

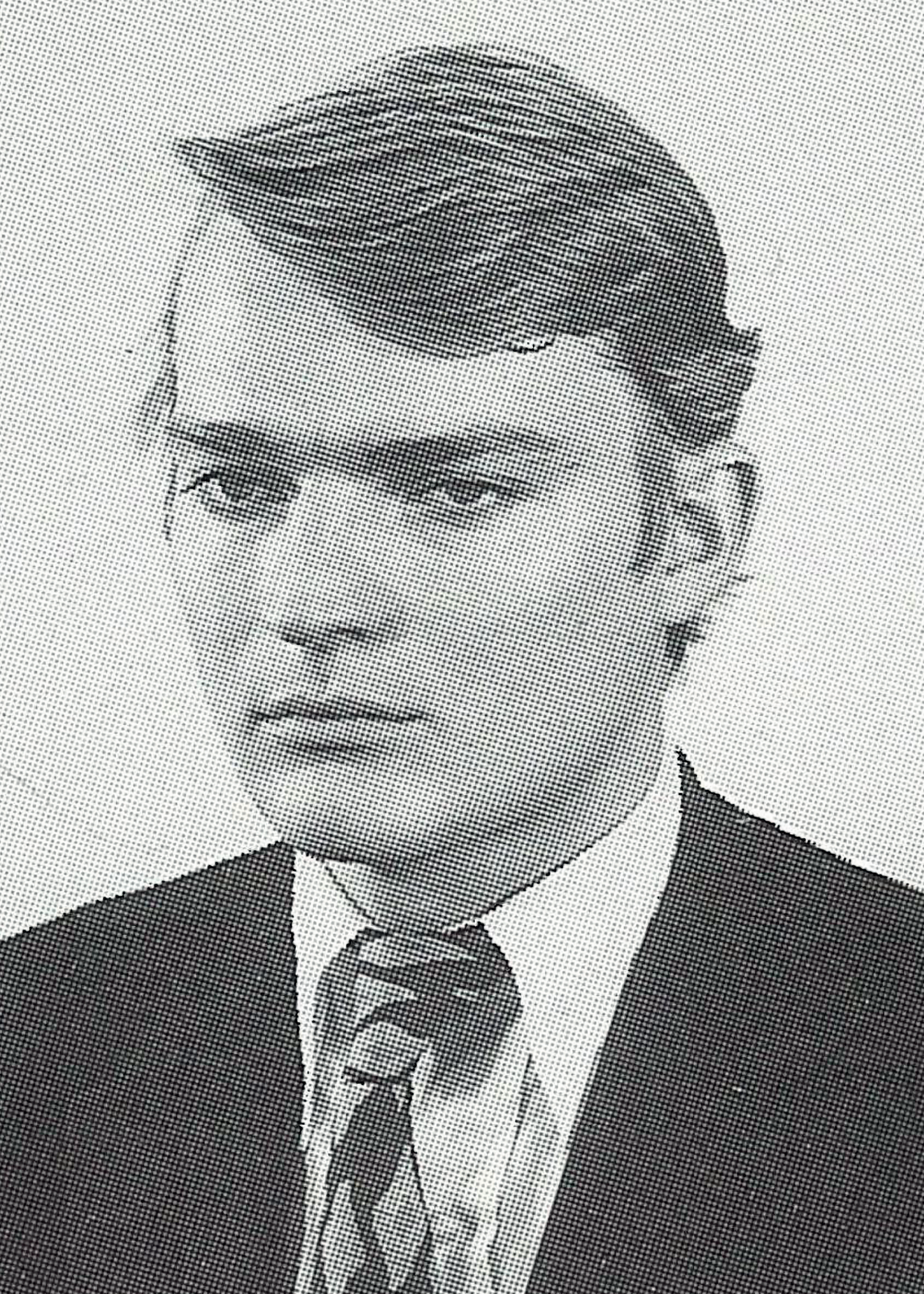
The 'PARIS' Library of Philatelic Literature

To be Offered at Auction 15 November 2025



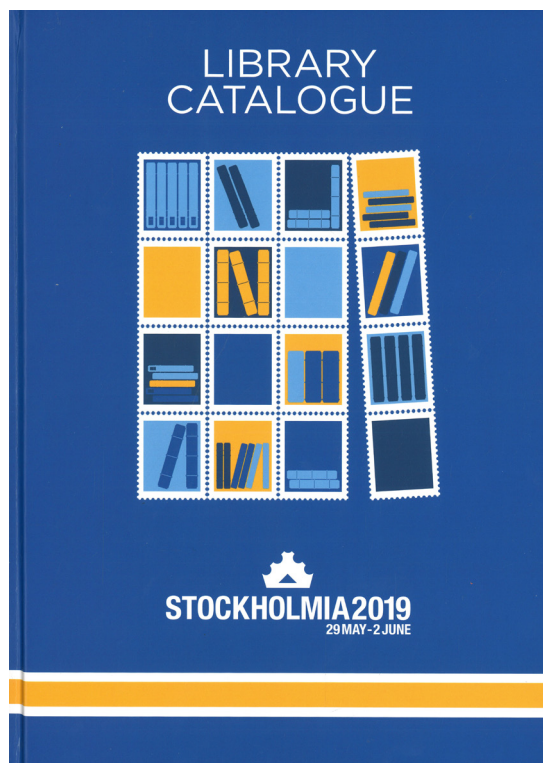
HEINRICH KÖHLER

Germany's Oldest Stamp Auction House



We have all experienced it: you meet a complete stranger and find him fascinating on a first impression. That's what happened to the author when he met the Swede Tomas Bjäringer many years ago and then came to appreciate him more and more as the years progressed. They were and are united by a shared love: for philatelic literature. Tomas Bjäringer is far more experienced, knowledgeable and competent in this area of philately than the author will ever be. But he always shares his knowledge, promotes and supports philatelic literature selflessly.

It was therefore a particular honour for the author to work closely with Tomas Bjäringer on the literature and presentations for STOCKHOLMIA 2019 and to be able to use his knowledge of the literature of the ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON for the second catalogue of this exhibition, the bibliography of RPSL publications.



We stayed in touch, met at special events in Monaco, London or elsewhere, and most recently at IBRA 2023 in Essen. There, Tomas Bjäringer was honoured by the Berliner Philatelisten-Klub von 1888 e.V. with the oldest philatelic medal in the world, the Lindenberg Medal, at a ceremony held by the club. And the author had the pleasure of giving the laudatory speech in two languages.

It might have gone on like this forever. But nothing is eternal, nothing lasts indefinitely. Nevertheless, the author was surprised when Tomas Bjäringer asked him to help with the liquidation of his library through the Heinrich Köhler auction house and to support the process. Tomas, who has loved his books, cared for and cherished them like no other, intends to return them to the philatelic cycle in 2025 so that others can enjoy the same pleasure that he has always felt.

For the author, it was a matter of course to honour Tomas's wish. It is a small way of saying thank you to a special person to whom he feels very close.

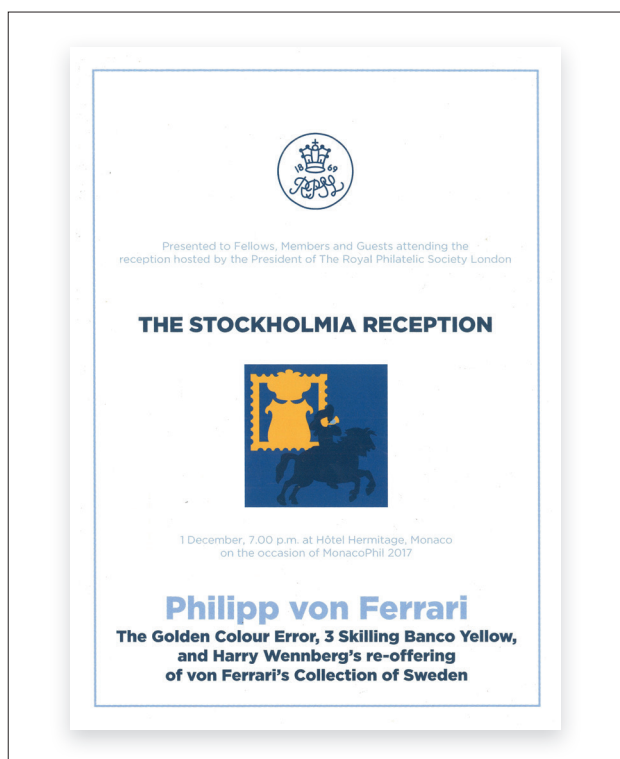
Wolfgang Maassen,
October 2024

Tomas Bjäringer

An exciting and unusual life

There are probably few philatelists who can show such a unique philatelic family tree as Tomas Bjäringer. He is a fourth-generation philatelist! The first generation being Wilhelm Wennberg (1836–1893), who was one of the earliest Swedish philatelists. Tomas Bjäringer's grandfather, Harry Wennberg (1872–1927), was a stamp dealer in Stockholm who was well known and had connections far beyond Sweden's borders. His customers at the time included the most renowned collectors in Scandinavia and beyond. For example, Wennberg acquired most of the Swedish material from the collection of Philipp von Ferrari, which he resold that same year.

In this 44-page brochure, Tomas Bjäringer, Gustaf Douglas and Jonas Hällström presented 'The Golden Colour Error, 3 Skilling Banco Yellow, and Harry Wennberg's re-offering of von Ferrari's Collection of Sweden' in 2017.





Tomas Bjäringer (centre) at the second meeting of the STOCKHOLMIA 2019 management team in February 2017. To his left, Chris King (GB) and to his right, Jonas Hällström (S).



Tomas and Jonas Hällström at the views of Tomas vineyard in Collioure, France.

Tomas Bjäringer, who was born in Stockholm on 28 August 1946, also inherited a deep love of his homeland and his native Sweden. He followed in the footsteps of his ancestors, attending the Carlsson School in Stockholm from 1952 to 1958, and then the Statens Normalskola there, from which he graduated with a baccalaureate in 1966. After further studies, he co-founded a pharmaceutical company in Paris that developed and distributed very affordable orphan medicines for the treatment of little-known but serious diseases in young children. In 1973, he moved from his hometown of Stockholm to Brussels and in 1982 from there to Paris, only returning to Stockholm permanently in 2015/16 after a professional career as an entrepreneur in the pharmaceutical industry (1990–2007).

By that time, he had long owned his own vineyard on the southern French Mediterranean coast, between Perpignan and the nearby Spanish

border, and to this day he still tends his vineyard in Collioure, France (even though he has now handed it over to his daughter), because he appreciates fine wines, which visitors to STOCKHOLMIA 2019 were able to taste for themselves in the VIP area; he had donated the wine!

He was married to the Swede Monica Bolling (b. 4 September 1940), who, to his great sorrow, died on 25 March 2017. He is left with their beloved daughter Paola Bjäringer (b. 27 February 1980), her French husband Maxime and three grandchildren, to whom he wants to be close at their various residences in Paris and Stockholm. This is also the reason for further moves this year, although the new apartments, which are to be carefully selected, will not have space for his large library, but he himself wants to concentrate more on family life.

Bjäringer

The Philatelist

In view of his biography, it is not surprising that philately was part of his DNA. However, it would be a simplification to assume that he was only ever interested in Sweden or philatelic literature. A glance at his successes as an exhibitor makes it abundantly clear that his spectrum was much wider:

IENECOPIA 1969 in Jönköping, Sweden 1855–1872 + Gustaf V in medallion: Vermeil and the Swedish Philatelic Association's Grand Prix for Philately (the exhibition's Grand Prix).

PHILATOKYO 1970, Sweden 1855–1919, Court of Honour, joint exhibit with Gustaf Douglas (1938–2023).

INTERNABA 1974 in Basel, Sweden 1855–1872, Large Gold.

INTERPHIL 1976 in Philadelphia, Sweden 1855–1872, Large Gold with jury congratulations.

LONDON 1980, Haiti 1770–1887, Gold.

PHILEXFRANCE 1982 in Paris, Haiti 1770–1887, Gold.

ANPHILEX 1996 in New York. Sweden (rarities of the first issue 1855), exhibited together with Gustaf Douglas under the pseudonym 'Two Anonymous Collectors'.

It is not known to the author whether he ever exhibited his collection of classic postage rates from Great Britain. Only that it was sold by the Postiljonen auction house in 1984, but under the pseudonym 'Viking'.

CHRISTIE'S
South Kensington

The "Paris" Collection of Stamp Boxes
TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2002 AT 10.30 A.M.

Collection of stamp boxes, exhibited at the invitation of NORDIA 1990 in Lund, at the Musée de la Poste in Paris from 1992–1994, at the Spanish Postal Museum in Madrid in 1995. The work 'Les boîtes à timbres / Stamp boxes' (118 pages, in colour, paperback, 1994, published by the Paris Postal Museum) by Brian Beet (1948–2003) as the only work of its kind describes 199 specimens from Tomas's collection. This exceptional collection was sold at Christie's in London on 10 December 2002 under the pseudonym 'Paris'.

Brian Beet

**Les
boîtes à
timbres**

**Stamp
boxes**

tion du Musée de la Poste, Paris



View of five of the 20 display cases in which Tomas Bjäringer exhibited selected treasures from his library on the literature of the Royal Philatelic Society London and the Crawford Medal winners at STOCKHOLMIA 2019.

Not to be forgotten is STOCKHOLMIA 2019. Here he showed 'Rarities of literature in the Court of Honour: Crawford Medal winners and Publications of RPSL.' Bjäringer was one of the directors of the World Philatelic Exhibition 2019 AB that was formed to organise STOCKHOLMIA 2019, and a member of the management team.

Bjäringer

The society philatelist

Bjäringer's range of collecting interests, which is certainly not complete, suggests that he was always in high demand from clubs and associations. He is a member of the Stockholms Filatelist-Sällskap (since 1968); the Sällskapet för Svensk Postal Dokumentation (SSPD) since 1970, a life member; the Royal Philatelic Society London (member since 1971, Fellow since 1974, with Michelle Chauvet RPSL representative for France from 2008–2016, member of the RPSL Expert Committee since 2008; Hon FRPSL 2013); Collectors Club, New York (since 1973); Berliner Philatelisten-Klub von 1888 e.V. (since 1974) and the Académie de Philatélie (corresponding member) since 1979.

He is a life member of the board of the Ringström Museum för Filateli in Trelleborg, Sweden. Thanks to his good association with the director of the Swedish Postal Museum in Stockholm, he and Sven Åkerstedt were responsible for reorganising and building up the Swedish section of

the collection at the Stockholm Postal Museum in 1973/74.

He was already a juror at STOCKHOLMIA 1974 and ARPHILA 1975 in Paris, and a jury apprentice before at IBRA 1973 in Munich and Jerusalem the same year in Israel. Bjäringer speaks several languages: not only his mother tongue, of course, but also English and French fluently, as well as some German (which, as he himself says, he can read well).

But Bjäringer was never one of those people who, despite all their achievements in philately, pushed themselves into the limelight at home and abroad. On the contrary: he is considered rather shy and reserved and modest. Nevertheless, his potential was recognised very early on. In 1978, when he was just 32 years old, he already signed the 'Roll of Distinguished Philatelists' in Worthing! He was probably one of the youngest, if not the youngest, signatory in RDP history! He has been a member of the Board of Election himself since 2007.

