



# The MASONIC STAMP COLLECTOR

Journal of the Masonic Stamp Unit of the American Topical Association, published bi-monthly. Address all letters and submit material to the Editor, Nicholas G. Koutroulis, 4659 Sandalwood Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70127.

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WHOLE NO. 26

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## Knox Stamp Sought

The following has been received from Bro. Edward E. Becher, Belmont, Mass. concerning the issuing of a stamp to honor General Henry Knox. The note states that it is a very reasonable request and one which you and I can do our little bit. Major General Henry Knox Lodge, the only "Military Lodge in Massachusetts" in conjunction with the Knox Memorial Association of Thomaston, Maine (where M. G. Henry Knox was buried when that State was a part of Mass.) and the National Sojourners, an organization made up of past and present Officers of the Armed Forces who are Masons, is urging all voters to write the Post Master General, their Senators, and Congressmen, and urge the issuing of a Commemorative stamp in honor of Major General Henry Knox.

"It seems strange that with so many persons and events of all kinds commemorated by special postage stamps in recent years, no mention has been made of an authentic hero and statesman of our area -- Major General Henry Knox.

Boston born and bred, his brilliant feat in dragging the captured cannon from Fort Ticonderoga to Dorchester Heights, over primitive roads and under wintry conditions, is one of the great epics of American history. It forced the British to leave Boston on March 17, 1776, and thus we observe Evacuation Day on March 17th

Knox was constantly by General George Washington's side, as a member of his staff and close friend, throughout the long and bitter struggle for independence. He attained world-wide distinction as an artillery expert, the General of Artillery of the Continental Army.

We take pride in the large number of able Massachusetts men who have served in the Cabinet throughout the years -- Henry Knox was the first of these. As the Secretary of War (which included the Navy) in President Washington's cabinet, he authorized the construction of the Frigate Constitution (Old Ironsides) in Boston, played a significant role in the founding of a national school for training military officers at West Point, urged the formation of a citizens' army as the basis for our future defense (the National Guard), and others. In this day, when patriotism and service are regarded by so many as dirty words, it would seem that recognition of Henry Knox in the form of a special postage stamp is long overdue. The story of his sacrifices and years of devotion to the United States, as one of our Founding Fathers, might even inspire many of today's Americans!"

## William Tolbert



**C**elebration of the Inauguration of Liberian President William R. Tolbert, Jr. was accomplished by the Liberian Post Office on January 1 by release of 25 and 80 cent stamps. The low is depicted here; the high in vertical format shows the new president standing. President Nixon sent his wife, Pat, to Liberia as official U. S. representative at the Inauguration of Tolbert, January 3, 1972. Tolbert succeeded Tubman, also a Mason Prince Hall, who died in 1971.

Tolbert was born May 13, 1913 at Bensonville, Montserrado, Liberia. He was Vice President of Liberia from 1952 until 1971. He was Worshipful Master of Saint John's Lodge No. 3, Monrovia. Junior Grand Warden 1954-55; Grand Treasurer 1956; Senior Grand Warden 1957-58. Probably he served as Grand Master but we have no information on this. He was recently coronated 33° Scottish Rite in Washington, D. C. (Prince Hall).

Submitted by Marshall Loke, Rochester, New York and John Cunningham, Washington, DC.

### Masonic Philately

**E**ditor's note: The following article on Masonic Philately was presented by Bro. Fred Jelsema, Rapid City, South Dakota, at the annual convention of Trans-Mississippi-Philatelic Society. He received a bronze medal for his presentation of this paper and we are pleased to publish it below for the edification of our members. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Bro. Jelsema for his work in promoting Masonic Philately. Also congratulations are due him for his recent installation as Worshipful Master of Rapid City Lodge No. 25. We wish him good luck and a successful year.

**M**asonic Philately - Much has been written about that phase of topical stamp collecting having as its basis a study of Freemasonry on stamps and probably much more is yet to be said. Advisedly I say that this is a study because there is much more involved than just the purchase of a few stamps. Any stamp collector knows that to be recognized as a "Philatelist" he must study his stamps. In other words, he must show a reason for the faith that is in him. To assemble a worth while collection is not easy. It involves not only a knowledge of the stamps themselves, but requires much research for the stories of the characters portrayed.

