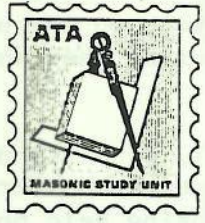


# THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

## Journal of the MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Editor  
Robert A. Domingue  
59 Greenwood Road  
Andover, Mass. 01810

VOLUME 8, NO. 4

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1984

WHOLE NO. 44

### THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

As promised in a previous issue of the Newsletter, I have essentially finalized my appointments for this two year term. First, let me thank all of the members who served in the appointments under Bro. Kemp in the 1982-1984 term. The new slate of appointments is somewhat trimmed in that the number of U.S. representatives has been reduced to two - East and West. The basic underlying reason for this reduction is that we should all be considered emissaries or representatives - we should all spread the virtues of the club and solicit new members. I am sure we can all do our own "bit" to help the club grow - by growing we will expand - not only in membership but in knowledge base and information flow.

The Official Family for the 1984-1986 term is as follows:

- |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| President                | Thomas Gardner     |
| Vice President           | Joseph Walkes, Jr. |
| Secretary-Treasurer      | Otto Steding       |
| Director - East          | Richard Needham    |
| Director - West          | Leonard Kemp       |
| Editor                   | Robert Domingue    |
| Mailer                   | William Otenti     |
| Chaplain                 | Rev. Silas Hirte   |
| Assistant Vice President | Ben Rutman         |
| APS Liaison              | Madison Cole, Jr.  |
| Historian                | OPEN               |
| Research Chairman        | John Cunningham    |
| Representatives:         |                    |
| Africa                   | Colin MacKenzie    |
| Australia                | Sid Martin         |
| Canada - East            | Alan Golding       |
| Canada - West            | Allan Taylor       |
| Europe                   | Jan van Daalen     |
| South America            | Denis Duveen       |

The open position of Historian, as well as all other positions, is a real function and not just a title. I am still searching for the right individual to fill this position - someone who will contribute significantly to the Unit. We are a valid club and deserve a well recorded history. Any volunteers?

Thomas Gardner  
President

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

The past several weeks have been very hectic from a work standpoint and my Masonic Philately activities have taken a back seat and have been pretty much "catch as catch can". This editorial will reflect that mood as I will attempt to capture those items which have come to my attention over the past two months that should be relayed on to the membership.

DETROIT CANCEL - Just after press time for Newsletter No. 3 (Vol. 8) I learned from the USPS that there had been an error in their cancellation announcement for the Imperial Council Session Station in Detroit, Mich.. Instead of being held on Oct. 20-24 as published, the event had actually been held on Aug. 20-24. I have written to the Postmaster in Detroit to see if any covers might still be available from any source - have not had any response yet.

BOSTON PRINCE HALL CANCEL - I personally visited the temporary Post Office set up at the Prince Hall Grand Lodge, 18 Washington Street, Boston, to obtain copies of this cancel on covers prepared by myself and Bro. John Cunningham. From the size of the box containing cancel requests, it looks as though a few others wrote for the cancel also. The station was capably manned by three employees of the USPS Grove Hall Station: Steve Froio, Lillian Hayes and Henry Booker. Unfortunately, the cancels they were provided with left quite a bit to be desired and the entire cancelling situation can best be defined as "unfortunate". It was virtually impossible to obtain a quality impression with the devices provided - perhaps as a result of the oversize nature of the cancel (it measured 2" X 4"). Insufficient pressure resulted in the absence of the station, the date, the city or parts of the seal while too much pressure resulted in the presence of black bars in the blank areas within the square block (see below). It looked as though the surface area behind the lettering had been removed rather poorly using a router or an end mill. The poor quality of the impressions was in no way the result of efforts by the P.O. clerks in attendance - they did the best they could. Anyways - it can best summed up as an "experience" to place in the memory bank.



