

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

For centuries, the Olympic Games held in Ancient Greece were considered the greatest athletic event and had such political significance, that a peaceful truce was observed during the games. The revival of the Modern Olympics was the brain child of two very influential personalities: the Greek Dimitrios Vikelas and the French Pierre de Coubertin who proposed by 1894 that Athens will host the first Modern Olympic Games from April 6 to April 15, 1896 (Gregorian calendar) or March 25 to April 3, 1896 (Julian calendar) the later observed by the Greek Nation.

To celebrate and finance this ambitious project the Greek Government ordered the issue of a set of commemorative stamps that were designed by the Swiss Professor A. Guilleron, the steel dies were created by the French engraver Louis-Eugene Mouchon and the printing done by the National Printing Office of France. The hope was that the revenue generated from the sale of the stamps would fund part of the Olympic Game expenses. Royal Decrees restricted the use of other stamps, where possible, from being used during and after the games.

The objective of the exhibit is to provide a complete overview of the issue. It begins with the essays presented by the designer for approval, the final proofs, the printing & the lay-out of the sheets, the Olympic Committee specimens and the days of the Olympic Games. The exhibit continues with exchange post offices, post marks, postal rates and terminates with the 1897 war, the control markings "TAMEION" and the 1901 overprints.

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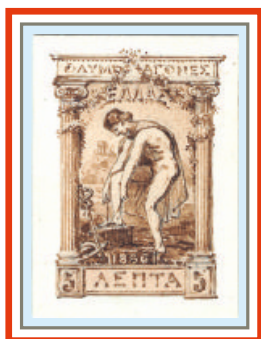
References:

- Anestis Karagiannidis, "Errors & Varieties", In the first Olympic Games issue of 1896 HPS Philatelic Library, in Greek and English, no.717, p.198-202, Athens, July - August 2019.

**ESSAYS AND
PROGRESSIVE DIE PROOFS**

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

Mouchon's die proof of
Professor Guilleron essay.



*The unique Artist's proof
of Dr. Caruso's exhibit*

Progressive die Proof



(to be noted the **O** instead of **Ω**
and the modified **2**,
looking like **4**,
in 20 indicating an early stage
of the Master's die)

Progressive die Proof



(of **25** and **60** lepta)

**ESSAYS AND
PROGRESSIVE DIE PROOFS**

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue



"Certificate of Authenticity"



Colour trials

ΑΓΩΝΕΣ

ΑΓΩΝΕΣ



SPECIMEN $\updownarrow$ 1.9 mm
10.0 mm $\longleftrightarrow$



SPECIMEN sent to U.P.U.

FINAL PROOFS



THE ISSUE

A Royal Decree Issued on November 9, 1895 authorized the creation of twelve stamps (face value, colouring, and dimensions) intended to commemorate the Olympic Games as well as its partial financing. The stamps arrived in Athens on March 19, 1896, from the National Printing House of France, where they were printed and this just six days before the March 25, 1896 first day of circulation. These 12 stamps are depicted on the philatelic cover identified below.



Registered letter mailed from Athens in 13.10.1896
to Winterthur, Suisse with arrival 28.3.1896
and five seals on the back.

It is franked obviously for philatelic purposes
with all the 12 stamps issued
for the celebration of the first modern Olympic Games.



Photograph of back side
Minimized 60%

THE ISSUE

There are two kinds of printing sheets, one for the small size values (1, 2, 5, 10 lepta) and the other for the larger ones (20, 25, 40, 60 lepta and 1, 2, 5, 10 drachmas).

The characteristic holes on the side were necessary in order to cut and perforate the sheets.

The small values printing sheets bear a Capital letter followed by a 4 digit number.

The letter indicating the nominal value, the first two digits the day and the last two the month of the printing.

The postdesk sheetlets had 25 copies of the smaller stamps and 10 of the larger stamps.

The small values are printed on sheets of 150 stamps separated in group of 6 sheetlets (15 stamps per sheetlet).

Dimensions 18.2 x 22 mm

Perforations 14 x 13 ½

The gutter lines are of two widths, these of 3 and 4 millimetres.



Sheetlet of 25

Pos. 126/150

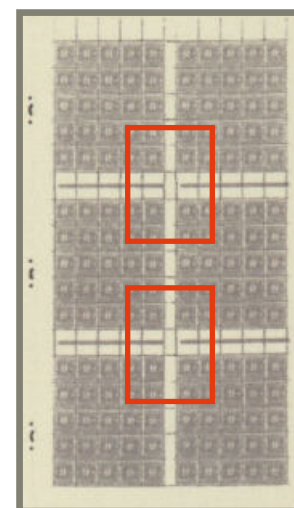
A 1802

A indicates 1 lepton

1802 indicates 18 of February

Width of 4 mm

Cross gutter block
of 4 only 2 exist in
sheets of 150



THE ISSUE

There were four machines/printers (A, H, L, N). The date of printing is given as 18=18th, 02=February. The combination thus determinates the denomination, working place and date printing.

It is assumed that the higher denominations were printed in the "gaps" of the table, since they were not marked, we cannot have any proof of it.



N. 2902

2902 indicates **29** of **February**.*

* In fact 1896 was a leap year.



Sheetlet of 25

Pos. 126/150

A. 2003

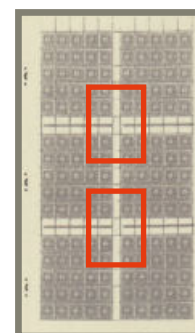
2003 indicates **20** of **March**.



Width
of 4 mm

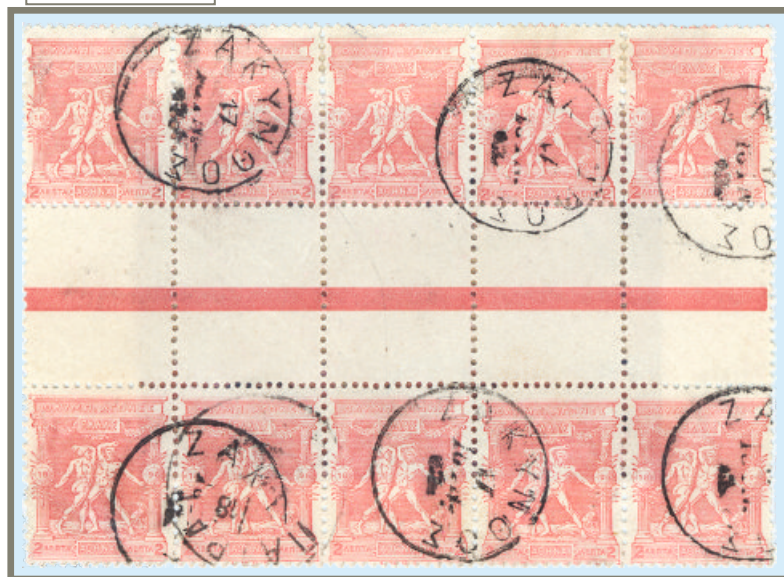
Width
of 3 mm

The gutter
lines are of
two widths,
these of 3 and
4 millimetres



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

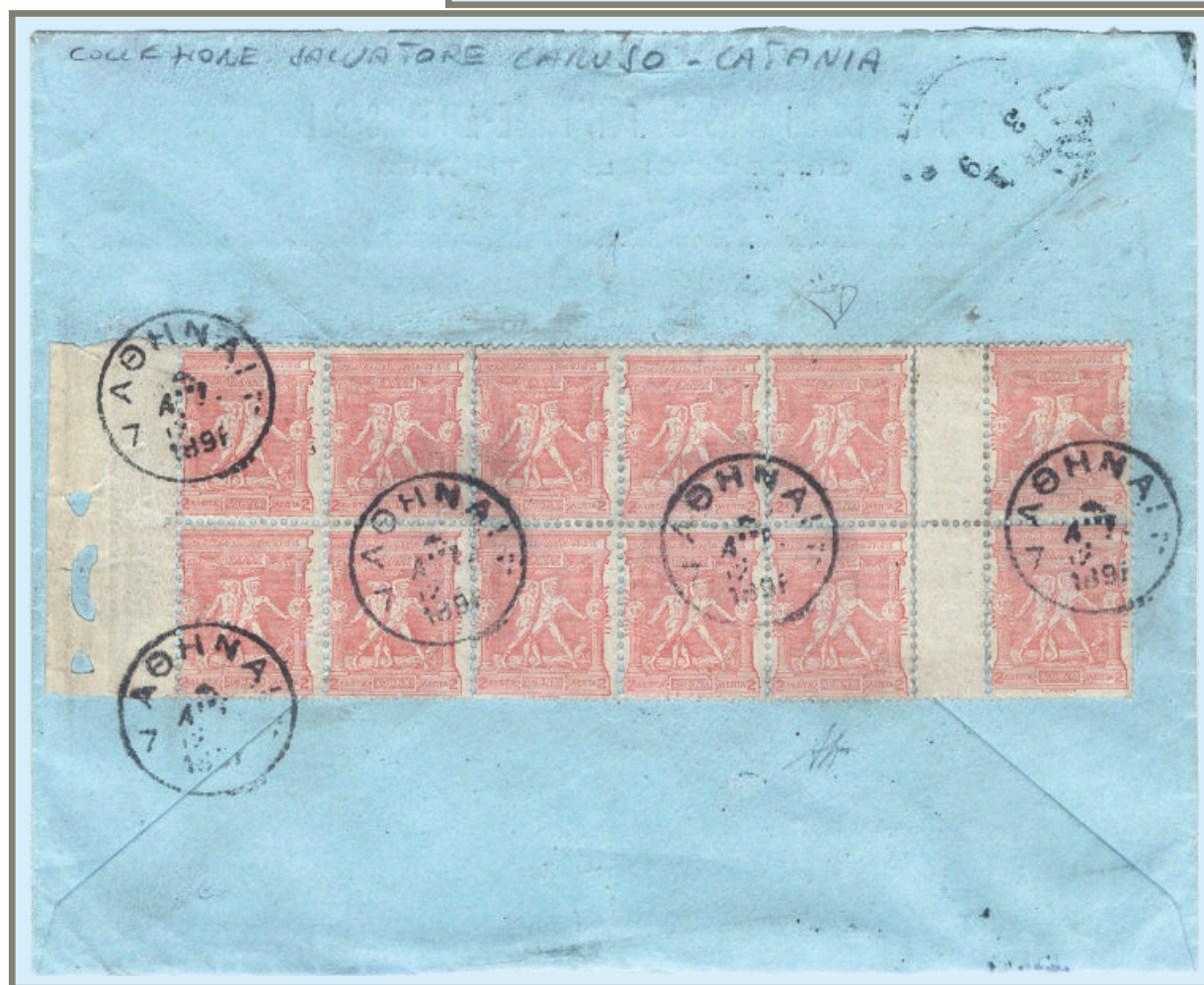
THE ISSUE



Interpanneau block of 10
ZAKYNΘΟΣ
(without date and year indication)

2 lepta sheetlet of 25.
Cancellation
ΠΛΑΤΡΑΙ 8 OCT 1896.
TYPE VI

Three stamps without
engraver name (pos 5, 7, 10)



7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7
9 ΑΥΓ 1896
to STUTTGART 3.9
Interpanneau block

ex. Dr Cornuso,
Catania collection

THE ISSUE



Sheetlet of 25
Pos. 126/150

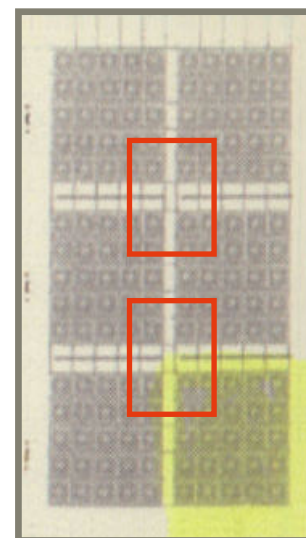
24 FEB 1896.

Interpaneau block of 10



Width of 4 mm

Cross gutter block
of 4 very few exist



THE ISSUE



Part of 20 lepta

Printing Sheets

There are two kinds of printing sheets, one for the small denominations (1, 2, 5, 10 lepta) and the other for the remaining ones (20, 25, 40, 60 lepta and 1, 2, 5, 10 drachmas).

Dimensions 22,2 x 37,8 mm

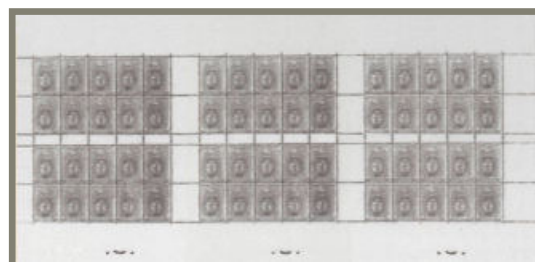
Perforations 14 x 13 ½.

As the postman at the post office window operated with the smaller sheetlets of the 25 or 10 stamps are not the larger printings sheets, it is obvious that used interpane units are rare.

The characteristic holes on the side were necessary in order to perforate and cut the sheets.

They vary in their position.

These stamps were printed on sheets of 60 stamps separated in 6 sheetlets of 10.



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE ISSUE

20 lepta strip of 4.

Cancellation

ΜΕΓΑΛΟΠΟΛΙΣ 17 ΦΕΒΡ. ?.

TYPE III

(without the year indication).



Decalque
very few errors
exist in this
issue



20 lepta sheetlet of 10.
Cancellation ΚΟΠΙΝΘΟΣ
TYPE V

Single and pair 20 lepta
cancelled ΛΑΚΚΑ 11
(+12=23) ΙΟΥΛ 97
with manuscript registration
number 55/grams 9
and Via Alex
meaning that the cover travelled
from Lakka (with 163
inhabitants, the second
largest village of the
Ionian island of PAXO)
to Corfu, from there,
with the express line
Triest - Alexandria
south to Egypt and finally
Cyprus to the north.



THE ISSUE



Sheetlet of 10 Pos. 51/60



Cross gutter block
of 4 only 2 exist in
sheets of 60



THE ISSUE



40 lepta strip of 4.
Cancellation
ΑΓΡΙΝΙΟΝ in blue.
TYPE V



40 lepta unique sheetlet of 10.
Cancellation
ΠΑΤΡΑΙ 27 ΣΕΠΤ 96.
TYPE IV

ex. Tsironis

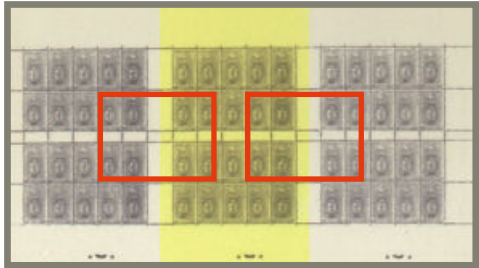


40 lepta with boxed
ΣΥΣΤΗΜΕΝΟΝ
and manuscript registration
number 855/grams 9.
Cancelled ΛΕΥΚΑΣ
backstamped
ΠΑΤΡΑΙ 23 ΟΚΤ 96.

THE ISSUE



Cross gutter block
of 4 very few exist





*Part of cover franked with whole sheetlet of
 ten 60 lepta of the Olympic issue 1896 and
 two 40 lepta Small Hermes Heads (total value 680 lepta).
 Canceled "ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3", for registered mail.
 The 60 lepta used sheetlet of ten
 is the only one known to date.*

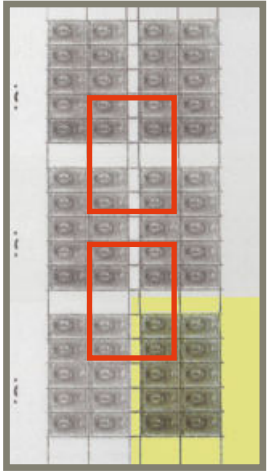
THE ISSUE



Sheetlet of 10 Pos. 51/60



Cross gutter block
of 4 only 2 printed in
sheet of 60



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE ISSUE

ΙΘΑΚΗ
16 ΑΥΓ 1896



ΑΘΗΝΑΙ
3 ΙΑΝ 1900
Very late usage



ΘΗΡΑ
31 ΔΕΚΕ 96



20 lepta postal stationery envelope with additional 1 drachmae.
Cancelled 1ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑ 16(+12=13) ΙΑΝ 10 Π (10:00) to KIEL 16.1.97.

THE ISSUE

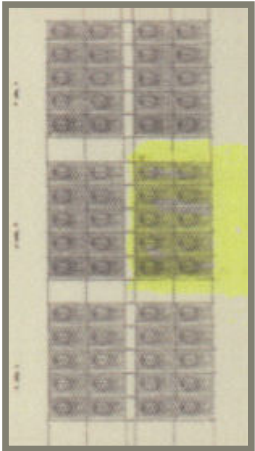


Pos. 31/40

One of the five sheetlet
of 10 known.



Gutter block of 4



THE ISSUE

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

“Certificate of Authenticity”



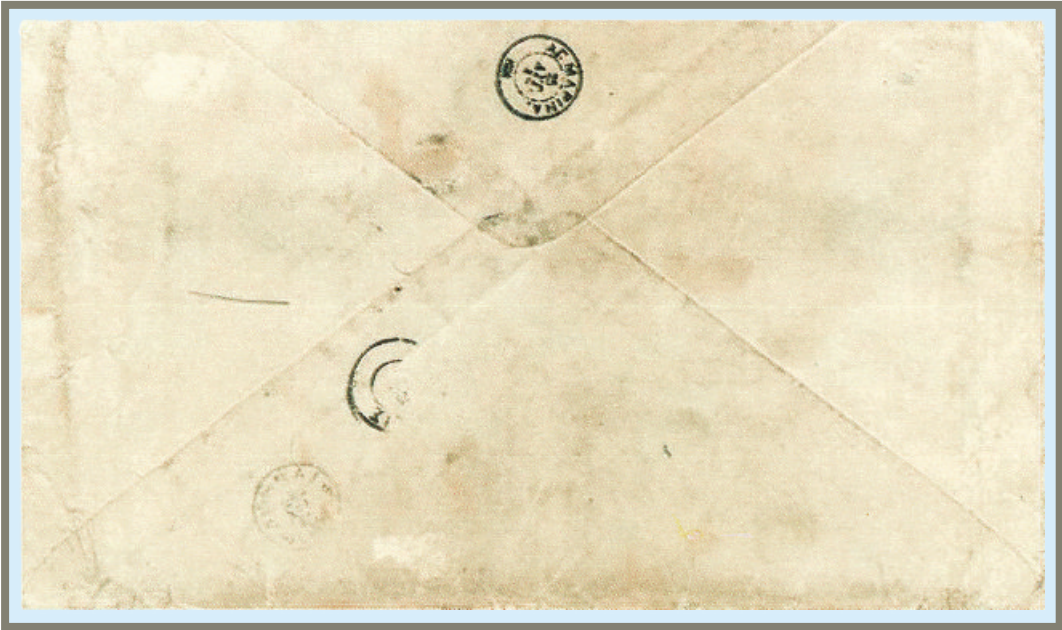
Only the two drachmae recorded
imperfected from the 1896 issue.



