kelemer
Straße, Hausnummer
ulica i kućni broj *Reg. IV. Barn, Lager 2813 S.*
letzte Post (Land)
zadnja pošta (zemlja) *Ungarn*

Die stark umrahmten Rubriken sind vom Absender auszufüllen
Debelim potezima zaokružene rubrike ima predatelj ispuniti

Annahmenummer	Aufgabebetrag	Kontrollstempel	Unterschrift des Postbeamten
<i>1676</i>	<i>10</i>	401	<i>[Signature]</i>

Kelemer 1916 jun. 26

Figure 1 (reduced): frontside of the postal money order form (Belgrade)

On the back (Figure 3) there are three incoming postmarks, of which only one is readable - Kelemer dated August 1, 1916 (?). From these data, you could calculate the time of shipment of money: 35 days. What later attracted the attention is the black oval seal with the number 401 in the middle ('Kontrollstempel').

It should be noted that this form is missing the part that is cut off and the remaining money to the recipient. These segments are very rare. One of them is shown in the following Figure 2.



Figure 2 (reduced): segment of postal money order (K.u.K. Etappenpostamt Kruševac dated January 17, 1917)

Auszahlungsstempel	Tagesrechnungsnummer 2.	Bestellkarteneintragung
Angewiesenen Betrag empfangen: Dознаčenu svotu primio:		
ORT MJESTO NAME IME	Ort und Datum der Zahlung 19. I. 1917 J. B. Poinj... Nikola K... ...	
Ankunftsnummer 44. 38.	Tarif — Pristojba für je 50 K ... 10 h za svakih	Ankunftsstempel 1916 16

Figure 3 (reduced): reverse of the postal money order form from Figure 1

As it later turned out, on the following postal money orders, the oval stamp with the three-digit arabic numbers was always present, always beginning with the number '4'.

The following example (Figure 4), postal money order form with delivery of 10 Crowns (Kronen) sent from Arandjelovac (postmark K.u.K Etappenpostamt, Arandjelovac of March 2, 1917) to a prisoner of war of Serbian origin in a prisoner of war camp near Nagymegyer. A postal money order is charged with 20 hellers (Franz Josef type) and rerouted to Szilagyi, Ungarn in an unusual

way. Instead of the usual practice to cross out the old address, and write (adds) the new one, the postman (?) pasted a note (Figure 5) on which the new address Szilagyi is certified by the postmark: 'POSTOFFIZIER DES K.u.K KRIEGSGEFANGENENLAGERS bei Nagymegyer' dated April 1st 1917.



Figure 4: postal money order without note (Arandelovac)

On this postal money order one can find too an oval stamp - this time with the number 402 (in black) in the same place - 'Kontrollstempel'.

On the back (Figure 6) there are four incoming postal marks. What is apparent though is the fact that the supply of money went very slowly: one can conclude that starting with postmarks of Arandelovac on March 2, 1917 and additional postmarks of Nagymegyer from March 5, 1917, then April 11 until May 27 when the money was finally delivered. Delivery of money lasted 86 days.



Figure 5: the same postal money order with note.

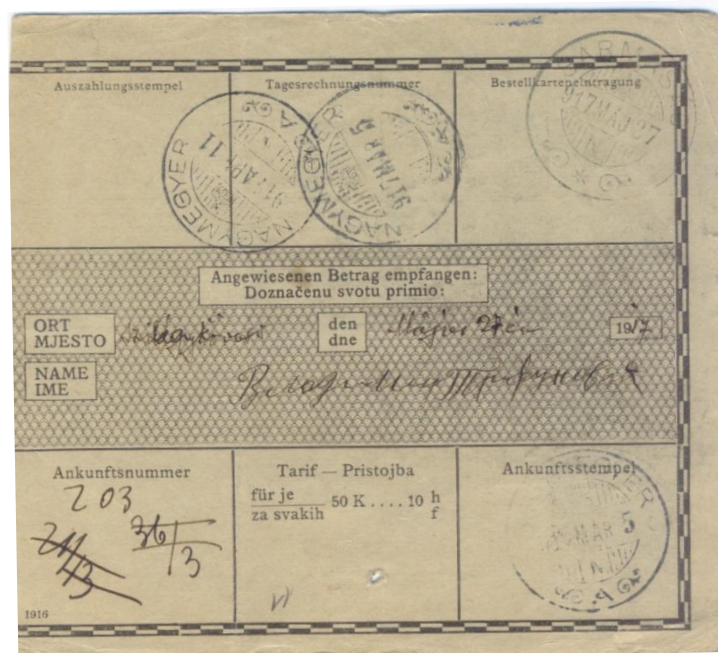


Figure 6: reverse of the postal money order form.