CATALOG OF BRAZILIAN MASONS - Bro. Denis Duveen has informed us of a publication which serves to fill a need for complete and accurate information on the stamps of Brazil which have Masonic connotations. The well-known and scholarly Masonic historian, Kurt Prober, has recently published the Catalogo dos Selos de Macons Brasileiras (100pp:folio). This publication contains reproductions of all known issues of such stamps together with biographies of each Mason and full philatelic details of the quantity printed, etc. This edition was limited to 800 copies and may be ordered from the author at Caixa Postal 2113, 20001 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The cost of this book is US\$12.00 for Steamer mail registered and US\$15.00 Air Mail registered. It appears to be a worthwhile investment from what I have read but I have just ordered my copy so I can't speak on a first hand basis yet.



OFFICERS BIO-SKETCHES

In accordance with my previous comments, I am publishing biosketches of the club officers so the membership can have a better knowledge of "who is at the helm". Bro. Tom Gardner's bio-sketch appeared in the Jan-Feb 1984 issue of The Philatelic Freemason - just before his election as President. I would now like to present that of our Vice President, Bro. Joseph A. Walkes, Jr.:

Joseph A. Walkes, Jr., was born in New York City on Nov. 12, 1933. He attended schools in New York and later graduated from Park College, Parkville, Mo., with a BA degree in Criminal Justice Administration. He served in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1973 when he retired and became Administrative Assistant at the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, which position he still holds.

Bro. Walkes was made a Master Mason on Oct. 15, 1965, in Cecil A. Ellis, Sr., Lodge No. 110, Karlsruhe, Germany, under the jurisdiction of the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland. He was Master from 1966-7 and currently holds membership in King Solomon Lodge No. 15, Fort Leonard Wood, under the jurisdiction of the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Missouri. He is an honorary member of Panama Canal Zone No. 174 in the Republic of Panama and an honorary member of Mount Olive Lodge No. 3, Leavenworth, jurisdiction of the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Kansas.

He served the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Mo. as the editor of its Masonic Light from 1968-1973. He was appointed Special D.D.G.M. at Large (Military) for 1970-1973 and in this capacity assisted in the formation of Canal Zone Military Lodge No. 174 in Panama and Pythagoras Lodge No. 175 in Athens, Greece. He is currently Special Deputy at Large and Ambassador of Good Will for the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

In 1966, Bro. Walkes was elevated to the 32<sup>o</sup> in Prince Hall Military Consistory No. 304, Frankfurt, Germany, and presently holds membership in Kansas City Consistory No. 7. He was coroneted honorary 33<sup>o</sup> in Los Angeles in 1978 and became an active Emeratus 33<sup>o</sup> in 1982 by the United Supreme Council 33 AASR, Southern Jurisdiction. He serves that body as Editor of its News Quarterly. He is also President of the Norris Wright Cuney Class of 1978. He is a member of Allah Temple No. 6, A.E.A.O. N.M.S. and is an Honorary Past Potentate, receiving that honor in 1982. He is Past Patron of Mary T. Allen Chapter No. 71, O.E.S., Karlsruhe, Germany, and presently Worthy Patron of Fidelity Chapter No. 9, Leavenworth, Kansas.

In 1973 he founded the Phylaxis Society, an International Masonic Research Society for Prince Hall Freemasons, of which he remains as President. He was made a Fellow of the Society on March 6, 1976, received its Certificate of Literature on March 6, 1979, and received the John G. Lewis, Jr., Medal of Excellence in 1980. He is the owner of what is thought to be the largest privately owned collection on Prince Hall Freemasonry in the world.

Bro. Walkes is the author of "The Documentary History of King Solomon Lodge No. 15" (1971), "Black Square & Compass: 200 Years of Prince Hall Freemasonry" (1979) and "Prince Hall Masonic Quiz Book" (1983) which is the first and only book ever written by a Black Prince Hall Freemason and published by a White Masonic body. The book is being published by Iowa Research Lodge No. 2, the Grand Lodge of Iowa A.F. & A.M..