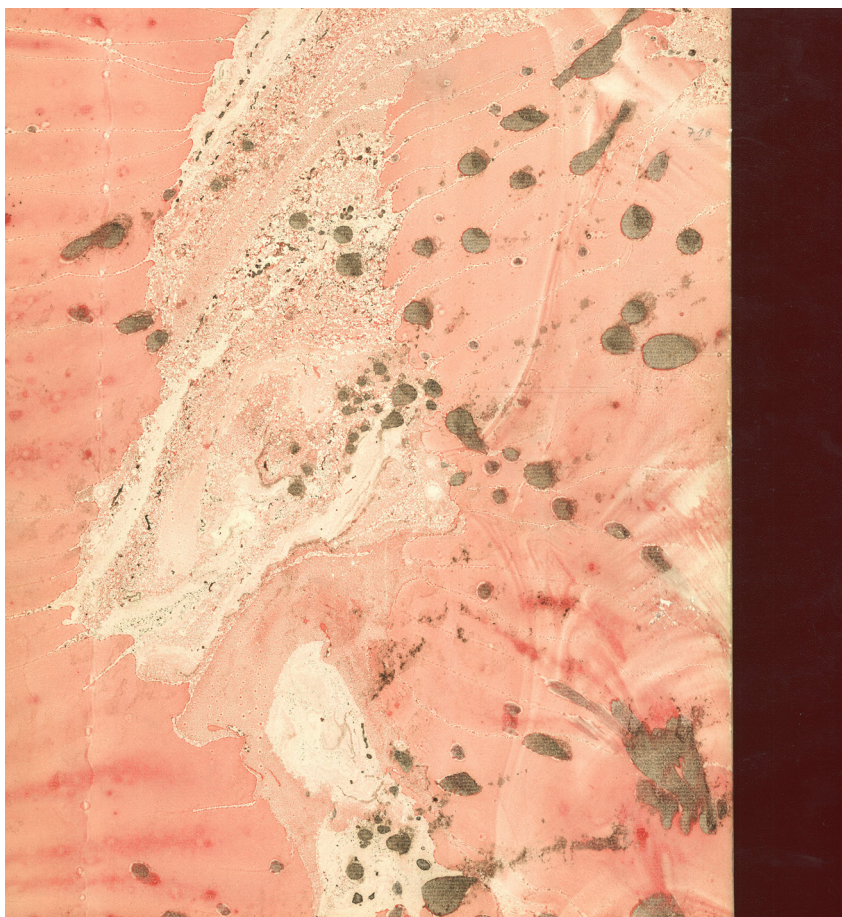


Michael Ehrig (centre), President of the Berliner Philatelisten-Klub von 1888 e.V., and Honorary President Wolfgang Bauer (left) present Tomas Bjäringer with the certificate for the Lindenberg Medal. Laudator Wolfgang Maassen (2nd from left) is also in the picture. Photo: BPhK.



Sven Åkerstedt celebrating his 70th birthday at the Stockholm Philatelic Society in 1974, together with fellow members. (1 Sven Åkerstedt, 2 Karl Jeppsson, 3 Hugo Brink, 4 Björn Thordeman, 5 Sven Sandstedt, 6 Gunnar Sandberg, 7 Carl Langenskiöld, 8 Tomas Bjäringer, 9 Gustaf Douglas, 10 Nils Avelius.) Photo: Yngve Hellström.

Further honours followed, as the following selection shows: the 'Bacon Medal' 2014 (this was introduced by the RPSL in 2014 and awarded to newly appointed Honorary Fellows); the Lindenberg Medal 2021 (to be presented at IBRA 2023 in Essen) and Honorary Member of the Stockholm Philatelic Society in 2023.



Bjäringer the Author

Moreover, the number of books Bjäringer has published - mostly together with others - illustrates that he values co-operation and joint enterprise on the one hand, but that he also cherishes the special, the unusual, as the following short list shows.

SWEDISH LETTER RATES
TO FOREIGN DESTINATIONS
1855–1895

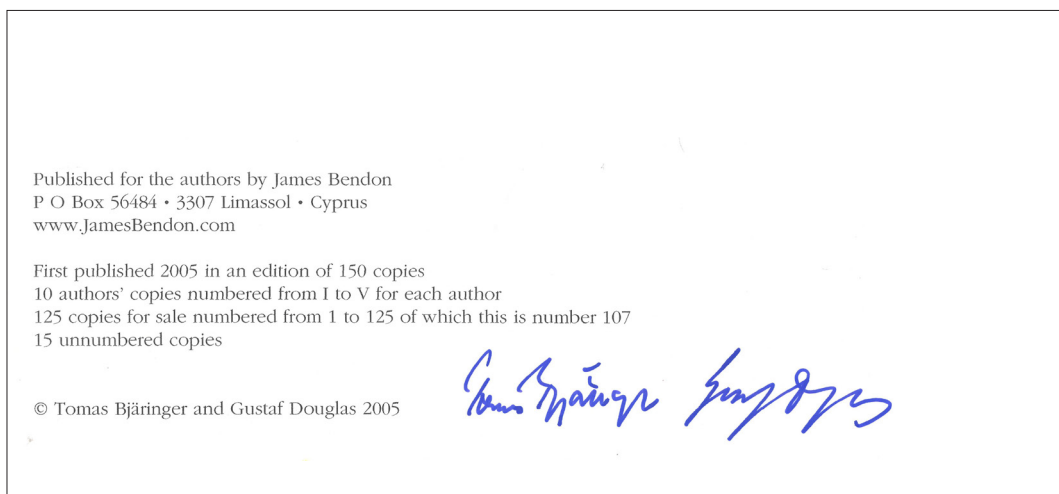
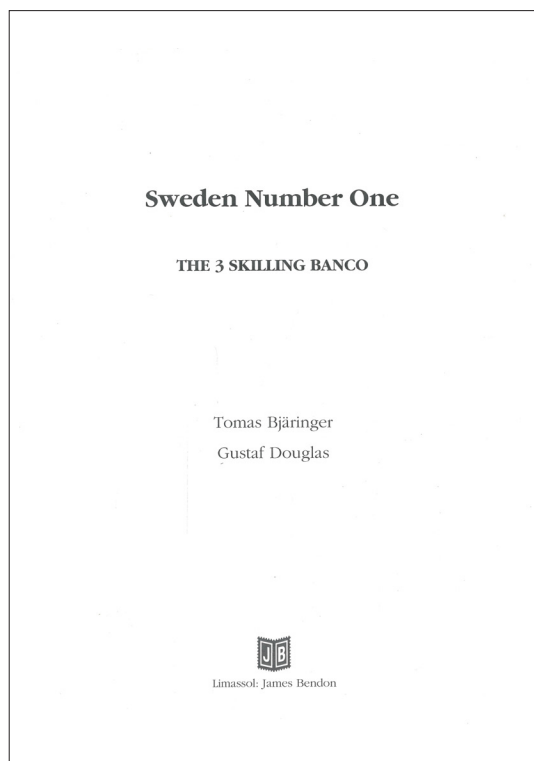
JAN BILLGREN
TOMAS BJÄRINGER
L.H. STONE

PRINTED IN TWO HUNDRED COPIES
NUMBERED 1–200
PLUS FIVE COPIES FOR EACH AUTHOR
NUMBERED IN ROMAN NUMERALS

THIS COPY IS NUMBER

112

Tomas Bjäringer, Jan Billgren and L. H. Stone: Swedish Letter Rates to Foreign Destinations 1855–1895, 235 pages, gilt edges, leather binding with gold embossing on the spine and a bibliophilic slipcase. This work, which is rarely offered today, was published in 1986 in a limited edition of just 200 copies.



Tomas Bjäringer & Gustaf Douglas: Sweden Number One – The Three skilling banco [Schweden Nummer Eins – Die Drei Skilling Banco] (ed. James Bendon, Limassol 2005), 267 pages with gold embossed spine, hardback in half-leather, limited print run of 150 copies. The copies of this book from 2005 are not only individually numbered (this is number 107), but also originally signed by the authors.



Presented to Fellows, Members and Guests attending the
reception hosted by the President of The Royal Philatelic Society London

THE STOCKHOLMIA RECEPTION



1 December, 7.00 p.m. at Hôtel Hermitage, Monaco
on the occasion of MonacoPhil 2017

Philipp von Ferrari

**The Golden Colour Error, 3 Skilling Banco Yellow,
and Harry Wennberg's re-offering
of von Ferrari's Collection of Sweden**

'Björinger, Tomas, Gustaf Douglas, and Jonas Hällström. Philipp von Ferrari: The Golden Colour Error, 3 Skilling Banco Yellow, and Harry Wennberg's Re-Offering of von Ferrari's Collection of Sweden.'
STOCKHOLMIA 2019, Handout #2. Stockholmia 2019, 2017

44 pages, 270 x 195 mm. Stapled binding with white cardboard cover.
Edition of 400 copies. Presented to the participants at the exhibition
reception of STOCKHOLMIA 2019 in Monaco on 1 December 2017,
which took place at the same time as MonacoPhil 2017.



Presented to Fellows, Members and Guests
attending the reception hosted by The Global Philatelic Network

THE STOCKHOLMIA RECEPTION



16 February, 12.00 a.m. in London, at the Executive Centre at
Business Design Centre, Islington on the occasion of Spring Stampex 2018

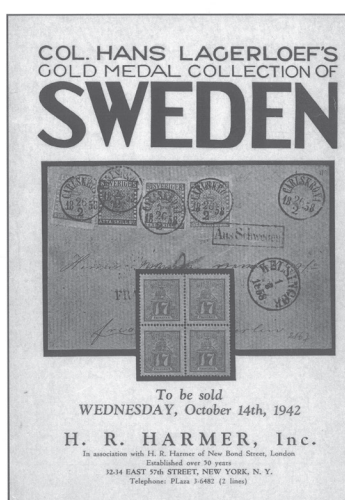
Great Britain and Sweden Early Mail and Mail Connections

'Douglas, Gustaf, Wayne Donaldson, Tomas Bjäringer, and Jonas Hällström. Great Britain and Sweden: Early Mail and Mail Connections.' [Großbritannien und Schweden: Frühe Post und Postverbindungen]. STOCKHOLMIA 2019, Handout #3. Stockholmia 2019, 2018

40 pages. 270 x 195 mm. Stapled with white cardboard cover. Edition of 400 copies. Presented to the participants of the Global Philatelic Network exhibition reception in London on 16 February 2018 on the occasion of Spring Stampex 2018.

SWEDEN IN PHILATELY®

A BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SAGA OF NAME SALES AND
IMPORTANT COLLECTIONS SOLD IN PUBLIC 1907-2020



TOMAS BJÄRINGER RDP HON. FRPSL
& JONAS HÄLLSTRÖM RDP FRPSL

INTRODUCTION BY BRIAN J. BIRCH FRPSL
SOME THOUGHTS ON PIONEER AUCTION CATALOGUES

Tomas Bjäringer & Jonas Hällström: Sweden in Philately. A Bibliography and Saga of Name Sales and Important Collections sold in Public 1907–2020. Introduction by Brian J. Birch (Some Thoughts on Pioneer Auction Catalogues).

20 x 27.5 cm, 75 pages, in colour, hardback, 2020.



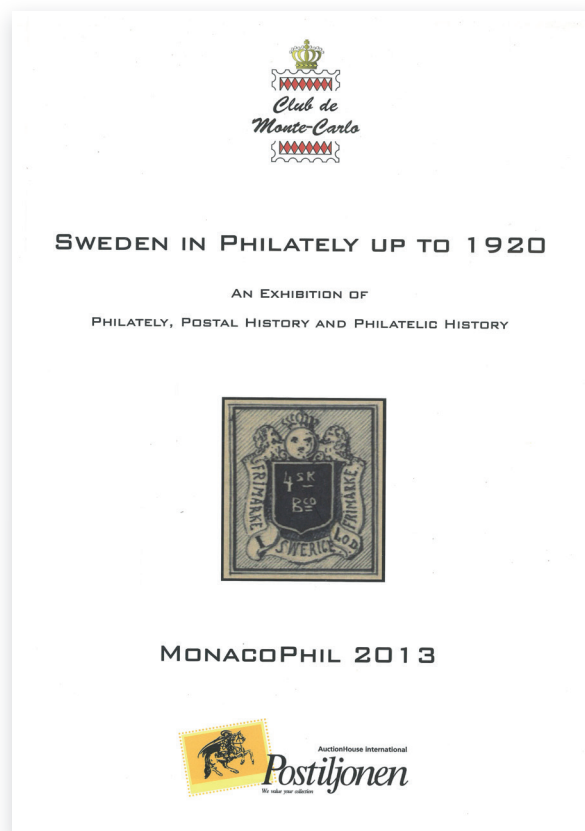
'Tomas Björinger RDP Hon FRPSL & Mårten Sundberg FRPSL: Tête-Bêche. Rarities from the Oval Issue of Finland', 516 pages, gilt edges, in colour, leather hardback with leather slipcase. Published by the Royal Philatelic Society London 2023 in an edition of 100 (+ 12) copies. This last major title by Björinger – a collaboration with Mårten Sundberg – was published in 2023 in two versions, the special edition with a printed slipcase.

Comment from a review by Wolfgang Maassen on aphv.de: It may be due to the well-known tradition of A. M. Tracey Woodward's book 'The Postage Stamps of Japan and Dependencies' (Japan, 1928) that Björinger – supported and probably initiated by Jonas Hällström – had another idea, namely to have a special edition of this luxury book produced for review purposes in an edition of only 30 copies. This differs from the 'original' (it lacks the gilt edges, leather binding and slipcase, is just a 'normal' hard-cover book), but the content is almost identical (labelled 'Review Edition' No. ... / The Publications Committee / Jonas Hällström / Chairman).



Tomas Bjäringer RDP Hon FRPSL and Kent Ryen: Royal confessions to a lifelong friend. The correspondence of the Swedish and Norwegian Queen Louise 1850–1871 (2023), by Tomas Bjäringer RDP Hon FRPSL and Kent Ryen. In English, Softcover, 176 pages, totally in colour.

Of course, Bjäringer also left his mark with numerous specialist articles on a wide range of topics, for example on 'Sweden 1855-72' in 'The London Philatelist', Vol. 86, 1977, pp. 120-127, but also in various articles that appeared in the Collectors Club Philatelist in New York. He was also involved in compiling the catalogues of the Philatelic Society of Sweden (1969–1975) and the FACIT special catalogue (1977–1984).



In 2013, Sweden was the subject of a special MonacoPhil exhibition in Monte-Carlo. Jonas Hällström and Jan Berg prepared the exhibition for this occasion and, together with Tomas Bjäringer, produced an extensive catalogue (DIN A4, 279 pages, in colour, hardcover, in which two articles by Bjäringer as author/co-author are included:

- a) Forgeries and Fakes in Swedish Philately (pp. 108–120)
- b) Together with Gustaf Douglas and Olle Pettersson: Fathers of Swedish Philately born up to 1901 (pp. 121–55)



Display by Swedish Fellows and Members
of
the Royal Philatelic Society London

February 5, 2009

at
41 Devonshire Place, London

STOCKHOLMIA 2019
Stamp Fair

9 Sweden: The 20/TRETIO Öre Error (1879) and its Imitations

Tomas Bjäringer RDP Hon. FRPSL & Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL



In terms of varieties and errors on classic stamps of Sweden, The Golden Colour Error, 3 Skilling Banco Yellow is the best known, followed by the 20/TRETIO Öre Error. This article gives the context as to when and how the 20/TRETIO Öre Error occurred and sheds some light on its forged and faked imitations.

Context

Not very many stamps of Sweden have been recognised internationally as world rarities in philately. One of the very few is the 1879 "Numeral in Circle" type error, described as the 20/TRETIO Öre Error of value in the circle. The then printer of Swedish stamps was Jacob Bagge (1848–1892).

In December 1879, Bagge prepared an order of 20 öre "Numeral in Circle" type definitives for delivery to the Swedish Post. The order had already been delayed by two weeks, so Bagge was under time pressure. When ready to print, the printer detected that one of the individual clichés on the plate (position No. 37) was damaged. At that time, Swedish stamps were printed in panes comprising 25 stamps (5 x 5). Four such panes of 25 were combined to make up a sheet of 100.

Cliché 37 was the 17th cliché in the second pane, becoming position No. 34 in the printed sheet of 100 stamps (the printing plate of 100 was mirrored when



Bagge's printing office was located at Skeppsbron 40, in Stockholm, Sweden.

being printed, so cliché position No. 37 becomes position No. 34 in the printed sheet of 100). The error occurred when the cliché in position No. 37 was detected as being damaged before printing had begun and was replaced.

Nils Strandell RDP Hon. FRPSL (1876–1963), a well-known Swedish and international philatelist, defined how to recognise the 20/TRETIO Öre Error.



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Sweden: The 20/TRETIO Öre Error (1879) and its Imitations

In 2019, he published the study 'Sweden: The 20/Tretio Öre Error (1879) and its Imitations' (pp. 278-286) in the STOCKHOLMIA exhibition catalogue. He had already displayed a frame on this topic at an exhibition by Swedish philatelists at the Royal Philatelic Society London.

Bjäringer

The Literature Lover

Over the years and decades, Bjäringer's interest in philatelic literature from all over the world developed from a special interest in Nordic areas, especially Sweden. His perspective became broader and broader and focused more and more on what is rare and beautiful. Today, his library can rightly be described as one of the leading private philatelic libraries still in existence. It contains countless unique bibliophile rarities.

His taste was as a bibliophile. He loved the rare and the beautiful. He particularly liked limited editions, if possible signed and dedicated by the respective

author. He always tried to get early catalogues and monographs on philately in the best possible condition (which, as any expert knows, is far from always possible), but then he had such works – for example, the first catalogues from the 1860s/70s – artfully inserted by the Paris-based bookbinder Annika Baudry into specially designed storage boxes or folders. Of course, this was never cheap because everything had to be specially made, but it was always of high quality and this approach ensured that the ravages of time did not further erode the collectibles.



