



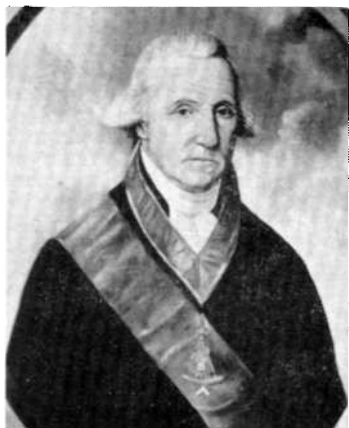
The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 9

OCTOBER 1952

No. 2

Washington



IN 1793 the Lodge, by resolution, requested General Washington, then President and living in Philadelphia, to sit for this picture, and after obtaining his consent, employed William Williams, of that city, to execute the work. Washington approved the likeness, and late in 1794 it was received from the artist and accepted by the Lodge.

It is a flesh-colored pastel and pronounced by critics of superior quality. It is an entirely different conception from any other painting of the General extant, resembling in cast and feature the original Houdon statue in Richmond, Va., and is the only painting from life showing the General in extreme old age and in Masonic regalia. Having been ordered, received and accepted by the neighbors and Masonic contemporaries of the General, men who knew him intimately and were with him in every walk of his eventful life, who had followed his fortunes and shared his adversities in war, had counseled and supported him in peace, and who, when his labors ended, had sorrowfully laid him to

his eternal rest, it is beyond reasonable conception that these men would have foisted on a credulous and confiding posterity a spurious picture of their friend and compatriot.

The picture is devoid of idealism, the artist's instructions being: "Paint me as I am," and this Mr. Williams appears to have done, bringing out in bold relief several facial marks or blemishes which the General is known to have possessed, and which are shown in a modified form, if at all, by other artists. The disfiguring scar on his left cheek, spoken of by George Washington Parke Custis in his reminiscences, the black mole under his right ear, and the marks of smallpox on his nose and cheeks are all clearly defined and unmistakable, and this fact adds much to the value of the famous pastel and arouses the deepest interest of both historic and art critics.

Alexandria Lodge No. 22

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOLUME 9 NUMBER 2
OCTOBER 1952

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● Meetings ●

First and Last Friday Each Month

Collectors Club Bldg., 22 E. 35th Street

By the Sign of the GAVEL

It was a pleasure to welcome so many at our first meeting of the season, particularly since the September PHILATELIST was late and the meeting notice was mailed out only two days before the meeting. Those that came out were rewarded well by the fine display of "Malta" that our good friend of long standing, Eddie Elkins, put on for their edification.

We were pleased to welcome one of our brothers from Ohio, and it would be nice if this happened more often. Without doubt, many of our out-of-town members have to come to New York on occasion on business or pleasure. Each has the schedule of the Club's activities for the entire year and it would be nice indeed if these New York trips could be made to coincide with meeting nights.

Elsewhere will be found a notice of the George Washington, Mason, cachet being sponsored by the Club. The cover will be of interest to Masons and philatelists alike, and your support of this project is strongly urged.

Attention is also called to the start of the Club's exchange books under the

chairmanship of Bob Pech. These books will be available at all meeting nights and should prove popular, as there have been many requests for this sort of thing. It is not proposed to circulate the exchange books except at Club meetings, at least for the time being. Frankly, one of the objectives of the exchange books is to get more members out for meetings and we hope as many as possible will contribute to their success.

What can you do to help the Club? Your suggestions will be welcome.

Arthur I. Heim.

SEPTEMBER 26th MEETING

The first meeting of the Club for the new season was held on September 26 and was well attended. Among those present was an out-of-towner, Brother F. Z. Bennett of Maumee, Ohio, who has been a member of the Masonic Stamp Club for several years but who attended his first meeting this evening. Bro. Bennett is one of four members of the Club who have been honored by the conferring of the 33 degree, and it was to attend the convention of the Scottish rite that he was in New York.

The speaker of the evening was our good friend Eddie Elkins, who displayed some fine album pages from his collection of Malta, ranging from pre-stamp to modern combination covers. It is very interesting to see how it is possible, if one is willing to devote the time and effort, to produce a superlative collection of any country, however remote it may be to one's normal activities.

It was good to see Past-President Glaser and Vice President Phillips at the meeting. Jake and Tom have been out of circulation for some months with more or less serious ailments, and their recovery and return is quite welcome.

OCTOBER 3rd MEETING

Our meetings are well under way, the second one of the season being held on Friday, Oct. 3, 1952. Those who attended were well repaid for coming out.