One of the two known till now.
Used strip of three of
the two drachmae
ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7, 6 ΜΑΙΟΣ 1896,
probably from parcel post with
international destination.



2 drachmae covering the fees
for an inland registered letter
between 121 and 135 grams.
Cancelled 5 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 5
to ΑΓΙΑ ΜΑΡΙΝΑ.



Photograph of back side
Minimized 50%.

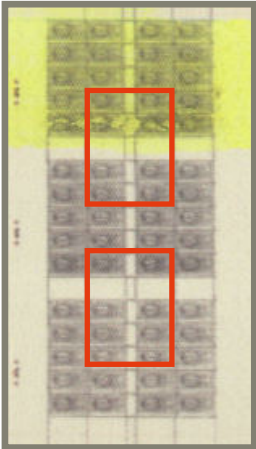
THE ISSUE



Top part of 25 lepta
Sheetlet of 20

Pos. 1/20

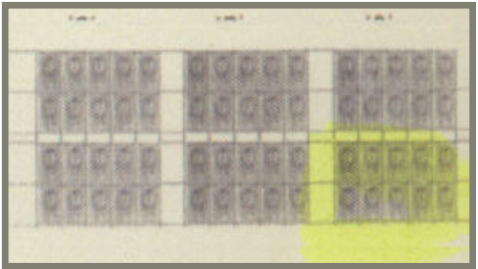
Cross gutter block
of 4 very few exist
especially on the
sheet of 60



THE ISSUE



*One of the four sheetlet
of 10 known.*





One of the two sheetlet
of 10 known.



*One of the two sheetlet
of 10 known.*

ERRORS & VARIETIES



Missing printers name



Perforation displaced



*Partial
imperforate
caused by
Pre-Perforation
paper fold*

ex. Bergman collection

ERRORS & VARIETIES



*Imperf between vertically
partial imperforate horizontally*
ex. Bergman collection

FAKES AND FORGERIES

Forgeries of the Olympic commemoratives were very popular as the genuine were very expensive, especially the high denominations.

There are several differences, even of the perforation.

Shown here, magnified, is the one distinctive characteristic of all the 9 recorded types.



The whole or part of the printing material remained somewhere, in Paris. Some 50 years ago, items similar to the above shown, were offered in the philatelic market as essays.

The comparison of the picture shows that they are made from the same die.

Nevertheless it is not very probable that they were semi-officially produced as publicity material for the 1928 material. In this case they should have been widely known at that time.

More probable seems to be that they are (absolute illegal) reprints from original material.

FAKES AND FORGERIES

All the 9 recorded types of faked stamps

Faked cancellations of faked stamps



Type 1



Type 4



Type 8



Type 2



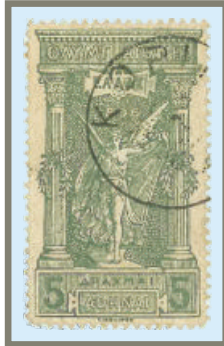
Type 5



Type 6



Type 3



Type 7



* Numbering according to the Vlastos Handbook on Forgeries

THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

The Greek Post Office used up to 25th of March 1896, the Small Hermes Heads in denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 25/30, 40 50 lepta and 1 drachma, and postal stationery cards of 5 lepta (in town), 10 lepta red (abroad), lettercards of 20 lepta and envelopes of 20 lepta, both for inland.

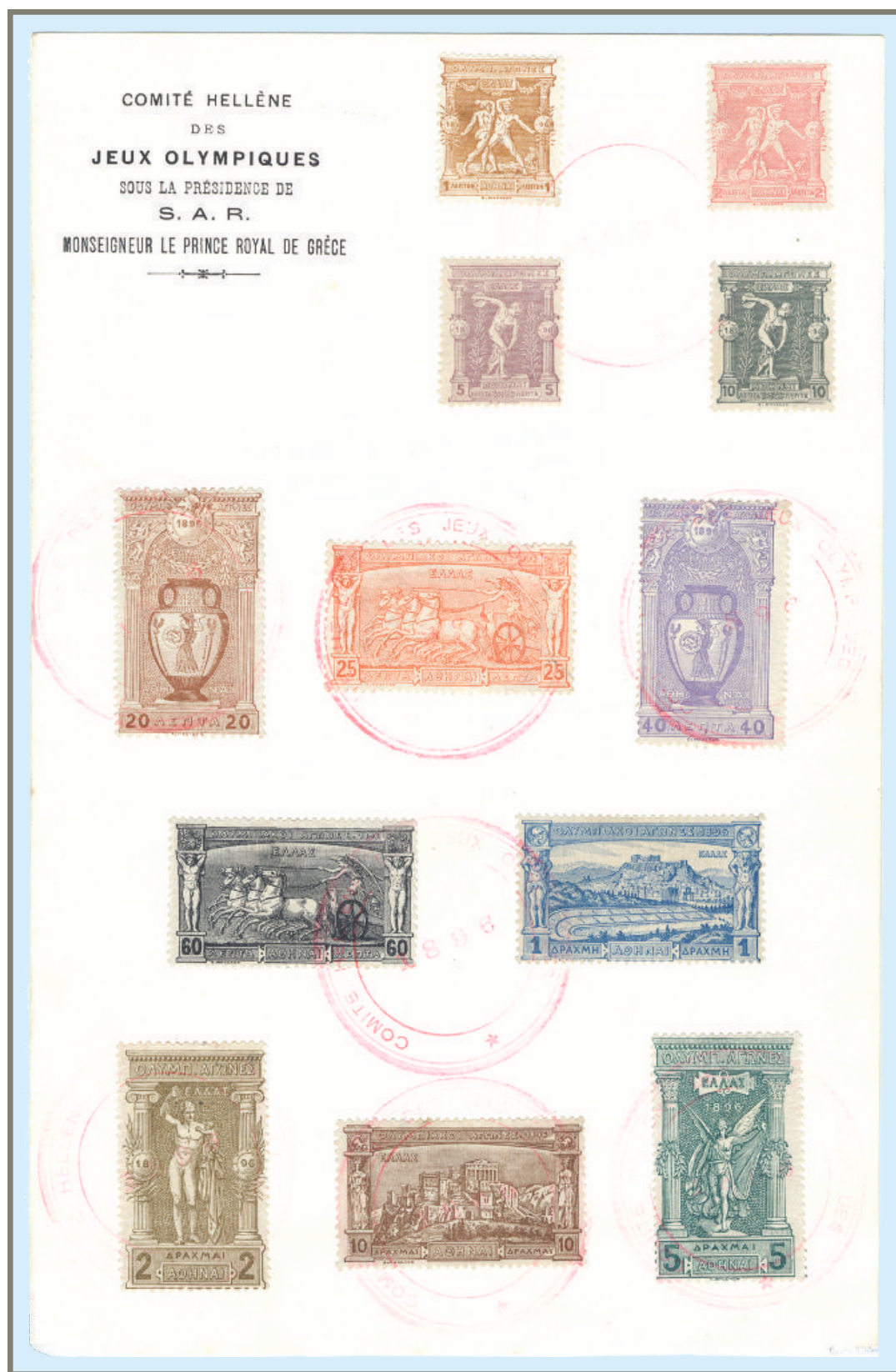
The Olympic Games commemoratives were to replace the Small Hermes Heads, with the addition of the new denominations of 60 lepta and 2,5 drachmae and 10 drachmae, but not the postal stationery, which remained in concurrent use.

The Committee for the Olympic Games in Athens used two cachets (one in Greek, ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΚΩΝ ΑΓΩΝΩΝ ΕΝ ΑΘΗΝΑΙΣ, and another in French, COMITE HELLENE DES JEUX OLYMPIQUES) on the official correspondence, mostly to legalize the granted franchise.



*The 5 lepta postal stationery card,
with additional Olympic commemoratives,
bearing the committee's cachet in french.
One more 5 lepta postal stationery with additional
5 lepta Olympic commemorative is recorded,
meaning that they were presented by the
committee as SPECIMENS of what was valid.*

THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE



*The entire commemorative set presented on an official paper,
cancelled with the Committee's cachet
"COMITE HELLENE DES JEUX OLYMPIQUES"*

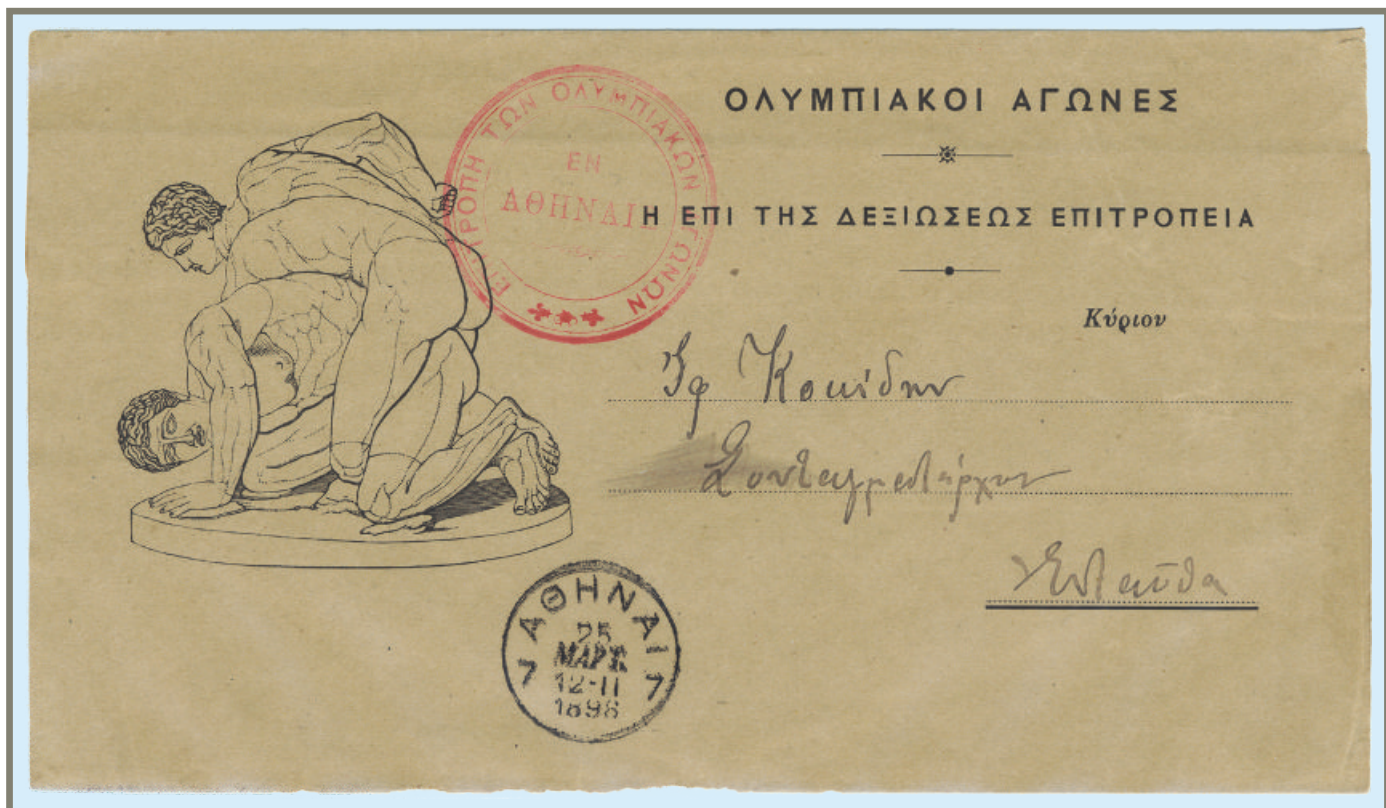
THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE



7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7 25 ΜΑΡΤ 1896

Postman's cachet 21

Banquet invitation, bearing the Committee's cachet in Greek

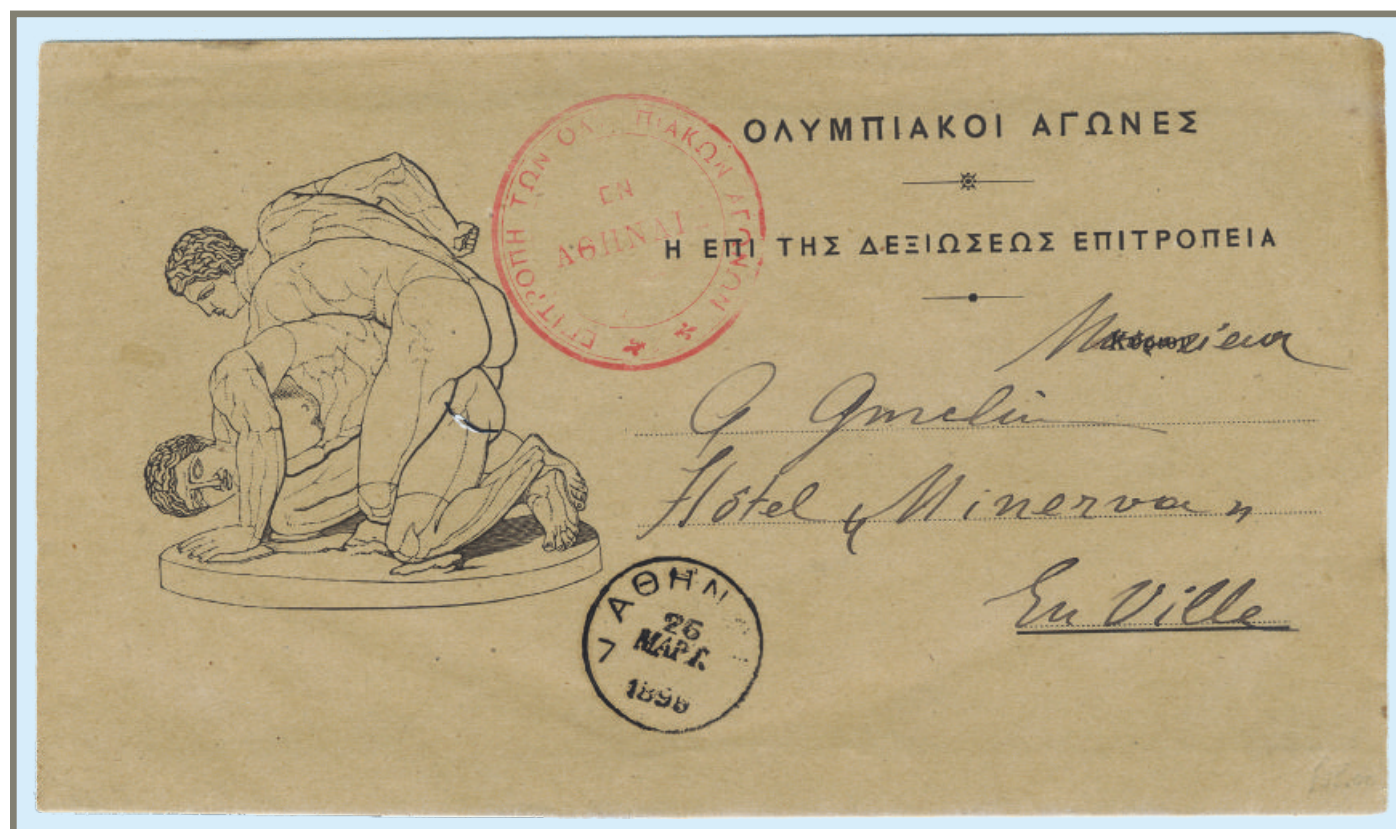
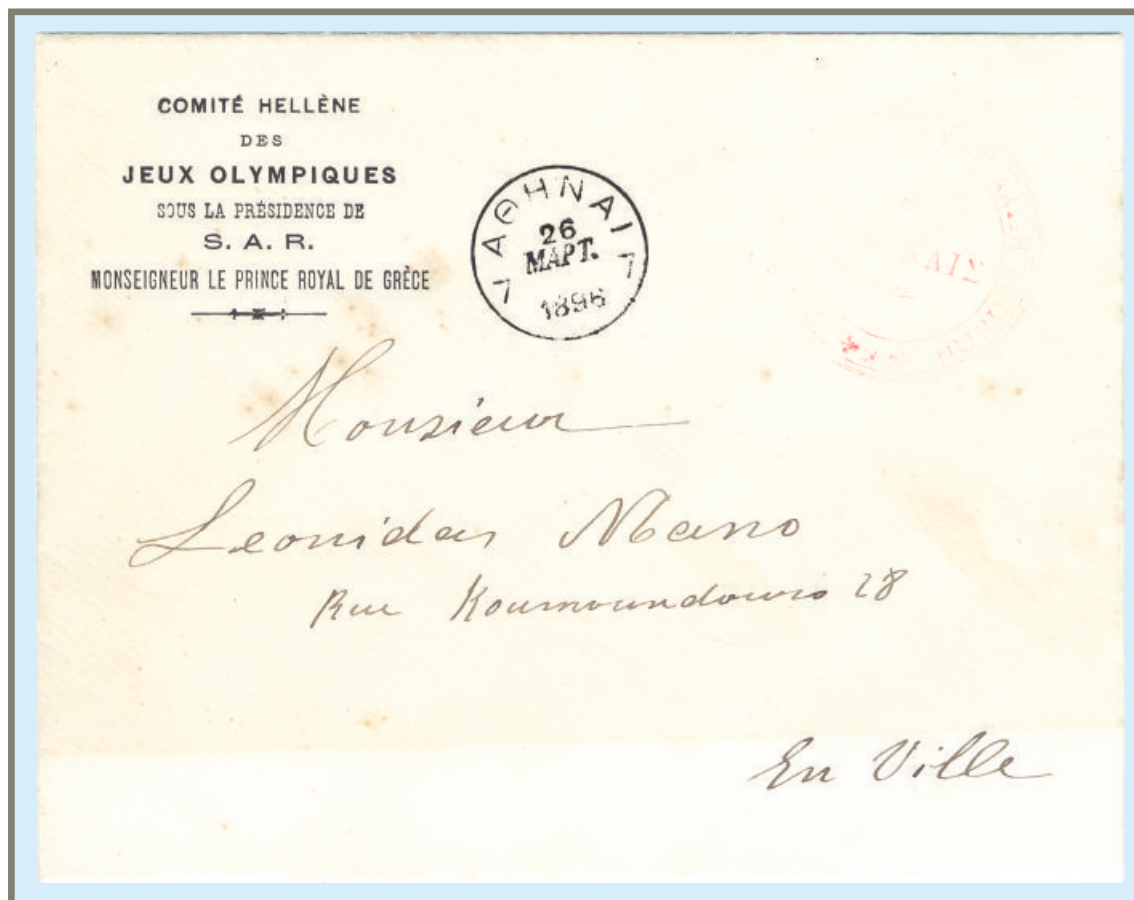


7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7 25 ΜΑΡΤ 12-11 1896

Official illustrated wrapper of the Committee bearing of the Committee in Greek

THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Official envelope of the
COMITE HELLENE
DES
JEUX OLYMPIQUES
SOUS LA
PRESIDENCE DE
S.A.R.
MONSEIGNEUR LE
PRINCE ROYAL
DE GRECE



7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7 25 ΜΑΡΤ 1896

Banquet invitation of the Committee bearing the cachet of the Committee in Greek

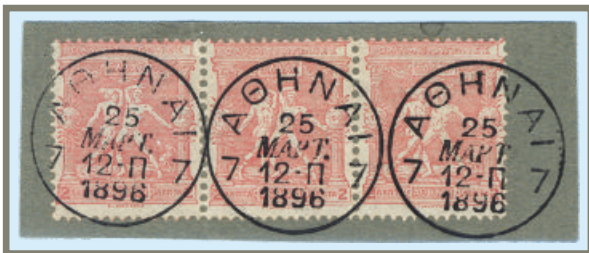
Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES
- FIRST DAY -

25 MARCH 1896



ΥΣΤΕΡΝΙΑ (THNOY)
25 MARCH 1896.
*This is by far the smallest village
from which a first day cancellation exist.
Population 739.*



10 lepta postal stationery,
blue for internal use cancelled
5 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 5
25 MARCH 1896



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES
- FIRST DAY -

25 MARCH 1896



1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1
25 ΜΑΡΤ 1896
on 10 lepta red
for internal use.