Tomas Bjäringer in his library.
For him, it was always a working library.



In all the rooms – and there were more than just the two – almost all the walls were lined with shelves.

Structure and Examples of Rarities in the Bjäringer Library

Every reasonably well-kept philatelic library has a certain structure. This was and is also the case with this collection of literature. The overview is facilitated by notes that Bjäringer willingly made available to the author. This results in the systemic

listing, which on the one hand follows continents and then countries, but on the other hand also takes into account so-called 'special areas', each of which is cited below with the number of titles:


**SONDERAUKTION LITERATUR
ZUR IPHL@2012**



Lot 9017
„Brilliantausgabe“ des Sent-Briefmarken Albums von 1878


352. Heinrich Köhler-Auktion
3. November 2012 in Mainz

HEINRICH KÖHLER
Deutschlands ältestes Briefmarken-Auktionshaus



HEINRICH KÖHLER
Deutschlands ältestes Briefmarken-Auktionshaus

Literatur
Inkl. der Sammlungen
Charles Freeland und ‚Erivan‘



Lot 10201: Mexiko/Campeche, Walter C. Bellows handgefertigtes Meisterwerk von 1909
im prächtvollen Ledereinband

Sonderkatalog
364. Heinrich Köhler - Auktion
21. März 2017 in Wiesbaden

Continents:

Europe (868)

North America (101)

Central/South America (460)

Africa (124)

Asia (179)

Australia (68)

In addition to these 1,800 titles, there are also special sub-groups or groups that have been collected separately:

Publications by J.-B. Moens (45)

Early catalogues (40)

Monographs by author (109)

Literature on forgeries/forgers (42)

'Colour Guides' / colour charts (12)

Cinderella (10)

Ship mail / air mail (51)

Literature on philatelic literature (101)

Albums (4)

These are a further 414 works.

Last but not least, two special groups should be mentioned, which Bjäringer had already honoured with 20 display cases in the 'Ehrenhof' at STOCKHOLMIA 2019, and which have always been particularly close to his heart:

Publications of the Royal Philatelic Society London (153)

Monographs that have been awarded the Crawford medal (93)

In total: 246. This results in a total of 2,460 monographs!

Not counted in the figures are the voluminous holdings of auction and exhibition catalogues and periodicals.

Details and Overviews

It is the consignor's wish, but it also corresponds to the philosophy of the Wiesbaden auction house, that the subsequent auction catalogue should be a 'bibliophilic' work, i.e. a publication that a person interested in literature would consider part of their reference library, which they would refer to from time to time for the information it contains. The catalogues for the special auctions of literature at the IPhL@ 2012 on 3 November 2012 (auction of the library of Norbert Röhm) and the auction of the Charles Freeland and 'Erivan' collection 2017 already provided superb information and guidance. This is to be surpassed here once again. Tomas Bjäringer himself makes this possible. For he has created a sheet about the size of an A6 page for each 'object', no matter what it is, on which he has recorded every piece of information he could get hold of over the decades, especially hammer prices at other auction houses worldwide. Some 3,000 or more (?) sheets were collected in

this way, forming a kind of catalogue that is of great additional value for describing the individual or group lots that were to follow.

Bjäringer may not be a PC aficionado, the digital world is not his, but meticulousness, accuracy and the pursuit of perfection are. Anyone who has read his books knows this. For each country or area, the sheets are organised in envelopes from A to Z, and it quickly becomes clear that a country like Austria is represented with 14 titles or Belgium with 72, but Andorra, for example, or Albania, with only one. Bjäringer 'conjugates' Europe up to Ukraine in 23 envelopes – many of them full to bursting – and he even needed two or three envelopes for the notes for individual countries: for France there are 200 titles and for Great Britain there are also 147 – for Germany only 49! This may reflect his language skills, but this does not apply across the board, because otherwise he would not have 25 for Japan!

Ferrari de la Remotière: Ventes 1-14 complete Gilbert & Bouquet 1921-25. 4 vol HB.			
Bought: CD 1995 - FF 6000 = €600			
Feldman	21-26.V.1982 lot 50930		CHF 4830
Feldman	21-26.V.1982 lot 50931		CHF 4830
Feldman D.	10-15.V.1982 lot 61099		CHF 3680
Firby	31.10.1987 lot 152 + He incl. insert lot sale		US 4200
Clairin R. He	16.10.1991 with Dupin index 3001		GBP 1100
Huyg-Berlingin AG	26.6.1993 lot 1711 HB		CHF 3003
- 4 -	lot 1712 HB		CHF 1498
Huyg-Berlingin AG	24.10.1994 lot 6894		CHF 1407
Baudot, Paris	21.12.1995 lot 3243 HB		FF 8648
Feldman	8-12/10.1995 lot 22169 HB		CHF 805
Dutheche	19.4.1996 lot 2833		FF 5500 (unsold)
Huyg-Berlingin	10.1997 lot 3924, 24B.		CHF 2285
Huyg-Berlingin	14.1997 lot 3925	PB	CHF 1992
Williams	213, 198, lot 975	3 vol HB HB	BFR 35400
Feldman	2087, 16.1.1999 lot 720	3 HB	DM 6554
Comptela 118	27-29.10.1999 lot 7787A, ind. PR	400 HB	CHF 1955
Holland H.	16.1.01 lot 8538	4 vol + 1 vol PR	DKR 13125
Souffran I.	26.9.2001 lot 1400 + 22169	5 HB	BFR 82600
Nahmig #105	6.10.2005 lot 9466, 9468, 9471 HB		US 661
Nahmig #62	24.11.2005 lot 9467, 9469, 9470 HB, PR		US 885
Souffran #106	8.11.2009 lot 23		€ 802
Souffran #106	8.11.2009 lot 23		€ 1733
Schwylger Kammig	#30 25.27.4.2008 lot 2845 + index		US 2300
Hannig, Frankfurt	#15, 17-19.V.2002 SB lot 1870		CHF 2640
Köhler #352	3.10.2012 Mainz, lot 9622	1 vol	€ 2200 + 1790

Simply and plainly written on in pencil, each page (some are written on both sides) contains a wealth of valuable information.

Philatelic Journal of India, The:	
Vol 1 - Vol 20 1897-1916 complete. HB.	
EX. Libris R.B. Yardley. Vol 1 & 2 issued to the 49 subscribers only.	
Bought:	Huyg-Berlingin 27-29/10 1994, lot 8270 CHF 4400 + 172
Turner G.T.;	Koerber 1-2/5 1981, lot 1890; Vol 1-12 (1897-1908) NS 2100
Canadiana	30 July 2020, lot 106; Vol 1-2, 7-11, 13-14, 18-24, 26-39, 41, 43, 52 GBP 850 + 262
X € 1000	

Kropf, H. Die Absteigerleistungen der Marken von Österreich-Ungarn und nordwestl. Venedig. 1899, 162 p. + 71 p. HB	
Bought: CD 1995, FF 600	
D. Feldman	3-8 Nov. 1980 lot 9173 CHF 450
Schwab	263, 10.3.2000 lot 1607 DM 304
Souffran	26.9.2001 lot 1133 BFR 4956
h/h	148, 12.10.2003, lot 896 GBP 200 - est
Köhler #352	3.10.2012 Mainz lot 9492 € 150 + 11990
Phil + Creative-Antiquariat	Preisdiele 2/2017 € 180
Maassen	2019 ex. R. Friedli € 300
Köhler #377	20.25.9.2021 lot 1593 € 100 unsold
X € 150	



A selection of the catalogues in the library, all preserved in a bibliophilic order.

Björinger's catalogues are a bibliophile's delight. He can offer 26 different catalogues from the first decade of philatelic literature, i.e. from the 1860s, including six from 1862, which are among the incunabula of philately! In addition to the second edition of Alfred Potiquet's catalogue, which is considered the oldest catalogue in the world, Germany's first catalogue – the eight-page Zschiesche catalogue from 1862 with handwritten prices – is also included. It is the earliest known copy of the two known to exist and the only one in private hands. Catalogues from E. de Laplante, Mount Brown and John Edward Gray are from the same year, and some of them are also represented with later editions. Oscar Berger-Levrault is present with the first edition of his German-language catalogue from 1864, but this is also available in a third edition for 1865 and then expanded in French for 1867. Wilhelm Georg contributed his first catalogue, which was published in Basel in the same year.

A rather unusual literature group is hidden under the title 'Monographs by Author Name' – simply labelled 'Names' by Björinger. There are 109 of them, and they are all completely different. Publications on Lundy Island (2019), the Avery Collection (1909), Reprints of postal adhesive stamps and their characteristics (1899), UPU Specimen Stamps (1988) are to be found alongside entertaining, almost belle-lettrist booklets on Ferrari (Bohr, ca. 1975; Fabergé 2017) or the world's greatest collectors (Bierman 1990). But encyclopaedias (e.g. Bungerz 1923), the 'Lehrbuch

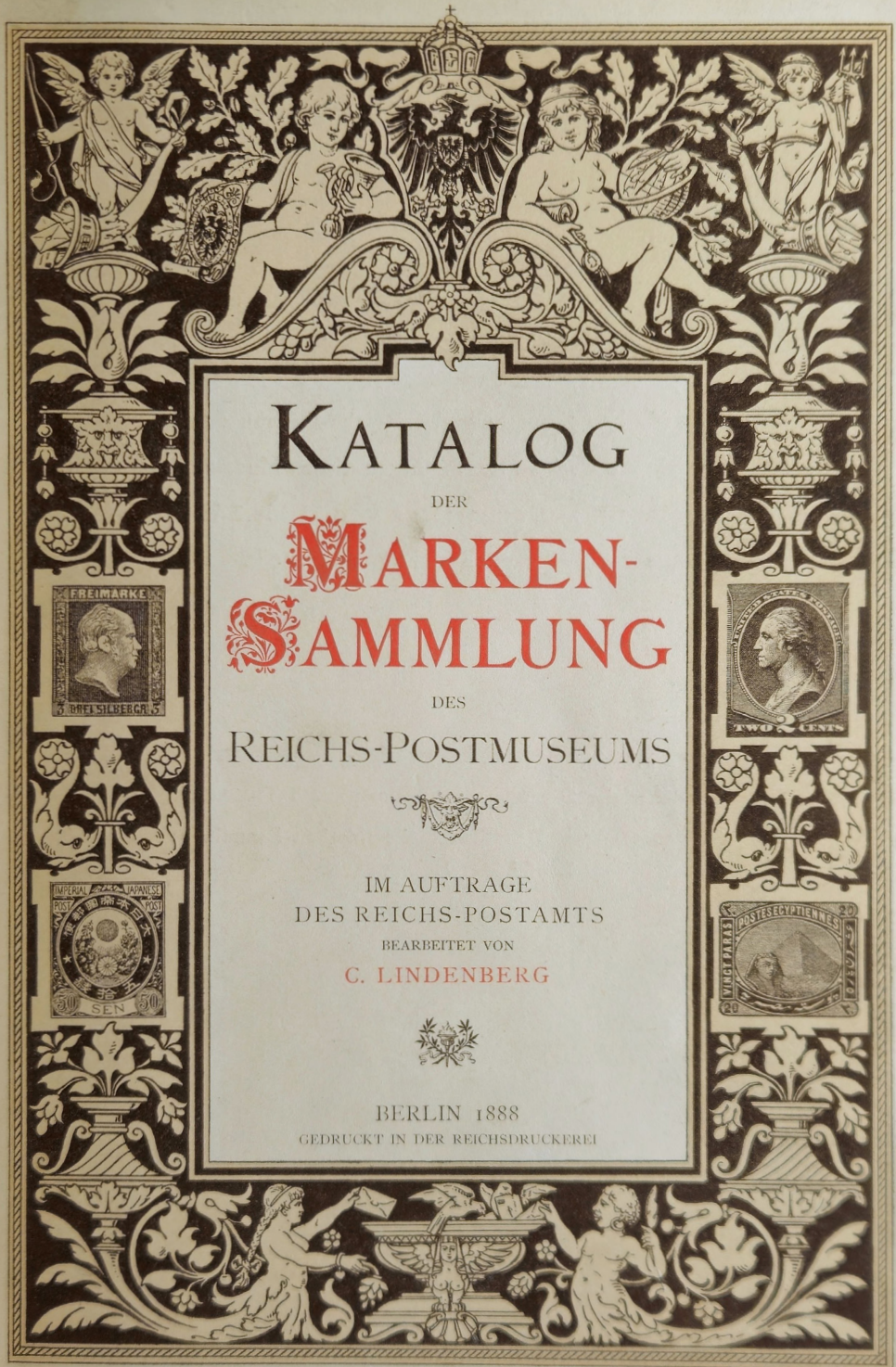
der Briefmarkenkunde' (Haas 1905) and publications about important collections are also represented (e.g. Duveen Coll. 1922, Burrus 1957). Other rarities are also represented, for example, various postal history books from Baron Arthur de Rothschild from the years 1873–1879 or the 'Manuel de l'amateur de timbres' by Dr A. L. (Dr Magnus alias A. Legrand, Paris 1894). Not to be forgotten are three small booklets by Alfred Moschkau on 'Watermarks' (1872), the 'Handbook for Essay Collectors' (1875) and on the 'History of Philately' (1879), which are small but almost impossible to find.

This group also includes catalogues, for example Ferdinand Meyer's 'Handbook for Postmark Collectors' (1881 with all seven extensive supplements published up to 1890!), Teltz/Lindenberg's 'Grosses Handbuch der Philatelie' (Part 1+2, 1887/ 89), but also Lindenberg's 'Catalogue of the Stamp Collection of the Imperial Postal Museum' (1888) or Robson Lowe's 'Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps' (six volumes, 1952–1990). An almost complete set of Billigs 'Philatelic Handbooks' (Vol. 1–37) can also be considered in a similar way.

Numerous works by the British author and journalist Fred J. Melville from the years 1908–1926 are represented, and where he is, his equally well-known, even famous 'successors' Maurice and Norman Williams, with their various works, which appeared in large numbers between 1940 and 1997, cannot be missing.

LINDENBURG
KATALOG
DER
MARKEN-
SAMMLUNG
DES
REICH-
POSTMUSEUMS

1888





LES
TIMBRES-POSTE
ILLUSTRÉS

contenant la nomenclature générale de tous les timbres-poste
et la reproduction de tous les types
émis jusqu'à ce jour, dans les divers pays de l'univers,

(1840-1864)

PAR

J. - B. MOENS,

ILLUSTRATIONS

DE MM. P. SCHMITZ ET DE F. DERAEDEMAER.



PARIS

F. - R. GRUMEL,
5, Rue Neuve Bourg-l'Abbé, 5.

1864

TOUS DROITS RÉSERVÉS.

One of Bjäringer's favourite groups was dedicated to the bookseller, publisher and professional philatelist known to every advanced philatelist: Jean-Baptiste Moens. This section contains 45 individual works, many of which are among the rarest known today. It begins with Moens' first 'Manuel du Collectionneur des timbres-poste' (2nd edition June 1862 on white instead of green paper), followed by the catalogue 'Les Timbres-Poste illustrées' (1864), which was the first stamp catalogue in the world to include illustrated tables of postage stamps. A version of this catalogue translated into English by Dr C. W. Viner is also available. It has 148 pages and 54 illustration plates. Actually a work on forgery, but listed here by Bjäringer, is Moens' publication: 'On the falsification of postage stamps', which appeared in 1862. Later catalogues are also available and a large number of the early – often first! monographs on the postage stamps of various countries (including Naples/Sicily (1877), Peru (1878), Parma/Modena/Romagne (1878), Tuscany (1878), Mauritius (1878), Saxony (1879),

Luxembourg (1879), Mecklenburg-Schwerin and -Strelitz (1879), Thurn und Taxis (1880), Egypt (1880), Württemberg (2 volumes 1881). This is only a small selection, but it is enough to give an idea of the intensity with which Bjäringer collected Moens works. Quite a few of them are numbered and/or were formerly owned by Arthur von Rothschild, for example.

In addition to Moens, there are two other special groups that have always been particularly close to Bjäringer's heart. As mentioned earlier, the literature of the 'Royal' and the titles that had been awarded the Crawford Medal. The total number of 153 works for which the Royal Philatelic Society in London (RPSL) is responsible is impressive in itself. Of these, 51 were published between 1878 and 1953, 49 between 1959 and 2005, and 53 between 2006 and the present. It does not include every item that the author listed and illustrated with Bjäringer's support in the 'library catalogue' of STOCKHOLMIA 2019 on pages 33-147, but by far the vast majority.