Our own member, Brother Fred Barovick, was the speaker of the evening, showing three volumes of his magnificent collection of miniature and souvenir sheets. The outstanding feature was the unique and very pleasing arrangement of the sheets, with the accompanying annotations. A fine piece of work, Fred!

IN MEMORIAM

Morton H. Weilins

The solemn notes that betokened the dissolution of this earthly tabernacle, have again alarmed our outer door, and another spirit has been summoned to the land where our fathers have gone before us.

Our only regret was that more of our members were not present. To our absentees—come down some night and see what you have been missing.

An important piece of work that the club is doing was discussed at the meeting. Brother Pihl is preparing cacheted covers to be postmarked November 4, 1952, in connection with the 200th anniversary of the initiation of Brother George Washington in Fredericksburg Lodge. The covers will bear the 9-cent George Washington Bi-Centennial stamp. Be sure to send in your order at once with one buck per cover wanted to Brother Russell Roane.

Gordon Shoop.

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

In commemoration of the 200th anniversary of George Washington's initiation as a Mason, your club (the Masonic Stamp Club of New York) is sponsoring a special cacheted envelope.

As you probably know George Washington was initiated into Masonry on November 4, 1752 in Lodge No 4, at Fredericksburg, Virginia. This was the beginning of an outstanding Masonic career, only overshadowed by Washington's stature as a soldier, statesman and First President of the U. S.

This cover will bear a reproduction of the Williams portrait of Washington with a legend reading, "George Washington—The Mason, Initiated November 4, 1752, Fredericksburg, Virginia." Above the portrait will be the Square and Compass and the years, "1752-1952." The cover will be franked with the nine-cent Washington Bicentennial stamp issued in 1932. This stamp bears a reproduction of the Williams portrait, one of the few that depict Washington with Masonic regalia. The cover will be postmarked at Fredericksburg, Virginia on November 4, 1952—exactly 200 years after George Washington's initiation as a Mason.

The number of covers will be limited

and on a "first come, first served" basis. We are certain that this will be a cover that all Masons and philatelists will want to own. Members are urged to contact friends, brother Masons and fellow philatelists and advise them about this event. Cost of the cover, including an attractive specially printed envelope and the "good" nine-cent stamp, is one dollar each.

All requests for covers should be addressed to: Masonic Stamp Club, % Mr. Russell B. Roane, 126 Tenth avenue, New York 11, N. Y. Be certain to **enclose one dollar for each cover** desired. Check and money orders should be made out to: Masonic Stamp Club of New York.

FRED HILL SHOWS AGAIN TO LODGE

On the invitation of C. E. Becker, Worshipful Master of Daniel Carpenter Lodge, F. & A. M., of New York City, Bro. Fred Hill showed a part of his collection "Religion on Stamps" and "Religion on MAXIMUM Cards," on September 23, 1952. Assisted by his nephew, Bro. Hill at the close of the lodge meeting presented his showing to the brethren, who were greatly pleased at what he had to tell about the meaning and significance of the various bits of stamped paper.

THE RECORDED WORD

(Continued from September)

Among the various stamps that the Japanese Army allowed the Philippines to be issued was the overprinted stamp issued on June 20, 1943 to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the printing press in the Philippines.

These stamps started out as 20 centavo value of the 1935 series and in 1938-40 were overprinted "Common-Wealth," were again overprinted "Limbagan 1593-1943" and the overprint "Common-Wealth" and the wording on the stamp "United States of America" were obliterated by black bars.

First day covers bore an official cachet, in green, showing an old hand worked printing press and in Tagalog, an inscription and date. In purple ink, the official Japanese Military Police censor stamp was placed on each cover.

The 350 anniversary event was the printing of the "Doctrina Christiana" in Manila, in 1593. At the time the stamp was issued, no known copies of this book was known to be in existence, though the books were known to

have been printed, but after the World War II was over a copy turned up in Spain. A stamp was later issued on April 1, 1949 depicting the front cover page of this book.

On November 1, 1943, the Polish Government in Exile issued their second series of Polish stamps issued in Britain. The set of which 200,000 were printed in the value of 1 Zloty-50 groszy. This stamp depicted an "underground printing scene."