Editor's note: Bro. Walkes' book "Black Square & Compass" can be ordered from Macoy Publishing and Masonic Supply Co., Inc., P.O. Box 9759, Richmond, Va., 23228 (\$12.50 + 1.50 packing and shipping) and "A Prince Hall Masonic Quiz Book" from Donald S. Pady, Secretary, Iowa Research Lodge No. 2, 212 North Riverside Drive, Ames, Iowa 50010 (\$6.00).

MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS

429 William J. Diemunsch, 13 Maple Drive, Sicklerville, N.J. 08081  
430 Danny J. Fisher, 2001 Debra Drive, Baker, La. 70714  
431 Donald R. McKinney, 3520 Vicky Circle N.W., Kennesaw, Ga. 30144  
432 Ronald P. Anderson, P.O. Box 271407, Tampa, Fla. 33688

CLOSED ALBUMS

163 J. J. van Dijk (Netherlands)

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NEW ISSUES

United States - 1985 The U.S. Postal Service has announced the issuance schedule for 1985 and it includes several stamps which will be pertinent to a Masonic collection. (Your editor will probably prepare an MSU FDC for each.) Preliminary research shows the following Masons on the 1985 releases:

Abraham Baldwin (1754-1807) part of the Great Americans series, to be released Jan. 25 in Athens, Ga.  
Sylvanus Thayer (1785-1872) part of the Great Americans series, to be released June 9 in West Point, N.Y.  
Gen. Henry Knox (1750-1806) part of the Great Americans series, to be released July 25 in Thomaston, Maine  
Frederic A. Bartholdi - the issue slipped from 1984, release date and place presently undefined  
Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens) - an aerogramme will be issued, date and place presently undefined

Another in the Great Americans series will be issued on April 26 in New York City to honor John James Audubon. Most information available on his life indicates he was not a Mason, contrary to earlier beliefs.

Other Issues

March 6, 1984 Colombia-Famous Men series - 3 different 12 pesos values of Francisco de Paula Santander  
May 21, 1984 Upper Volta-Famous Men series of 9 values; 400fr airmail value shows Henri Dunant & Battle of Solferino  
June 4, 1984 Rwanda - 200th Anniversary of Ballooning - 7 values  
30 centimes - 1783 free flight of Pilatre de Rozier & Marquis d'Aulander  
10 fr - 1785 flight of Jean-Pierre Blanchard & John Jeffries  
June 16, 1984 Sovereign Military Order of Malta - Feast of St. John the Baptist  
5 scudi - St. John preaching  
10 scudi - St. John in the wilderness  
June 28, 1984 Zaire - 200th Anniversary of Ballooning - 8 values  
10 makuta - Montgolfier Balloon  
July 18, 1984 Antigua & Barbuda - Presidents - 8 values  
20¢ - Harry Truman, NATO Emblem  
\$1.10 - Truman at NATO Conference  
July 18, 1984 Iceland - 100th Anniversary of the International Order of Good Templars in Iceland - 10Kkr showing IOGT Lodge  
August 20, 1984 Republic of Guinea - Famous Men 7 stamps and 3 S/S's  
7 sylis - Jean Henri Dunant



NEW ISSUES (Cont'd)

- August 23, 1984 Republic of Guinea - Famous Paintings 6 stamps and 1 S/S  
7 syles - "The Holy Family" by Durer  
15 syles - "Young Man" by Durer
- Sept. 12, 1984 Finland - Astronomy - 1.10mk issue shows observatory, sun and planets in the solar system (Symbols)
- Sept. 24, 1984 Brazil - 150th Anniversay of the Death of Don Pedro I  
1000cr - Don Pedro, flags of Brazil and the 1820 Liberal Revolution of Portugal

WANTED-SALE-TRADE

A very avid Gen. MacArthur collector is very anxious to be able to purchase a copy of Bro. Dick Needham's Mahdeen covers issued on Jan. 26, 1971, for the Gen. Douglas MacArthur first day of issue. He wants the cover varieties shown below which have the Square and Compasses and the Double Headed Eagle in the background, they can be single stamp or multiple. His name/address is M. Douglas Parks, 303 East Ninth, Ogallala, Nebr. 69153.