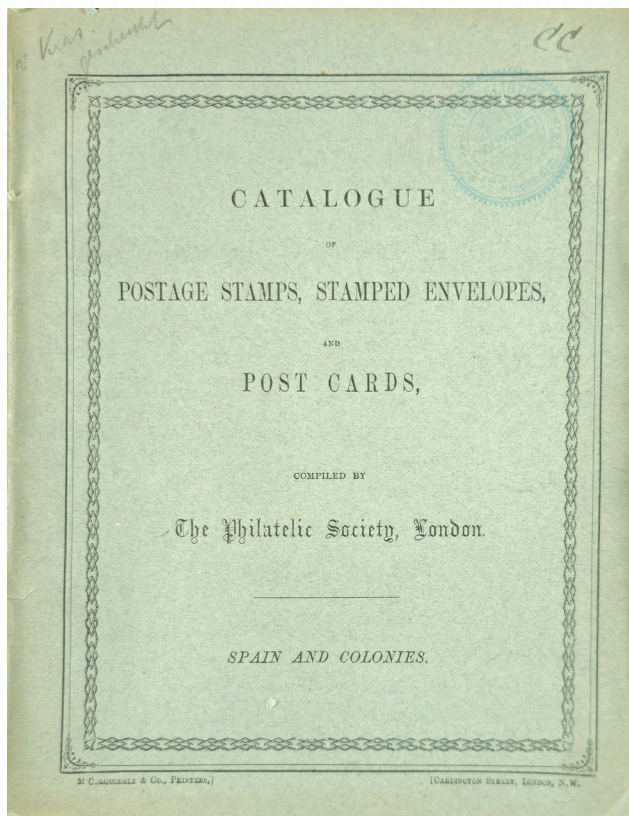
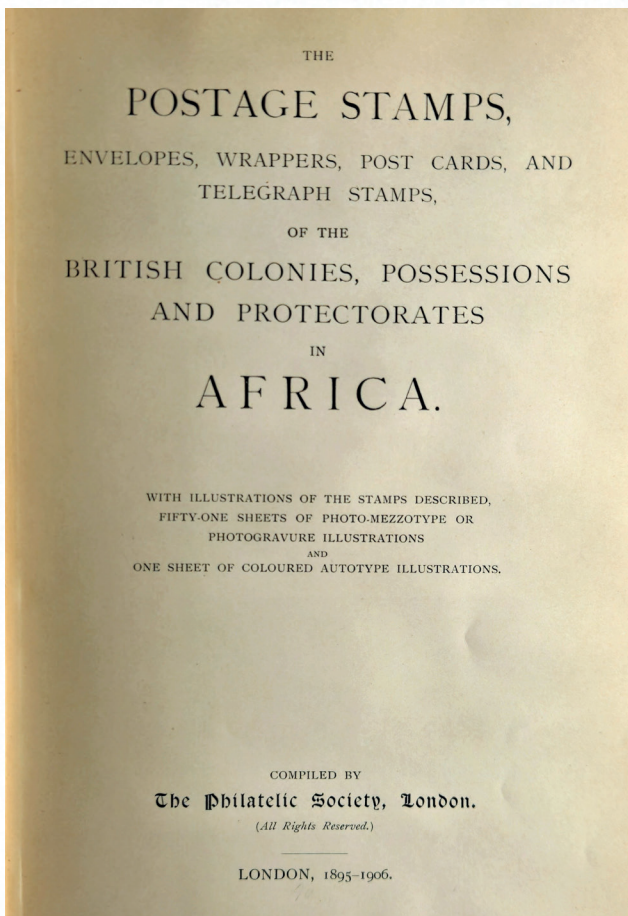
The first monograph (catalogue) of the RPSL appeared in 1879. Later works – for example, this one on the British colonies in Africa – appeared in several volumes over the years.

In addition to Moens, there are two other special groups that have always been particularly close to Bjäringer's heart. As mentioned earlier, the literature of the 'Royal' and the titles that had been awarded the Crawford Medal. The total number of 153 works for which the Royal Philatelic Society in London (RPSL) is responsible is impressive in itself. Of these, 51 were published between 1878 and 1953, 49 between 1959 and 2005, and 53 between 2006 and the present. It does not include every item that the author listed and illustrated with Bjäringer's support in the 'library catalogue' of STOCKHOLMIA 2019 on pages 33-147, but by far the vast majority. The first publication of the Royal Philatelic Society London in particular is rare and hardly ever found in reasonably good condition. Some examples are mentioned below: 'Catalogue of Postage Stamps, Stamped Envelopes and Post Cards, Spain and Colonies' (1879), Hall, A. E. Basset: 'The Stamps of Tasmania' (1890), 'The Postage Stamps, Envelopes of the British Colonies, Possessions and Protectorates in Africa', volumes I-III (1895-1906) or a comparable work by Basset Hall on New South Wales (two volumes 1911/1913) and another by the same author on Queensland (1930). Numerous 20th-century works are not necessarily rare or even expensive, but they are rarely offered. This also applies to the RPSL exhibition catalogues, which Bjäringer has been able to trace from 1890.

Whenever possible, Bjäringer also took into account the limited special editions, which often

appeared in more elaborate binding designs or similar, sometimes in very small numbers. From more recent times, just two examples are mentioned: Brian Trotter et al: 'Rhodesian Philately to 1924. The British South African Company Period' (2021), Bjäringer has the special edition with number 3 of 10! Of the STOCKHOLMIA 2019 publications mentioned, there was a 'Bibliophile's Edition', of which 25 copies in a specially made acrylic slipcase were sent to the people in charge of this major event to mark the 150th anniversary of the London club. In addition to the two main catalogues, a further 16 or so publications appeared at the time in conjunction with the RPSL for the event.

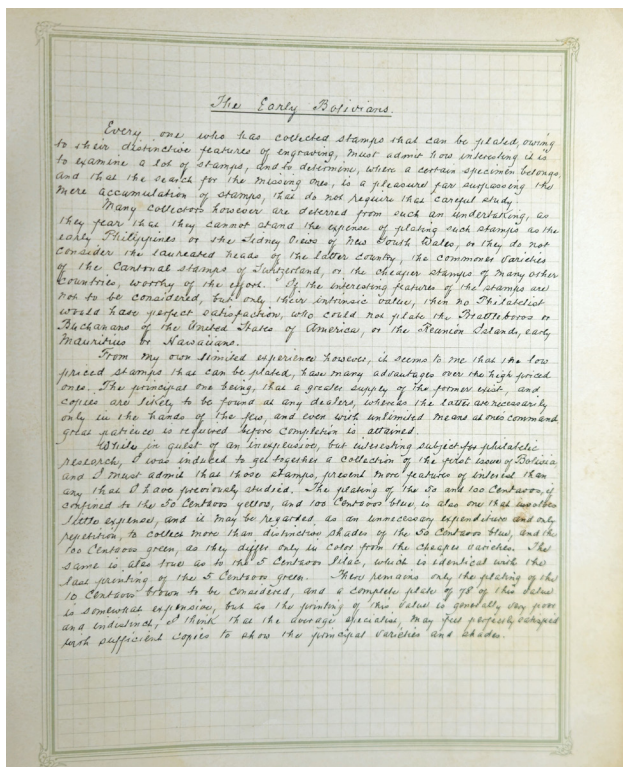
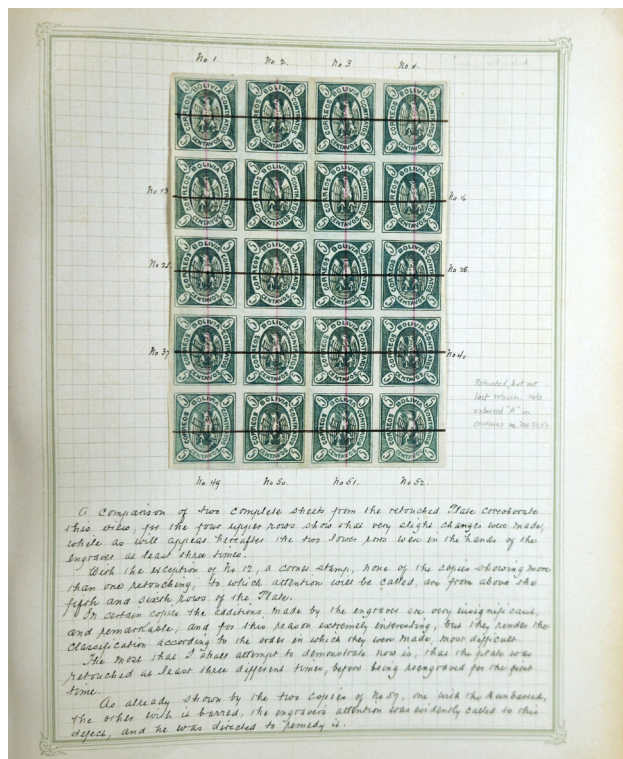
If that is not unusual enough for you, the author would like to refer you to Bjäringer's collection of so-called 'handouts'. Thanks to the support of Mårten Sundberg, the author has already been able to document everything that exists in these 'Meeting Day Display Handouts' in Appendix C of the library catalogue of the 2019 Stockholm exhibition on pages 267-315. Some of these (mostly earlier) handouts are only a few pages long and simply reproduced, others – especially in recent years and decades – are elaborate and extensive, often coloured brochures, available with soft or hard covers at these meetings for lectures at the RPSL in London. Sundberg, who collects them, now has approx. 830 from the circa 930 listed by the Royal Philatelic Society London and many new ones are added every year.



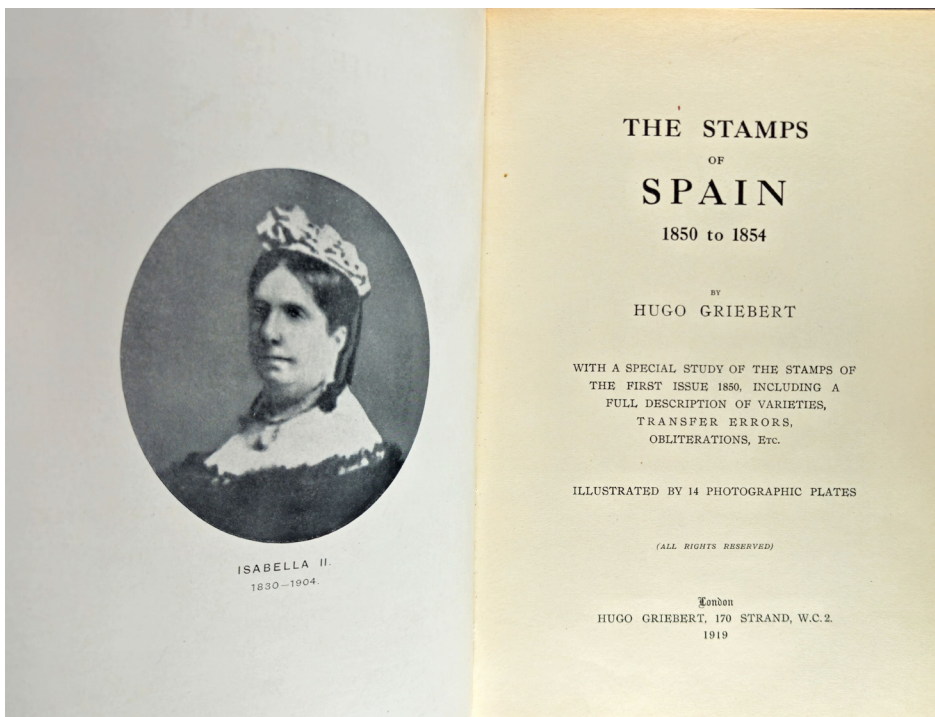
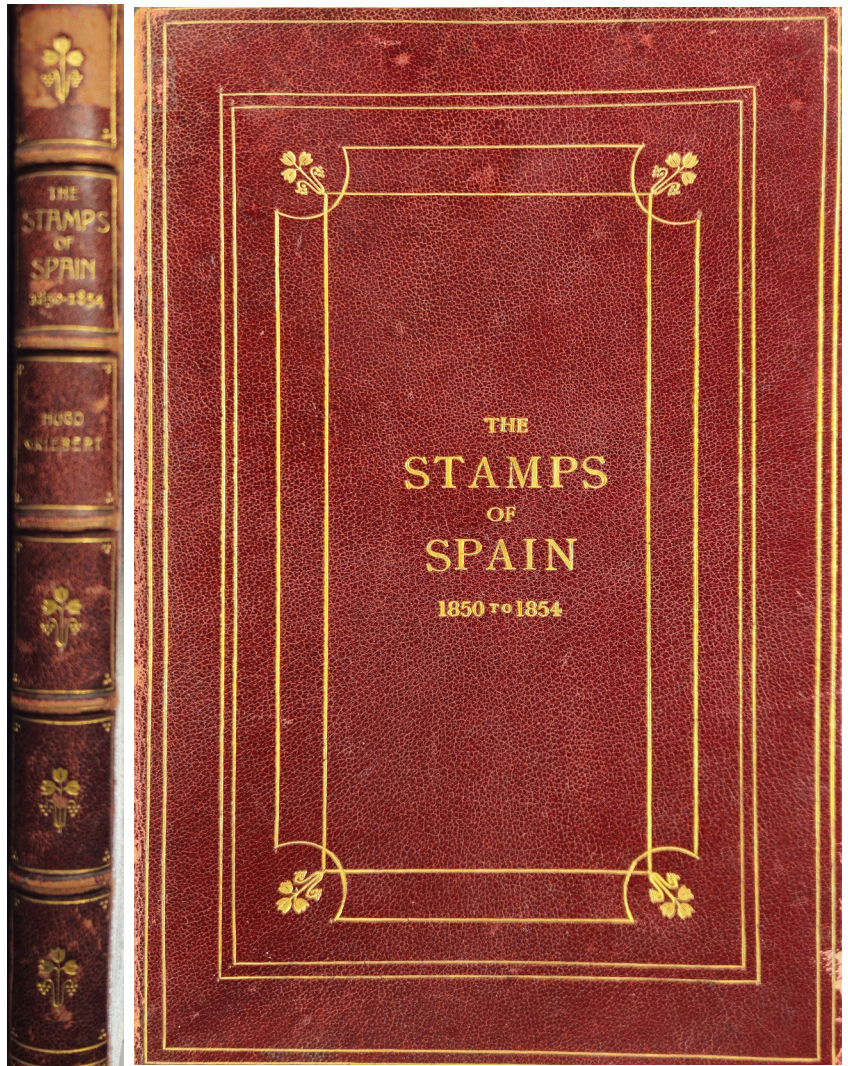
The Bjäringer Library contains an item whose significance may not have been fully recognised until now. In 1903, a member of the RPSL by the name of Moser gave a lecture on the first stamps of Bolivia. As a demonstration for his display, he presented a typewritten manuscript album in which the original stamps were affixed between the descriptive texts on each page. The 'London Philatelist' later noted: 'Mr Moser's collection of stamps of Bolivia was produced for the inspection of members, and greatly admired. The collection was contained in an album in which Mr Moser had written out at length the paper read some months since before the Society, and the stamps contained in his collection were inserted in the proper places to illustrate each of the points dealt with by him in his paper. This new method of arrangement was much appreciated by the members ...'

According to the list in the Stockholm catalogue, only the three different editions of Dr Thebussem's lecture on Spanish stamps (each 2 pages) and two others in 1896 and 1902 had appeared before this 'handout'. A short text about this 'album/manuscript' by Moser notes that this was the 'handout' for the display on 20 March 1903. Edition: one copy and only for viewing, not for taking away. Very unusual, a unique specimen of a truly unique kind.

The holdings in the 'Crawford Medal Literature' group are thought to be more or less complete. The titles have already been catalogued in the aforementioned catalogue for the 2019 Stockholm exhibition on pages 156–201. Starting with Hugo Griebert's 'The Stamps of Spain 1850 to 1854' (1920) up to the 2024 award winners Luís and Eduardo Barreiros with 'Portuguese India – Postal History and the First Issues from the "natives" to 1900' from 2022 (available is special edition 2 of 10).