Because of the many aspects of Masonic Philately, a collection of Masonic stamps would be composed of so many stamps that tens of thousands of words would be needed to describe such a collection and hundreds of albums would be needed in mounting such a collection.

Masonic philately took its form as early as 1847, the period of postal history when but a few post offices had cancelling devices. Prior to that stamps were cancelled either by ink or a cancelling device created by the postmaster. These cancelling devices were cut from wood or cork and many postmasters, being Masons created cancelling devices showing Masonic symbols. The Square & Compasses is probably the most common Masonic symbol used.

One of the better examples of the cork or "fancy cancellations" is a cover from Quincy, Mass. and was mailed in 1868. The stamps is a three cent red and is Scotts Catalogue No. 94. The cancel is a black square and compasses, with the letter G.

Every organization is represented by its own particular symbol, Masonry is no exception. The symbols of Masonry are numerous, but the symbol that is representative of all Masonry is the Square and Compasses.

The stamp, one of the many, that I have chosen to represent this group is known as Scotts RO 61B and belongs to the Private Die Match stamps. It is a 1¢ green stamp and printed on silk paper, and shows the square and compasses.

The extraordinary demands of the Civil War upon the Federal Treasury resulted in Congress devising and passing the Revenue Act of 1862. This act permitted the manufactures, at their own expenses, to have dies engraved and plates made for their exclusive use for the printing of stamps. These stamps are known as Private Die and Property Stamps.

Masonic buildings can be grouped into two categories; actual Masonic buildings and Masonic Temples and buildings whose cornerstones have been laid by proper Masonic Ceremony. Stamps depicting Masonic Temples are few in number. One of the most impressive Temple on stamps was issued by China in 1909 and is listed as Scotts Nos. 131-33. Scotts No. 131 is a good representation of this series. It is a 2¢ orange and green stamp.

The Temple of Heaven is located in the southern of Chinese section of Peking. It was used by the Peking bodies at that time, as well as the Southern Jurisdiction of the Supreme Council. The Peking bodies were composed chiefly of the U.S. Marines having no Temple of their own and all degrees were conducted at the Temple of Heaven for the 4th Division of Marines.

Masonic presidents have always been a controversial subject. Some Masonic writers list fifteen Presidents as being Masons, while others list only thirteen Masons as being presidents. Thomas Jefferson and James Madison being the controversial presidents.

George Washington, first President of the United States, became a member of Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, Virginia on August 4, 1753.

The one-cent green was issued April 25, 1938 and belongs to the Presidential series. It is Scott's catalogue No. 804. The portrait is from a photograph of a bust by Houdon.

Two presidents of the United States have been Grand Masters of their respective states. Andrew Jackson was a member of Masonic Harmony Lodge No. 1, Nashville, Tenn. He served as Grand Master of Tennessee from October 10, 1822 to October 4, 1823. The seven cent sepia was issued August 11, 1938 and belongs to the presidential series. It is Scott's No. 812. The portrait was influenced by the bronze statue by Belle Kinney Sholz, in the Rotunda of the United States Capitol.

Harry S. Truman was the second president to become the Grand Master of his state. He was a member of Belton Lodge No. 450, Belton, Missouri. He became the Grand Master of Missouri in 1940. Harry Truman is portrayed on Brazil No. 673, issued June 26, 1947.

If one were to place the postage stamps from the first one to the last one, you would find a good pictorial history of not only this country but any country.

If one were to examine these stamps closely one would find a closer relationship with Masonry, as many of the stamps have a Masonic relationship between the stamp and for what it is to honor.

There are hundreds of stamps that fit into this category but because of the lack of space I will limit it to what I consider the three most important stamps: (1) Statue of Liberty, (2) Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, (3) The Liberty Bell.