After the second observed case of 'Kontrollstempel' on the money orders more attention is paid to this appearance. Additionally, a few of these Kontrollstempels are found and will be displayed as follows.

The next postal money order (Figure 7) had 'Kontrollstempel' with the number 405 and was sent from Jagodina (K.u.K Etappenpostamt, Jagodina) March 24, 1917 to the prisoners of war camp in Aschach, Austria.

K. U. K. FELDPOST IN SERBIEN

POSTANWEISUNG auf
POŠTANSKA DOZNAČNICA vrhu 20 K h f

dvadeset K h f

an
naslov Milen Popović

in
u Kap. № 15929. grupa II. bar. 51.

Straße, Hausnummer
ulica i kućni broj Aschach 2. Donau

letzte Post (Land)
zadnja pošta (zemlja)

Die stark umrahmten Rubriken sind vom Absender auszufüllen
Debelim potezima zaokružene rubrike ima predatelj ispuniti

Annahmenummer <u>218</u>	Aufgabetag <u>24/IV</u>	Kontrollstempel <u>405</u>	Unterschrift des Postbeamten <u>Kecy</u>
-----------------------------	----------------------------	-------------------------------	---

Raum zum Aufkleben des Briefmarken
K. U. K. FELDPOST
20 20
JAGODINA

Figure 7 (reduced): postal money order (Jagodina)

Auszahlungsstempel 	Tagesrechnungsnummer <u>10</u>	Bestellkarteneintragung <u>50-9</u>
Angewiesenen Betrag empfangen: Doznačenu svotu primio:		
ORT MJESTO	den dne	19
NAME IME		
Ankunftsnummer <u>08726</u> <u>24/IV</u>	Tarif Pristojba für je na swačih <u>30 K ... 10</u>	Ankunftsstempel

1919

Figure 8 (reduced): reverse of postal money order from Figure 7.

On the reverse of this money order (Figure 8), there are five incoming seals: three postal marks of 'KUK GEFANGENENLAGER / ASCHACH a.d. Donau / a' dated (24.III.17), (20.IV.17) and (4.V.17), military post office cancel 'KuK FELDPOSTAMT 261' (27.IV.17) and seal of the POW camp Aschach with the date (8th maj.1917) and with the text: 'KuK Kommando / des / Kriegsgefangenenlager / Aschach'. Starting from the date of sending and receiving the money, the delivery time was 45 days.



Figure 9: seal 'KUK GEFANGENENLAGER / ASCHACH a.d. Donau / a'

The next postal money order (Figure 10) had 'Kontrollstempel' with the number 410 and was sent from Pozega (Pozega K.u.K Etappenpostamt) March 31, 1917 to Eger, and rerouted to POW camp Braunau. The delivery of money was 20 Crowns (Kronen).

K. U. K. FELDPOST IN SERBIEN			
POSTANWEISUNG auf POŠTANSKA DOZNAČNICA) vrhu		20 K	h f
zwanzig Kronen		K	h f
an naslov	Dragoljub Veselinovic		
in u	K.u.K. Reservehospital Nr. 1. Salb 95		
Straße, Hausnummer ulica i kućni broj	14/3-17 Städt. Egerer Fabrik		
letzte Post (Land) zadnja pošta (zemlja)	Göchy Böhmen		
Die stark umrahmten Rubriken sind vom Absender auszufüllen Debelim potezima zaokružene rubrike ima predatelj ispuniti			
Annahmenummer	Aufgabetag	Kontrollstempel	Unterschrift des Postbeamten
625	31/3	410	<i>[Signature]</i>

Figure 10 (reduced): postal money order (Pozega).