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

25 MARCH 1896

4 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 4



25 MARCH 1896

8 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 8



THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

25 MARCH 1896

NEON FALIRON - 246
TYPE III



25 MARCH 1896

PIRAEUS



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

26 MARCH 1896

5 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 5



Official envelope bearing the cachet of the Committee in Greek
 "ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ ΤΩΝ ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΚΩΝ ΑΓΩΝΩΝ ΕΝ ΑΘΗΝΑΙΣ"
 and cancellation 7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7 26 ΜΑΡΤ 1896.

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

27 MARCH 1896

6 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 6



Private postcard.
 Dateline April 8, 1896 (-12=27 March),
 cancelled ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ 27 ΜΑΡΤ 1896,
 to CHALON SUR SAONE 16 AVRIL SAONE ET LOIRE

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

28 MARCH 1896

5 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 5



20 lepta postal stationery
envelope with additional
2X5 lepta
+ 10 lepta
+ 20 lepta
Olympic commemoratives,
totaling to 60 lepta
cancelled 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3
28 MARCH 1896



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

29 MARCH 1896

4 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 4



10 + 20 lepta
Olympic commemoratives
cancelled
ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ
29 ΜΑΡΤ 1896



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

30 APRIL 1896



8 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 8
30 ΜΑΡΤ 1896



ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ
30 ΜΑΡΤ 1896



Official envelope of the Secretary of the Committee
canceled 7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7 30 ΜΑΡΤ 12- Π 1896

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

31 MARCH 1896

4 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 4



Cover to England
with 1896
1 lepton block of four,
2 lepta streep of three,
two 5 lepta and
one 10 lepta,
total 30 lepta.

Covering
international
rate, all tied
1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1.

Arrival B.S
AP 17 96.
Sent on the day of
cycling road page.
England was a
participant
nation.



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

1 APRIL 1896



ΣΠΑΡΤΗ
1 ΑΠΡ 1896



2X5 + 20 lepta Olympic commemoratives
cancelled KOPINΘΟΣ 1 ΑΠΡ 96
via MONTCENIS A MACON A 17 AVRIL 96
arrival PARIS 9 18 AVRIL 96

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

2 APRIL 1896



Registered letter with 60 and 25 lepta
cancelled 7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7, 2 APR 12-Π 1896



Official wrapper of the Committee with protocol No 71
canceled 7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7, 30 ΜΑΡΤ 12-Π 1896

THE 10 DAYS OF THE GAMES

3 APRIL 1896

Last day of the Games



6 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 6
3 ΑΠΡ 7- Ε 1896



Island letter from ΚΑΛΑΜΑΙ 3 ΑΠΡ 1896
to 5 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 5 3 ΑΠΡ 1896

Official envelope bearing
the cachet of the
Committee in Greek
«ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ ΤΩΝ
ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΚΩΝ
ΑΓΩΝΩΝ
ΕΝ ΑΘΗΝΑΙΣ»
and cancellation
7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7
3 ΑΠΡ 12- Π 1896



The letter is addressed to Sp. SAMARAS, the composer of the Olympic Anthem.

THE CANCELLATIONS



1857 type 20/12

The number of post offices of the in 1830 internationally recognized Greek State, rose from 1 in 1832 to about 120 by 1857 when the postal authorities were in a position to provide a document of the day of delivery, dated canceller, not only to the main but to all post offices with 20 outer 12 inner circle, number of office in parenthesis



ΑΝΑΦΙΟΝ 89



ΓΑΙΡΠΙΟΝ(ΑΝΑΙΡΟΥ) 127



ΚΑΣΤΟΠΙΟΝ *



ΚΥΛΛΙΝΗ
11



ΠΕΤΑΛΙΔΙΟΝ 30



ΑΕΩΝΙΔΙΟΝ 38



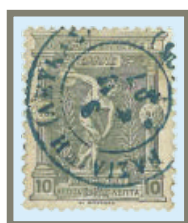
ΥΔΡΑ 65

THE CANCELLATIONS



1876 type 23/14

A very similar type 23 / 14 was introduced in 1876 replacing out of use cancellers, or given to newly found ones, including those of the annexed in 1881 Thessaly.



ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ
(ΛΕΥΚΑΣ) 165



ΠΑΡΟΙΚΙΑ
154



ΜΑΛΑΚΑΣΙΟΝ
184



PENTINA
189



ΚΑΛΛΑΡΥΤΑΙ
187



ΠΙΡΑΜΑΝΤΑ
191



1884 type 23/14

A new type with the same dimensions but without the offices' number introduced in 1884 was given to a few medium size offices and a very few newly founded ones.



ΜΑΝΤΟΥΛΙΟΝ



ΤΣΑΛΚΑΡΑΔΑ



ΠΥΛΟΣ



ΛΕΒΕΤΣΟΒΑ



ΚΡΑΝΙΛΙΟΝ



NEMEA



ΜΥΚΟΝΟΣ



ΟΙΑ

THE CANCELLATIONS



The 1888 type

Only by post offices with insignificant volume of correspondence the above types of cancellers were not replaced by new types introduced in 1888 and 1891.

This explains why the cancellations shown here are scarce to rare.



ΠΥΛΙΟΣ
26



ΝΕΟΝ ΦΑΛΗΡΟΝ
246



ΠΑΛΑΙΟΞΑΡΙΟΝ
149



ΜΑΝΩΛΑΔΑ
242



ΑΙΓΙΟΝ



ΑΙΓΙΝΑ



ΙΤΕΑ 248



ΛΙΓΟΥΔΙΤΣΑ 250



ΓΑΣΤΟΥΝΗ
12



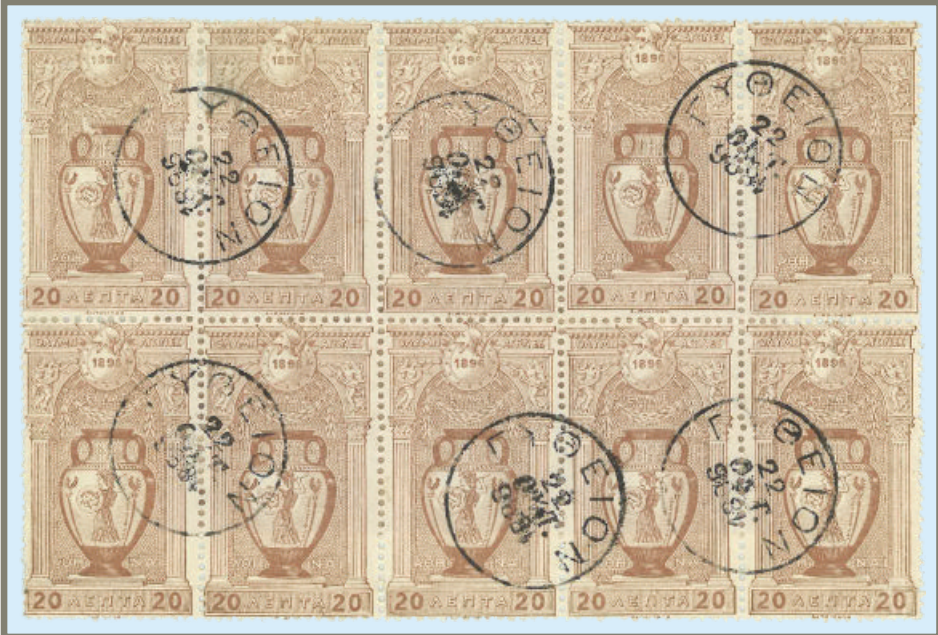
The 1892 type



ΚΑΛΑΒΡΥΤΑ



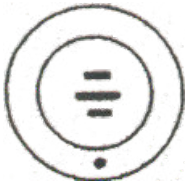
ΚΥΘΗΡΑ



Block of 10 cancelled ΥΠΟΛΟΙΟΝ 22 ΟΚΤ 1896

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE CANCELLATIONS



The 1891 type

This type was introduced in 1891 in order to replace the 1857, 1876 and 1884 ones of the smaller post offices.

Of the some hundreds of these offices, cancellations of about 130 are recorded on Olympic commemoratives.



ΛΕΙΒΑΡΤΖΙΟΝ

ΛΟΥΤΡΑ
ΚΥΛΛΗΝΗΣ

ΠΟΤΑΜΙΑ

ΣΙΔΗΡΟ-
ΚΑΣΤΡΟΝ

The cancellations bellow, type 1891, are the only recorded.



ΣΚΑΛΑ



ΚΟΣΜΑΣ



ΓΕΡΑΚΙΟΝ



ΠΛΑΤΣΑ



ΣΙΤΣΟΒΑ



The 1895 type



ΠΥΛΟΣ



ΠΥΛΟΣ

ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑ
First day

20 lepta postal stationery envelope with additional 10 lepta cancelled ΣΥΡΟΣ 9 (+ 12=21) ΔΕΚΕΜ 8-Π (08:00) 1897 to BRAMPTON ONT JA 10 98 (Canada is a rare destination)

THE CANCELLATIONS



The 1890 type



ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑ



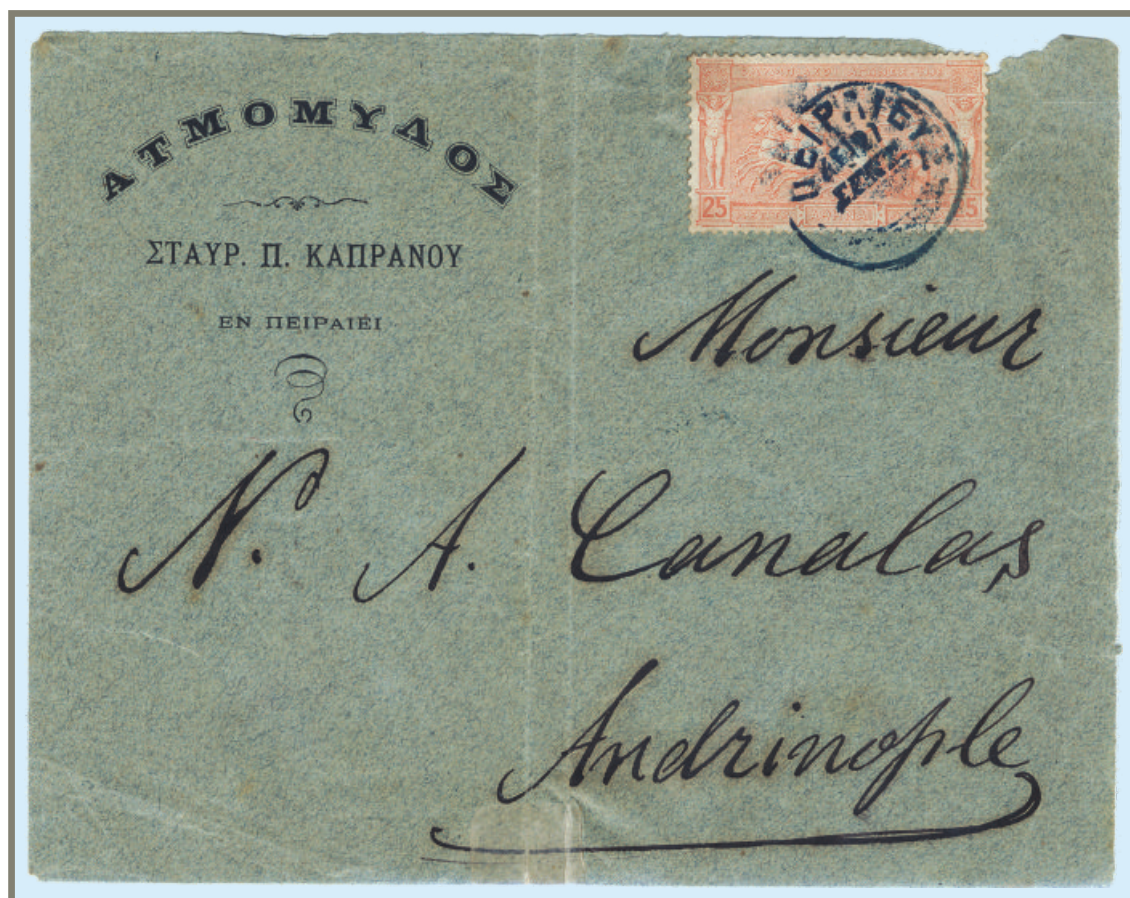
ΠΑΤΡΑΙ



ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ



20 lepta postal stationery envelope with additional pair of 10 lepta cancelled ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ 27 ΑΠΡ 7 Ε (19:00) to ΣΥΡΟΣ 28 ΑΠΡ 1896



25 lepta cancelled ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ 21 (+12=3.10) ΣΕΠΤ 4Ε (16:00) to ADRINOPEL OESTERREICHISCHE POST 7 10 97

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE CANCELLATIONS

This type was used as supplementary cancelled for special purposes by the international exchange post offices



ΑΜΑΛΙΑ



ΧΑΛΚΙΣ



ΣΑΜΗ



ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ 7 ΑΠΡ 96



ΒΩΛΟΣ 9 ΙΟΥΝ 96



ΖΑΧΑΡΩ



ΣΥΡΟΣ 18 ΜΑΡΤ 96



ΑΡΤΑ



ΑΙΤΩΝΑΙΚΟΝ



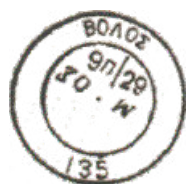
60 lepta with boxed cachet GRECE R and manuscript registration number 214
cancelled ΣΥΡΟΣ 5 (+ 12=7) ΑΥΤ 96, via AMIENS SOMME 22 ΑΟΥΤ 96
to DOUAI NORD 22 ΑΟΥΤ 96 forward
POSTE RESTANTE à AULT-s-MER (Somme) AULT SOMME 23 ΑΟΥΤ 96

THE CANCELLATIONS



The 1890 type

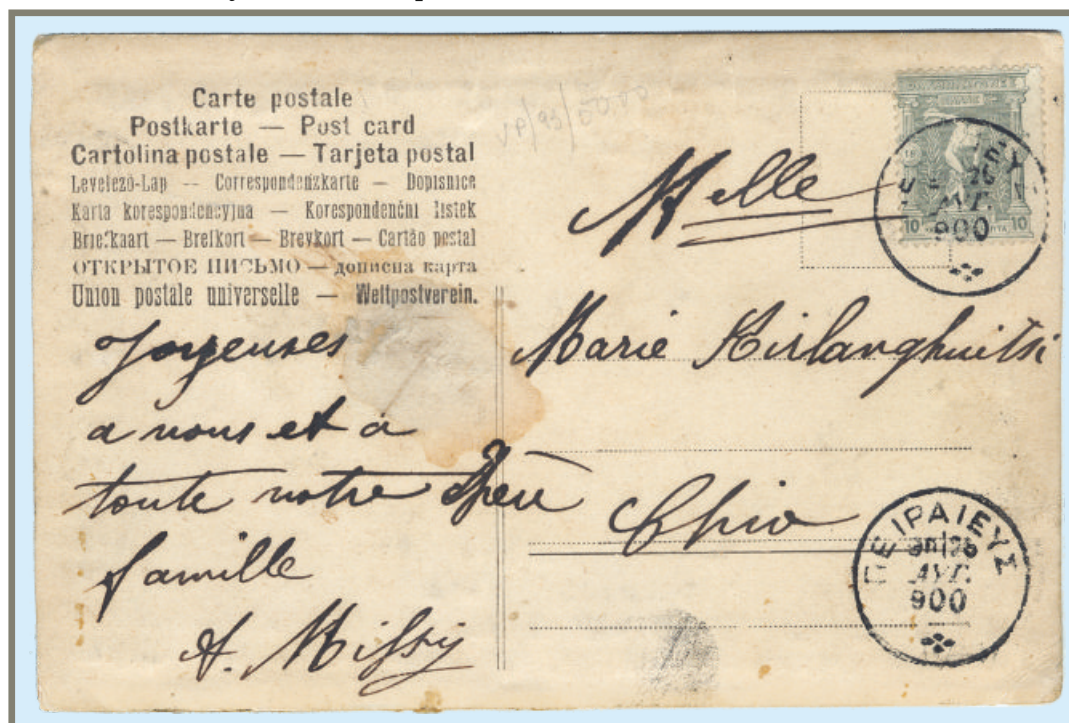
10 *lepta* cancelled ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ
26 ΑΥΤ 900 8Π (08:00)



Date of introduction unknown as this is the only one ever recorded. Used during the first period of the Olympic commemoratives.

The absolute rarity is to be explained by the use only for international money orders, from which only 3 are recorded. The one from Volos and two others from Athens

Similar to the 1890 type but with an ornament, introduced about 1900
Recorded only in Piraeus up to date.



International money order for 100 francs
from ΒΟΛΟΣ 29 (+12=10.6) ΜΑΪΟΣ 1986 to GENEVE ΜΑΝΔΑΤΣ 4 ΙΥ 96

THE 6 EXCHANGE OFFICES



ΑΘΗΝΑΙ

The 6 Exchange Offices

During the circulation of the Olympic issue (1896 - 1901), there were 6 exchange offices in Greece sorting and redirecting mail both inland and abroad.

These offices were based in the major cities of the country and well positioned geographically (2 in the west, 4 in the east).

They were all ports apart from Athens, which was using the port facilities of Piraeus to do business.

There were:

ΑΘΗΝΑΙ

ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ

ΠΑΤΡΑΙ

ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑ

ΣΥΡΟΣ

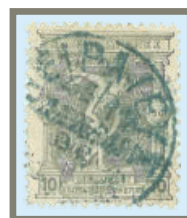
ΒΟΛΟΣ



Mailed in 9.4.1898 from Athens to France.
Overseas postal rate 5 lepta for an open letter including printed matters.