PHILIP MAZZEI - A MASON?

The United States issued an airmail stamp honoring Philip Mazzei on Oct. 13, 1980; although he has been believed to have been a Mason, there has been some controversy on his membership. Bro. John Cunningham has provided photocopies of pertinent pages of a publication which attests to his membership in the Craft. The publication under discussion is "Early Freemasonry in Williamsburg, Va." by George Eldridge Kidd - published in 1957 by the Dietz Press, Inc., Richmond, Va.. On page 137 of this book it is stated that Philip Mazzei from Albemarle County attended Williamsburg Lodge No. 6 a total of four times - the first being June 7, 1774, and the last being Dec. 28, 1778. This should give us confidence in including him in a Masonic Philatelic collection.

A LONG TIME BETWEEN DEGREES

A total of nineteen years elapsed between the initiation and raising of Pres. Warren Gamaliel Harding, our 28th President. He was made an Entered Apprentice in Marion Lodge No. 70, Marion Ohio, on June 28, 1901. He was made a Fellowcraft on August 13, 1920, and a Master Mason on August 27, 1920, also in the same Lodge.

ALFRED EDMUND BREHM



Alfred Edmund Brehm was born on February 2, 1829, in Renthendorf near Neustadt as a son of the ornithologist Christian Ludwig Brehm. He followed in his father's footsteps and acquired international notoriety as a zoologist. He made great study-tours to Spain (1856) and to Norway and Lapland (1860). In 1862 he accompanied the Duke of Coburg-Gotha on a trip to Abyssinia. From 1863-1867 he was Director of the Zoological Garden in Hamburg. Afterwards he took the lead of construction and the arrangement of an enormous aquarium in Berlin, of which he was Director until 1875. In that year he joined a scientific expedition to West Serbia. Finally, he accompanied Rudolf, Prince Royal of Austria, on his study-tours to the area of Central Bonau and Spain. His studies resulted in important works in the field of zoology. He died on Nov. 11, 1884, in his birth place Renthendorf.

Alfred Brehm was initiated in the Lodge "Apollo" in 1861 in Leipzig.

Germany issued the above stamp in 1984 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his death. The D.D.R. issued a stamp in 1980 which contained a picture of the "Alfred-Brehm-Haus" in the zoological garden of Berlin.

-Submitted by Wessel M. Lans of The Netherlands

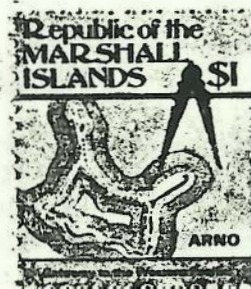
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COMTE DE ROCHAMBEAU - A MASON?

When the United States issued a stamp for the surrender at Yorktown, there was some controversy as to whether or not the Comte de Rochambeau was a member of the Craft - some claimed he was while others strongly denied it. I have received a copy of a pamphlet entitled "Why Paint the Lily" by Henry C. Clausen, 33<sup>o</sup>, Sovereign Grand Commander, published in 1984 by the Supreme Council, 33<sup>o</sup>. In this booklet, in the section discussing the membership of the Marquis de Lafayette, it states:

"According to this publication (an 18th century Masonic publication), La Candeur Lodge had invited to the inauguration ceremonies "the Honorary, Regular and Subordinate Officers, and Deputies, and all Lodges composing the Grand Orient of France to assist in this ceremony, and also all Brethren who could be recommended as regular Masons..." Then follows a Tableau of 100 "Les Chers Freres Visiteurs". Considering the statement regarding invitations, as well as the fact that this was a ceremony in lodge, it may be concluded that all these visitors were regular Masons under the Grand Orient. In the list appear not only the name of the Marquis de Lafayette, but also those of Comte de Rochambeau and such known friends and relatives of Lafayette as..."