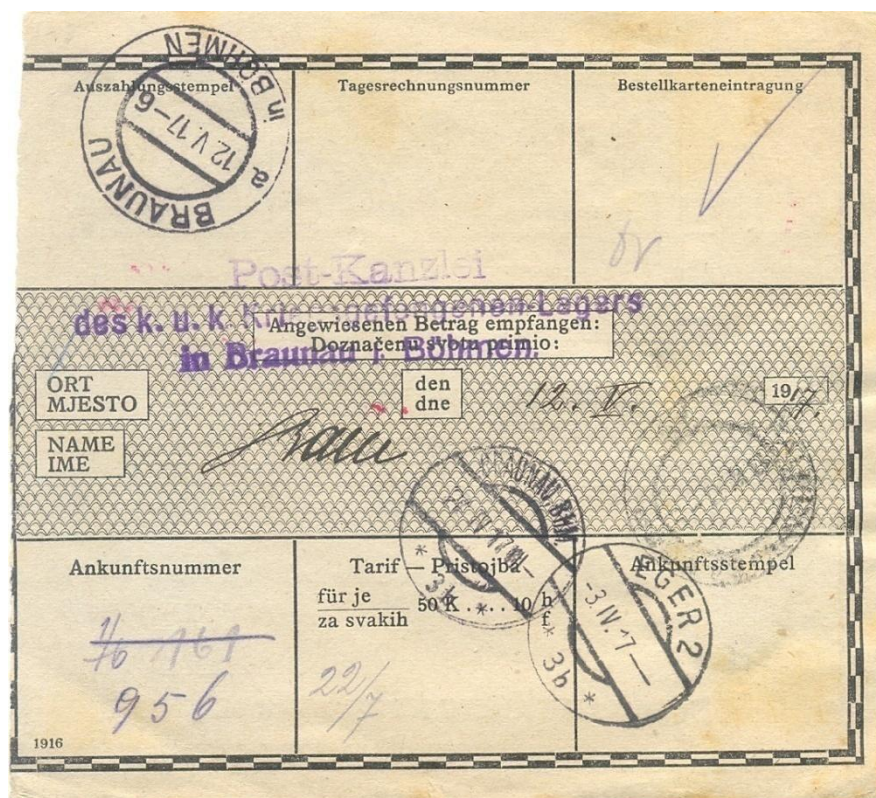


Figure 11 (reduced): reverse of the postal money order in Figure 10

The reverse of the money order (Figure 11) with arrival seals of Eger (3.IV.17) and Braunau (8.IV.17, and 12.V.17). Characteristic is the three-line seal of the postal bureau in Braunau, 'Post - Kanzlei / des k.u.k. Kriegsgefangenenlagers / in Braunau / Böhmen' ('The postal office at the Royal camp for prisoners of war in Braunau, Czech'). The delivery time was 43 days.

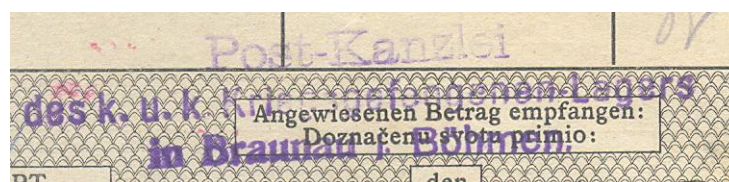


Figure 12: postal bureau in Braunau, 'Post - Kanzlei / des k.u.k. Kriegsgefangenenlagers / in Braunau / Böhmen'

Furthermore, only two 'Kontrollstempel' with the numbers 419 and 420 will be shown.

On the postal money order (Figure 13) sent from Smederevo ('K.u.K Etappenpostamt Semendria (Smederevo), a') on October 22, 1917 to Moson Bánfalvi states that 10 Crowns has been sent to the Serbian prisoner of war. On the bottom of the text (in red ink) one can see that the money order has been rerouted to another destination, 'Mohonbanfalva'. On the back of this money order (Figure 14) there are two postmarks with the dates of October 27 and November 1 (?), as well as the line seal of the city (Mohonbanfalva) and illegible circular stamp.