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ



Registered letter
from Piraeus
to Douai France.
Obliterated on
arrival by Douai.
3d day of
Games.

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 6 EXCHANGE OFFICES

ΠΑΤΡΑΙ



Short letter franked with imprinted 20 lepta Large Hermes Head,
1x5 lepta Small Hermes Head and 5x1 lepta 1896 Olympic stamps.
Total of 30 lepta being the normal rate for letters abroad.

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 6 EXCHANGE OFFICES

ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑ



Letter from Corfu
to France with
1896 Olympics,
5x1 lepton
1x5 lepta and
1x20 lepta.
Total of 30 lepta
normal rate for
letters abroad.



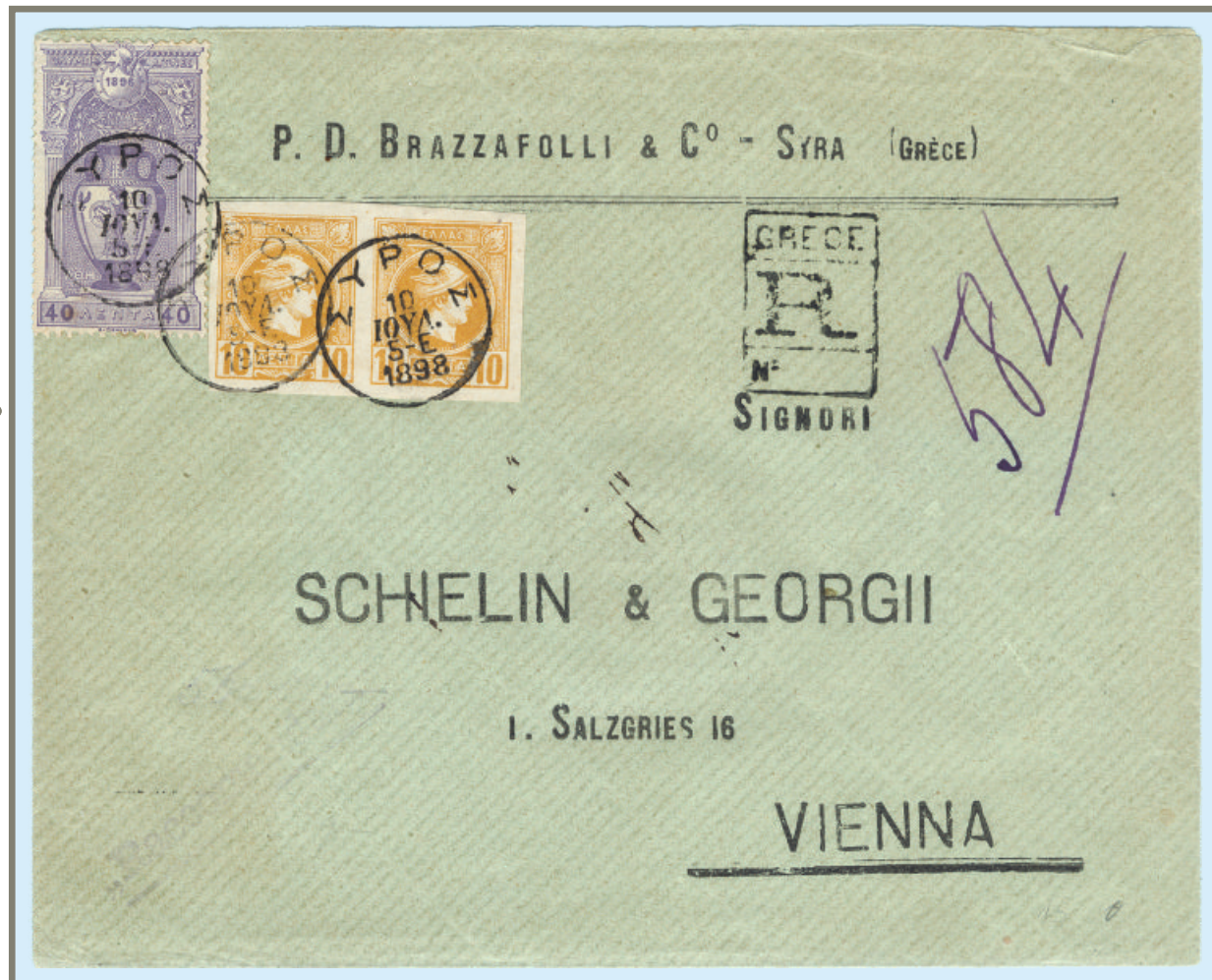
Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 6 EXCHANGE OFFICES

ΣΥΡΟΣ



Register letter
from ΣΥΡΟΣ
to VIENNA.
Franked with a
total of 60 lepta.
Delivery fee
being 30 lepta and
registration fee for
the bacana.



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 6 EXCHANGE OFFICES

ΒΟΛΟΣ



Letter from ΒΟΛΟΣ to Θεσσαλονίκη.
 Franked 25 lepta gold equivalent to 30 lepta,
 arrival in SALONICH 7.8.96

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE POST OFFICES

ΘΗΡΑ



Mailed in 1.10.1896 from Santorin to Germany with
1896 Olympics 5 lepta tied by blue-black Thera cds.

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE POST OFFICES

ZAKYNΘΟΣ



Mailed in
23.12.1886
from Zakynthos
to Basel.
On reverse arrival cds.
"Basel 8.1.1897".
The Small Hermes
Head were used during
the period of circulation
of A' Olympic Games
issue, although they
were officially
withdrawn from
circulation.
ex. M. Tsironis,
collection



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE POST OFFICES

ΑΓΓΟΣΤΟΛΙΟΝ



20 lepta postal stationery envelope with additional 2x5 lepta.
Cancelled ΑΓΓΟΣΤΟΛΙΟΝ 10 ΔΕΚΕΜ 1897 to VENEZIA 27.12.97

THE 9 POSTMARKS

The use of the **9** numbered
Postmarks

ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 to 9

In Athens only, the type introduced in September 1895 was numbered from 1 to 9.

Each canceller was usually covering standard service, but there are cases where they were used in a flexible way to cover other than the usual services.

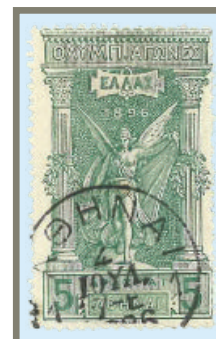
The usual services were:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 | common mail
(cards and letters) |
| 2 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 2 | printer matter |
| 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3 | international
registered mail |
| 4 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 4 | inland
registered mail |
| 5 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 5 | common transit mail |
| 6 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 6 | registered transit mail |
| 7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7 | parcel post and Olympic
Committee Official mail
during the Games |
| 8 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 8 | inland parcels and most
probably inland money
orders (not recorded) |
| 9 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 9 | international money
orders and insufficiently
prepared mail |

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 9 POSTMARKS

1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1



Registered cover
to Germany
franked with
2x5 lepta
Small Hermes Head,
2x5 lepta and
1x60 lepta
1896 Olympics
(total 90 lepta),
being the normal
60 lepta for
second weight
rate abroad and
an additional
30 lepta for the
registration fee.



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 9 POSTMARKS

2 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 2



25 MARCH 1896
1st day of Games



28 MARCH 1896
4th day of Games



Commercial cover
sent at the unsealed
printed matter rate
with 1 lepton
Small Hermes
Head and pair
of 1896 2 lepta
Olympics tied
by Athens 2cds,
sent to Germany.



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 9 POSTMARKS

3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3



18 JUNE 1897

Greek - Turkish war of 1897

Registered cover
to Belgium
franked with a total
of 60 lepta.
Delivery fee being
30 lepta
and registration fee
the balance.



Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 9 POSTMARKS

5 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 5



4 APRIL 1896
Last day of Games



Two strips of five 2 lepta to cover the 20 lepta inland rate
NAYTLAION 13 IOYN 97, 5 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 5 13 IOYN 1897.

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 9 POSTMARKS

6 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 6



31 MARCH 1896
7th day of Games

25 MARCH 1896
First day of Games



25 (30) lepta cancelled 6 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 6, 7 ΜΑΙΟΣ 1896 instead of 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 used for ordinary mail.

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 9 POSTMARKS

7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7



25 MARCH 1896
First day of Games

1 APRIL 1896
8th day of Games



90 lepta rate on part of parcel
Cancelled 7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7, 30 NOEM 1896.



Photograph of back side
Minimized 70%.

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

THE 9 POSTMARKS

9 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 9



27 MARCH 1896
3rd day of Games



International money
order for 70 francs.
Cancelled 9ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 9
26 ΜΑΙΟΣ 1896
to ZURICH 12
(NEUMUNSTER)
2 VI 96.
One of the two international
money orders with
9 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 9
recorded up to date.

GRÈCE. — MANDAT DE POSTE INTERNATIONAL
de la somme de 70
(en chiffres arabes).

0 à 5	25	50	100	150	200
250	300	350	400	450	500

Soixante dix francs

(en toutes lettres et en caractères romains)

payable à M de Laskalos
Adresse du destinataire Institut Impérial
Lieu et pays de destination Zurich 12 (Suisse)

Indications de service.
Date d'émission 26.5.96 Bon pour 70 Frs. 289
Numéro d'émission 861
Bureau expéditeur Neumunster (Signature)

Athènes Imprimerie Anestis Constantinides

THE POSTAL RATES

The postal rates introduced in 1883 were still in use on March 25 1896, the day of introduction of the Olympic commemoratives.

The main feature was the discrepancy of drachma and gold franc resulting to a cost of 30 lepta for 25 nominal.

During June 1900 a major change restored the equivalence for the international mail, but not for the parcel post, for which the unsold stocks of high values were overpinted.

*Stock market
printed
matter bearing
1 lepton.
Cancelled
ΣΥΡΟΣ ΜΑΡΤ 97
to cover the
in town
circulars rate.*



*The registration fee,
being the same for
letters and cards,
covered by
the 25 (30) lepta.
Cancelled 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ
17(+12=29) ΙΑΝ 1897.
Transit LONDON
REGISTERED 6
to New York
U 2 12 (12 February).*



THE POSTAL RATES

Double registrations

In cases where the registration form was not internationally accepted, e.g. a manuscript registration, by passing the borders a registration in acceptable form, e.g. a registration label, was affixed.



60 lepta cancelled 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3 23 (+12=4.2)LAN
to Berlin AUG 9/2 6-7 2
manuscript registration No 75, German border registration label:

Vom Auslande
über Bahnpost
Kufstein - München
Eingeschrieben.

meaning

From Abroad
on railway post
Kufstein - Munich
Registered.

THE POSTAL RATES



20 lepta postal stationery envelope with additional block of four lepta covering the international registered male rate, bearing the registration label No 267.

Cancelled 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3 18(+12=2.3) ΦΕΒΡ 1897
via AMB PONTERRA-BOLOGNA (No 1) 6 MAR 97,
NEW YOPK N.Y. REG'Y.DIV. 3 19 1897, SAN FRANCISCO CAL. REG.DIV. MAR 24 97.

A second registration label **SAN FRANCISCO. CAL.** was necessary on the way to Honolulu Hawaii Australie!!! Arrival HONOLULU HAWAII APR 7 1897 in red.

This is the only known cover to Hawaii, the most remote and unusual destination of the Olympic commemoratives, which is recorded up to date.



Photograph of back side - Minimized 65%.

ΕΤΟΣ ΙΗ'. ΠΕΡΙΟΔΟΣ Β'. Αριθ. 561

ΕΝ ΑΘΗΝΑΙΣ

ΣΥΝΔΡΟΜΑΙ ΠΡΟΠΑΗΡΩΤΕΑΙ

(Τη.	Εσωτερικού...	δραχμαί	20
Μετ.	Εξωτερικού...	φράγκα	25
Εξαμηνιαία	Εσωτερικού...	δραχμαί	12
	Εξωτερικού...	φράγκα	15

Π Ρ Ω



ΕΦΗΜΕΡΙΣ ΤΗΣ ΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΕΩΣ

ΓΡΑΦΕΙΑ

ΠΛΑΤΕΙΑ

Τὸ φύλλον 5 λεπτά

Αἱ ἐπιστολαὶ τῇ Διευθύνσει

Δέν εἶχομεν τὴν ὑπομονὴν ν' ἀναγνώσωμεν τὰς δύο πρώτας ἐπιστολὰς, ὅποιας ὁ ἐν Λοκρίδος βουλευτὴς ἰδὼν στέυσεν εἰς τὸ «Ἄστυ» μετὰ τὴν ἀξίωσιν προγράμματος τῆς πολιτικῆς μερίδος μεθ' ἧς συμπράττει. Ἀλλ' ὁμολογοῦμεν ὅτι δὲν μετεμνήθημεν ἀναγνόντες τὴν τρίτην καὶ τελευταίαν ὡς νομίζομεν, χθὲς δημοσιευθεῖσαν καὶ πραγματευομένην περὶ τοῦ κρητικοῦ ζητήματος. Ὅλοι αἱ ἐφημερίδες ἐκείναι αἱ ὁποῖαι, ὥσον ἀφειδῶς κατηνάλωσαν τὰ παρὰ τὸν Πάριον καὶ βέλη των κατὰ τῆς κυβερνήσεως τριωτῶν, ντο νὰ διαμαρτυρηθῶσι διὰ τὴν ἀσυνέχον λεηλασίαν τὴν ὁποίαν μετέβλεπον ἐπ' αὐτῇ. Ὁ κ. Εὐταξίας διὰ νὰ συρράψῃ τὸν ἀντικεινὸν λίβελλον τὸν ὅποιον παρουσίασεν εἰς τὸν κοινὸν μετὰ τὸν τίτλον τοῦ πολιτικοῦ προγράμματος τῶν. Ἡ κυβερνήσις λέγει, δὲν μεριμνᾷ περὶ τῆς Κρήτης, φροντίζει μόνον πῶς νὰ καρπωθῇ τὰ ἀγαθὰ τῆς ἐξουσίας ἐφ' ὅλην τὴν τετραετίαν. Καὶ ὁ χρηστός αὐτὸς πολιτευτὴς στενοχωρεῖται διότι δὲν δύναται νὰ μετάρχη καὶ αὐτὸς εἰς τοιαύτην κάρπωσιν, διὰ τὴν ὁποίαν ἄλλως ἡμεῖς δὲν τῷ ἀμφισβητοῦμεν τὴν ἰκανότητα. Ἀλλ' ἐὰν τοῦτο ἀποτελῇ τὴν ἀρχὴν τοῦ πολιτικοῦ πρὸς προγράμματος, ὡς εἶναι βέβαιον ὅτι δὲν θὰ λάβωσι ποτὲ τὴν εὐκαιρίαν νὰ τὸ ἐφαρμόσωσιν, διότι δὲν ὑπάρχει φόβος ν' ἀναχθῶσιν εἰς τὴν ἀρχὴν πολιτευόμενοι... καρπῶται. Ἀλλὰ δὲν ἔκαμε, λέγει, τίποτε ἡ κυβερνήσις οὔτε διὰ τὸν στρατὸν, οὔτε διὰ τὸ ναυτικόν. Τὰ νομίσματα τὰ ὅποια ὑπέβαλε πρὸς τὴν ἐξουσίαν...

κ. Ἀντ. Ζ. Ἀντωνιάδην δικηγόρον Σκύρον

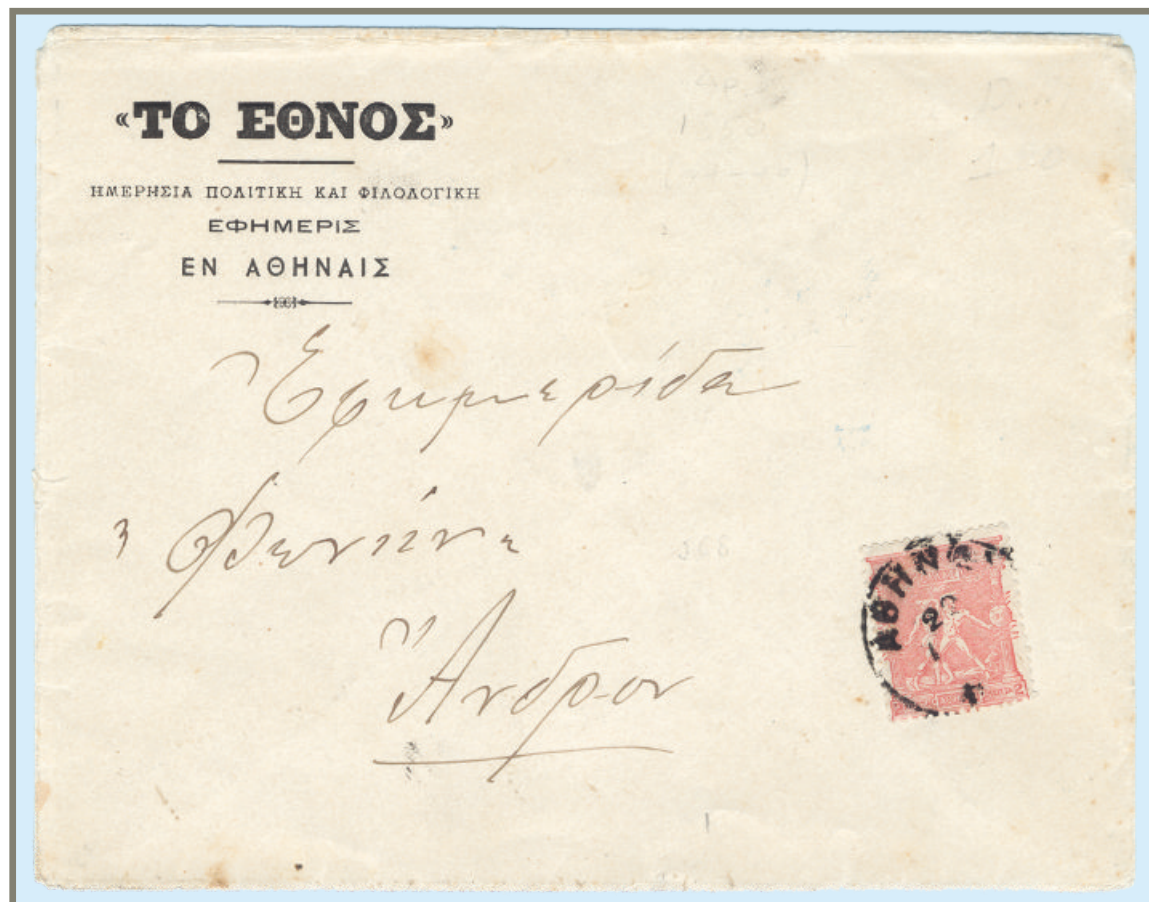
τῆς ἐφημερίδας σου ὅπλα, δὲν εὐξέομεν ποίου συστήματος, ἐπεὶδὴ ἀπασχολημένος τυγχάνων μετὰ τοῦ κ. Συνοδίου καὶ τοῦ κ. Σουμαρίπας εἰς μελέτας περὶ τῆς λύσεως τοῦ κρητικοῦ ζητήματος δὲν εἶχε τὸν καιρὸν νὰ ἐκστρατεύσῃ καὶ ὁ ἴδιος ἐναντίον τοῦ Ἀβδουλάχ. Καὶ κἀνεὶς δὲν ἠμποδίσεν τὸν πατριωτικὸν ἔρανον τοῦ κ. Ράλλη, ὡς δὲν θὰ ἐμποδίζετο καὶ ὁ κ. Εὐταξίας ἐὰν ὑπὸ τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἐφλέγετο πατριωτισμῷ νὰ συνεισφέρῃ ὑπὲρ τοῦ ἀγῶνος τῆς Κρήτης. Ἀπατάται ὅμως ὁ κ. Εὐταξίας φανταζόμενος ὅτι αἱ 30 χιλιάδες τουρκικοῦ στρατοῦ, εἰς ὅσον ἀναδιδάχει τὸν ἐν Κρήτῃ εὐρισκόμενον, εἰσὶν ἱκαναὶ νὰ καταπνίξωσι τὴν ἐπανάστασιν. Ἡμεῖς τοὺς ὁποίους δὲν ἐπρόκειτο νὰ φύσιν οὔτε μὲ τὸν πατριωτισμὸν οὔτε μὲ τὴν γενναιότητα ἢ ὁποία διακρίνεται μόνον αὐτοὺς καὶ τοὺς συντάκτας τῶν ἀνεξαρτήτων ἐφημερίδων, τοὺς διάβεβαιον ὅτι οὔτε 30 οὔτε 130 χιλιάδες θ' ἄρκεῖν νὰ καταστῶσι τὴν κρητικὴν ἐξέγερσιν, ἐφόσον δὲν ἐκανοποιῶνται αἱ διαιρέσεις καὶ εὐλογοὶ ἀπαιτήσεις τῶν κρητῶν. Ἡ ἱστορία παρέχει πρόχειρα παραδείγματα ἐκ τῶν ὁποίων δύναται νὰ ὠφεληθῶσιν. Ἀλλὰ δὲν συνέτρεξε ἡ κυβερνήσις τὸ κομμάτι τοῦ ὁποίου, βρωτῆς ἰγένετο ὁ κ. Σουμαρίπας. Καὶ βρωτάπονον πάλιν διὰ τοῦτο. Διὰ τί; Ἐμὲν ἴσως ἡ κυβερνήσις καὶ νὰ ἀπὸ τοῦ νὰ παρῇ εἰς τὸ κομμάτι τοῦ ὁποίου ἀνάγκη; Ὁχι...