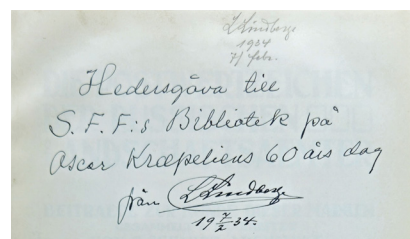
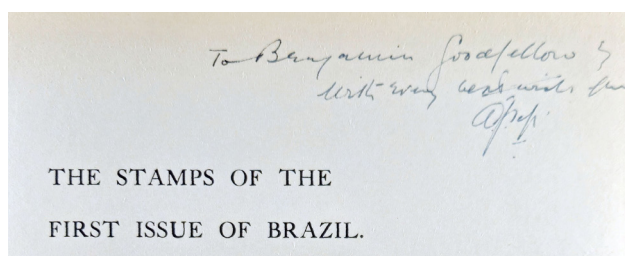
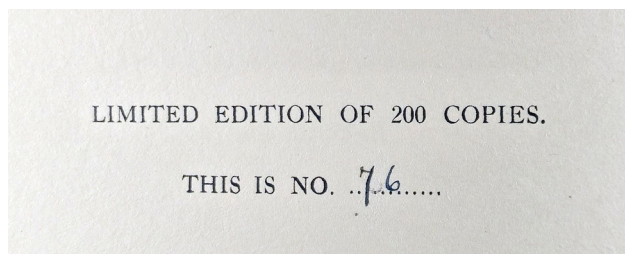
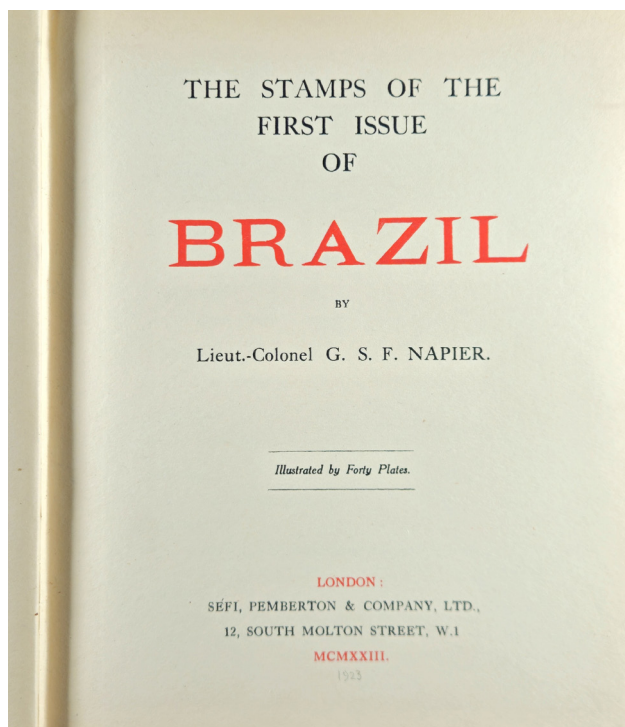
An original handout from a lecture in London at the beginning of the 20th century.

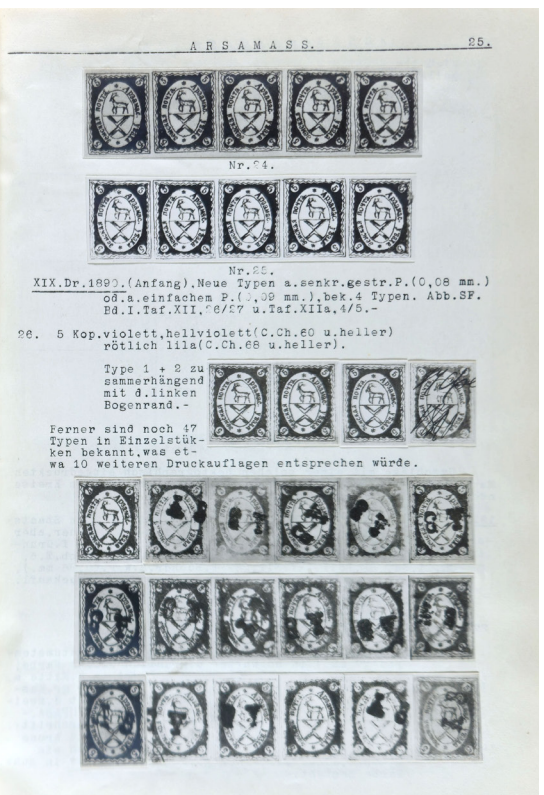
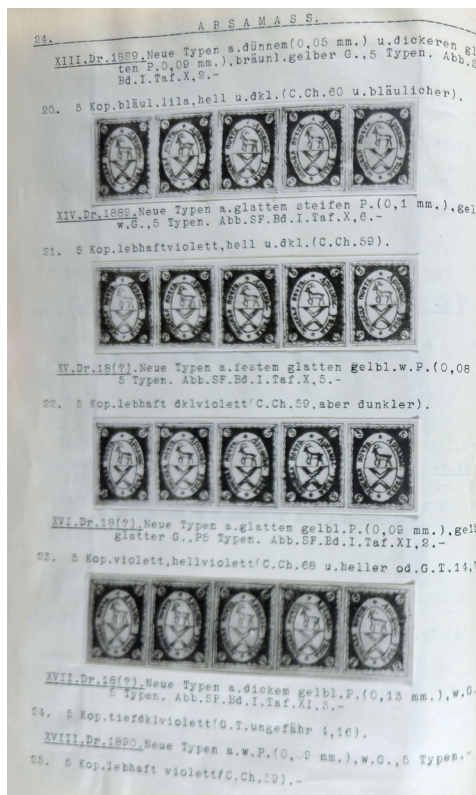
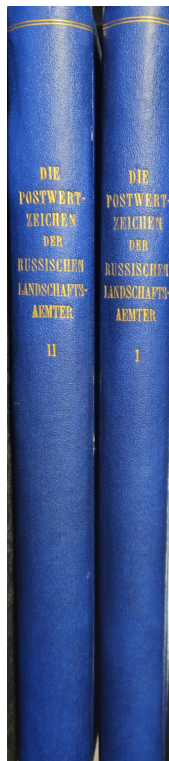


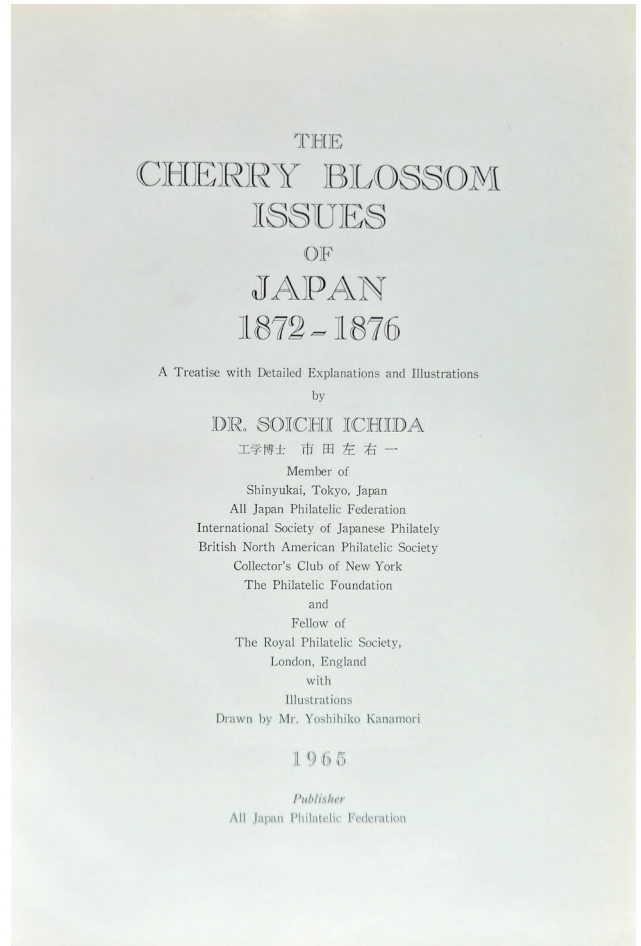
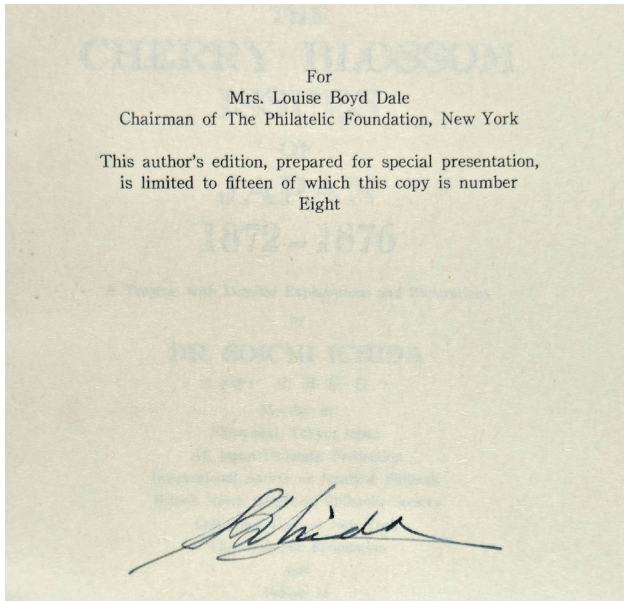
What is even more impressive in this group, however, is the abundance of what is otherwise referred to in philately as 'world rarities'. Col. Napier's book 'The Stamps of the First Issue of Brazil' (1924) and the work by F. J. Peplow: 'The Postage Stamps of Buenos Aires' is far exceeded by Tracey Woodward's two-volume book 'The Postage Stamps of Japan and Dependencies', of which only 112 copies were produced and 100 of them were numbered and signed by the author. And if that were not enough, there is also a somewhat plainer book review) on normal instead of hand-made paper, which is even rarer with only 30 copies.

A comparable rarity – also priced at a similar level or at least not far away – is Carl Schmidt's 1935 award-winning two-volume work 'Die Postwertzeichen der Russischen Landschaftsaemter' (The Postage Stamps of the Russian Provincial Offices). It is unusual for the simple reason that all the illustrations of the Zemstvo stamps are original photographs gummed into the books, but also because Bjäringer's copy was donated by L. Lindberg to the S.F.F. library, the Swedish Philatelic Federation, on 7 February 1934, and dedicated to it with a signature.

One book should not be missing, even if it is more of an 'icon' of philatelic literature than a great rarity: Sir John Wilson's unique work entitled 'The Royal Philatelic Collection', which was awarded the Crawford Medal in 1953. Bjäringer not only owns an attractive original of this original, which was very expensive even at the time of its creation (a labourer had to fork out his monthly wage for it at the time!), but also the six unbound parts in boxes offered by Stamp Collecting Ltd. in 1963 in an edition of 250 copies, which are even rarer than the original work from 1952. Of this, 2,000 (!) copies were printed, but only 1,000 were sold (250 of which were to libraries). The original publisher, Dropmore Press, which had invested more than £100,000, went bankrupt as a result.







A final example shows that a comparatively 'normal' work, which is sold in the literature trade at prices around 150–200 euros, can also be a rarity. The Bjäringer Library has a copy of the work by Dr Soichi Ichida that won the 1966 Crawford Medal: 'The Cherry Blossom Issues of Japan 1872–1876'. The normal edition contains a dedication page for Ichida's wife Mieko and is neither numbered nor signed. The copy of Bjäringer is different. On one of the first pages inside the book, we read:

„For Mrs Louise Boyd Dale, Chairman of the Philatelic Foundation, New York The author's edition, prepared for special presentation is limited to fifteen of which this is copy number Eight.“

Louise Boyd Dale (1913–1967) was the daughter of Alfred Lichtenstein (1876–1947), who was arguably the most prominent American philatelist in the first half of the 20th century. Like him, she was an exceptional philatelist and continued many of his collections. This makes this 'normal' piece a very special one, and there are quite a few of them in this group.

THE
CHERRY BLOSSOM
ISSUES
OF JAPAN
1872-1876

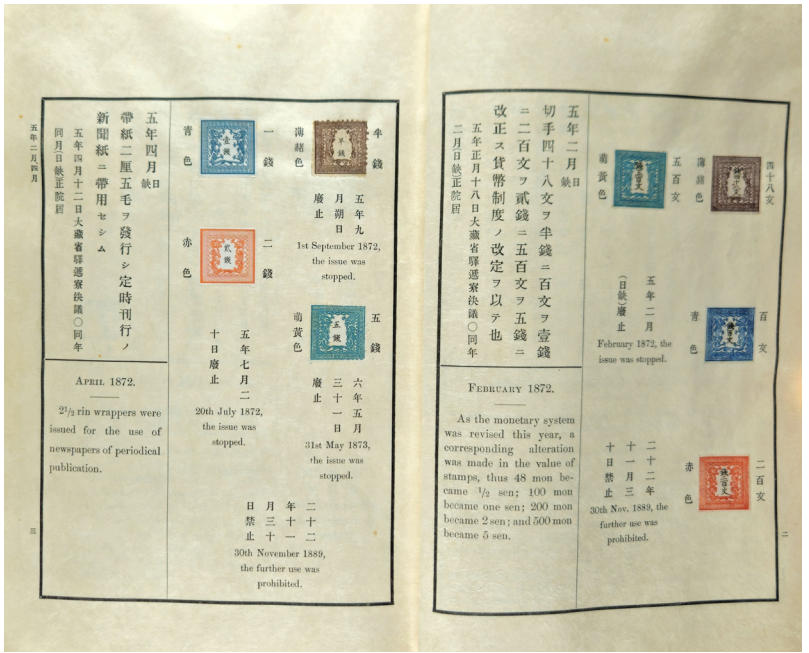
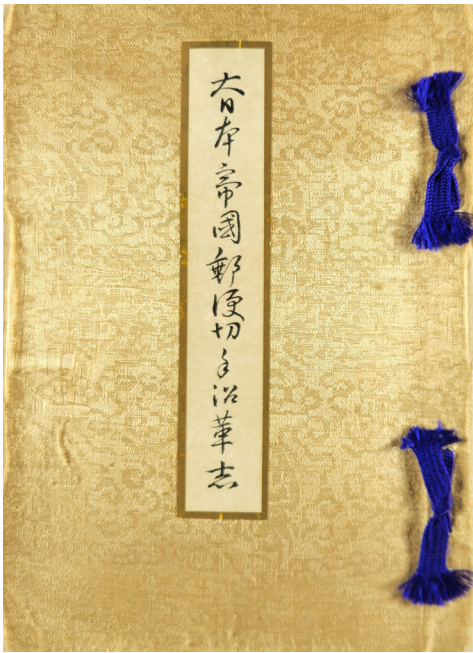
BY DR. S. ICHIDA



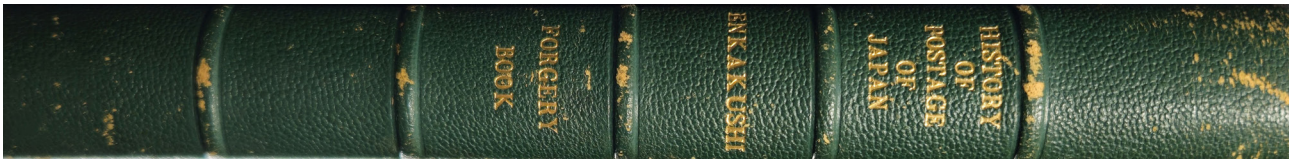
Desirable Book Rarities

As a representative example, only a few examples can be presented here. Let's start with Japan. In 1896, the Japanese government published a work entitled 'Dai Nippon Teikoku Yubin Kitte Enkakushi' (History of Postage Stamps of the Japanese Empire). The work, bound in silk, contained originals of the first postage stamps and telegraph stamps, as well as postal stationery from the period 1871–1896. In addition, the government had 100 originals and seven reprints made because the original originals no longer existed. 300 copies of this unique work were produced, but were never sold; instead, they were given to official bodies around the world.