K. U. K. FELDPOST IN SERBIEN			
POSTANWEISUNG auf POSTANSKA DOZNAČNICA) vrhu			
10. K —			
Dieser K			
an naslov		Lava Ilić. Serb.	
in u		Krgf. № 53 in Mošon.	
Straße, Hausnummer ulica i kućni broj		Banfalva.	
letzte Post (Land) zadnja pošta (zemlja)		ungarn.	
Die stark umrahmten Rubriken sind vom Absender auszufüllen Debelim potezima zaokružene rubrike ima predatelj ispuniti			
Annahmenummer	Aufgabetag	Kontrollstempel	Unterschrift des Postbeamten
579	1917	419	[Signature]
Brief Monarchienpostamt in Mošon			

Figure.13 (reduced): front page of the postal money order with 'Kontrollstempel' 419

Auszahlungsstempel	Tagesrechnungsnr.	Bestellkarteneintragung
[Stamp]	[Red Mark]	[Red Mark]
Angewiesenen Betrag empfangen: Doznačenu svotu primio:		
ORT MJEŠTO	den dne	19
NAME IME	Lava Ilić	
Ankunftsnummer	Tarif — Pristojba für je 50 K 10 h za svakih f	Ankunftsstempel
53		[Stamp]
1916		9626

Figure 14 (reduced): reverse of the postal money order form from Figure 13 .

And the last copy of a money order with the number 420 is shown in Figure 15. It was sent from Požega ('K.u.K Etappenpostamt / Požega in Serbia, a') on 6 October 1917 for Lipovac in Croatia. Sent amount is 160 Kronen. The order is prepaid with 35 hellers ('Frans Jozef' issue).

K. U. K. FELDPOST IN SERBIEN

POSTANWEISUNG auf
 POSTANSKA DOZNACNICA) vrhu 160 K

an naslov *P. n. gospodinu
 Grdanovic Luka*

in u *Lipovac*

Straße, Hausnummer
 ulica i kućni broj

letzte Post (Land)
 zadnja pošta (zemlja) *Kraj Lika Slavonija*

Die stark umrahmten Rubriken sind vom Absender auszufüllen
 Debelim potezima zaokružene rubrike ima predatelj ispuniti

Annahmenummer 18

Kontrollstempel 420

Unterschrift des Postbeamten

Three red 15 K stamps and one green 5 K stamp are affixed to the right side.

Figure 15 (reduced).

Austrahlungsstempel 1.

Tagesrechnungsnummer

Bestellkarteneintragung

Angewiesenen Betrag empfangen:
 Doznačenu svotu primio:

ORT MJESTO *Lipovac* den dne *11/10* 1918

NAME *Luka Grdanovic*

Ankunftsnummer 28

Tarif — Pristojba
 für je 50 K 10 h
 za svakih f

Ankunftsstempel

1918

Figure 16 (reduced)

The postal money order in Figures 15 and 16 has not been used for Serbian POW, but for an Austro-Hungarian (Croatian) citizen in Slavonia, as evidenced by the incoming postmark of the place Lipovac - only the postmark on the back.

On most of the money orders 'paid' in Hungarian or bilingual in the Hungarian and Croatian language (Figure 17 – 'a' and 'b') exist.



(a)



(b)

Figure 17

As on all money orders on the back of the money order tariff for caused mailing of 10 hellers for sent / delivered 50 Kronen, little analysis has been done under this criterion. Sent sums of money, respectively in the order of presentation of money orders: 47.5 Crowns, 10 Crowns and 10 Crowns, 20 Crowns and 10 Crowns are charged for postal service two times higher than prescribed. Instead of 10 hellers on all money orders is the price of 20 hellers with the exception of the first money delivery of 47.5 helera which is charged correct with 10 hellers. The fact is that the first money order originates from 1916 and the other from 1917. Is it in the meantime a tariff increase and that this has been not indicated on the form? Is money for prisoners and interned persons of Serbian origin costing twice as much? So far, no response.

Postal money order form for Lipovac is charged correctly with 35 helers: 3x10 helers for 150 Crowns with the addition of 5 helers for another 10 Crowns.

Additionally, the analysis of the delivery time of money is also performed as a difference from known values of date related to sending and delivery times. Calculated delivery times of money, respectively, in the order of presentation of money orders in this paper, are as follows: 35 days, 86 days, 45 days and 43 days. The fifth value could not be calculated because of illegible data.

Finally, according to Hainer (Reference 1), postal money orders, postmarks introduced earlier in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, found application on April 21 1916 in occupied territories by ordinance Nr.4, 1916. For those postal orders at the same time 'Kontrollstempel' ('Control mark') are applied in the oval form in which they now had three-digit Arabic numerals, starting with the number 401 (Belgrade) and finishing with number 424 (Mladenovac). These control marks were in use only in the first-class post offices.