THE POSTAL RATES

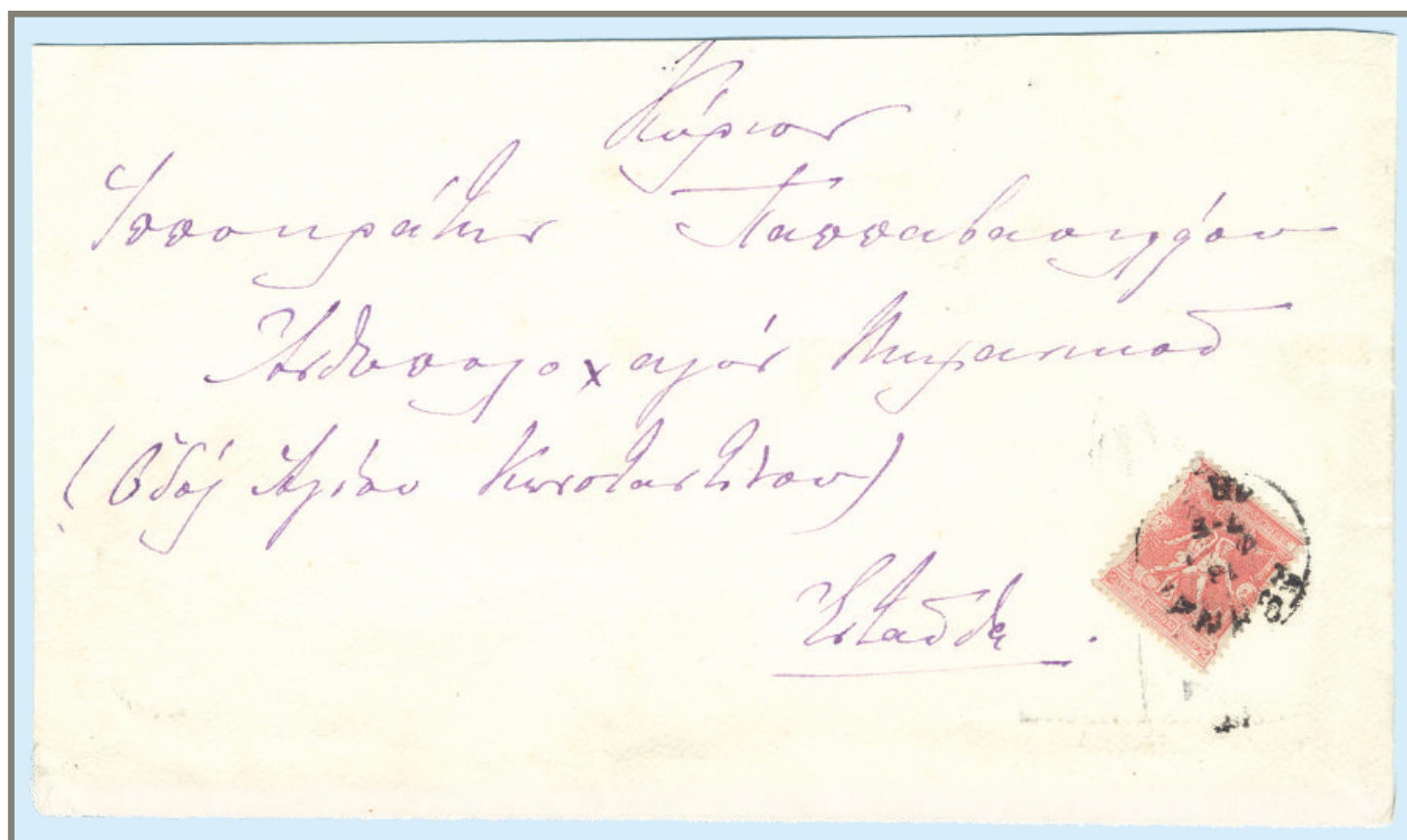
5 lepta covering
the international
wrapper of
printed matters rate.
Cancelled
2 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 2
7 ΜΑΙΟΣ 1897.



2 lepta covering
printed matters rate.
Cancelled ΑΘΗΝΑΙ
to Andros.



THE POSTAL RATES



2 lepta cancelled ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 18 ΦΕΒ (late use of the 1882 type)
covering the intown open letter rate.



5 lepta
covering
the
international
open letter
rate.
Cancelled
2 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 2
7(+12=19.6)
ΙΟΥΝ 1896
to LARNACA
CYPRUS
AJU 28 96.

THE POSTAL RATES



5 lepta covering the international open letter rate.
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 31(+12=12.1) ΔΕΚΕΜ 1896
to LARNACA CYPRUS B JA 30 97.



Shipments information paying the open letter rate of 2 lepta in town and 5 lepta for town to town.
The addressee is G. Casanova,
The printed part "Εἰς.....", which was to be filled with the town name, is deleted and a 2 lepta stamp was stuck there cancelled ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ 8 ΑΥΤ.
The word "Ἐνταῦθα" (in town) is written on the left.
Probably because the information was interesting for a company in Athens, the name Casanova and the word "Ἐνταῦθα" are deleted using the same ink by which the new addressee S. Desposito in Athens is written.
The town to town fee is covered by the 5 lepta stamp cancelled ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ 8 ΑΥΤ.
Same day second dispatch.

THE POSTAL RATES



5 lepta postal stationery card with additional 1 lepton and 2x2 lepta.
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 18 ΜΑΙΟΣ 1896
backstamped ΠΑΤΡΑΙ 19 ΜΑΙΟΣ 96.



5 lepta postal stationery card with additional 5 lepta.
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 10 ΑΥΤ 1896.

THE POSTAL RATES

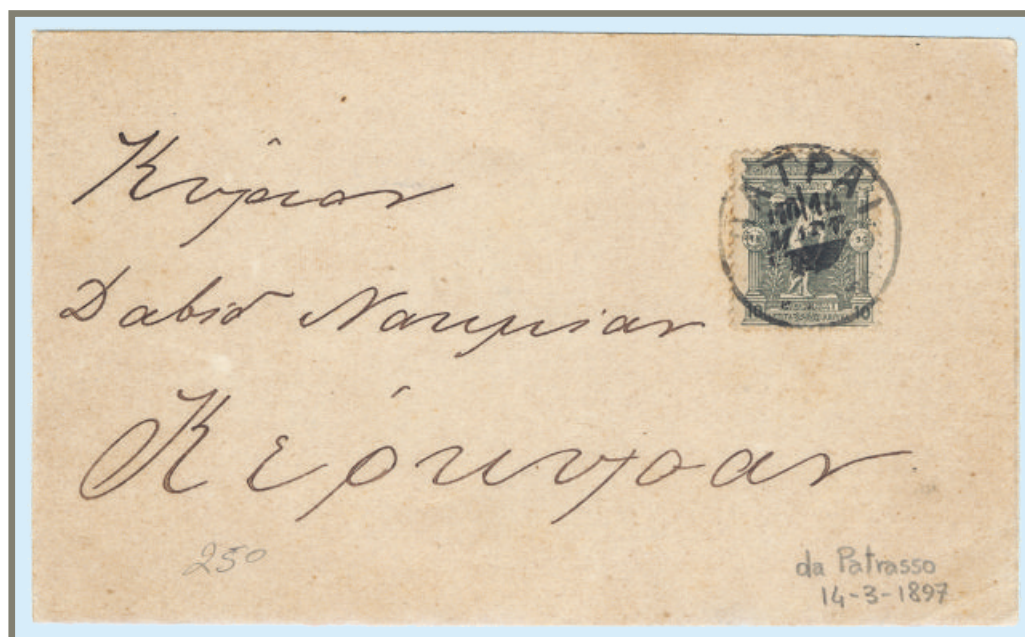


10 lepta postal stationery card, cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 19(+12=31) ΜΑΡΤ 1896
via STOCKHOLM N. ANK. AFD 6.4.98 to ST. HOLM SODER 18.4.98.



Dateline Patras 11/23/2/98
Plain postal card with 10 lepta cancelled ΠΑΤΡΑΙ 12 ΦΕΒΡ
to be noted the (unusual) city postman's cachet 3 of Corfu.

THE POSTAL RATES



10 lepta on plain carton, cancelled ΠΑΤΡΑΣ 14 ΜΑΡΤ.
It is extremely rare that the plain carton was accepted by post as a card.



20 lepta covering the inland rate for up to 15 gr.
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑ 1 29 ΣΕΠΤ 1896.

THE POSTAL RATES



5x2 lepta covering the open letter abroad rate for 16 to 30 gr.
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 10(+12-22) ΙΟΥΛ 1896
to LARNACA CYPRUS ΑΥ 29 96



20 lepta covering the inland letter fee.
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 25 ΜΑΙΟΣ 1897 ΣΥΡΟΣ ΜΑΙΟΣ 1897.

THE POSTAL RATES

25 lepta cancelled
1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1
5(+12=17) ΑΠΡ 1898
to LAUSANNE ARR.
LETTER. 21 IV 96.



Strip of three 10 lepta.
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 27 (+12=10.3) ΦΕΒΡ 1898
to MILANO 14.3.98

THE POSTAL RATES

25 nominal sold for 30

The Greek drachma was attached to the French franc by the time the UPU agreement was applied.

The letter abroad rate was 25 centimes. From 1883 to 1892 25 centimes were equal to 25 lepta, the international letter rate.

The parity of the drachma was falling, but the Greek post office could not change the nominal 25. They decided to change the colour from blue to lilac and sell the nominal 25 lilac for 30 lepta from January 1893 to July 1900.

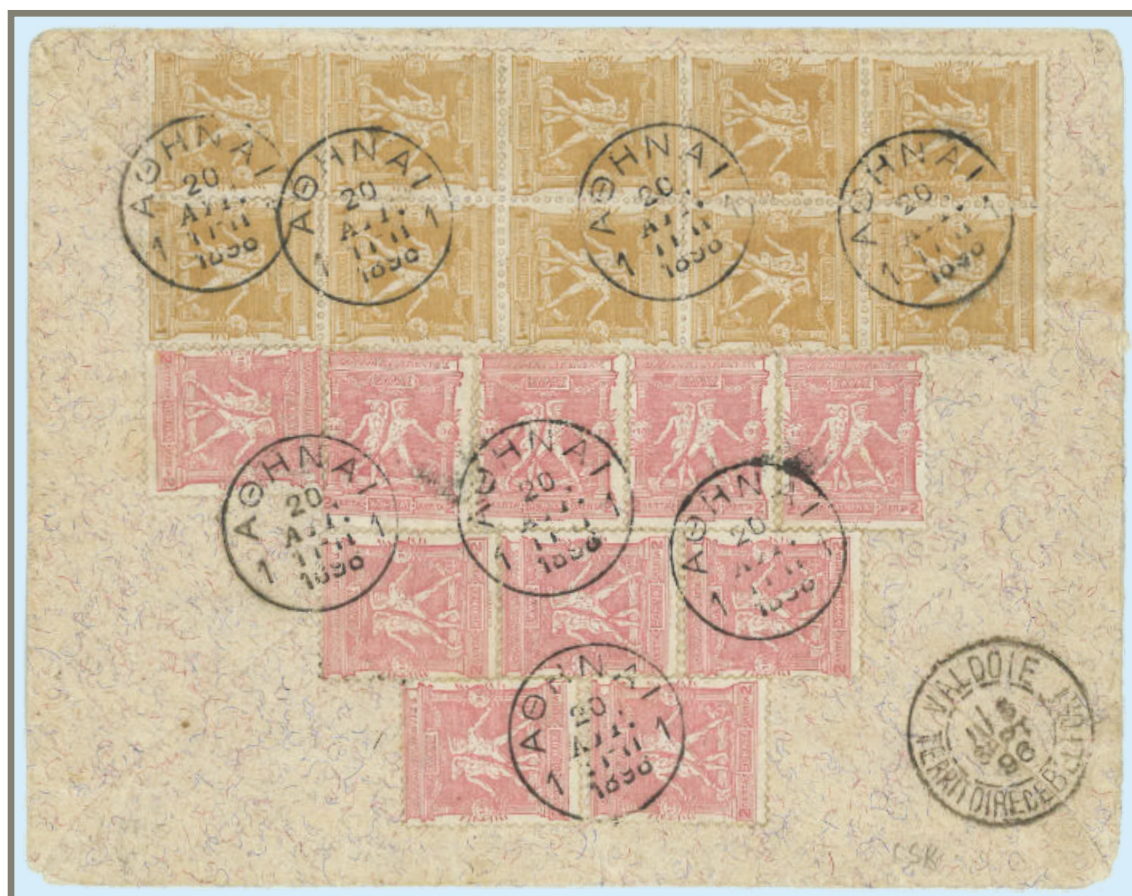
In cases where the registration form was not internationally accepted, e.g. a manuscript registration, by passing the borders a registration in acceptable form, e.g. a registration label, was affixed.

The insignificant quantities of Olympic commemorative in circulation in the remaining time before they were put out of circulation on June 30, 1901, were accepted as 25 lepta.



20 lepta lettercard postal stationery with additional 5+5 lepta (on back)
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 2(+12=14) ΔΕΚ 1896
to DÜSSELDORF 6 SEPT 96 14.3.98

Block of
ten 1 lepton and
ten 2 lepta
(2 of them without
printers name).
Cancelled
1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1
20 (+12=1.9)
ΑΥΤ 1896
to VALDOIE
TERRITOIRE
DE BELFORT
6 SEPT 96
14.3.98



THE POSTAL RATES



40 and 10 lepta covering the inland rate plus the registration fee (20+20), Handstamp ΣΥΣΤΗΜΕΝΟΝ and manuscript registration No 639. Cancelled ΠΑΤΡΑΙ 17 ΣΕΠΤ 96 to 6 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 6 18 ΣΕΠΤ 1896.

Photograph of back side - Minimized 40%



5 max seals on the back side needed after the 1899 post office directive.



Pair of 25 lepta covering the rate for up to 15grams registered international letter. Cancelled 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3 1(+12=13) ΦΕΒΡ to PARIS 4 RAYON CENTRAL 19 FEVR 98.

THE POSTAL RATES



2x 40 and 10 lepta (on the back) covering the international rate plus the registration fee (60+30), cancelled 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3 7(+12=19) ΦΕΒΡ 1897 via REGISTERED LONDON B 23 FE 97, REGISTERED MAR 6 1897 ST. LOUIS MO RECEIVED MAR 8 1897 Registry Division KANSAS CITY.



Photograph of back side - Minimized 45%



2x5 lepta covering the rate for 16 to 30 grams international letter.

Cancelled

ΠΑΤΡΑΙ 4

4(+12=16) ΙΟΥΛ.

THE POSTAL RATES



Registered letter with a total of 60 lepta covering the up to 15 grams rate
 a pair and a strip of 5 lepta cancelled 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3 18(+12=30) OKT 1896
 the 3 strips of five remained uncanceled and where property
 obliterated on arrival by LYON A MARSEILLE 3 NOV
 railway ambulant post office to TOULON-S-MER 4 NOV 96.

THE POSTAL RATES

Echantillons Sans Valeur

In order to facilitate the export of local products a low fee for “samples without value” was established, at 5 lepta per 50 grams.

Most of the samples sent, had an irregular shape and were thus wrapped with packing paper, resulting to poor quality of material.



Part of a larger wrapper marked *Echantillons Sans Valeur*.
3x5 lepta for 101 to 150 grams letter rate and 25 (30) lepta for registration fee.
Handstamp boxed R and manuscript registration No 30
Cancelled ΠΑΤΡΑΙ 11(+12=23) ΑΥΤ.

THE POSTAL RATES

In order to facilitate correspondence between Athens and the harbour of Piraeus the simple letter rate was reduced from the 20 (town to town)lepta to 10 lepta (in town) rate. The registration fee of 20 lepta remained the same.

The 25 lepta, sold for 30 lepta, was normally used on international mail. It is very rarely found on inland mail. Here Is used to cover the 10 (letter) + 20 (regictration) - 30 fee.