Any counters?  
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A copy of a recent stamp issued by the Marshall Islands which pictures one of the Masonic symbols - the Compasses. Copy submitted by Bro. William Otenti.





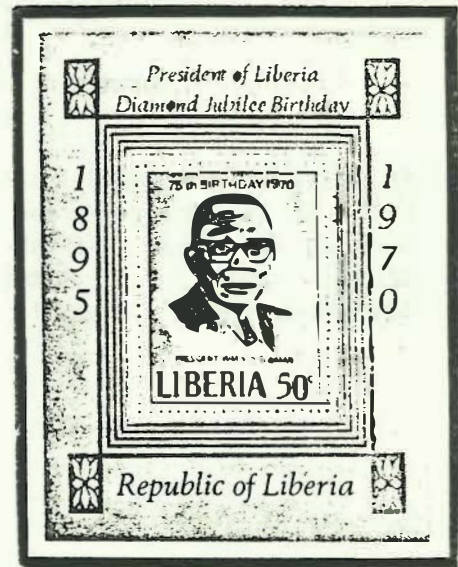
75TH BIRTHDAY OF PRESIDENT WILLIAM V. S. TURMAN OF LIBERIA



November 20, 1970, the Republic of Liberia issued two stamps in honor of the 75th birthday of President William Vacanarat Shadrach Tubman (Scott 532-533).

Mesurado Consistory No. 237 in Monrovia, Liberia, and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Prince Hall Masons in Liberia used the occasion to invite Jno. G. Lewis, Jr., Sovereign Grand Commander of the United Supreme Council 33<sup>o</sup> A.A.S.R., Southern Jurisdiction, P.H.A. to Liberia as guest of the Masons and the government.

President Tubman, who had been coroneted a Sovereign Grand Inspector General in 1954 in Washington, D.C., was also the Commander-in-Chief of Mesurado Consistory as well as Deputy of the Rite in Liberia.



During the visit of the Americans, President Tubman requested that he be relieved of both responsibilities due not only to his age, but that the international affairs demanding his attention made it impossible for him to give the time he would like to the fraternity.

He urged consideration for the duties being passed on to the Vice President William R. Tolbert, Jr., whose term as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Liberia would be ending December 27th. It was agreed and Bro. Tolbert, the Vice President and also a 33<sup>o</sup> Scottish Rite Freemason was therefore sworn in as Deputy of the Rite in Liberia. The office he would hold up to his death in the coup of April 12, 1980.

The Americans had brought a degree team made up of members of both the Northern and Southern Jurisdiction of the United Supreme Council 33<sup>o</sup> A.A.S.R., P.H.A., and a class of 48 Master Masons were elevated to the 32<sup>o</sup> of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret. A special communication of the Liberian Grand Lodge was called by the Grand Master for the visiting American Masonic dignitaries, and in recognition of their appreciation, Sovereign Grand Commander Jno. G. Lewis, Jr., was presented the Knight Great Band of the Liberian Humane Order of African Redemption by Pres. Tubman.

-Article and stamps submitted by Bro. Joseph A. Walkes, Jr.

UPDATE ON SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

The Nov.-Dec. 1982 issue of The Philatelic Freemason (Vol. 6, No. 4) included an article on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle which was submitted by the late Bro. Marshall S. Loke. Recently Bro. John M. Cunningham received data from Bro. Alan H. Hooker of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076 concerning Bro Doyle which he wishes to pass on to the members of our unit. It is of interest to note that Bro. Hooker lives just five miles from the site where the famed writer died.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was initiated on Jan. 26, passed on Feb. 23 and raised on March 23, all in 1887, in the Phoenix Lodge No. 257, Portsmouth, England. His sponsors were:

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE (cont'd)

Proposer: W. Bro. W.D. King (later Sir William King), Deputy  
Lieutenant of Hampshire

Seconder: W. Bro. J. Birchwood (later Sir John Birchwood), a  
prominent City Brewer.