In addition, according to Vemić (Reference 2): Plunder of the Serbian POW's were many and varied. Since the beginning robberies were carried out through various trials in which the money, jewellery, watches and other items of value were confiscated. Serbian inmates were not allowed reception of remittances from their families, but they put that money on deposit that was never received. Instead of money they received 'POW money' ('Lagergeld') that were four or five times lower in relation to the obtained money. POW money could be used only in the camp canteens where they could buy food as they had in various ways been denied the rations.

The following Figure 18 shows the POW money used in POW camps Aschach and Grödig.

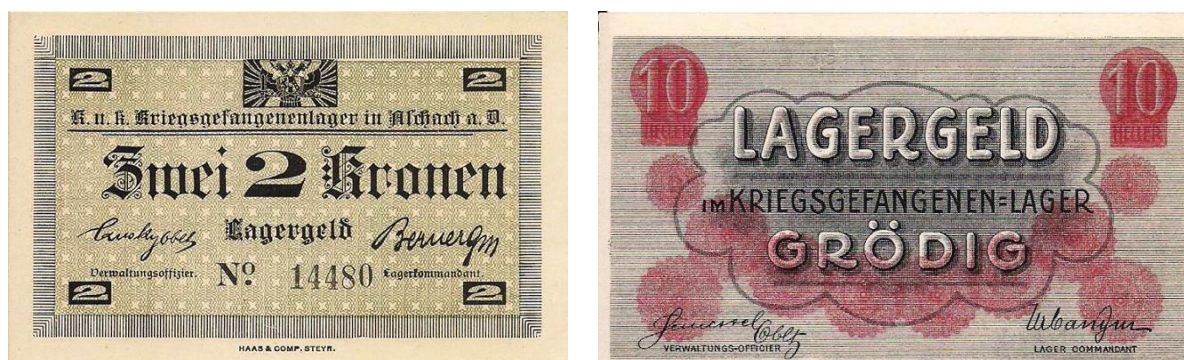


Figure 18: POW money applied at POW camps Aschach and Grödig.

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Serbian Postal History: pre-stamp period 1820s to 1847 – disinfection of letters

by Nick Coverdale

Introduction

This article considers the background to disinfection of mail in Serbia during the period of concern and illustrates with three examples from my collection. Much of the information comes from the book by Kardosch (Reference 1).

Serbian Cordon Sanitaire on the Turkish Border

The spread of infectious diseases (cholera, the plague, smallpox etc) from Asia and the Ottoman Empire compelled the governments of European states to instal quarantine stations along their frontiers as far back as the 14th century. Persons and animals could be detained at these stations for prescribed periods.

In 1727, the Austrian government also ordered the disinfection of letters at these stations. After 1739, the quarantine station at Semlin assumed the disinfection of goods and letters coming from Serbia. In 1829, Prince Miloš Obrenović provisionally ordered quarantine stations to be set up at Poreč, Čuprija and Belgrade. Only in 1830 was Serbia permitted officially to set up its own quarantine stations and organise its own posts by a Turkish decree. Following an outbreak of plague in the Ottoman Empire in 1836/37, Prince Miloš ordered the setting up of stations all along the Serbian border, except for that with Austria. The first quarantine station was opened in September 1836 at Aleksinac – it was Serbia's largest and most important station. Quarantine stations were set up at the more important border crossings and so-called rastel offices at the smaller crossings.

In addition to Aleksinac, three further stations were opened:

- Bregovo (Bulgarian - Wallachian border, subsequently in 1837 moved to Radujevac)
- Mokra Gora (Bosnian border)
- Rača

There were 9 rastel offices – Gramad, Jankova Klisura, Ljubovija, Pandiralo, Raška, Supovo, Šepačka Ada, Vasilina Česma and Vrška Čuka (listed here in alphabetical order). The precise opening and closing dates of these 9 offices can only be estimated from the relatively few letters surviving. The various stations and offices are shown on the map in Figure 1 (next page).

The earliest letters known with the handstamps or seals of the Serbian quarantine stations date back to 1837, before the first post offices were opened in Serbia in 1840. The onward transmission of these mails was therefore undertaken by the Tatars or existing forwarding agents. Most surviving letters are addressed to administrative offices, courts and church authorities. Surviving private letters are the exception.