The Statue of Liberty is a fifteen cent gray stamp. It was issued November 11, 1922 and is a reproduction from a photograph, with a view of New York harbor in the background. It is listed as Scott's number 566. The stamp was designed by Auguste Bartholdi. He was born in Collmar, Alsace on April 2, 1834. (Ed.note: It should be the statue was designed and not the stamp). He was a member of Alsace-Lorraine Lodge Paris, France.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag is a five cent blue and red stamp and was issued January 9, 1963. It is listed as Scott No. 1208. The Pledge was first published in the "Youth's Companion" on September 8, 1892, in conjunction with the public school celebration of the 400th anniversary of the Discovery of America. Its authorship was long ascribed to James B. Upham, but investigation committees of the U.S. Flag Association in 1939 and the Library of Congress committees named Francis J. Bellamy, as the author of this stamp. He was a member of Little Falls Lodge No.181, Little Falls, New York.

The Liberty Bell is a two cent Carmine Rose stamp which was issued on May 10, 1926 and is listed as Scotts number 627. It is, in a sense a Masonic related stamp having been used in connection with Masonic events in history. It was printed July 4, 1776 that Andrew McNair, a Mason, rung the bell in proclaiming the birth of a nation. It tollled for the death of George Washington.

Anti-Masonic stamps should be a part of every Masonic collection. The stamp portraying John Quincy Adams belong to this group. It is a six cent red orange stamp and is listed as Scott No. 811. The photograph is from a bust by John Cruckshank King in the Capital, Washington, D. C.

John Q. Adams was president during the Anti-Masonic period and the William Morgan affair.

This is but a brief sumation of the Masonic Philately. Much more can be said, but because of the time limitation it will have to end at this time.

## Medals

The U.S. Treasury has available for sale miniature medals depicting the Presidents of the United States at 50¢ each. A special holder at 3 for one dollar to hold these medals is also available. The holder is a mainatyre "frame" with a base to hold upright and made specially for the U. S. Treasury to hold these medals only. Since many U.S. Presidents were Masons and if you are interested in obtaining these miniature medals for your colateral Masonic collection we list below as follows: 801 - George Washington; 803 - Thomas Jefferson; 804 - James Madison; 805 - James Monroe; 807 - Andrew Jackson; 817 - Andrew Johnson; 820 - James A. Garfield; 825 - Theodore Roosevelt; 826 - William H. Taft; 831 - Franklin D. Roosevelt; 832 - Harry S. Truman; 837 - Lyndon B. Johnson (E.A.).



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SERIES

DECATUR HOUSE

Built in 1819 by Commodore Stephen Decatur with prize money won in his conquest of the Tripoli pirates, it is the oldest edifice on Lafayette Square, which faces the White House, now a house museum.

Stephen Decatur was initiated into St. Johns Lodge, October 12, 1799, either of Maryland or Rhode Island. If it was of Maryland, then it was the same lodge in which his father had been initiated. Decatur was killed in a duel on March 22, 1820.

MASONIC FIRST DAY COVER  
- R O U T R O U L I S -  
No. 24



HISTORIC PRESERVATION

==+== UNOFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVER ==+==

The Official first day city for all the four stamps for the Historical preservation series was San Diego, California, October 29, 1971. However, since the Decatur House is located in Washington, D. C. it would have been most appropriate to have a first day cancellation there. Therefore, under special arrangements we were able to have some of the Decatur House stamps flown the same morning from San Diego to Washington, D. C. to receive the first day cancellation in Washington. In order to make absolutely certain that the stamp would be cancelled on the first day in Washington, blank envelopes were used and the cachet was printed afterwards.

This is a rare cancellation which will make a desirable collectors item. We have enough serviced to take care of the standing orders in the Masonic Cover Club. But a very few still available on first come basis while the supply lasts at \$1.00 each. Order from the order. If sold out, a refund will be made.

### New Issues

On October 18, 1971, Dubai issued the first part of a new series entitled "Education" Included in this set a 60 dirhams, Albrecht Durer; 1 Riyal, Sir Issac Newton, and 3Ri, Francois-Marie Arouet de Voltaire. All could be included in a Masonic. \*\*\*\*\* On October 13, 1971 Turkey commemorated the 2,500th anniversary of the Persian Empire by adding three stamps one of which depicts, 150 Kuruş, Atatürk and Riza Shan Palavi of Iran. Atatürk was a Mason.