He resigned from membership in 1889, rejoined in 1902 and finally resigned in 1911. He did not progress beyond Master Mason and there is no record of his joining any other English Lodge. In 1901 he became an honorary member of St. Mary's Chapel No. 1, Edinburgh, under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, now Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel) No. 1.

-Article submitted by Bro. John M. Cunningham

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ERASMO ESCALA DAVILA

Erasmus Escala was born in Valparaiso, Chile, in 1826. He entered the Military Academy in 1837 and one year later joined the army as a 2nd lieutenant in the artillery regiment. He took part in the war against the Peru-Bolivia Confederation and in the battles and military actions in the War of Portado de Guías (on Jan. 6, 1839) and the Plaza de Lima and Yungay on Jan. 20, 1839.

On April 20, 1851, he defended the Ming against the revolution headed by Col. Pedro Alcantara Urriola Balbontin. In the successful fight against the Valdivia battalion he was wounded, lost his left hand and was decorated with a gold medal. In 1851 he took part in the campaigns in the South during the Civil War, in the action of the Guindos and the battle of Loncomilla (Dec. 18, 1851). In 1866 he defended the port of Valparaiso against the Spanish squadrons during the War with Spain.

In 1869 he was charged by the government to revise the Military Code. In 1871 he became brigadier general and one year later he was named Director of the Military Academy. He took part in the campaign against Peru and Bolivia in the War of the Pacific and was General in Chief of the army taking part in the campaign of Tarapaca. He was elected a deputy to the Congress by the Department of Santiago from 1876 to 1879 and became a division general on Dec. 31, 1879. He died in Santiago on March 3, 1884.

Erasmus Escala was a member of the Fraternity and on July 24, 1853, founded Lodge "Union Fraternal" No. 1 in Valparaiso.

The Republic of Chile honored Escala with a stamp in 1979 (Scott No. 560) which commemorates the battle of Tarapaca.

Information source: "Revista Masonica de Chile", March/April 1971, page 14.

-Article submitted by Bro. Wessel M. Lans

Editor's note: This article and the identified stamp had been previously submitted to Bro. Kirby and is still apparently in his effects. Bro. Lans kindly resubmitted the article but did not have another copy of the stamp.



MASONIC CLOSING DAY COVER SET - 1984 LOUISIANA WORLD EXPOSITION

The Grand Lodge of La., F. & A.M. issued two designs of covers for the 1984 Louisiana World Exposition and the Grand Lodge Hospitality room maintained from May 12 through Nov. 11 for the refreshment of all visiting Freemasons and their families.



Grand Lodge sponsored covers postmarked on the closing day in New Orleans on Nov. 11, 1984, will be available using the USPS 1984 La. World Exposition stamp. The closing day postmarks will picture the LWE Pelican mascot with the wording "Louisiana World Exposition, New Orleans, May 12 - Nov. 11, 1984". A limited number of two cover sets are also available with the official first day of issue (May 12, 1984) postmark.

One of the Grand Lodge covers is shown above, the other was shown in a previous issue of the Newsletter and reproduces an invitation to the Hospitality Room. Either the "First Day of Issue" or "Closing Day" postmark sets (2 covers each) may be ordered, while supplies last, by mailing \$3.25 per set (or \$2.75 plus a #10 SASE with 37¢ postage) to: J. R. Allen, Chairman; Grand Lodge of La./FDC Sets; P. O. Box 26135; Richmond, Va. 23260. Please specify which set is desired; otherwise the First Day of Issue set will be sent.

-Item submitted by Bro John R. Allen

FIRST DAY COVERS OF DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MASONIC STAMP DO EXIST

Contrary to the persisting rumors, copies of First Day Covers for the Oct. 1983 Dominican Republic Masonic issue have been located.

Acquisition of the stamp itself has been difficult as well as these covers. Bro. Henry Murray of the firm Arlington Supplies has provided me with both stamps and covers as shown.