Prince Michael issued regulations in October/November 1839 dealing with the setting up and operation of the Serbian rastel offices. Procedures were listed for dealing with various categories

of letter (size, thickness, shape, official, private etc). Further regulations were issued in July 1841. These again distinguished between quarantine stations and border meeting points (rastel offices):

- Quarantine stations – disinfecting stations where persons and animals were handled and they had to stay for a prescribed period of time. Individual letters and parcels containing letters in bulk were accepted. Letters to the Prince, the Serbian government and the Turkish Pasha could not be opened but could only be punched with a rastel and treated that way. Private letters had to be opened, treated and re-sealed. An additional charge was made for disinfecting letters either to the sender or the addressee. The fee set on 21 October 1843 for a disinfection certificate was 20 paras.
- Border meeting points (rastel offices) – people on either side of the border were allowed to speak to each other in specially-designed facilities (parlatories) while remaining physically separated. Operated on market days only. Only individual letters and not bundles or packets were accepted. All letters had to be opened, treated and re-sealed.

Disinfection certificates in pre-printed form, referred to above, have so far only been found from the Quarantine in Aleksinac. A couple of letters are known signed and certified on the letter with a negative seal from Aleksinac and Raška.

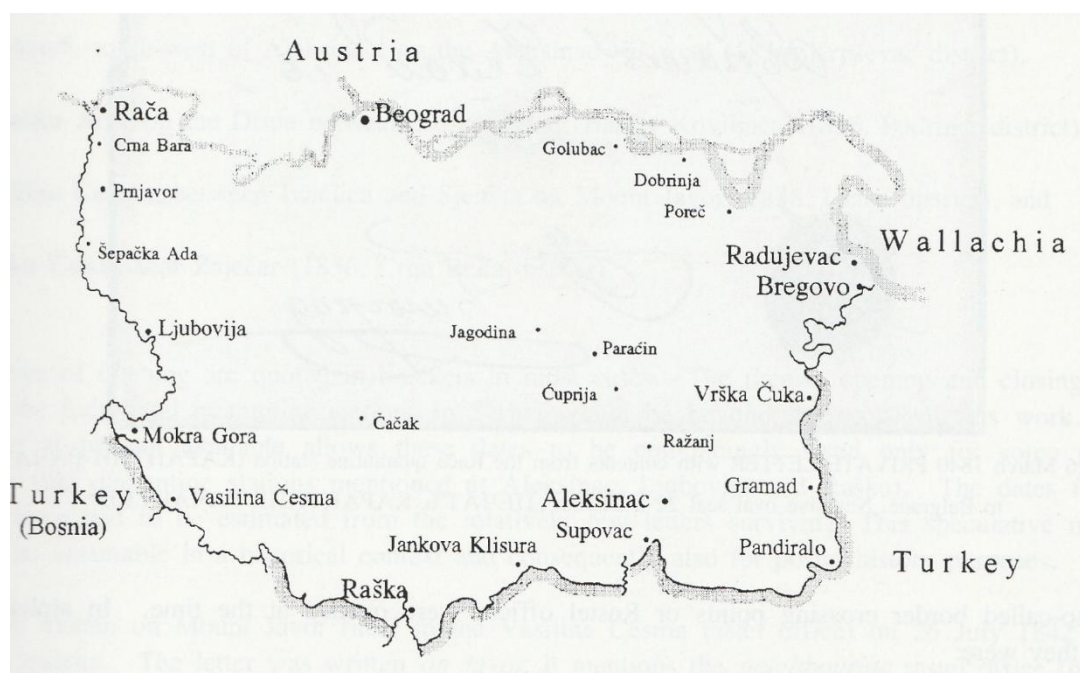


Figure 1 (from Reference 1): map showing quarantine stations and rastel offices

Rastel

For readers not familiar with a ‘rastel’, one description is ‘a hairbrush-sized instrument consisting of 2 hinged metal plates (jaws), one of which held several rows of nails or small metal spikes. Clamping each letter between the jaws of the rastel produced several rows of small holes through the envelope and its contents, enabling gas (*probably sulphur dioxide*) to penetrate the interior.’