## Fontenoy Battle

In the last issue of the Masonic Stamp Collector we asked if anyone of our members could verify if the French stamp, Scott No. 1287, commemorating The Fontenoy Battle was actually that of William Augustus surrendering. We now have the following comments from two of our members.

Bro. Marshall S. Loke, Rochester, New York writes: "The stamp of the Battle of Fontenoy is after a painting by Horace Vernet, a Mason. I doubt whether it is a "Surrender scene". Marshal Maurits von Saksen is showing Louis XV and the Prince Royal the seized standards, standing in front of them. Behind Louis XV, on horseback, is Marshal Richelieu. (Information: a catalog of the Museum in Versailles)."

Bro. Andre Courier, Neufchateau, France also writes: "This stamp doesn't show William Augustus surrendering. It is engraved after a painting by Horace Vernet. One can see on it, some officers and soldiers camping and showing the British flags, taken by the French army, to their chief, Marshal of Saksen and King Louis XV. I suppose that the man, who has his hat in his hand before the man on his horse is the Marshal and he is presenting the flags to the King on his horse. But, I read, on a book, that Maurice de Saksen was a Freemason. But, I can't find the date of his initiation."

We thank both brother Loke and brother Courier for their interesting comments concerning this stamp. One thing we learned from this stamp that the painter of the design was a Mason and that perhaps Maurice de Saksen was a Freemason as well. Any further information on the Masonic status of Maurice de Saksen will be welcomed.

## Arthur Brown

Eight years before Charles A. Lindbergh made his historic New York to Paris flight, two British fliers made the first non-stop transatlantic flight. The team of Alcock and Brown made the first direct airplane crossing of the Atlantic in a twin-engined Vickers "Vimy" on June 14-15, 1919. Taking off from St. Johns Newfoundland, they landed some 16 hours later in a bog at Clifden, County Galway, Ireland. The two men shared a prize of 10,000 pounds offered by the London Daily Mail, received other awards from the hands of Winston Churchill, then Secretary of State for War and Air, and were knighted by King George VI in the same year. The biplane remains on display at the Science Museum in South Kensington, England.

Arthur Whitton Brown was born in Glasgow on July 23, 1886. He was an engineer for the Westinghouse Co. in Manchester. In World War I he served in the Manchester Regiment, the Royal Flying Corps and in the Royal Air Force as pilot, was shot down over enemy territory and spent 18 months as a P.O.W. in Germany. In 1919 he met John William Alcock, another W.W.I. pilot, and joined him in the successful Atlantic adventure. He then returned to engineering and was general manager of the Metropolitan Vickers Co. in Swansea, Wales. He died at his home in Swansea on October 4, 1948. Lieutenant Brown was initiated on 23 October, 1920 in Kingston Aero Lodge No. 3860, passed on 21 May 1921 and raised on 22 October 1921. He joined Lodge of Friendship and Harmony No. 1616 on 25 May, 1922 and was installed as master of this lodge in 1927.



The 50th anniversary of the epic crossing was observed by Great Britain in 1969 with the issuance of these two stamps, Scott #584 showing Alcock and Brown, and Scott #587 showing the plane and globe. Canada #494 also shows the vickers Vimy plane.

Submitted by Bro. Marshall S. Loke, Rochester New York.

## Salvadore Allende

**O**n August 24, 1971, Ecuador issued a set of three stamps in honor of the official visit to Quito of Salvador Allende, M.D., President of Chile. He was born in Valparaiso on July 26, 1908. He is a member of Hiram Lodge No. 65 in Santiago, Chile.

Submitted by Bro. Marshall S. Loke, Rochester, New York.

## Benjamin Gould

**O**n November 27, 1971, Argentine issued a 25¢ stamp for the centenary of the National Astronomical Observatory at Cordoba. The observatory was built and directed for 15 years by a U. S. Mason and astronomer, Benjamin Apthorp Gould. Born in Boston, Mass., September 27, 1824. Died in Cambridge, Mass., November 26, 1896. Initiated in Liberty Lodge of Beverly, Mass. Received the degrees May 3, May 31, and June 28, 1869. He took the 32 degrees of the Scottish Rite in the Spring of 1870. In Cordoba, Argentine, he was Worshipful Master of the Lodge of the Southern Cross and honorary member of the district Grand Lodge.