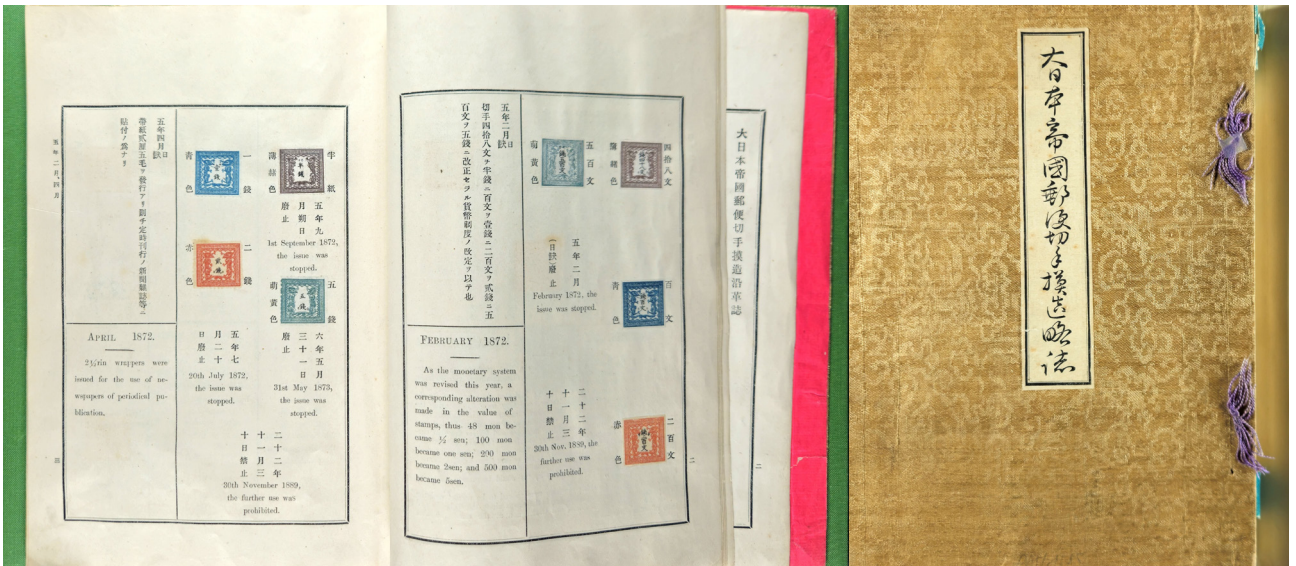
If this original book is a 'super rarity', then this applies even more to the pirate copy made at the end of 1896, which was made by the Tokyo facsimile dealer K. Wada. The fake work differs only in minor details from the original and you have to look very closely and compare to register the deviations. It is even rarer than the original edition because, after it became known, the police confiscated and destroyed almost the entire print run that they found. Auction prices in the five figure range for each of these works are still the result today.

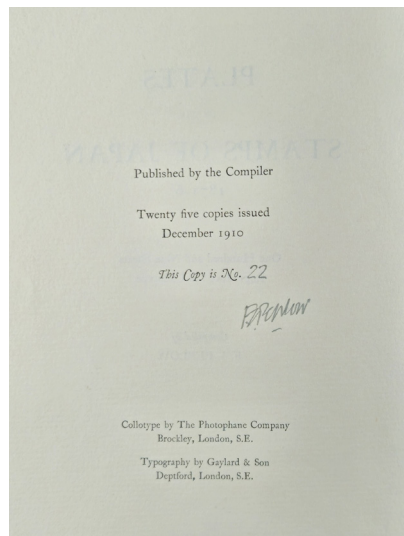
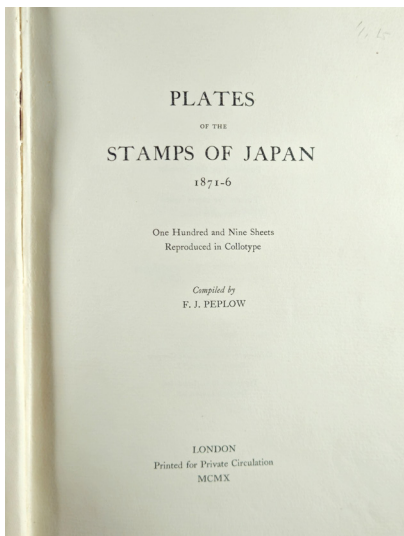
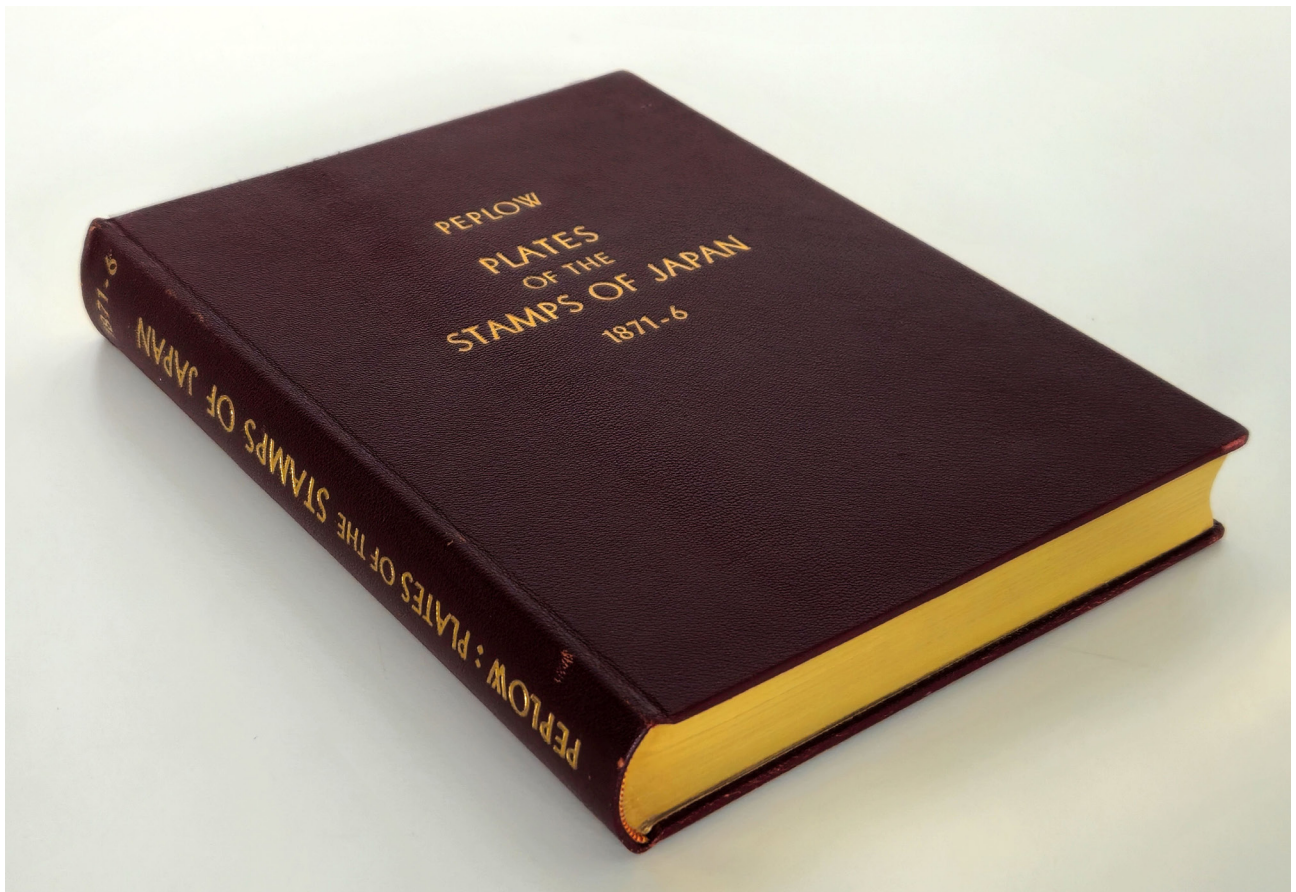


'Enkakushi!' - the original!



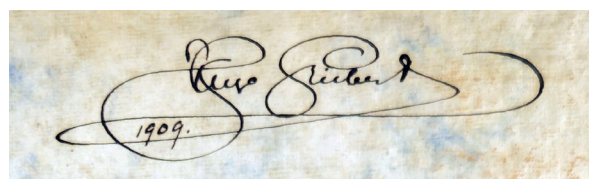
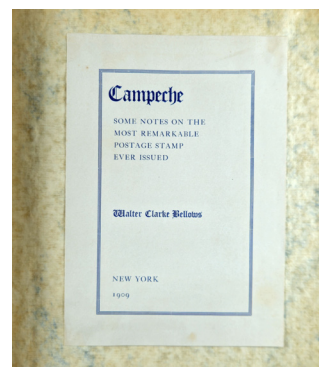
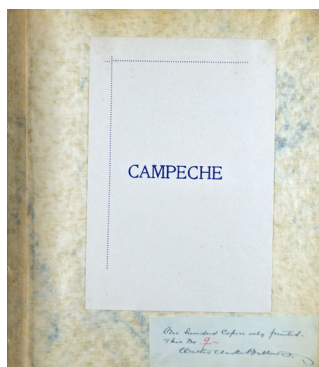
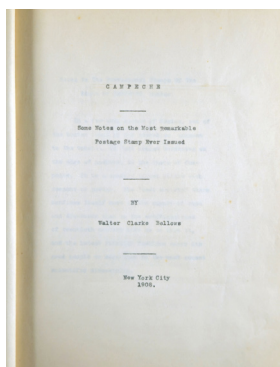
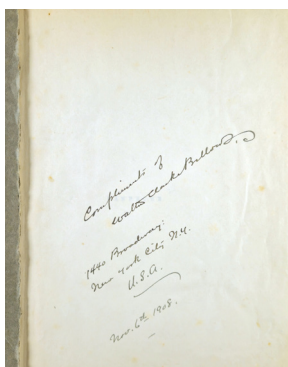
'Enkakushi!' - the fake





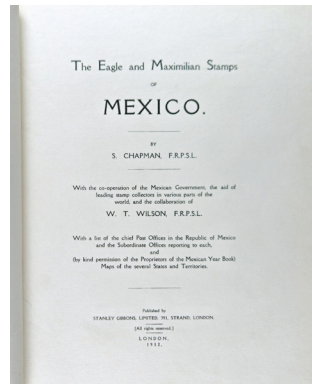
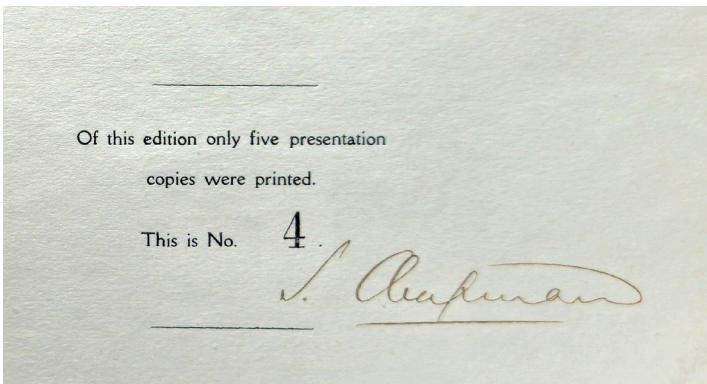
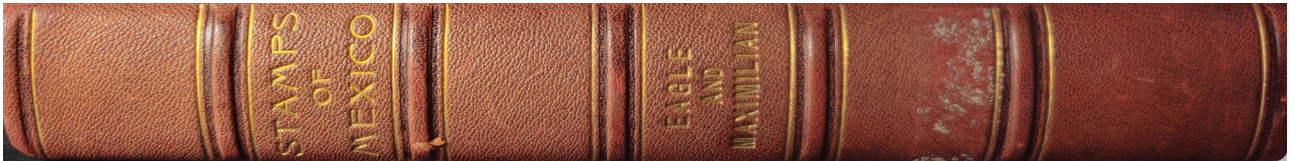
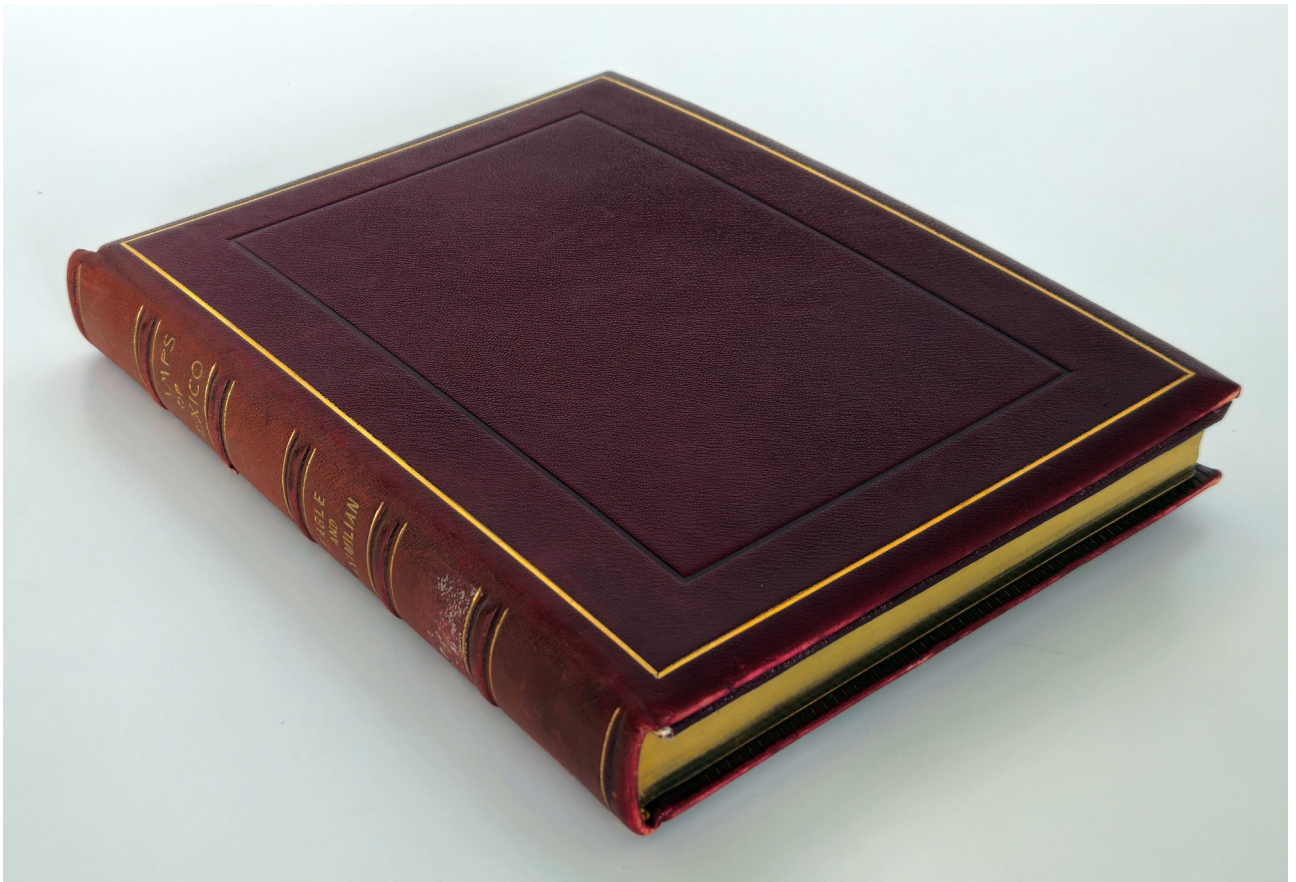
Another unusual work on Japan should be mentioned here: Frank J. Peplow: 'Plates of the Stamps of Japan 1871-1876'. This publication was also never available for purchase, only in 'private circulation'. In addition to 107 plates of entire stamp sheets from 1871-1876, it contained

14 untrimmed pages that had to be cut by the purchaser or their bookbinder and then bound into a cover of their choice, page by page. The edition was limited to 25 copies. Bjäringer's leather-bound copy, with gold embossed title and spine, is numbered 22 of 25 and signed by Peplow.



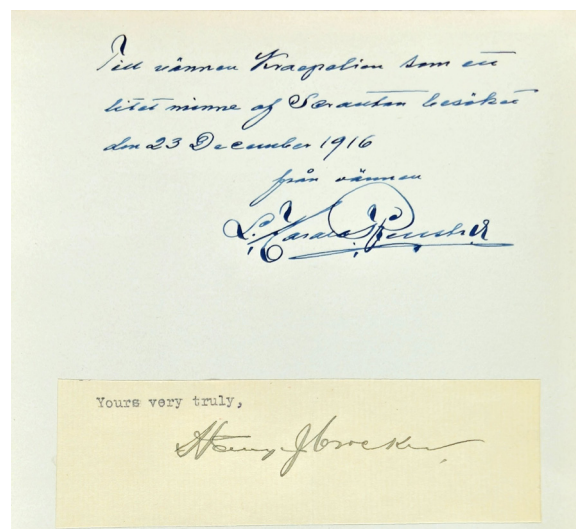
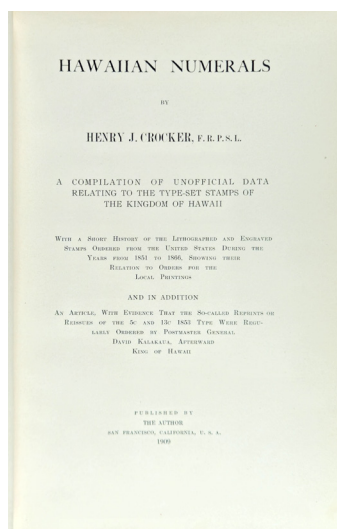
It is sometimes surprising that countries whose philately has been recognised early on also shine in literature through special titles. Mexico is a very prominent case. W. C. Bellows's title 'Campeche, some notes on the most remarkable Postage Stamp ever issued', printed in 1909 in an edition of 100 copies, is a very good example. 103 pages of marbled paper, on which all the pages of the book

are individually gummed, are just as unusual as the originally designed book cover. Bjäringer's copy is no. 9 of the limited edition of 100 and is signed by Bellows. As if that were not enough, there is also an original typewritten manuscript of this book – as yet without illustrations – that the author drew up in New York on 6 November 1908.