Plague in Serbia in 1837

On 6 July 1837, 53 Turkish soldiers arrived in Aleksinac on their way to Belgrade. The local quarantine officer failed to recognise the symptoms of plague and subsequently two of the soldiers died on the 19 and 20 July. Two further died at Aleksinac and three at Jagodina or en route to there. The remaining soldiers continued to Belgrade (there were no further cases there). An epidemic broke out in Jagodina – 192 people died. Following this, the quarantine period at Aleksinac was extended to 6 weeks. There was a further outbreak of plague at Ražanj on 19 August. Not only the permanent quarantine stations and border meeting points but also parts of Jagodina, Paraćin and Čuprija were placed under quarantine.

Cachets of quarantine stations and meeting points

Regulations prescribing the shape and size of handstamps used by state institutions were issued on 6 October 1841. This included the quarantine stations and rastel offices. Kardosch states that the legend on the cachets was also stipulated. The coat of arms at the centre of the cachet was surrounded by the words

КАРАНТИНЪ (САСТАНАКЪ) Н

Quarantine (Rastel Office) Name

or variations on these. For example, one of the types used at Aleksinac used КОХТУМАЦЪ rather than KARANTIN.

Kardosch lists cachets and seals and allocates them type numbers on pages 31 – 32 of his book and illustrates them on pages 33 – 43. He notes that his list is a work in progress (published in 1996) and therefore more recent information may now be available. The handstamps appear in the form of seals – wax, dry and negative. In general, letters that were disinfected unopened carried a negative seal. Letters that had been opened for disinfection had to be resealed with wax seals. Dry seals were only used occasionally for sealing official correspondence between quarantine stations and are not listed on pages 31 and 32 of Kardosch.

Examples of disinfected letters

Three examples of letters disinfected at Aleksinac are shown in Figures 2 to 4.

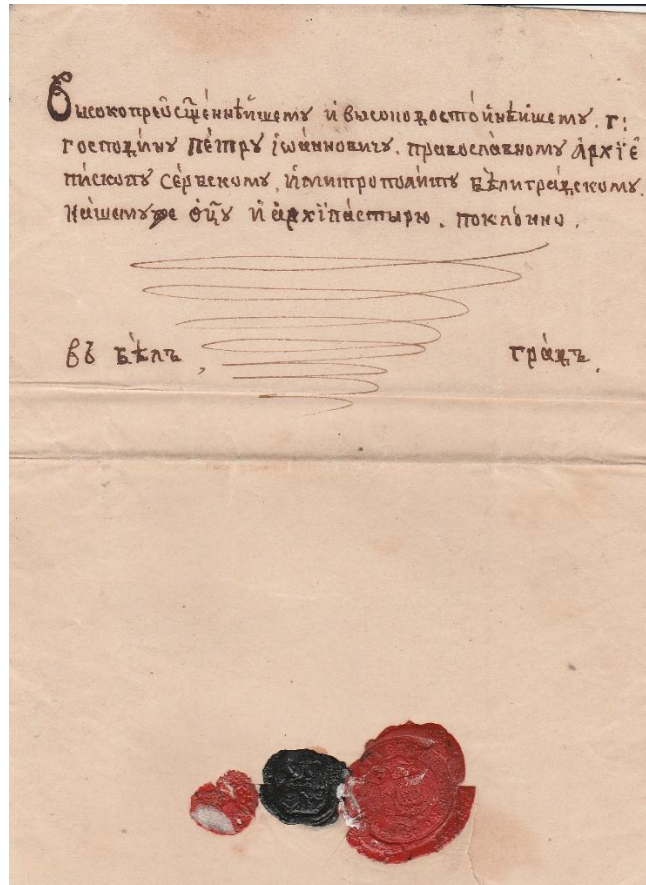


Figure 2: 28 January 1846. Cover addressed to the Patriarch of the Serbian Orthodox Church in Belgrade. Circular 23 mm red wax seal (Kardosch Type 1(g)) of the Quarantine Station in Aleksinac with the wording КАРАНТИН АЛЕКСИНАЧКІЙ Point of despatch unknown but assumed to be in Turkey. Certificate.