In Boston he was created Sovereign Inspector General AASR(NJ). He took the Templar Orders. Affiliated with St. Andrew's Lodge of Boston, serving as Senior Warden at the time of his death.

Submitted by Bro. Marshall S. Loke, Rochester, New York.

## Augustin Justo

**G**eneral of the Argentine army and commander-in-chief of same in 1930. President of Argentine Republic 1932-1938. Initiated in 1896 in "Primera Argentina" No. 62 at Buenos Aires, the Lodge of his father, a Past Master of the Grand Lodge of Argentina in 1872-1873. General Justo was also son-in-law of General Liborio Bernal, a Past Master of the Grand Lodge of Argentina.

A 40¢ lilac stamp, picturing the International Bridge between Argentina and Brazil and portraits of Presidents Justo and Vargas (of Argentina and Brazil respectively) was prepared by Brazil late in 1945. It was not issued, but was subsequently sold, without postal value, to collectors. In the Scott catalogue it is mentioned in the second note under No. 640. You might call it 640B. = Loke

## Henry Lawton

**G**eneral Henry Ware Lawton began his military career at the age of eighteen and served through the Civil War, the Indian wars and the Spanish-American War. He was born March 17, 1843 at Manhattan, Ohio.

At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861 he joined the army as a Sergeant of Company E, 9th Indiana Volunteers, rose to captain and received the medal of honor for heroism.

In 1883 he was selected by General Nelson A. Miles to lead a picked body of troops into Mexico to capture Geronimo, the Apache Indian Chief who became the terror of the frontier. The Indians under Geronimo repeatedly ravaged the settlers on the American side of the boundary and when pursued by troops took refuge in the fastness of the Sonora mountains.

When Col. Theodore Roosevelt charged San Juan Hill with his famous Rough Riders and captured Santiago in 1898, General Lawton in charge of the 2nd Division of the 5th Army Corps, participated in the action. The following year he was transferred to the Philippines where he took command of the operations against the insurgents. In the Cavite campaign against Aguinaldo he was killed in action at the Battle of San Mateos in Luzon on December 19, 1899.

Henry W. Lawton was made a Mason in Summit City Lodge No. 170, F&AM, Fort Wayne, Indiana. He received the degrees on February 23, March 9 and March 30, 1866.

His likeness appears on the 10¢ blue regular issue of the Philippines beginning in 1906. Scott Nos. 245, 265, 280, 288, 294, 344.

Submitted by Bro. Marshall S. Loke, Rochester, New York.



## William Glass

**T**he imprisonment of Napoleon on St. Helena after Waterloo posed a number of security problems and the British authorities, apprehensive lest a Bonapartist expedition attempted to rescue the Emperor, decided to garrison the islands of Ascension and Tristan da Cunha. Captain R. W. G. Festing, commanding H.M.S. Falmouth, was despatched from the Cape of Good Hope to Tristan in August 1816 and touched at the island on the 13th. During the course of the next five days a force of 18 seamen, with stores and equipment, was landed.

Three months after the naval advance party landed, a permanent garrison was sent out from the Cape, commanded by Capt. A. J. Cloete of the 21st Light Dragoons and consisting of five officers, three N.C.O.'s, 35 rank and file, eight women and nine children, disembarking from H.M.S. Falmouth on 28th November. A barracks was built and a stockade erected round Fort Malcolm, which was defended by two six-pounders under the care of Lt. R. S. Aitchison who was the deputy commandant.

The little garrison, which at its peak numbered 72 men, women and children prospered during the summer of 1816-17 and great disappointment was felt when H.M.S. Conqueror arrived in May 1817 with despatches for Capt. Cloete, ordering the evacuation of the island. It had been decided by the Admiralty and the Colonial Office that the cost of maintaining the Tristan garrison was not justified by the unlikely possibility of an attempt to release Napoleon.

The Conqueror was unable to embark the guns and ammunition, so Lt. Aitchison and a handful of artillerymen were left behind. On 17th November, almost a year after they were landed on Tristan, Lt. Aitchison and his gunners hauled down their colours and manhandled their guns down the steep, boulder-strewn beach to the cutter of H.M.S. Eurydice, which set sail for the Cape the following day.