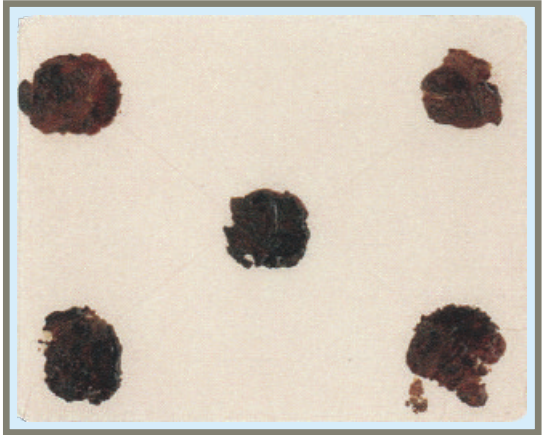
Handstamp ΣΥΣΤΗΜΕΝΟΝ and
manuscript registration No 112.
Cancelled ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ 28 ΜΑΙΟΣ
to 6 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 6
28 ΜΑΙΟΣ 1897 (back stamped)



Photograph of back side - Minimized 55%



"IN TOWN" registered cover.
Cancelled 4 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 4 27 ΔΕΚΕΜ 1897
with boxed ΣΥΣΤΗΜΕΝΟΝ (registered) No 548
and 5 max seals on the back.
The rate of 10 lepta for "IN TOWN" mail
and 20 lepta registration fee was applied.
This is the only "IN TOWN" registered cover
known to date.



Photograph of back side - Minimized 55%

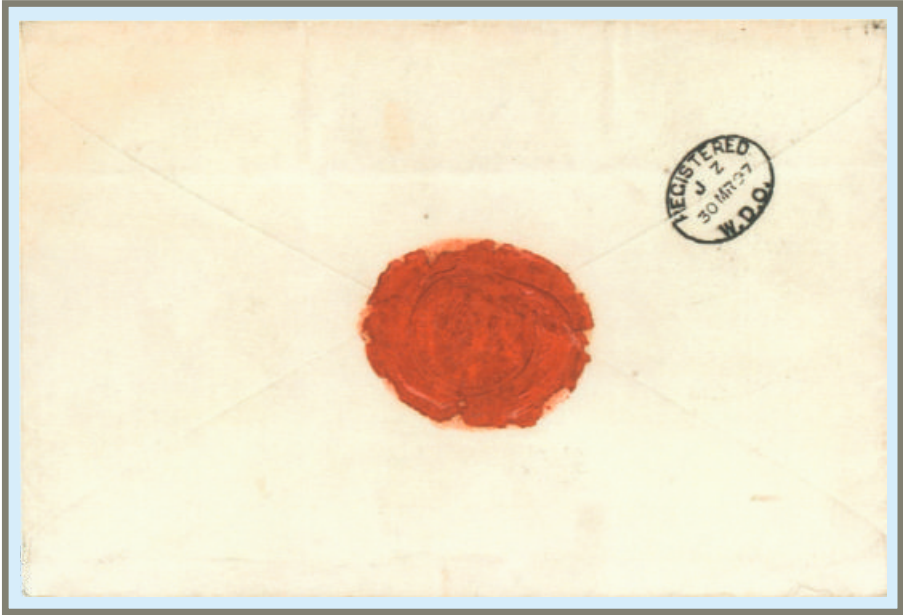
THE POSTAL RATES



3x25 lepta covering the 90 lepta for a registered letter between 16 to 30 grams.
Cancelled 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3 14(+12=26) ΜΑΡΤ 1897
arrival REGISTERED LONDON B 30 MR 97.

Wax Seal

ROYAL
CENTRAL
TREASURY

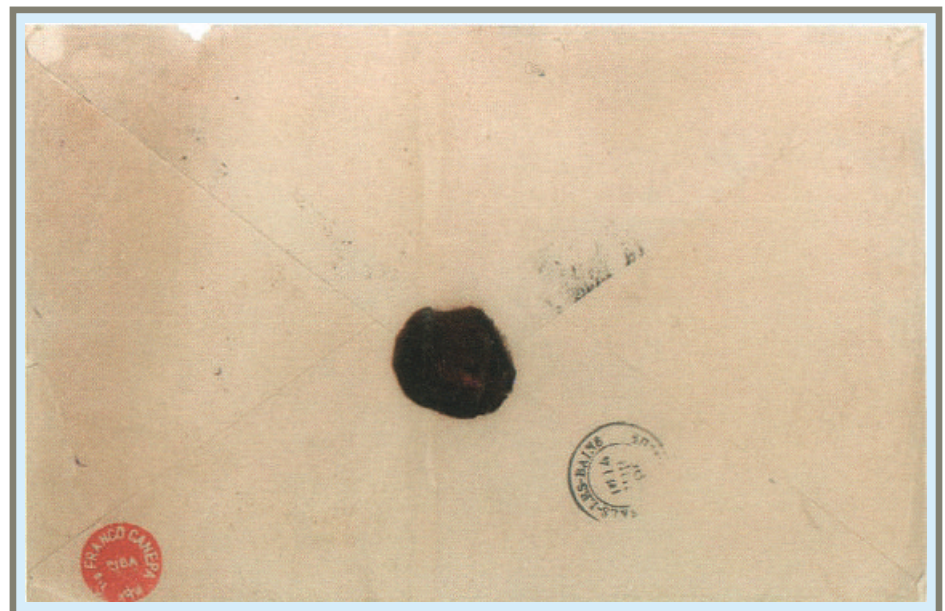


Photograph of back side - Minimized 55%

THE POSTAL RATES



20, 60 lepta and 1 drachma covering the 1,80 fees for a registered international letter from 61 to 75 grams.
Cancelled (unusual for such cases) 6 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 6, 28(+12=10.7) IOYN 1896
via MONTCENIS A MACON 13 JUL 96 to VALS LES BAINS 14 JUL 96.



Photograph of back side
Minimized 60%

**THE POSTAL
RATES**

Greece: The 1896
Olympic issue

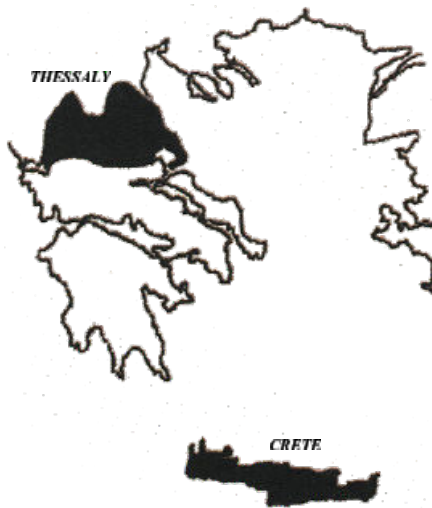
25, 40 lepta and
2 drachmae
covering
the 2, 70 fees
for a registered
international letter
from 106
to 120 grams.
Cancelled
1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1
1(+12=13)
NOEM 1897
to ROMA
CENTRO
16.11.97.



10, 25, 40, 60 lepta and 1 drachma covering th 2,40 fees for a registered international letter form 91 to 105 grams.
Cancelled (unusual use for such service) 7 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 7 13(+12=25) ΜΑΙΟΣ 1896 to KLATTAU KLATOVY 28.5.96.

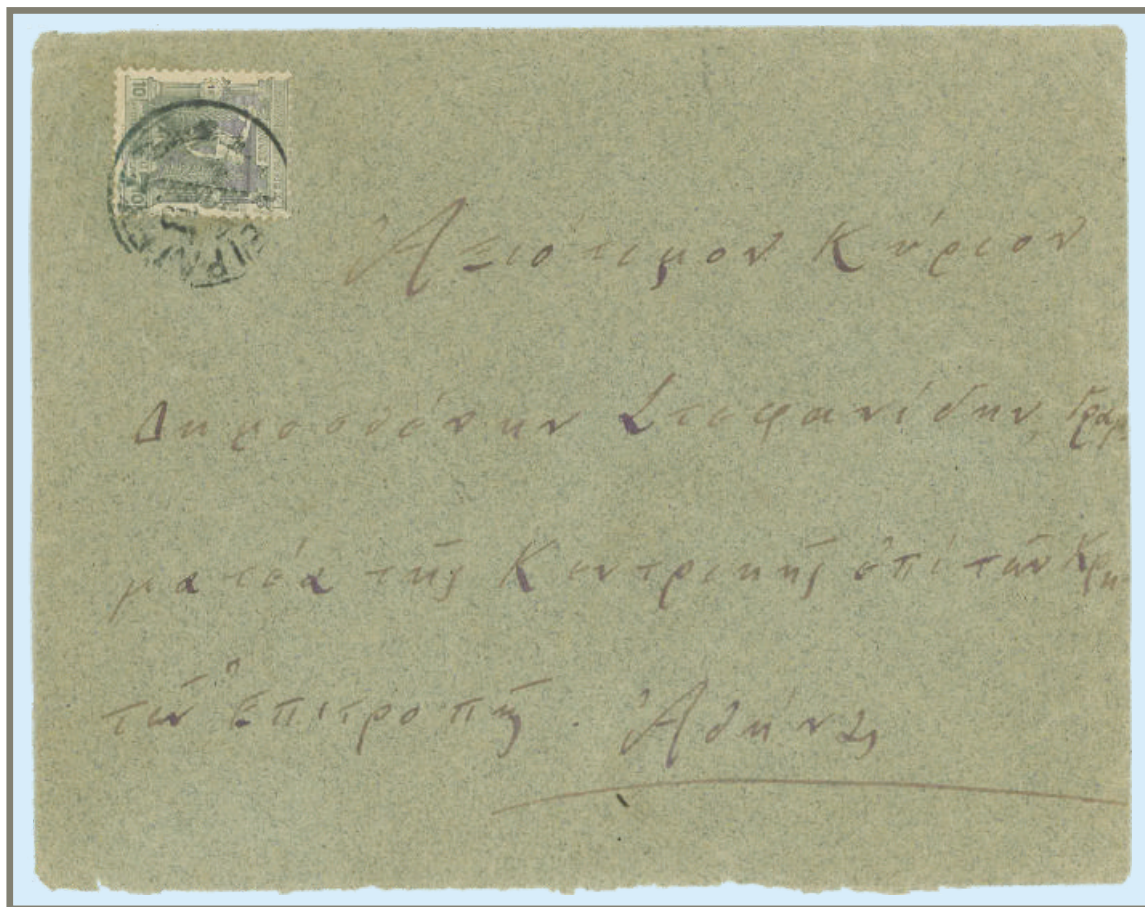
The 1897 War

A new revolt in Crete in January 1897 and the Ottoman reprisals, led to a wave of refugees from Crete to Greece and the landing in Crete of an expeditionary force of Greek Volunteers.

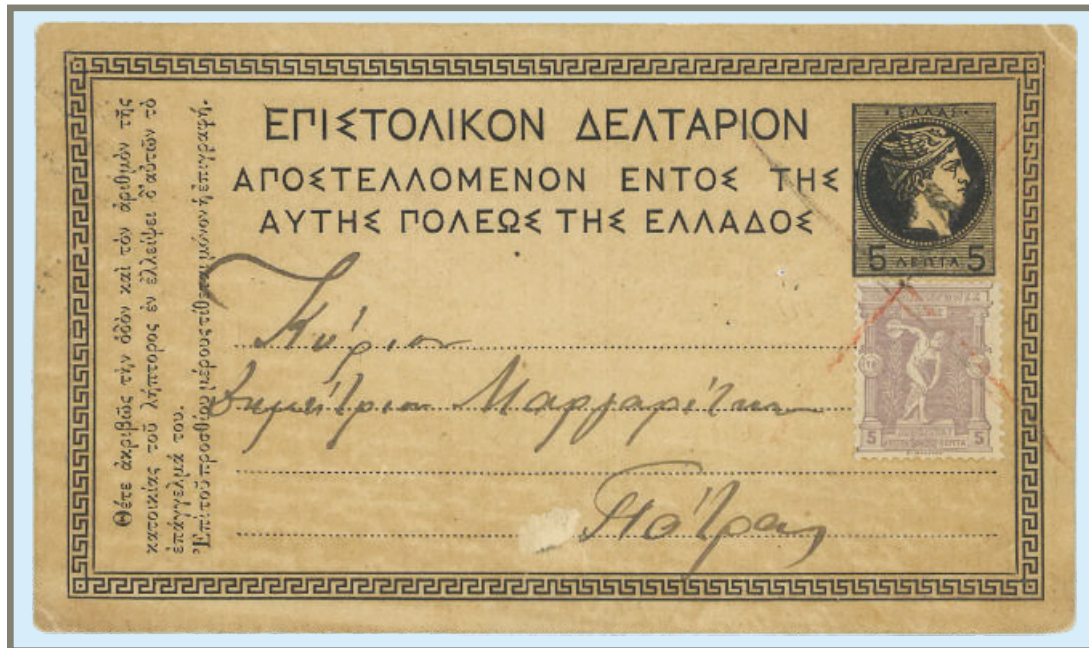


The explosive situation, including the slaughter of Christians, some British citizens among them, led to the International (Austria, Germany, Italy, France, Great Britain and Russia) blockade of Crete. This blockade meant that Greek volunteers from the islands and the mainland, primarily from Piraeus, Salonica and Smyrna, as well as Greek and Ottoman battleships were not allowed close to Crete.

The Ottoman Empire, unable to react in Crete anymore, invaded Thessaly. The Crown Prince headed the Greek Thessaly Army together with ill trained nationalistic officers of the Court. The Ottoman Army, assisted by German officers, had an immediate success in Thessaly.

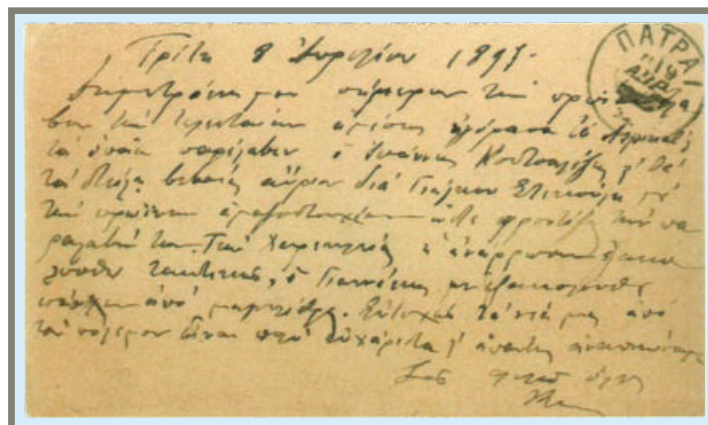


10 lepta Olympic commemorative cancelled ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ to Mr. Demosthenes Stefanides
Secretary of the Central Committee about the Cretans in Athens.
The Committee was organising mess for the Cretans refugees in Piraeus.



5 lepta postal stationery with additional 5 lepta Olympic commemorative
pen cancelled, as it was posted from the front where no post office existed
to ΠΑΤΡΑΙ 9 ΑΠΡ

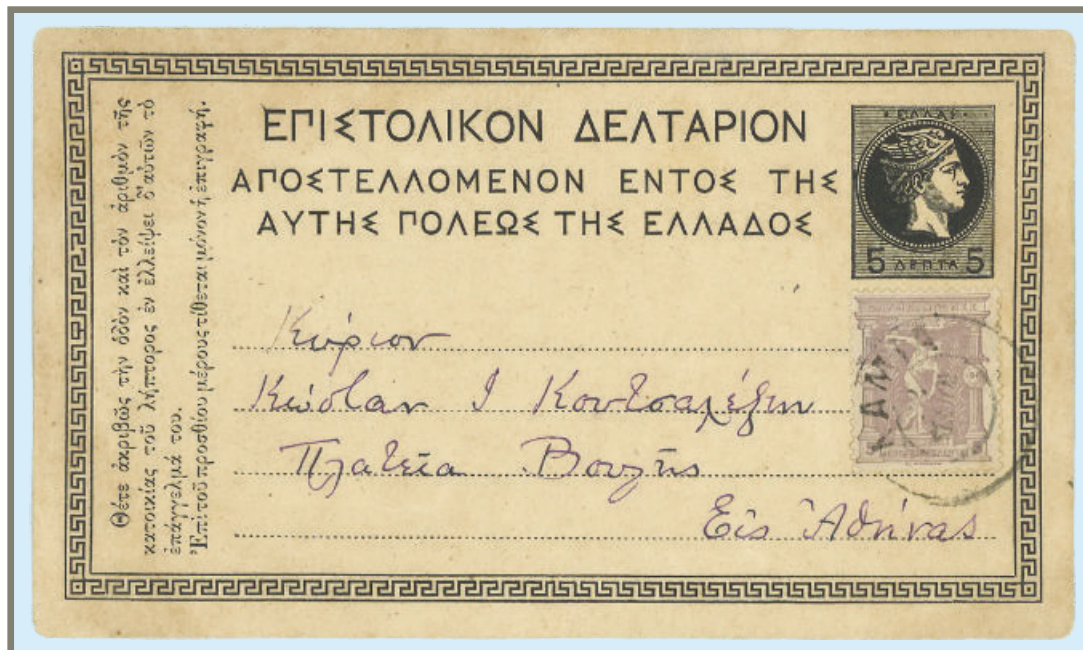
The successful start of the War ...



Photograph of back side
Minimized 65%.

Tuesday 8 April 1897

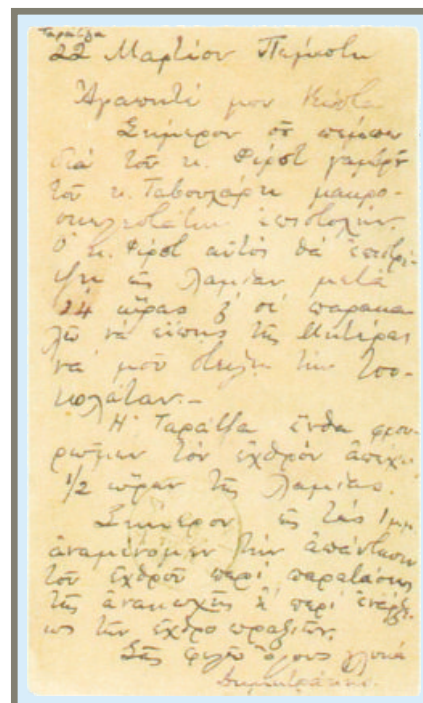
"... fortunately the news from the War is extremely
good and we are resting now."



5 lepta postal stationery with additional 5 lepta Olympic commemorative
cancelled LAMIA 22 MAIOS to 5 AΘΗΝΑΙ 5 22 1897

... and the miserable end.

22 March Thursday
“...Taratzza, where we are
guarding for the enemy,
is about half an hour
away from Lamia.
Today at 1pm we await
the response of the
enemy or prolonging
the armistice or the
recommencement of
hostilities.”



Photograph of back side
Minimized 65%.

THE WAR

An agreement was met at the end of 1897. Greece had to pay a large sum as war compensations and Turkey had to give Thessaly back to Greece. In the following months up to withdrawal of the Turks in May 1898, there was an uncertainty about which post offices stamps had to be used on letters.