Sweden's contribution to the "Press" stamps was a set of two stamps, 5 ore and 60 ore in coil form and a 5 ore stamp in booklet form, issued on May 28, 1945. These stamps commemorated the 300 years of the Swedish press or in this case 300 years of newspapers in Sweden. The stamp booklet cover is of interest because the story of the commemorative event is told on the back cover and the front cover announces the event celebrated. The first real newspaper in Sweden was and still is in existence. The Post - Och - Inrikes Tidningar is possibly the oldest existing newspaper in the world today.

On the occasion of the Fourth Pan American Press Congress, 1946, Colombia issued a set of four stamps on May 9, 1947. These stamps depicted the most famous figures of the 19th century Colombian press, and on the 5 centavo of the postage set, an old hand worked printing press is depicted in the background.

Rheinland Pfalz in 1947 issued a set of seven stamps, one which featured Gutenberg and his book. This 75 pf. stamp, dark ultramarine, was for postage on foreign letters. Later another series had Gutenberg on the 30 pf., red lilac stamp, this time the post card rate. Still later the Gutenberg appears on a 50 pf. stamp in the same color as the previous 75 pf. stamp.

Romania commemorated the 75th anniversary of the State Printing Works by issuing a 7.50 lei stamp in dark green, depicting this building and a modern high speed press, on Feb. 12, 1948. 7.50 lei was the internal card postage rate. First day covers bore the stamp in "tete beche" form, the stamps being printed that way. Later this stamp was issued in a new shade, red lilac, and as a new value, 6 lei.

The 1f. value of a set of 10 colorful airport stamps issued on May 15, 1948 by Hungary, featured Gutenberg and an old hand worked printing press and a modern high speed newspaper press. Hungary again used the printing press

as a theme for the 10f value of the Hungarian Centenary set issued July 27, 1948. The stamp, designed by Stephen K. Bocs, shows the old hand worked printing press, surrounded by printed material.

Romania honored "Press Week" on September 12-19, 1948 with a set of four stamps. The 10 lei brown was issued for ordinary postage, the other three were issued as semi-postage stamps, 5 plus 5, 10 plus 10, and 15 plus 15. These three were issued both perforated and imperforated. First day covers were cancelled with date 12-19 Sept., 1948, therefore it might have been possible that the first day covers could have been mailed on any of those eight days. Cachet on first day cover featured the various Romanian newspapers.

For the 5th of March, 1949, Russia issued two stamps depicting newspapers and books and in 1950 commemorated 50 years of the Red press with two stamps.

Japan issued a stamp with an unusual design, for Newspaper Week on October 1, 1949. The stamp shows a large pen point formed from a newspaper matrix. The stamps were issued in small sheets which had the same inscription at the top of the sheet as on the stamp, Japanese idiographs commemorating National Newspaper Week. Later, on November 25, 1949, Japan issued as one of a regular issue, a 6 yen stamp depicting a girl holding a bundle of newsprint and a printing press in background.

On April 3, 1950, Saar issued five stamps, one, 10fr. yellow brown, represented the press and book printing industry.

Jugoslavia issued an eleven-value set that featured on the 30 din. value, a representation of the Graphic or Printing industry. The stamp shows a girl carrying a large number of books with a modern high speed printing press in background. The stamps previously described were for the printing press or press but others exist that are also relative to the press stamps, these will now be described.

Honduras issued in commemoration of the first newspaper in Honduras, a stamp on August 11, 1930. This stamp, printed in three colors, commemorated the 100th anniversary of the press, showing the title page of the first issue of the Government Gazette.

Cuba issued two stamps, commemorated the 100 years of the publication "Repertorio Medica Habanero," a med-

ical review, on October 28, 1940. Souvenir sheets were also issued bearing four stamps, imperforate, the two values were in reversed colors. The sheet sold by the Cuban post office for 25 cents. Cuba issued on January 27, 1949, two stamps commemorating the 200 years of the Castillo De Jagua and the 100 years of the periodical "La Hoja Economica."

In 1941, Ecuador issued two postage and two airmail stamps of the same design commemorating the First National Exposition of Journalism held under the auspices of the National Newspaper Men's Union.

Guatemala issued in 1936 and in 1943 two stamps depicting the Bureau of Printing or National Printing Works, (Scott's 278 and 307).

Mexico issued on October 10, 1944, one regular and one airmail stamp for the Third Book Fair and National Exposition of Periodicals and Motion Pictures and Radio. The background of the 25 centavo airmail stamp is made up to resemble a newspaper.

The Pulitzer commemorative stamp of the United States of April 10, 1947, quotes on the stamp "Our Republic and its press will rise or fall together."