A PAGE FROM ANOTHER MEMBER'S COLLECTION

Shown to the right is a page from the collection of Bro. John Provan, the R.W. Grand Master of the American Canadian Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. within the United Grand Lodges of Germany for 1982-83. He has used the White Ace Freemasonry pages to display his collection. He uses a home computer to store the data and information he acquires and to format his layouts.

Bro. Provan has also authored a brochure on the rebirth of Freemasonry in Germany following the Hitler regime. I will provide excerpts or a summary of this effort in a later issue of the newsletter.

I am always anxious to see album pages of the unit member's pages. By showing them we can see how others arrange and display, thereby giving us more and perhaps better ideas with which we can organize or improve upon our own collections. Who else has sample pages that we can copy/reduce and print in the newsletter?






# Freemasonry

POSTAL ISSUES

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Gotthold E. Lessing  
(1729-1781)

Lessing was a German dramatist and critic. He was a very preeminent critic of the highest class. Not a critic in the negative sense, nor a critic that tears down, but one that builds up. Lessing's contributions to the literary world can be compared with Martin Luther's contribution to a national language for Germany.


Gotthold Lessing was initiated into Masonry around 1771 in the Lodge "Zu den Drei Goldenen Rosen" (The Three Golden Roses) at Hamburg, Germany.


Two of Lessing's writings are explicitly relative to the Fraternity of Freemasonry and they are:

- a. "Nathan the Wise" is a dramatic poem moralizing universal Brotherhood and teaches religious tolerance as no other literary production has ever taught it. In this poem, the Jew, the Christian, the Mohammedan are brought together on a common ground. This great work was produced and put on stage by Schiller and Goethe.
- b. "Ernst and Falk" is a defense of Freemasonry in the form of a dialogue, or rather conversation between two people. This writing was not afforded the popularity of "Nathan the Wise".

Lessing was a staunch supporter of Freemasonry, not only in his professional writing, but as an ardent student of the Craft.

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**BROTHERHOOD AND SERVICE**

DID YOU KNOW?

California's first Masonic funeral service was given in 1849 over the body of an unknown brother found drowned in San Francisco bay. A silver mark of a Mark Master was found on the body. Tattooed on his left arm were all the emblems of an Entered Apprentice. On his right arm were the emblems of a Fellowcraft. On the left breast were the lights of Masonry, and over the heart was the pot of incense. On other parts of the body were the beehive, the sword and heart, the all-seeing eye, the hourglass, sun, moon, stars and comet, the three steps, weeping virgin and Father Time with his scythe.



MATTHIAS CLAUDIUS



Matthias Claudius was born on August 15, 1740, in Reinfeld, Holstein, Germany, and died on January 21, 1815, in Hamburg. This German poet was the author of lyrics of direct simplicity, deep feeling and piety. From 1771 to 1775 he edited a small but well known Northern German newspaper, the "Wandsbeker Bothe", in which, under the name of Asmus, he published many of his essays and poems. Together with J.G. Herder and others he fought against the rationalistic and classical spirit of the day and sought to preserve in literature a Christian and a natural atmosphere.

Bro. Claudius was initiated, passed and raised in the Lodge "Zu den drei Rosen" in Hamburg, this being proof of the great confidence and high esteem in which he was held in Hamburg. The date of his raising has been reported as June 6, 1774, and as August 12, 1774, depending on the reference source used; his name was entered on the rolls of the Lodge under No. 104. In 1777 he joined Andreas Lodge "Fidelis" (the 4th and 5th degrees of the Swedish Rite) and became its Senior Orator. He translated many French Masonic books and wrote several Masonic songs, the most famous being the "Kettenlied" which is still sung in German Lodges at the closing of the Lodge. He later seems to have lost interest in Masonry after he joined a pious society in 1784.