"Certificate of Authenticity"

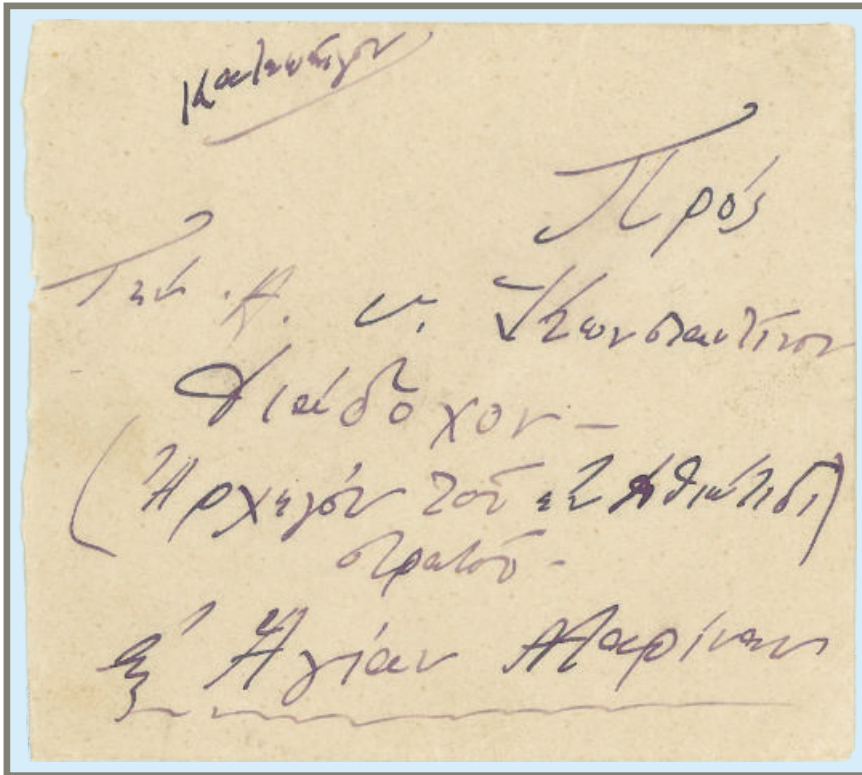
Letter from Volos to Greece bearing the letter rate in both Ottoman and Greek stamps. The letter, given probably on a small vessel, arrived in Piraeus where both stamps were cancelled by ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ 10(+12=22) ΑΠΡ 98 to GENOVA 26.4.98.



Photograph of back side
Minimized 55%

TAMEION

The TAMEION administrative cachet



The unorganised, in most of the cases, retreat of the Greek Army left a lot of postal material to be looted by the Ottoman Army. Apart of the denominations needed for the normal postal consumption, a lot of extremely high values were there, as part of the effort to help finance the Olympic Games, through the selling of the commemorative stamps.

Feared that all these looted high values will be sold in concurrence to the rest, it was telegraphically ordered on 16 April 1897 to put **ON THE FACE** the administrative cachet of the authority handling locally all the stocks, including the postal stationery.

This brought confusion about what was cancelled or not.



Entire letter with 20 lepta cancelled on the back.

Addressed to His Highness the Crown Prince Constantine, Chief of the Pthiotida Army, Agia Marina.

TAMEION ZAKYNΘΟΥ
Zante Treasury



Block of four 5 lepta cancelled ΛΑΜΙΑ ΣΕΙΤΤ 97
Addressed to His Highness the Crown Prince Constantine,
Chief of the Thessaly Army, Agia Marina.

TAMEION

A second order of April 1897 ordered the same ON THE GUM SIDE.

Both orders were withdrawn on 6 March 1897. As with any order it was followed in very different ways. Some authorities stamped large quantities, other very small ones during the less than two day's period.

As result from some places we do not have any recorded cases, from others we find postal material used many months later.

The usual type of cachet used is the TAMEION Town Name, meaning treasury of a main region. There are also types from less important local authorities.



ΤΑΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΤΑΘΜΑΡΧΕΙΟΝ ΣΟΥΡΠΗΣ
Sourpi Health (border) Authority.



ΤΑΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΥΡΟΥ
Syros Treasury



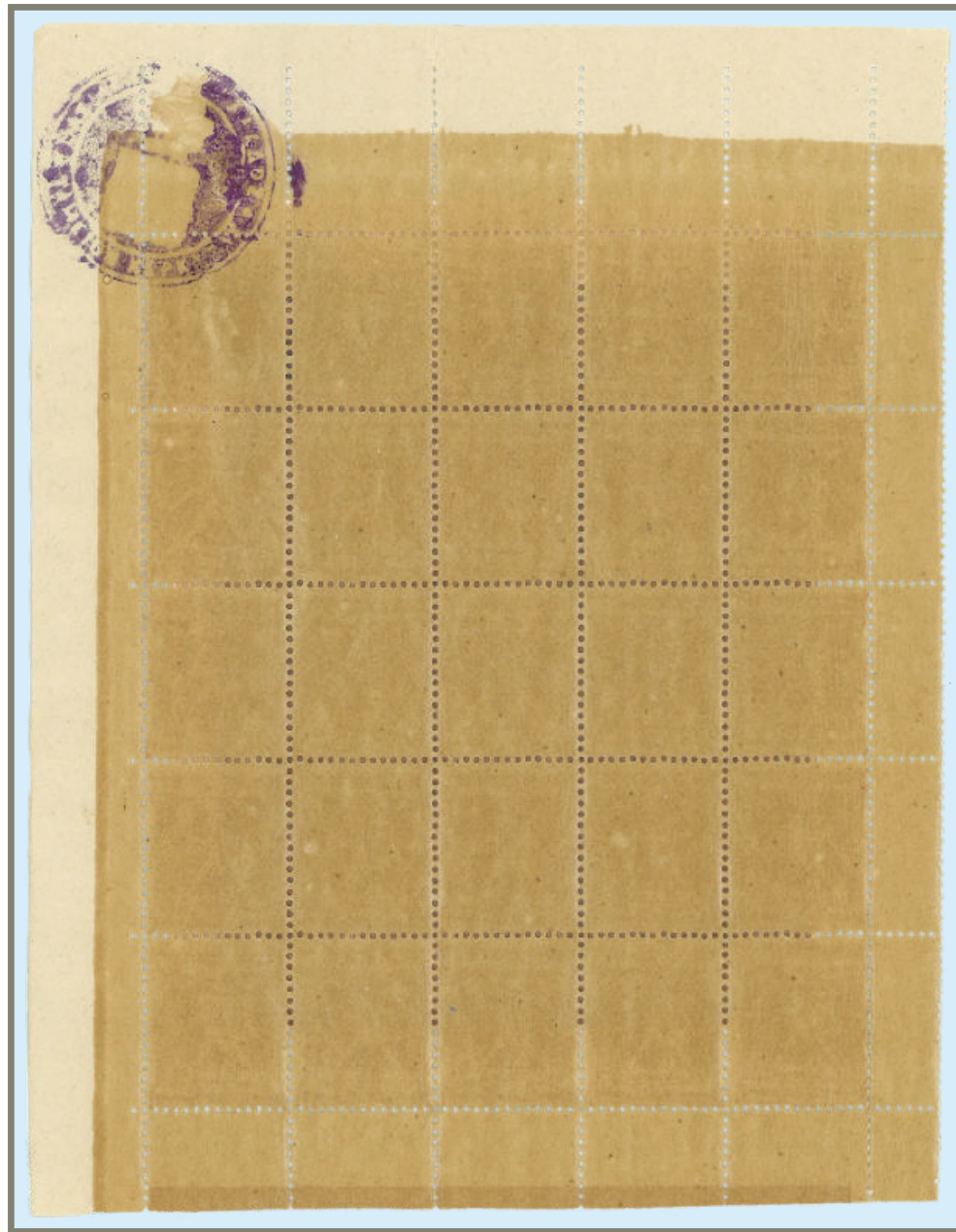
ΤΑΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΟΦΑΔΩΝ
Sofades Treasury



ΕΙΡΗΝΟΔΙΚΕΙΟΝ ΣΟΦΑΔΩΝ
Sofades Country Court.
One of the three largest known pieces.

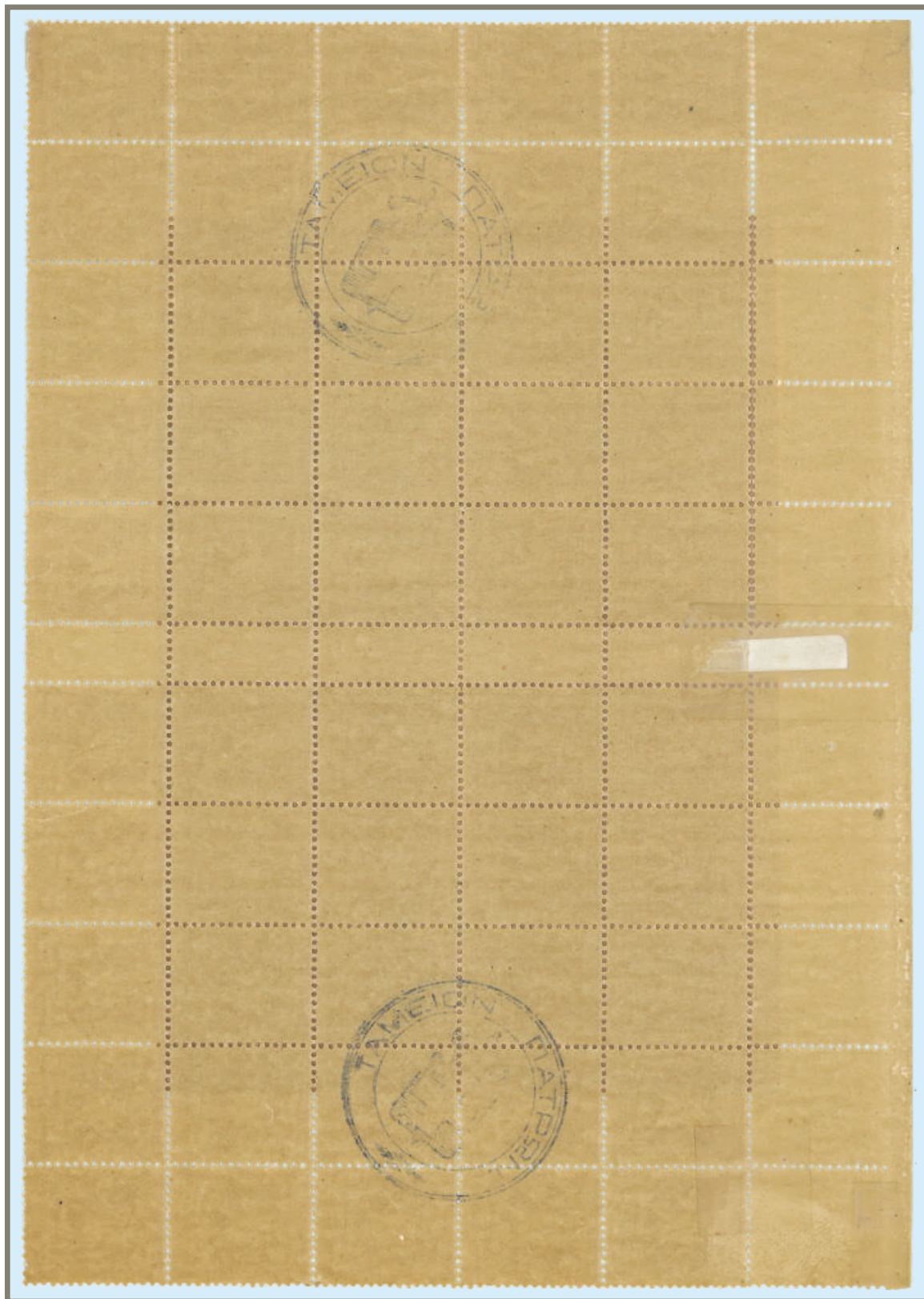


1 lepton in sheetlet of 25 bearing the Corfu treasury cachet
ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ ΤΑΜΕΙΟΝ ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑΣ



*2 lepta in sheetlet of 25 (upper right corner of the sheet)
bearing the Corfu treasury cachet*
ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ ΤΑΜΕΙΟΝ ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑΣ

TAMEION



1 lepton in two se-tenant sheetlets of 25 bearing the Patras treasury cachet
TAMEION ΠΑΤΡΩΝ

TAMEION

Early dates

The 16 April decree (on face) was recalled by the 18 April one (on gum).

They were effective by the first Monday after, that is 19th of April.

Shown here are cancellations of the first 6 days.

TAMEION ΗΛΕΙΑΣ



ΠΑΤΡΩΝ - ΠΥΡΓΟΥ
19 ΑΠΡΙΛ 97.

*The only recorded with
railway cancellation.*



ΝΑΥΠΛΙΟΝ
19 ΑΠΡ 97



ΔΡΟΜΟΚΟΣ
19 ΑΠΡ 97

**ΤΗΛΕΓΡ. ΥΠΟΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΙΣ
ΣΥΡΟΥ**



ΣΥΡΟΣ
20 ΑΠΡ 1897

TAMEION ΣΥΡΟΥ



ΣΥΡΟΣ ΤΑΧ. ΔΕΜΑΤΑ
21 ΑΠΡ
The only recorded

TAMEION ΜΕΣΣΗΝΗΣ



ΜΕΣΣΗΝΗ
20 ΑΠΡ

TAMEION ΠΑΤΡΩΝ



ΠΑΤΡΑΙ
ΤΑΧ. ΔΕΜΑΤΑ
19 ΑΠΡ 97
The only recorded.

TAMEION ΗΛΕΙΑΣ



ΠΥΡΓΟΣ
22 ΑΠΡ 1897

TAMEION ΣΥΡΟΥ



ΣΥΡΟΣ
24 ΑΠΡ 1897



ΣΥΡΟΣ
21 ΑΠΡ 97

ΤΗΛΕΓΡ. ΥΠΟΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΙΣ ΚΑΛΑΜΩΝ



25 lepta cancelled ΚΑΛΑΜΑΙ 24(+12=6.5) 97
 via ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 25 ΑΠΡ
 to CATANIA DISTRIBUZIONE 14 5 97
 One of the 4 letters with TAMEION recorded.

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

TAMEION



ΑΙΓΙΑΛΕΙΑΣ



ΑΡΓΟΛΙΔΑΣ



ΓΟΡΤΥΝΟΣ



ΠΥΛΙΑΣ



ΘΕΡΜΟΠΥΛΩΝ



ΚΑΡΥΣΤΙΑΣ



ΚΥΝΟΥΡΙΑΣ
ΑΓΙΟΣ ΠΙΕΤΡΟΣ
7 ΜΑΙΟΣ 97



ΚΥΤΙΑΡΙΣΣΙΑΣ
ΚΑΣΤΡΙΟΝ
13 ΜΑΙΟΣ 97



ΛΕΥΚΑΔΟΣ
ΛΕΥΚΑΣ 27 ΑΠΡ



ΜΕΓΑΛΟΠΟΛΕΩΣ



ΝΑΥΤΛΑΚΤΙΑΣ



ΕΠΗΧΩΡΙΟΥ



ΠΛΑΤΩΝ



ΤΡΙΦΥΛΙΑΣ
ΚΟΠΑΝΑΚΙ

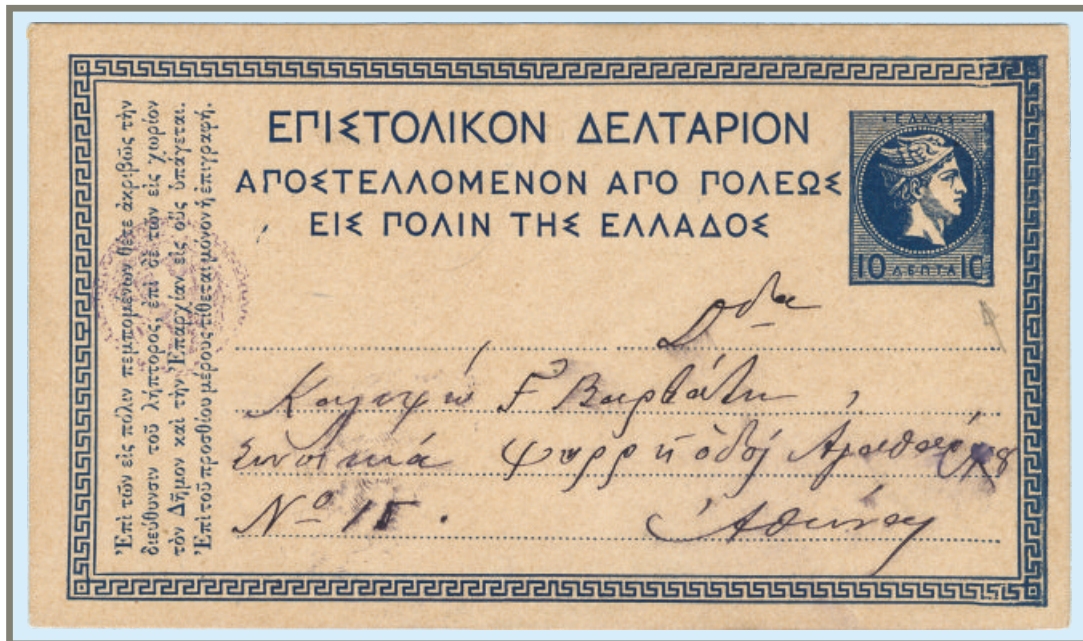


ΧΑΛΚΙΔΟΣ



The central
treasury
in Athens
used a cachet
without a
region name.

10 lepta postal stationery card
bearing the control cachet of the
central treasury in Athens only with
arrival postmark on the back
5 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 5 30 ΜΑΡΤ 1898.



TAMEION

TAMEION ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΣ

The fiscal authority of the area was
TAMEION ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΣ,
but in Olympia the post office opened two years later.
The cancellations derived from the villages of this area.

TAMEION ΗΛΕΙΑΣ



ΑΓΟΥΛΙΝΙΤΣΑ
18 ΜΑΙΟΣ 97



ΛΕΧΑΙΝΑ
12 ΙΟΥΝ 97



ΑΝΑΠΙΤΣΑΙΝΑ



ΑΛΩΝΙΣΤΑΙΝΑ

TAMEION ΣΥΡΟΥ
ΤΗΛΕΓ. ΥΠΟΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΙΣ ΣΥΡΟΥ



TAMEION

**TAMEION
MANTINEIAS**



ΤΡΙΠΟΛΙΣ

TAMEION ΚΑΡΥΣΤΙΑΣ



ΚΑΡΥΣΤΟΣ
25 ΜΑΙΟΣ



ΚΥΜΗ
3 ΜΑΙΟΣ

**TAMEION
ΗΛΕΙΑΣ**



ΠΥΡΓΟΣ

**TAMEION
ΛΑΚΕΔΑΙΜΟΝΟΣ**



ΒΡΕΣΘΕΝΑ

**TAMEION
ΚΟΡΩΝΗΣ**



ΚΟΡΩΝΗ

TAMEION ΛΟΚΡΙΔΟΣ



10 lepta postal stationery card bearing the control cachet TAMEION ΛΟΚΡΙΔΟΣ.
Cancelled ΑΤΑΛΑΝΤΗ 2 ΜΑΙΟΣ 1897 to ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ 4 ΜΑΙΟΣ.