German newspaper stamps of 1939, two values featuring newsboy, reading a newspaper as he runs over a world globe, was issued to meet special rates on newspapers mailed by publishers to points outside of Germany. Mailers were instructed to write in German, "Printed Matter" (newspapers for abroad) on the wrappers.

The newspaper stamps of Czechoslovakia of 1943 (Scott P31-P36) feature a type block and newspaper. The type block is of the letter "N," which stands for "Noviny" (journal).

Two other types of stamps can also be called printing stamps. The 48 plus 12 gr. stamp of the First Austrian Art Exhibition, June 20, 1947 shows a "printer in his workshop" from a colored etching by Schmutzer. The printer in this case is printing an engraving from copper.

The 70 plus 70 centavos stamp of the Argentina issued on August 26, 1950 for the International Philatelic Exhibition in Buenos Aires shows a stamp printer and his press in the background.

Owing to limited space, a resume can only be given regarding the stamps described.

Compiled by F. L. Ellis.

A Royal Arch Stamp

Israel in February issued a 1000 pruta stamp, which is of particular interest to Royal Arch stamp collectors. For its center figure, the stamp shows the Menora, or seven-armed candlestick, which is a part of the furniture in Royal Arch Masonry and which is reported to have been used in the temporary place of worship during the building of the second Temple.

Surrounding the candestick are emblems of the twelve tribes. These tribes are represented on the breastplate worn by the High Priest in the Royal Arch Degree. The four Vails are said to allude to the banners borne through the wilderness by the four principal tribes of the children of Israel, namely, Judah, Reuben, Ephraim and Dan. Emblematically, these represent the strength of the lion, the intelligence of man, the patience of the ox and the swiftness of the eagle.

The tribes of Judah and Benjamin, who returned from captivity to build the second Temple, are referred to in several degrees, including the Red Cross of Knights Templary. The tribe of Judah bore a lion in its standard, which explains the Masonic allusion to the Lion of the Tribe of Judah. The descendants of Levi are represented in some of the higher degrees.

Another of the tribes was that of Naphtali. Hiram, the builder, was a son of a widow of that tribe.

Bro. Luther Van Buskirk of Denver also points out that another recent Israel issue, picturing the "Book of the Law," is of interest to Royal Arch philatelists. The "Book" shown on the stamp is exactly like the one shown him when he took his Chapter Degrees 40 years ago.

—John A. Mirt.

GRAND MASTER ON NEW SOUTH WALES STAMP

From the NEW SOUTH WALES FREEMASON (sent through the kindness of Bro. H. G. Riley, 25 Horsefair street, Leicester, England) it is learned that Lord Carrington (on New Zealand Nos. 85 and 88) was installed on September 18, 1888, as the first Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales. Prior to the union, Lord Carrington was Provincial Grand Master (English Constitution).

For the Royal Arch collector: Monaco recently issued a 30fr. stamp showing an arch and keystone.

GEORGE WASHINGTON - THE MASON

By SAM BROOKS

Early in 1752, a young man not yet 21 years of age, petitioned Lodge No. 4, at Fredericksburg, Virginia for membership in the Masonic fraternity. After suitable investigation, George Washington was initiated on November 4, 1752. He was passed on March 3, 1753 and raised on August 4, 1753. This was the beginning of the remarkable Masonic career of a man destined to go down in history as the Father of his Country.

Every school child can recount the deeds of this man: First in War, First in Peace, and First in the Hearts of his Countrymen. But his Masonic activities are not as well known as they should be.

The early minutes of Lodge No. 4 are brief, but under date of November 4, 1752 is inscribed the name of George Washington. In the ledger bound with the minute book is the entry, "November 6, 1752, received from Mr. George Washington for his entrance £2. 3s." In the minutes of "3rd March, 1753 George Washington passed a Fellow Craft." Then the minutes of "4th August 1753 . . . the transactions of the evening are, George Washington raised a Master Mason." Other entries indicate that Washington attended his lodge on September 1, 1753 and again January 4, 1755. After 1771 the lodge records are missing.

These books, together with the Bible upon which our brother was obligated, are the cherished possessions of Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4. For years after, little is known of his Masonic activities. During the Revolutionary War records of various military lodges indicate his attendance at meetings or processions held to observe the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, or St. John the Baptist. In those days the Festivals were observed with public processions, feasts and Church services.

The convention to form a Grand Lodge of Virginia, which met in 1777, recommended "his Excellency General George Washington as a proper person to fill the office of Grand Master." But as he was quite busy with his military duties, nothing came of it.