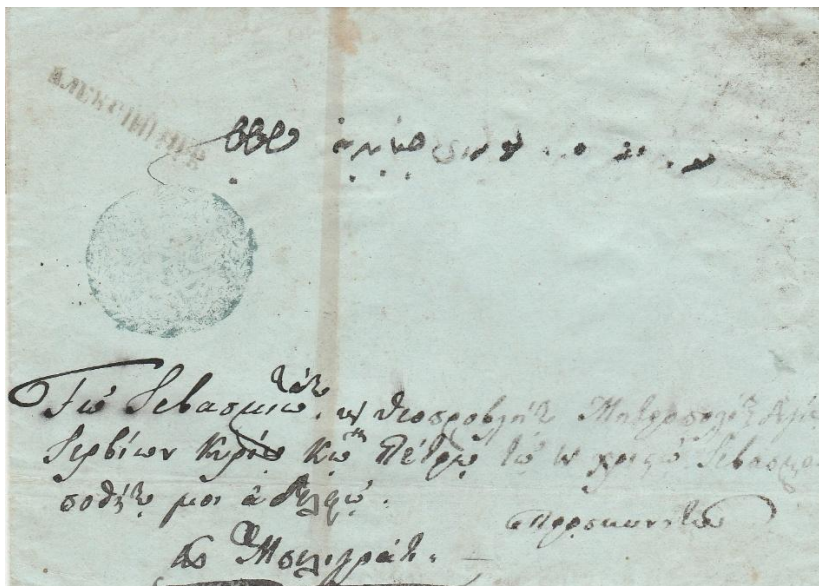


Figure 3: 4 October 1846. Letter from Bitolj (in modern-day North Macedonia) – blue-green negative handstamp – addressed in Greek and re-addressed in Turkish. Circular 23 mm red wax seal (Kardosch Type 1(g)) of the Quarantine Station in Aleksinac on the reverse with the wording КАРАНТИН АЛЕКСИНАЧКІЙ. Transit straight-line handstamp of the Serbian post office in Aleksinac. Manuscript arrival annotation from Belgrade 7 October inside the folded letter. Two certificates.

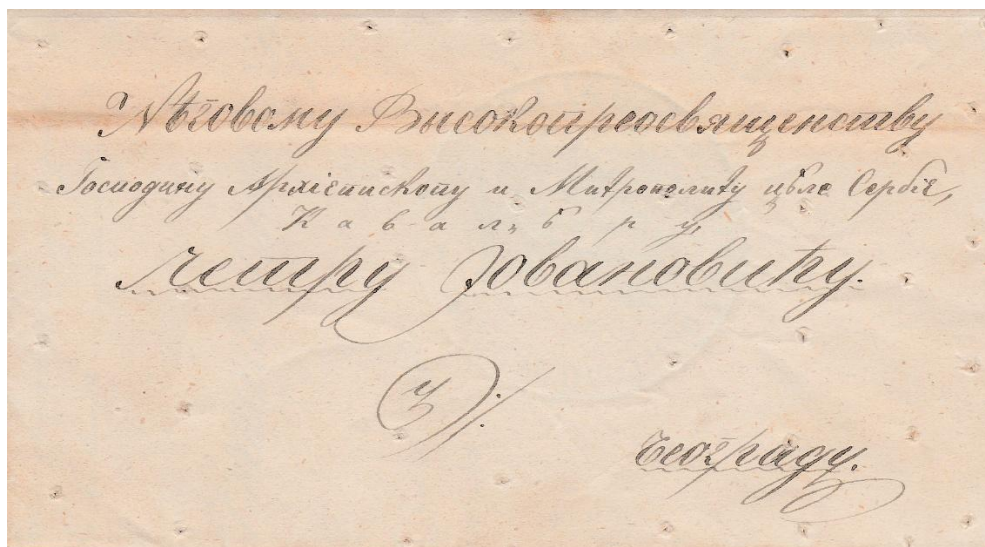


Figure 4: 2 April 1847. Cover with contents sent from the Visoki Dečani Monastery (in present-day Kosovo) to the Patriarch of the Orthodox Church in Belgrade. It has been disinfected at the quarantine station inside the Serbian border at Aleksinac. You can clearly see the punched holes. Oval negative handstamp in black of the quarantine station, 20 x 22 mm (Kardosch Type 1(a)) on the reverse, with the wording **КОНТУМАЦЪ АЛЕКИНАЦКІЙ.**

Reference

1. Kardosch, V. M., The Principality of Serbia Postal History and Postage Stamps 1830 – 1882, (1996) (in English).

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