The stamp shown above was issued by the German Federal Republic on Jan. 21, 1965, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of his death. (Scott No. 917)

-Article submitted by Bro. John M. Cunningham

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EMILIO SOTOMAYOR BAEZA

Emilio Sotomayor was born in Melipilla in 1823, studied at the Military Academy and entered the army in 1845 as a 2nd lieutenant of the Artillery. In 1851 he took part in the battles of Petorca and La Serena, and in 1859 in the battle of Cerro Grande. He was named Intendant of the province of Chiloe and Valdivia and was sent to Europe in 1872 by the Chilean Government to bring back arms. After becoming Director of the Military Academy, he was elected a deputy to the Congress for Castro, 1870-1873. On Feb. 14, 1879, he conquered Antofagasta and in 1880 he was named Delegate Inspector of the Army in the operations against Peru and Bolivia. He took part in the taking of Lima on Jan. 17, 1881, and acted as political chief during the occupation. On Feb. 28, 1881, he became General in Chief. He died in Santiago on March 17, 1894.

Emilio Sotomayor was a member of the Lodge "Union Fraternal" No. 1 in Valparaiso.

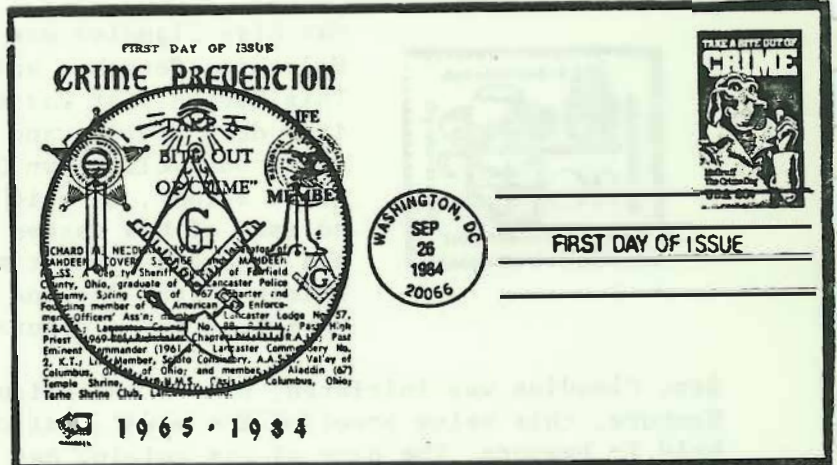
The Republic of Chile honored Sotomayor in 1979 (Scott No. 561) in commemoration of the War of the Pacific. (1879-1883).

Information source: "Revista Masonica de Chile", March/April 1971, page 14.

-Article submitted by Bro. Wessel M. Lans

DICK NEEDHAM'S LATEST

Bro. Dick Needham took the opportunity of relating the recent Crime stamp to his own career in Law Enforcement for his latest Mahdeen First Day Cover. The cachet text tells of his being a Deputy Sheriff (Special) of Fairfield County, Ohio, as well as outlining his Masonic credentials.



AN INTERESTING COVER  
FROM  
YOUR EDITOR'S COLLECTION

WHY PRESIDENT MCKINLEY BECAME A MASON

When General Horatio King asked William McKinley how he happened to be a Mason, he explained:

"After the Battle of Opequam, I went with the surgeon of our Ohio regiment to the field where there were about 5,000 Confederate prisoners under guard. Almost as soon as we passed the guard, I noticed the doctor shook hands with a number of Confederate prisoners. He also took from his pocket a roll of bills and distributed all he had among them. Boy-like, I looked on in wonderment; I didn't know what it meant. On the way back to camp I asked him: Did you know these men or ever see them before? No, replied the doctor, I never saw them before. But, I persisted, you gave them a lot of money, all you had about you. Do you ever expect to get it back? Well, said the doctor, if they are able to pay me back, they will. But it makes no difference to me; they are Brother Masons in trouble and I am only doing my duty."  
"I said to myself, If that is Masonry, I will take some of it myself."

-Item submitted by Bro. Gordon B. Garrett