During 1779 and 1780 American Union Lodge was in the forefront of a movement to elect a Grand Master over all the brethren in the United States and to select Washington for

this high office. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania made a formal proposal to other Grand Lodges and elected George Washington as Grand Master of Masons in the United States. However the plan was abolished when the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts objected.

In later years, Books of Constitutions were dedicated to him, Honorary Memberships and other Masonic honors were offered to him. But it was not until he resigned his military commission in 1783, and returned to his home at Mt. Vernon, that he took a more active role in Masonic affairs. On June 24, 1784 he accepted Honorary Membership in Lodge No. 39 at Alexandria, Virginia then under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. He visited the lodge on several occasions, and when an application was made for a new charter from the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Washington was chosen as the Charter Worshipful Master. The charter was granted on April 28, 1788 and the first meeting was held on February 21, 1789. The lodge continues to work under this charter, the name having been changed in 1805 to Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22.

On April 30, 1789 Washington took the oath of office as the First President of the United States upon the Bible of St. John's Lodge No. 1 of New York. On September 18, 1793 as President of the United States he walked in the procession and performed part of the Masonic services of laying the cornerstone of the Capitol at Washington, D. C. The ceremonies were conducted by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, assisted by Alexandria Lodge No. 22 of Virginia. On that occasion Washington wore the apron presented to him by the Marquis de Lafayette, now in the possession of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. George Washington died on Saturday, December 14, 1799, after a short illness. His career was closed with a Masonic funeral service, conducted by members of the Alexandria Lodge.

Two recent Japanese U.P.U. commemoratives show starry heavens, which reminds that "the covering of a lodge is the clouded canopy, or starry-decked Heaven, where all good Masons hope at last to arrive."

PUNCH AND POSTAGE STAMPS

To "PUNCH" the humorous and satirical weekly, published in London, may be the source for the earliest barbs hurled at our hobby during the past hundred years. Both "PUNCH" and the first postage stamp saw the light of day within a few months of each other.

Gleaning through the early issues of our printed cousin, "Punch 1849," I came across the title "Postage Stamps and Sweetmeats" in which the criticism as to the taste of the postage stamp to quote: "Let the adhesive coating not only look but taste like barley sugar. Is there no clever confectioner who can carry out this notion? A little sugar and gum arabic would do it; and to render it more palatable, it might be flavored with otto of roses."

A few issues later "1849 PUNCH," quite a lengthy bit under the title of "Fashionable Hobbies" from which I extracted the following: "At present the female hobby is an old postage stamp—a small thing for a young lady to run away with but one which is carried, at certain mad times, to the greatest absurdities. You can hardly step into a drawing room without being stopped for old postage stamps. Sometimes it is for papering a room, sometimes it is to oblige an old lady whose papa will not permit her to marry before she has collected a million postage stamps: which fact was lately announced in the newspapers as having actually occurred. Of what use a million old postage stamps could have been to papa, when he got them, is a profound mystery, unless he had some great specific for making them as good as new, or had an absurd ambition of dying what is called a millionaire. This new brand of the begging profession may bring some little increase to our impoverished revenue. The Postmaster General might advertise for vendors of old postage stamps; and as the number of dead letters amount to a few millions in the course of a year, no difficulty would be experienced in having a sufficient supply to meet the extraordinary demand. The result should be advertised in the papers, and we would not mind, for once in the way, throwing open our valuable pages to an announcement so important as the following:

Government Contract—the Government contract for 1,000,000 old postage stamps was taken yesterday by Miss Sabina Wright of Russell Square. The amount which was the highest tender

ever yet offered, being at the rate of 1 shilling, 1½ pence per hundred, has been paid over to the Chancellor of Exchequer. We congratulate the country upon this decided improvement of its financial resources.

"Fashionable Marriage"—yesterday was celebrated at St. George's the marriage of Miss Sabina Wright, the belle of Russell Square and the Hon. Capt. Alfred Paddington. Previous to this interesting event, the lovely bride retired to the vestry room with her opulent parent, and handed over to him one million postage stamps which it had been her unremitting study for the last six years to collect from all quarters of the habitable globe. As four hours were consumed in counting this million postage stamps, a little delay necessarily occurred in the solemnization of the happy ceremony; but the gallant bridegroom during the interval behaved remarkably well and did not exhibit the smallest sign of impatience except yawning once or twice. We hear that a large fortune was dependent upon the accurate number of the postage stamps."

To "PUNCH 1952"—please eat those words in jest at postage stamps for who today would not be a millionaire many times over if he only had known what truths these words did speak (pardon the old English, I. M. Y.)