TAMEION

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue Administrative Cancellations TAMEION - ΣΥΡΟΣ



TAMEION - ΣΥΡΟΣ ΥΠΟΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΙΣ



25 JAN
1899
The
latest
known
date.

Only four 10 drachmae
value known globally
till today.

Greece: The 1896 Olympic issue

PARCEL POST

No entire recorded before 1901.
For an entire with 1901 overprints

A type with town name
and TAX. ΔΕΜΑΤΑ
(parcels), was introduced
in 1893 for Athens,
Patras and Syros.



ΣΥΡΟΣ
TAX. ΔΕΜΑΤΑ



The Athens canceller used for
parcels was replaced in
September 1895 by the new type
8 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 8.

In the remaining 3 exchange
post offices the second type existing
was used for parcels.



ΠΑΤΡΑΙ TAX. ΔΕΜΑΤΑ
8 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 8



ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑ



ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ
16 ΣΕΠΤ

In the smaller post offices
the standard canceller was
used also for parcels.



ΚΑΛΑΜΑΤΑ
16 ΙΟΥΝ 1896



UNOFFICIAL RURAL SERVICE

Soon after the organisation of the Greek post office in 1833, a rural service was established in 1843. The 127 rural postmen were not attached to the Central Service but the municipalities. The result was the steady decline of the service, with the volume diminishing near to zero in 1895, the year the post office decided the official closure of the rural service and the withdrawal of the numbered triangular cancellers.

Nevertheless, in very few places the municipalities continued to provide the service in an unofficial way. The rural postmen, having no cancellers any more, cancelled the stamps by handwriting the name of the nearest post office.

Upon arrival to the post office, they were additionally cancelled by the post office's datestamp.



ΑΛΙΒΕΡΙΟΝ
ΧΑΛΚΙΣ

This is the only recorded case where the rural postman delivered the item not to the nearest post office of **Aliverion**, in the south of Euboea, but to the post office used for mail outside the island, in **Chalkis**.



ΖΑΒΕΡΔΑ
233



ΣΟΦΑΔΕΣ
194



ΚΑΡΥΣΤΟΣ
59



ΑΣΣΟΣ
(ΚΕΦΑΛΛΗΝ.)
223



ΘΙΡΑ
79



ΕΙΔΥΛΙΑ
267



ΜΥΤΙΚΑ
138



ΜΟΝΕΜΒΑΣΙΑ
36



ΚΑΣΤΡΙΟΝ
151



ΚΑΡΥΤΑΙΝΑ
19



ΜΑΖΕΙΚΑ
210



ΚΑΜΑΡΙΟΝ
145



ΚΡΕΣΤΑΙΝΑ
152



ΜΑΓΟΥΛΑΙΝΑ
156



ΚΟΝΤΟΒΑΖΑΙΝΑ
157



ΔΙΑΚΟΠΤΟΝ



ΚΑΛΑΜΑΙ



ΔΙΣΤΟΜΟΝ
262



ΤΡΙΠΟΛΙΣ

MIXED FRANKINGS

A Royal Decree published on 12.4.1897 allows the concurrent use of the Olympic commemorative with the definitive Small Hermes Head issues, until the new definitive are issued.

These were the flying Hermes, planned for 1895 but actually issued on July 1, 1901.

Mixed frankings were thus officially allowed but they are not common as this occurred only after the local exhausting of stock of the commemoratives denominations.

Mixed frankings are rare,
TAMEION
frankings are very rare.
Resulting to this extremely
rare piece which is
the only recorded.



TAMEION ΚΥΝΟΥΠΛΑΣ
ΠΟΥΛΗΘΕΡΑ 25 ΜΑΙΟΣ 97



20 lepta Olympic commemorative and 10 lepta Small Hermes Head.
Cancelled ΣΥΡΟΣ 5(+12=17) ΜΑΙΟΣ 1897 to WIEN 22.5.97.
This is the earliest date recorded with mixed franking.

MIXED FRANKINGS

in smaller places stocks lasted longer

Pair of 5 lepta Olympic commemorative and 20 lepta Small Hermes Head covering part of the 40 lepta fee needed (the 10 lepta were probably sealing the missing backside).
Cancelled
ΕΗΡΟΧΩΡΙΟΝ 1 ΟΚΤ
boxed ΣΥΣΤΗΜΕΝΟΝ
and manuscript
registration No 870.



40 lepta Olympic commemorative and 20 lepta Small Hermes Head covering the 16 to 30gr rate for an international letter
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 16(+12=28) ΜΑΙΟΣ 1897
to BEDFORD STREET s.w.c. JU 1 97.

MIXED FRANKINGS



*1 drachma first Olympic and 20 lepta
Small Hermes Head (3rd period) on cover
(1,2 drachma is the rate for fourfold weight).
From MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES
ÉTRANGÈRES (sealing-wax).
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 ΙΟΥΝ. 1897,
protocol No 747, arrival ROMA.*



*Photograph of back side
Minimized 50%.*

MIXED FRANKINGS

Several denominations of the Small Hermes Head issue were reprinted as soon as the stocks were exhausted.

This practice lasted from 1897 to 1901.

The exact date of each reprint is not known.

Recorded in mixed frankings are only the 1, 5 and 20 lepta.

Earliest Recorded Shown in Page			
20h	7. 5.97	16. 5.97	98
1λ	11.10.97	11.11.97	102
5λ	10. 2.98	10. 2.98	105



1898 (Mar) cover from Patras to Austria,
franked on the reverse with
1896 Olympic 2 lepta block of
ten and 1 lepton Small Hermes Head
strip of 5, tied by Patras cds,
Vienna arrival cds.



Pair of 5 lepta Olympic commemoratives and a strip of the reprinted 20 lepta
Small Hermes Heads covering the 16 to 30 gr rate of an international registered letter.
Cancelled 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3 18(+12=30) ΙΟΥΛ 1897 to MUENCHEN 5 5 AUG 97.
This is the earliest cover recorded with the reprinted Small Hermes Heads.

Photograph of back side
Minimized 50%.

MIXED FRANKINGS



After 25.3.1896 the postal rate (30 lepta for international common letter as this one) had to be covered by the Olympic commemorative issue. It seems that although the 20 lepta Small Hermes Head was initially cancelled (meaning that it was accepted) the error was later discovered, the stamp was nullified and the letter **T** was marked with the same ink.



The Ottoman postman received an item with a **T**, where the $\frac{2}{3}$ of the postal rate was missing. He marked it with his own **T** and calculated the missing rate:

$2(\text{penalty}) \times \frac{2}{3}(\text{missing rate}) \times 1 \text{ piastra (international common letter rate)} = \frac{4}{3} \sim 1 + \frac{1}{2} = 1 \text{ piastra} + 20 \text{ para} = 1,20$ handwritten in blue.



To overcome the storage of the small values (20 para and 1 piastra) of the postage dues, declared in an ingenious way, the 2 piastres postage due as 1 piastra postage due.

The missing amount of 1 piastra and 20 para was thus collected by cancelling bisected 2 piastres (common issue 1892) = 1 piastra and bisected the "revalued" 2 piastres (postage due issue 1892) = 20 para.



MIXED FRANKINGS



5 lepta postal stationery card with additional pair of 2 lepta Olympic commemoratives and 1 lepton Small Hermes Head. Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 11 NOEM 1897 to ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ 12 NOEM in blue.



2x40 lepta Olympic commemoratives and 20 lepta Small Hermes Head. Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 2(+12=28) OKT 1897 to MÜNCHEN 18 OCT 97.

MIXED FRANKINGS

Mailed in
5.1.1899
from Lefkas
to Halle ad. Saale.
Overseas
postal rate
30 lepta for a
letter up to
15 grams.



Pair of 5 lepta
Olympic
commemoratives
and 20 lepta
Small Hermes Head.
Cancelled
1ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1
5(+12=17) OKT 1897
to MARSEILLE
BOUCHE DU RHONE
23 OCT 97.



ορίζοντος, ἐν πλοῖον καὶ κατοπὶ, φερ-
μενον ἐπὶ τῶν κυμάτων, ἐν πρᾶγμα,
τοῦ ὁποίου δὲν ἠδύνετο νὰ ὀρίσῃ τὸ
σχῆμα. Καὶ τὸ πρᾶγμα αὐτό, οἶονεὶ ὠθού-
μενον ὑπὸ τοῦ ἀνέμου, ἐπλησίαζεν ὁλο-
νὲν πρὸς τὴν ἀκτὴν, πρὸς τὴν Μανώλιαν.

οῦ, καὶ τὸ αὐτὸ ἄνθρωπος, ὑπὲρ τοῦ ὁποίου τόσαι κατ-
εβλήθησαν προσπάθειαι δὲν ἐφαίνετο ἀ-
κόμη.

Ἐν τούτοις ἐξ ὅλων τῶν σημείων
τοῦ Δινάρ προσήρχοντο πολυάριθμοι πε-

γείρειου μέχρι τοῦ ἱματιοφυλακείου, εἰς
ἤλθεν εἰς τὸν θάλαμόν της. «Τί φασα-
ρία σήμερα τὸ πρωί. Εἶμαι τόσον κου-
ρασμένη, ἂν καὶ δὲν ἐσηκώθην ἀπὸ τὸ
κρεβάτι μου, μὲ ὅλ' αὐτά. Λίνα, βγάλε

τιποτε. Διὰ νὰ ευχαριστήσῃς ὡς τὴν μι-
κράν της κυρίαν ἀνεκάθισεν ἐπὶ αὐτῆς
τὸν πρᾶγμα, καὶ ἠκροάσθη ἐπὶ τινὰ λε-
κεφαλὴν ἐν εἵδει προσκεφαλαίου καὶ ἀπε-
κοιμήθη πάλιν.

Ἡ Εὐτυχία εἰπὲρ ποτὲ τεταραγμένη,
δὲν ἐσυλλογίσθη πλέον τὸν ὕπνον· συν-
εδαύλισε τὸ πῦρ τῆς ἐστίας, ἐσκέπασε
τὸ κλωδίον τοῦ πτηνοῦ της, κατόπιν ἐνε-
θρονίσθη ἐπὶ μιᾶς πολυθρόνας. Δύο
φορὰς ἀκόμη, κατὰ τὰς αἰ ὁποῖαι προηγούνται τῇ
ὅτι ἤκουσε τὸν κρότον
ὁμοῦ μὲ τοὺς μηχανήματα.
Μετὰ τοῦτο
θρίασε καὶ
ἐπ' αὐτοῦ,
ἐκεῖνο χρῶμι
νᾶται μετ' ὁ
σφαιρίου μας.

Περὶ τὴν
ρυθὸν ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ· ἡ θύρα τῇ
καὶ μετὰ προσοχῆς ἀνοιχθεῖσα, ἔβριζε καὶ
μετ' ὀλίγον βήματα ἠκούσθησαν ἐπὶ τῆς
ἄμμου τῆς δευδροστοιχίας. Ἀνῆγειρε
τὸ πκραπέτασμα καὶ διέκρινε διὰ τῶν
κενῶν τῆς περσίδος τὴν καταγραφὴν
τοῦ πατ' αὐτῆς, διευθυνομένου πρὸς τὴν

καὶ εἰσατε με τα γιαλια σας, μπα-
μπά· εἰσθε πολὺ ταραγμένοις».

Τῇ ἀπάντησε μὲ δύο λέξεις καὶ τὴν
αὐτὸς ἤρχισεν νὰ ετοιμάζῃ ἐν σπουδῇ τὴν
μικράν λέμβον τοῦ περιπάτου, εὗρισκο-
μένην ἐκεῖ ἐν ἀσφαλείᾳ ἐπὶ τῶν βρά-
χων τῆς ἀκτῆς. Ὁ μαῦρος ἔφθασε τα-
χέως, εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὴν λέμβον, τὴν ἔλυσε
καὶ ἰσχυρῶς ὠθήσας διὰ τῆς κώπης, τὴν
ἔρριπεν εἰς τὴν θάλασσαν.

Εἰς τὸ σπῆτι ἡ Εὐτυχία εἶχεν ἀνα-
στατώσῃ ὅλον τὸν κόσμον, μὲδ' αὐτῆς

τοῦ ἀνατέλλοντος ἡλίου.

Ἡ δεσποινὶς Θηρεσία, ἀφ' οὗ ἔχυ-
σεν ὀλίγας σταγόνας ρακῆς μεταξὺ τῶν
ποσωνικίων ἑδόντων τοῦ ἑξα-
μετάστοιχου, ὡς νὰ τοῦτο δυνάμην
γρηγορώτερα εἰς τὸ δι' αὐτὸν ἐτοιμα-
σθὲν δωμάτιον. Μόλις τον ἔφεραν ἐκεῖ,
πάντοτε ἀναίσθητον, καὶ τον ἐτοποθέτη-
σαν πλησίον τοῦ πυρός, ἔφθασεν ὁ ἰα-
τρός. Ἐχρηιάσθησαν ἰσχυραὶ ἐντριβαί,
σχεδὸν ἐπὶ ἐν τέταρτον τῆς ὥρας, διὰ
νὰ συνέλθῃ. Ἐπὶ τέλους ἤνοιξε τοὺς
ὀφθαλμούς του καὶ εἶδε περὶ αὐτὸν ἐκ-
πληκτος. Παρατηρήσας εἰτα τὴν κεφα-
λὴν τοῦ ὠραίου του σκύλου, ὁ ὁποῖος
τον εἶχεν ἀκολουθήσῃ καὶ ἔλεγε τὴν
χεῖρά του, ὑπεμειδιάσεν, ἐπιθύρισε λέ-
ξεις τινὰς ἀγγλιστὶ καὶ ὡς ἐξαντληθεὶς
ἐκ τῆς προσπάθειας ταύτης, ἐπανεκλει-
σε τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς. Ὁ ἰατρός δὲν τον
ἄφῃκε, εἰμὴ ἀφ' οὗ εἶδε τὴν κατάστα-
σίν του βελτιουμένην καὶ διέταξεν ἡσυ-
χίαν ἀπόλυτον.

Ὁ θάλαμος τοῦ ἀσθενοῦς συνεκοινώ-
νει μετὰ τῆς βιβλιοθήκης, εἰς τὴν ὁποίαν
ἐγκαθιδρύθη ὁ κ. Μορδὰς, ἀφήσας τὴν
θύραν ἀνοικτὴν, διὰ νὰ τῷ εἶνε εὐκολος
ἡ ἐπαγρύπνησις. Ἡ δεσποινὶς Θηρεσία,
πρὶν ἢ ἀφίσῃ τὸν ἀδελφόν της, ἔρριπεν
ἐν τελευταῖον βλέμμα πρὸς τὸ μέρος

Η ΔΙΑΠΛΑΣΙΣ ΤΩΝ ΠΑΙΔΩΝ
Περιοδικὸν ἐκδιδόμενον ἐν Ἀθήναις

Θ—κ'. 67

Mr. Demétre Pittacos
avocat

Alexandrie (Egypte)

σιγῆμα λευκὸν ἐπὶ τοῦ ὀρίζοντος. Ἦτο
μικρὸν πανίον εἰς τὴν ἄκραν ἐνδὸς ἱστοῦ,
σημεῖον τὸ ὁποῖον ὁ Ἀγῆνωρ ὤφειλε
νὰ κάμῃ ἐν ἡ περιπτώσει κατόρθωνε νὰ
σώσῃ τὸν ναυαγόν.

«Δόξα σοι ὁ Θεός!» ἀνέκραξεν ἡ δε-
σποινὶς Μορδὰς· εἰτα στραφεῖσα πρὸς

Wrapper of the periodical «Η ΔΙΑΠΛΑΣΗ ΤΩΝ ΠΑΙΔΩΝ»
of the 29th of November 1897, bearing a pair of
2 lepta Olympic commemoratives and 1 lepton Small Hermes Head.
Cancelled 2 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 2 29 NOEM 1897.

MIXED FRANKINGS

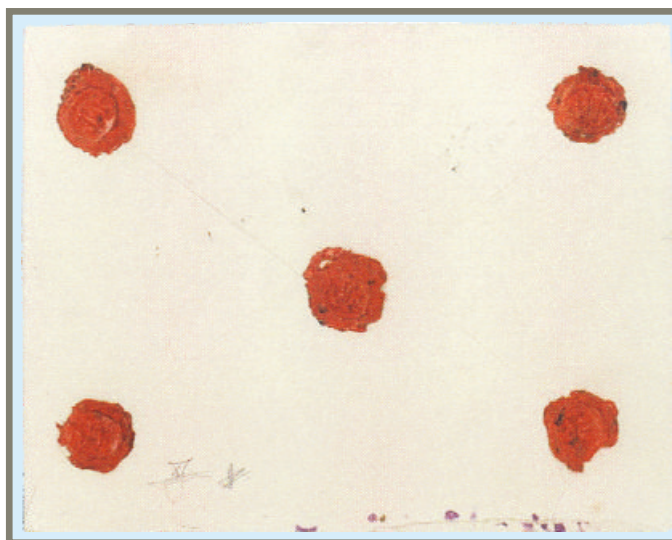


60 lepta Olympic commemorative and 20 lepta Small Hermes Head,
covering the 31 to 45gr rate of an international registered letter.

Handstamp boxed ΣΥΣΤΗΜΕΝΟΝ (registered)
and manuscript registration N 853

Cancelled 4 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 4 14 ΑΥΓ.

...to be noted the 5 wax on the back side
needed after the 1899 post office directive.



Photograph of back side
Minimized 60%.

MIXED FRANKINGS



Two pairs 2 lepta Olympic commemorative and pair 1 lepton
Small Hermes Head, covering the 10 lepta card rate.
Cancelled 1 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 1 2(+12=14.2) ΦΕΒΡ 1898
to BADEN BADEN 19.2.98



60 lepta Olympic commemorative and 2x5 +20 lepta
Small Hermes Head, covering the 21 to 40gr rate
of an international registered letter.
Cancelled 3 ΑΘΗΝΑΙ 3 17(+12=29) ΟΚΤ 1898.



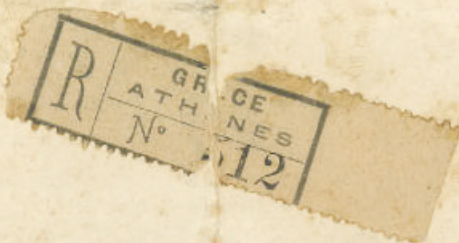
Photograph of back side
Minimized 60%.

An das

hohe k. und k. Ministerium
des kaiserlichen und königlichen Hauses und
des Aeussern

Portofreie Dienstsache.

Recommandirt.



WIEN.