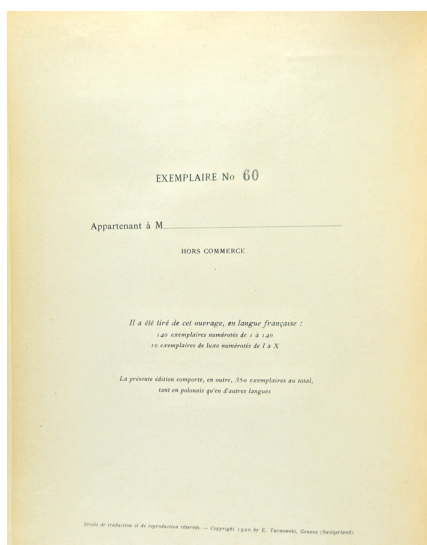
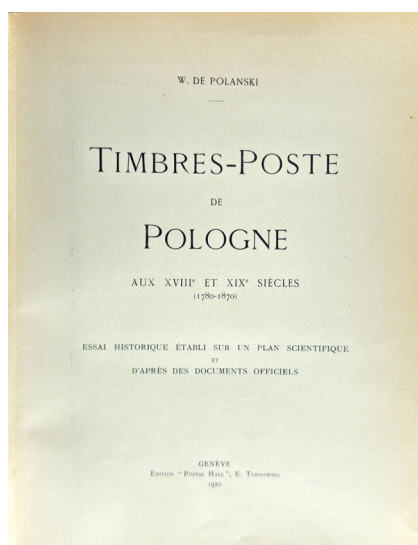
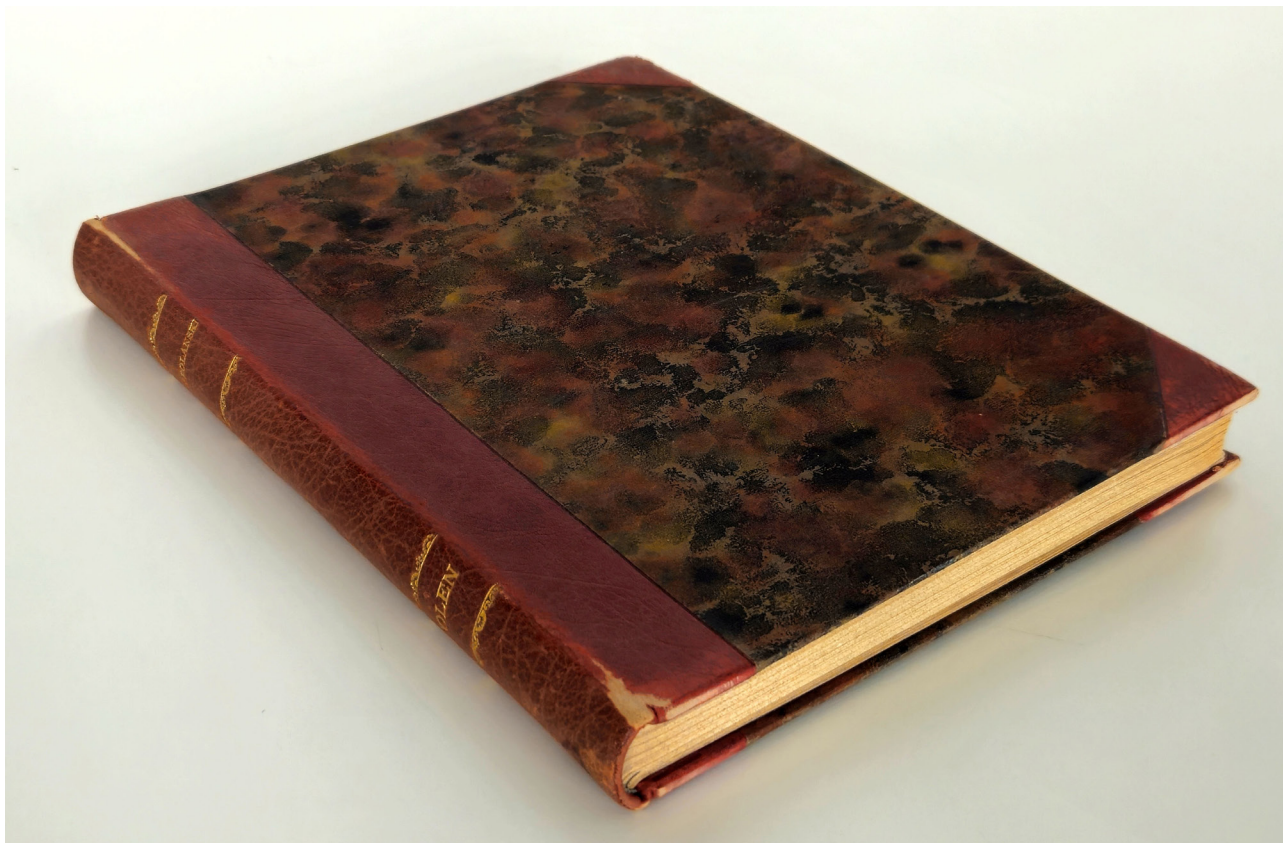
Samuel Chapman's work 'The Eagle and Maximilian Stamps of Mexico', published by Stanley Gibbons in London in 1912, is likely to remain a 'cult' publication to this day. An extremely rare 'presentation copy' version of this publication was produced, with only five copies being printed (the one shown here is number 4). The print run of the 'normal' edition was also limited, at 65 copies. In 1926, the same

author published the title 'The Postage Stamps from Mexico from the commencement in 1856 to the end of the provisional period in 1868'. Only 50 copies of this were printed, and of the leather-bound luxury edition with a gold edge on the paper, there were only 15 copies, of which no. 3 is available from Bjäringer!



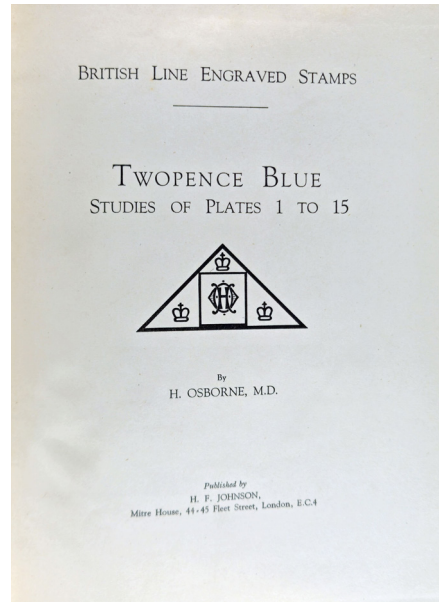
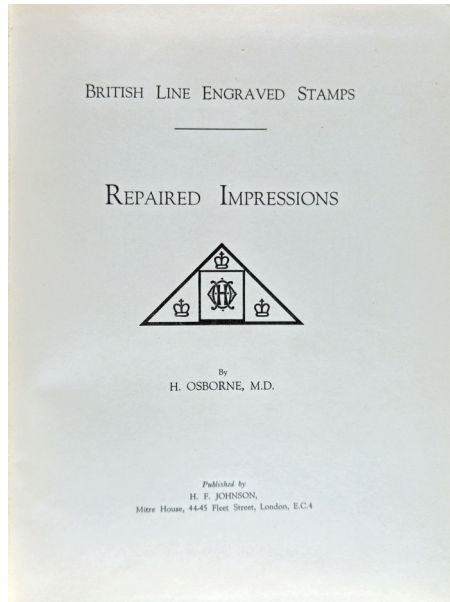
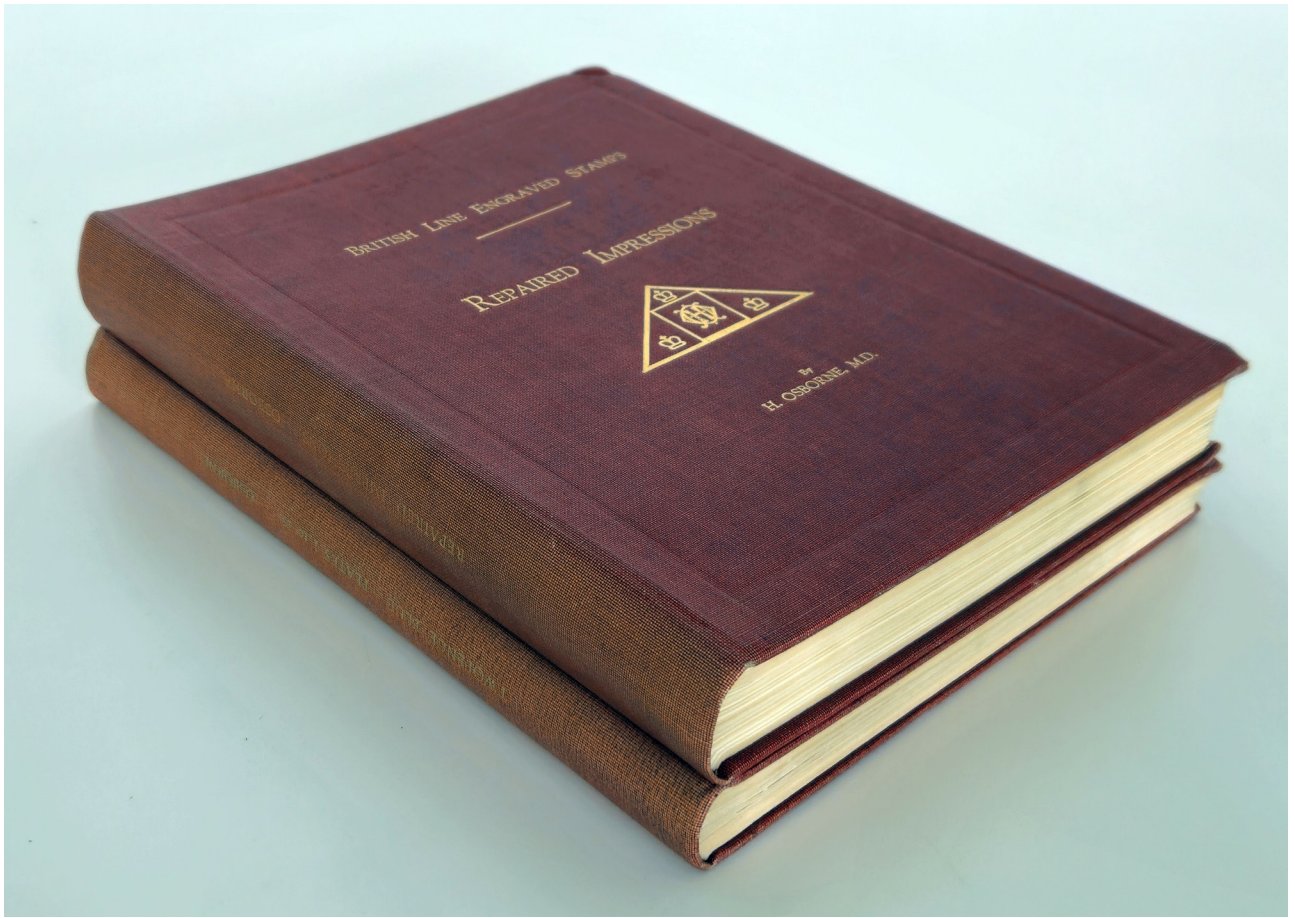
The USA is well represented in this library with 65 titles. However, one title on Hawaii should be highlighted, as the United States annexed the island in 1898 and it was only on 21 August 1959 that it became the 50th state of the country. This is anything but an ordinary book, published by

Henry J. Crocker in 1909 under the title 'Hawaiian Numerals'. In addition to the 108 pages of text, there are 22 photo plates in a slipcase behind the front cover with illustrations of the legendary stamp issue.



Let's end this foray with some European gems. These certainly include a book on Polish philately, published in 1920 under the title 'Timbres-Poste de Pologne 1780-1870' by W. de Polanski. The total print run was not small, with a total of 500 copies being produced. However, 150 of these were in

French, of which copies 1-140 were numbered and there was also a luxury edition numbered I-X. The remaining 350 copies were unnumbered and were divided between Polish and other languages. The item in the Bjäringer library shows number 60 of 140.



Two English titles penned by Dr H. Osborne are also worth mentioning. His books 'British Line Engraved Stamps, Twopence Blue – Studies of Plates 1 to 15' (1946) and 'British Line Engraved

Stamps, Repaired Impressions' (1949) are considered by many to be proof of the scientific nature of serious philatelic research.

Unusual – Extraordinary

Some people may not consider the small sub-group of 'colour guides' as literature, but they certainly are. Bjäringer includes 12 individual items in this category, and one of them stands out because, in the author's opinion, this is the first philatelic colour guide in the world. It was published in 1884 (!) by the National Philatelic Society in New York, the preface is written in three languages and the work has a total of 79 pages. The majority of these pages are colour gradients that reproduce the primary colours very well, but also the various colour shades. It is hard to imagine today just how laborious – and therefore costly – the production of such a work was.

While a genre such as 'collection documentation' was virtually unknown a hundred or more years ago, this changed in 2006 with the introduction of the Edition d'Or and in 2011 with the first titles in the Edition Speciale book series. Except for volumes 54 and 55, the first series is complete with over 70 editions, while three of the 23 titles in the second series are missing, having not found their way from the Netherlands to Sweden. Many of these almost 100 works are personally signed by the respective 'creators' of the documented collection.

A

COLOR CHART.



DESIGNED TO ILLUSTRATE AND
IDENTIFY THE COLORS OF
POSTAGE STAMPS.

NEW YORK:
PUBLISHED BY NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY,
Tribune Building,
1884.

1—CLASS. A—Section. Orange.	CLASSE. Section. Orange.	KLASSE. Section. Pomeranzengelb.	CLASE. Seccion. Naranja.
<i>No. 1.</i>	Orange.	Orange.	Pomeranzengelb.
<i>No. 1.</i>	Orange.	Orange.	Pomeranzengelb.
<i>No. 2.</i>	Orange.	Orange.	Pomeranzengelb.
<i>No. 2.</i>	Orange.	Orange.	Pomeranzengelb.
<i>No. 3.</i>	Orange.	Orange.	Pomeranzengelb.
<i>No. 3.</i>	Orange.	Orange.	Pomeranzengelb.
<i>No. 4.</i>	Orange.	Orange.	Pomeranzengelb.
<i>No. 4.</i>	Orange.	Orange.	Pomeranzengelb.

Forgeries

For Tomas Bjäringer, who has been involved with the topic of forgeries throughout his life, this group was a very important one. Accordingly, among the 42 titles, there are numerous well-known standard works, not only by Jean de Sperati, the master forger, who in 1946 published his well-known book 'La Philatélie sans Experts?' and later 'The Complete Technique of the Art of Philately' – this is available as a typewritten manuscript in English and in French as 'La Technique Complete de la Philatélie d'Art' and is even signed by Sperati. The British Philatelic Association's well-known standard work 'The Work of Jean de Sperati' is represented by Parts I-IV (1954-55) ex Nils Strandell, which are almost never offered for sale in such complete form.

The 'Album des Fac-Similes' published by the Union Philatélique de Genève in 1928 is considered to be

just as rare, with experts distinguishing between several 'states'. All numbered copies below '30' are considered to be something special because they are more extensively equipped with the original facsimiles than the others with higher numbers. This applies even more to copies up to number '10', which, however, are hardly ever offered. Now, for the first time offered publicly, one of the very first copies – here numbered '3' – is coming onto the market. It was first owned by Fernand Serrane (1880-1932), an important Belgian specialist and author in the early 20th century. The first page of this album shows an extensive personal dedication from the then president of the Union, E. Friederich. This exceptional copy is 'overcomplete', with 12 pages filled with 'Pages Réservées aux Experts' (pages reserved for experts).



L'Union Philatélique de Genève à
Monsieur Fernand Serravallo!