Tristan was not entirely bereft of human habitation. Three men decided to stay on the island and obtained Lt. Aitchison's permission to do so. One of them was Corporal William Glass, a Royal Artillery driver. He was born at Kelso in Roxburghshire in 1787 and, having been crossed in love while still a youth, enlisted in the Artillery in which he showed great aptitude in handling horses. He served in Germany and, in 1806, was posted to the Cape where he stayed till his removal to Tristan in 1816. He married a coloured woman and by her had a large number of children. Two seamen also stayed behind, and in succeeding years the population of the island was augmented by shipwrecked mariners, adventurers and Creole women from St. Helena and the Cape.

The text of Aitchison's permission to Glass to remain on the island has been preserved in the archives of Cape Colony, Aitchison instructed Glass to make a careful inventory of all the stores left behind and give receipts for them. It was intended that a ship would later to pick them up. Five years later, however, Glass wrote to his erstwhile commanding officer to ascertain whether the stores, which were still at Tristan, had to be paid for or were a gift from the Government. His letter, like two previous ones, remained unanswered.

By the middle of the 19th century the population of Tristan da Cunha had risen to 41, a sober and industrious little colony under the patriarchal rule of Governor Glass, whose wife, sixteen children, their wives, husbands and his grandchildren accounted for no less than 34 of the inhabitants. By an odd irony of fate Glass died in 1853, at the age of 67, of cancer of the lip -- the only person in the island's history to have contracted this disease.

We know that William Glass was a Freemason. His family Bible is now in the British Museum, while his Masonic apron is in the Grand Lodge Museum nearby. We have no further details concerning his Masonic initiation and affiliation of a Lodge. If anyone has such information please let the editor know. This is an interesting account of Bro. William Glass and more Masonic information will enhance a Masonic page. Perhaps, an inquiry with the Grand Lodge of England may reveal more Masonic data of William Glass.

It was originally intended to portray Corporal Glass on the postage stamps, but the only portrait of him now in existence, a water-color painted by Augustus Earle in 1823, was not suitable for reproduction. Accordingly, a gunner in the dark red and blue uniform of the period was substituted. This stamp was issued in 1966, Scott Nos. 95-98 of Tristan Da Cunha to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the establishment of a garrison of the island.

This article was submitted by Major George K. Gillberry, Nottingham, England which is a part of an article written by James A. Mackay.

## Francisco Calvo



**D**r. Francisco Calvo (1820-1890), a Catholic priest of the Jesuit Order, established Freemasonry in Costa Rica in 1867. At the time he was canon of San Jose Cathedral. He received his Masonic degrees in Lodge Cruz Austrial No. 5 in 1862 at Callao, Peru. Calvo obtained a charter for Caridad (Charity) Lodge No. 26 at San Jose, Costa Rica from the Grand Orient of Spain, then operating in Colombia, and served as the first master of the lodge. Out of this lodge, the Supreme Council 33rd A.A.S.R. of Central America developed, which covers five republics and which chartered lodges of its own until the turn of the 20th century.

Father Calvo became the first sovereign grand commander of the Scottish Rite in Central America, a position he held until his death. The Masonic Temple in San Jose, Costa Rica displays the gavel he used.

Calvo was given the choice, by the Church, of giving up the church or resigning from Freemasonry. He chose to leave the church. Others who were active with Calvo in founding the Scottish Rite were Dr. Jose Maria Castro, president of Costa Rica, 1847-1849; Dr. Lorenzo Montutar, lawyer, historian and rector of Santo Tomas University in Costa Rica and Francisco Poralto Alvarado, teacher, banker and benefactor of San Juan de Dies Hospital. Lodge "Francisco Calvo" No. 15, San Jose, Costa Rica is of course named in honor of Dr. Calvo.

The above "stamp" is not an official postage stamp. The Grand Lodge of Costa Rica issued this "stamp" depicting Dr. Calvo and the Masonic Temple in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Masonry in Costa Rica in 1965.

Submitted by Bro. Porter L. Ranck, Berwick, Pa.

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