Dr. Irwin M. Yarry.

MISCELLANEOUS MASONIC PHILATELIC NOTES

The April issue of ILLINOIS ENLIGHTENER, official publication of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, has an excellent article on the Gutenberg Bible, the 500th anniversary of which will be commemorated with a stamp to be issued later this year. The publication is distributed by the Committee on Masonic Information, 201 North Wells street, Chicago 6, Ill.

For the Royal Arch collector: A new Monaco 30 fr. stamp shows an arch and keystone.

WESTERN STAMP COLLECTOR reports "Lafayette" post offices in Alabama, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia for the benefit of those wanting "Lafayette" cancellations.

WASHINGTON'S INITIATION BICENTENNIAL CACHETS

The conductor of this service will sponsor a cachet to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the initiation of George Washington into Freemasonry. The cachet will carry the following inscription:

WASHINGTON, THE MASON

This letter was mailed in Fredericksburg, Va., on Nov. 4, 1952, the 200th anniversary of the initiation of George Washington into Freemasonry in Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4. The stamps on this envelope are of particular Masonic significance. One shows Bro. Washington kneeling in prayer and is reminiscent of his initiation. The other shows him, then Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22 of Alexandria, Va., being sworn in as first President of the United States. Bro. Robert R. Livingston, M. W. Grand Master of New York, administered the oath on a Bible borrowed from St. John's Lodge No. 1, New York. Other Masonic dignitaries were present.—John A. Mirt, 644 Melrose St., Chicago 13, Ill.

The envelope will bear two stamps. One will be the Valley Forge 2¢ issue (No. 645), and the other will be the Washington Inauguration 3¢ issue (No. 854). Since both stamps are selling at four to five times face value, and since all profits go to the educational fund of the Illinois Masonic Orphans Home, each cover will cost 50¢, mailed to the buyer or a friend from Fredericksburg. An appropriate card enclosed will carry the name of the sender. Orders to the above address must be sent before October 20; list the addresses to which the covers are to be sent. This will be a limited souvenir of an important Masonic occasion.

Another beautiful cover to commemorate this event will be sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Virginia and should be a "must" in every Masonic philatelic collection. It pictures the canopy in Fredericksburg Lodge. The covers, bearing Washington stamps, will be cancelled in Fredericksburg on Nov. 4. The cost is two for 25¢; unstamped envelopes may be had at five for 25¢. Address orders to E. H. Kann, Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, A. F. & A. M., Fredericksburg, Va.

(See Note) This letter was mailed in Fredericksburg, Va., on Nov. 4, 1952,

the 200th anniversary of the initiation of George Washington into Freemasonry in Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4. The stamps on this envelope are of particular Masonic significance. One shows Bro. Washington kneeling in prayer and is reminiscent of his initiation. The other shows him, then Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22 of Alexandria, Va., being sworn in as first President of the United States. Bro. Robert R. Livingston, M. W. Grand Master of New York, administered the oath on a Bible borrowed from St. John's Lodge No. 1, New York. Other Masonic dignitaries were present.—John A. Mirt, 644 Melrose St., Chicago 13, Ill.

MONUMENT TO ANOTHER MASON ON PHILIPPINE STAMP

The following item is quoted from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines for 1950:

"The Philippines in spite of its bitter critics, has never been wanting in Filipinos who fought and died for freedom. This is especially true in the case of our heroes who were mostly Masons.

"Here was Andres Bonifacio, a poor Manila lad. By nature, he was self-reliant, rebellious to anything dictatorial, abusive and tyrannical. It was not surprising, therefore, that in due time he joined Freemasonry; through its tenets and teachings he saw the possible redemption of his race. When Masonry was proscribed by religious authorities and monastic orders, Bro. Bonifacio organized and became Supremo of the Katipunan Society. In 1896, he led the Cry of Balintawak which echoed and re-echoed throughout the Philippines, resulting in the revolution against Spain. He died fighting for freedom and monuments erected in his honor evidence the undying admiration of his own people."

One such monument is pictured on Philippine No. 505 (10c) issued in 1947. Bro. Bonifacio also will be shown on a 3¢ stamp of the "Famous Filipinos" series now being issued.

Johann Fichte, philosopher and Mason, will be shown on a stamp in the "Famous Berliner" series to be issued early in 1953 by the Western Berlin postal administration, WESTERN STAMP COLLECTOR reports.

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NOTE: This information is repeated. It appears an illustration was intended.