Grâce à votre aide précieuse, l'Union Philatélique de Genève
est partie pleine de courage en avant dans la lutte contre
les faussaires philatéliques.

Il était temps d'arrêter le mouvement si odieux que
notre beau pays, délaissant et méprisant tout ce qui est philatélique
faussé par des lois de justice insuffisantes, ne soit entré à la
terreur! Que notre lutte s'accomplisse avec succès
Mondiale de la Philatélie!

E. Serravallo

ALBUM

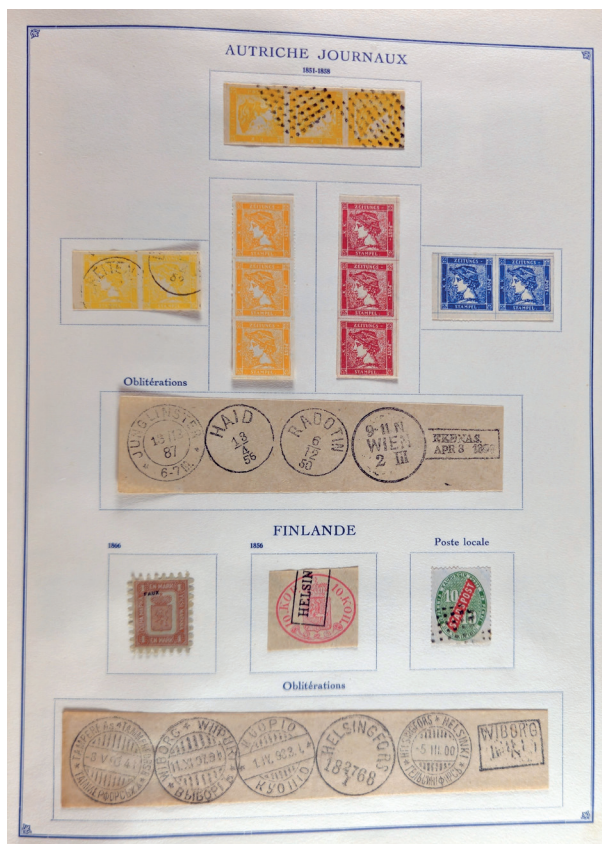
DE

FAC - SIMILÉS

N° 3

ÉDITÉ PAR
L'UNION PHILATÉLIQUE DE GENEVE

IMPR. F. DE SIBERTHAL & C°



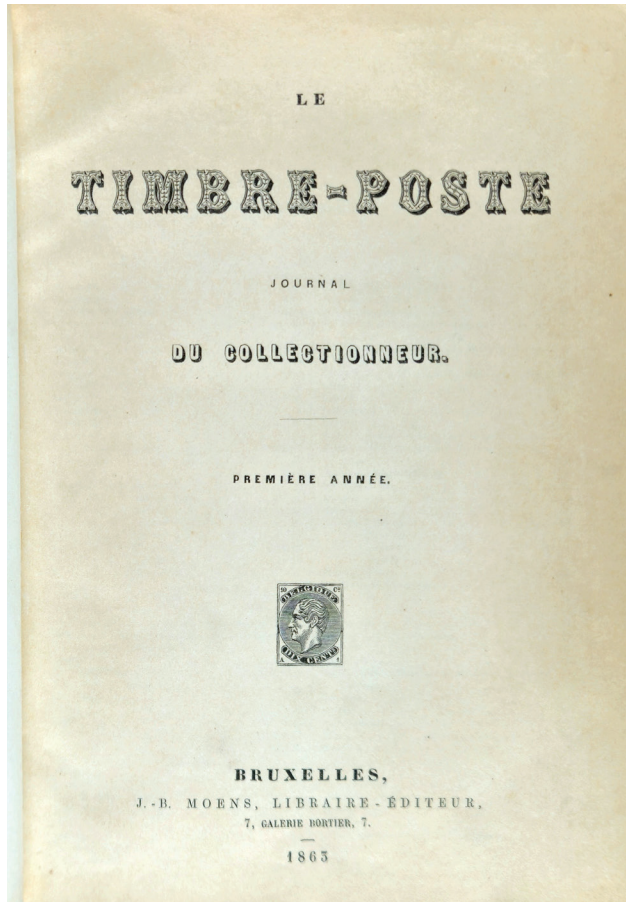
Journals from the Early Days of Philately

Philatelic journals have existed since the 1860s. Some of them are rare, especially if you are only looking for larger and largely complete collections. Although the Bjäringer Library did not have a particular focus on philatelic journals, it does contain around 30 different titles – from association journals to magazines for the general public. It all started with 'Magasin Pittoresque' (1862–1866), a non-philatelic entertainment magazine for the general public, in which Natalis Rondot (1821–1900) published 53 individual articles with 460 illustrations of stamps. These articles were translated and published in even greater numbers in 'Cassell's illustrated family paper' in the years 1862–1867 (36 articles from 25 July 1862 to 1 October 1864, then again with 39 articles from March 1866 to February 1867).

Among the first explicitly philatelic journals were the 'Stamp Collector's Magazine' (1863–1874)

in England and the 'Magazin für Briefmarkensammler' (1863–1867) in Germany, both of which are fully documented in Bjäringer's library. The already mentioned Jean-Baptiste Moens from Brussels was of course also among the first in this literary category, because he was the first to publish a specialist journal ('Le Timbre Poste') on 15 February 1863, which appeared for 38 years until December 1900. Numbers 1-312 are available from Bjäringer.

If you wonder what the rarest, and therefore perhaps most expensive, item in this library is, then the author's eye is drawn to the 'Philatelic Journal of India', which is available in 20 volumes from the first in 1897 to 1916. Why it is considered particularly rare is illustrated by a glance at the print run of the first two volumes, because these were only sent to the 49 members of the publishing societ.



Auction Catalogues

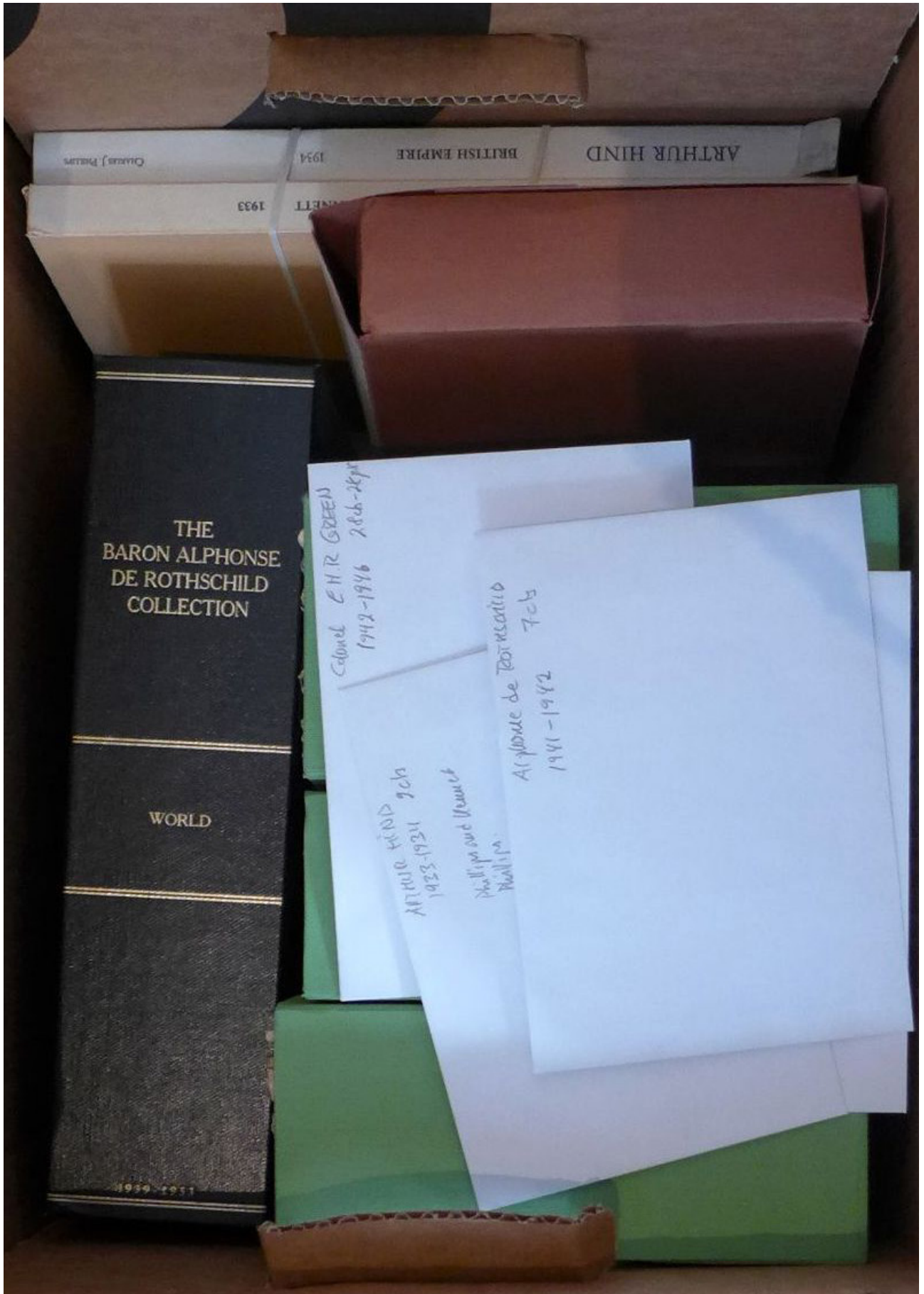
– Much more than Price Lists

The advanced philatelist, expert and/or researcher knows the value of auction catalogues, with the break-up of special or exhibition collections in such catalogues having received extensive appreciation in text and illustrations. Especially in recent times, there has been a growing appreciation that special catalogues are literature worthy of collecting and are anything but simple price lists. In this respect, the Bjäringer Library also contains a truly voluminous collection, not only of unforgettable 'name sales' by formerly legendary collectors (e.g. von Caspary, Burrus, Roosevelt, Dale-Lichtenstein), but also large parts or even complete 'runs' of catalogues published by individual auction houses.

This paper can only present a few examples: H. R. Harmer of New York has 1,123 catalogues from the period 1940–2008 alone, and another 209 from the years 1921–1938. Mercury Stamp Company, based in the same city, boasts 154 catalogues from 1943–1978, while Harmer Rooke in London has around 250 catalogues from 1927 to 1965, truly large collections in the four figure price range are available from Robson Lowe / Christie's from

the years 1934–1996, Spink, Sotheby's and Robert Siegel, not to forget Gilbert & Köhler in their early Paris period. The auction house Roumet in Paris is represented with 150 auction catalogues for the years 1946–2010. Bjäringer is able to document Shanahan auctions 44–122, i.e. the large-format catalogues from 1957–1959 and the R. Lowe catalogue of stamps stolen on 9/10 May 1959. Stanley Gibbons from London is represented with 310 catalogues from 1966–1991.

The collection also includes the Ferrari catalogues, of course, but in this case with handwritten entries from the bidders (!) and the hammer prices! The Corinphila catalogues from no. 1 are also complete for many years. For the Burrus auctions from 1959–1967, he has 73 catalogues alone, 45 of which include lists of results. Seven catalogues from 1941/42 are available for the break-up of the famous collection of Baron Alphonse de Rothschild, two for the Hind auctions in 1933/34, and 1918, in nine lots, the George Worthington collections are still clearly outnumbered by the 28 catalogues of the Colonel E. H. R. Green collections from 1942–1946.



Exhibition/Event Catalogues from 1893

Such catalogues are still widely underestimated today, but they often contain philatelically significant first publications, names and photos of the jury members, etc., but also the titles of the exhibits of participating exhibitors. In this subgroup, Bjäringer has the following, among others: Chicago 1893; Vienna 1894, 1911; London 1897, 1905, 1912, 1954; Manchester 1899; Bern 1910; Georgetown 1911; Paris 1913, 1925, 1937; Kassel 1914; Brussels 1924, 1935, 1949; Montreal 1925;

Frankfurt 1926; New York 1926, 1947; Berlin 1930; Prague 1938; Johannesburg 1938; Basel 1948; Luxembourg 1952; Oslo 1955.

In a way, the yearbooks for the annual Philatelic Congress of Great Britain are also a kind of event catalogue, as they also contain numerous valuable technical articles. The Bjäringer Library contains 83 issues of the yearbooks published between 1909 and 2021

THE
London Philatelic Exhibition.
1897.

HELD AT
THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS,
PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.

. . Official Catalogue . .

Patrons:

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA, DUKE OF EDINBURGH, K.G.
H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NORFOLK, K.G. (HER MAJESTY'S POSTMASTER-GENERAL)

Open from 22nd July until 5th August, 1897.

PRINTED FOR THE COMMITTEE BY
PERKINS BACON & CO., LIMITED, 69, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

THE
LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION
July 22—August 5, 1897.



HELD AT
The Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours,
PICCADILLY, W.

PATRONS:
H.R.H. THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA, DUKE OF EDINBURGH, K.G.
H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NORFOLK, K.G. (Her Majesty's Postmaster-General)



OFFICIAL CATALOGUE.
PRICE ONE SHILLING.

The November 2025 Anticipated Auction Sales Catalogue and a Corresponding Literature Weekend Event

It has already been mentioned that this is supposed to be something special, a reference book. It will, of course, be much more complete than the overview provided here, in which entire subdivisions have not been mentioned (e.g. the groups for Cinderella, ship mail / air mail, postal history, literature on philatelic literature, etc.).

The catalogue for the IPHL@2012 in Mainz included an index, a directory of authors, sorted alphabetically by family name. This was repeated in 2017 as a list of authors/philatelists. It is undeniable that such a directory is helpful when looking for a particular author's title. However, this also means that this approach should be maintained in groups where it is not necessarily obvious.

To illustrate the difficulty, an example may be given: the extensive group of auction catalogues can be subdivided into 'name sales', auction catalogues by area (which in turn are sorted alphabetically into European and overseas) and finally into the subgroup 'auction catalogues by auction house', which are listed in ascending alphabetical order. Since rare or sought-after name sales may now also be included in extensive collective lots, these must be listed in the descriptions so that they can be included in the name index.

The author believes that an additional 'country index' would be useful, in which, on the one hand, the titles of philatelic relevant countries and collecting areas are listed from A-Z with page references, not only for monographs, but also for 'special' and 'name sales of auction catalogues and even of Edition d'Or/Special editions and titles that find their place in their own subgroups

outside of the countries (RPSL and Crawford Medal literature, publications by J.-B. Moens, etc.). This makes it possible to find all the titles that you want to see or that might interest you in a preferred collecting area in the shortest possible time.

It is Tomas Bjäringer's wish that his 'favourites' find a new home with people who appreciate them as much as he has done throughout his life. This should be made easier at the auction by estimates, not by fixed limit or even too high starting prices. Ultimately, such prices always depend – not and unlike stamps – on the condition of the objects and their popularity. It is obvious that books and brochures, which are often 100, 120 or more years old, do not look brand new, as if they had just come from the printer. Here it is important – and the author speaks from experience – to compromise, especially with unique items that are anything but mass-produced.

The current plan is to send out the special catalogue, which has yet to be created, in August with the other catalogues for the usual September auction at Heinrich Köhler. The idea has been suggested of linking the auction of the Bjäringer Library a little later (15 November 2024) with a literary event lasting several days, including lectures and presentations by well-known literary experts from Germany and abroad. This idea is supported by the AIJP, the world association of philatelic authors and journalists.

No matter what happens, this auction will be something special, perhaps even unique, for years to come!

Acknowledgements / Sources

The author is particularly indebted to Mårten Sundberg of Åland, who provided him with biographical data (partly also by Brian Birch) on which he was able to build. Mårten Sundberg's article 'Twelve Philatelic Books to Bring to a Desert Island', which appeared in the 'London Philatelist' in 2019 (STOCKHOLMIA 2019 Special Issue 2-12), is also highly recommended. The author owes big thanks to Chris King from London, who proofread the final version of the manuscript.

Biographical facts from the laudatory speech at the 2023 Lindenberg Medal ceremony (text: Wolfgang Maassen) were also used.

Manfred Amrhein, M. D.: Philatelic Literature, Vol. 1–4 (1992–2006)

Wolfgang Maassen / Vincent Schouberechts: Milestones of the Philatelic Literature, Monte-Carlo 2013

http://www.ringphilmuseum.se/eng_start.html (accessed: 1 September 2024)

All photos, unless otherwise stated, by Wolfgang Maassen (2018, 2024)



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