Giuseppe Garibaldi and the "Spedizione Dei Mille"

SCOTT N. 796  "Trinacria"  SCOTT N. 797  SCOTT N. 798  "Crocetta"
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MEETINGS
First Friday of each month
Collectors Club Building
22 East 35th Street, N. Y. C.

thorough dedication to our Club. He is, no doubt, one of our most hard
working members, and it is largely
through his efforts that about 20 new
members joined our Club lately. We
are fortunate indeed to have such a
member.

Keep well.

Joseph Munk

By the sign of the Gavel

At our last meeting we introduced
a new medium of information. Brother
Bernstein showed us slides of Masons
on stamps. Together with Dr. Yarry
as narrator, the project resulted in a
thoroughly interesting and informative
meeting. Thank you, Brethren, for
a job well done.

At our next meeting on May 3, we
will have our annual membership com-
petition. As in the past, we have on
hand some beautiful prizes, which will
be distributed to those members who
have outstanding exhibits. Let's make
it a successful event!

I want to take this opportunity to
thank Bro. Joseph M. Kane for his

RISTO H. RYTI
(1889-1958)

Risto Ryti, a lawyer and political
leader, held a seat in the Finnish
parliament 1919-1924 and 1927-1929,
was director-general of the Bank of
Finland 1923-1940 and President of the
Finnish Republic 1940-1944.

Risto Ryti was a member of Suomi
Lodge No. 1, Helsinki, Finland, hav-
ing received the degrees in 1924. At
the establishment of the Grand Lodge
of Finland, he served as Grand Treas-
urer.

His portrait appeared on stamps of
Finland (Scott No. 233-38) in 1941
while he was president.

—Marshall S. Loke.
Giuseppe Garibaldi and the
"Spedizione Dei Mille"

Garibaldi, the Italian Mason and patriot, was born in Nice on July 4, 1807. His first patriotic venture was in 1834 during the unsuccessful insurrection of Genoa against the kingdom of Sardinia. He with the famous revolutionary leader, Brother Giuseppe Mazzini, were condemned to death by default on June 3, 1834. Garibaldi, escaping to South America, placed his sword at the disposal of the liberty of the state of Rio Grande do Sul and later to Uruguay.

In Montevideo he formed the Italian Legion, the well-known “REDSHIRTS,” and after few victorious engagements assured the freedom to Uruguay. In Montevideo, while fighting for Uruguay, he became a member of the Lodge “Les Amis de la Patrie.”

During his life he fought against tyranny in more than ten different countries, he was a confirmed internationalist and he was hailed as the “Hero of two Worlds.”

While an exile in the United States he was affiliated with Tompkins Lodge No. 471, Stapleton, N.Y. and later he had an offer from President Abraham Lincoln, to take a command in the American Civil War; he refused such honor because he wanted to continue the struggle for the Unity of Italy. He was honored by Freemasonry for performing the unity of Masonry in Italy. In 1860 he became Grand Master of the Grande Oriente (Grand Lodge) of Palermo and Grand Commander of the Supreme Council 33° of the Scottish Rite of Palermo.

During the first meeting held in Turin (Dec. 26, 1861) for the unity of Freemasonry, the Assembly gave to Brother Gen. G. Garibaldi the title of “First Italian Mason” and “Life Grand Master” of the Grande Oriente d'Italia.

The most glorious pages of the modern History of Italy are those covering the “Risorgimento,” but the best certainly is the one relating to the Expedition of Thousand. Without fear of being taken for liars, we state that the “Spedizione del Mille” was a Masonic enterprise.

The invasion of Sicily was inspired by Brother G. Mazzini and reinforced by Bro. F. Crispi, Bro. Bertani, and Bro. Lefarina. Brothers Buscalioni and Bro. Lefarina were the financiers of the movement. Brother Gen. G. Garibaldi and Brother Nino Bixio (his aide-de-camp) were the fighters in the field. The “Mille” (the “Thousand”) sailed from Genoa on two steamships, put at their disposition by Brother Faussé, manager of the Rubattino Navigation Company of Genoa, (see the stamp of Lire 80 - Scott No. 798). They reached Marsala (Sicily) on May 11, 1860, and the following day the dictatorship was proclaimed in Salerno, (see stamp of Lire 15 - Scott No. 796).

On September 7, Garibaldi entered Naples and for several months he ruled as dictator of half of Italy.

At that time, as a confirmed republican, he was disposed to proclaim the Republic of Italy, but to avoid a civil war, at Teano he surrendered the former Kingdom of Bourbons to King Victor Emmanuel II, to form the United Kingdom of Italy, (see stamp of Lire 25 - Scott No. 797).

During his dictatorship, Garibaldi’s government issued two of the most interesting stamps: the ½ Turcese known as “Trinacria” and the other ¼ Turcese known as “Croce,” they are very scarce and of very high value.

(B. S. Guglielmi, Sunremo, Italy.)

FINNISH STATESMAN
ON STAMPS

Risto Ryti, President of Finland.

Risto Heikki Ryti was born in Huitin, February 3, 1889 and died October 25, 1956 in Helsinki.

He set up as a barrister and was a representative of the Progressive Party in the House of Representatives of his country. From 1921-1924 he was Minister of Finance. From 1923-1940 he was Director General of the Bank of Finland in which capacity he worked vigorously for the stabilization of the Finnish Mark.

During the war with Russia Risto Ryti was Prime Minister (1939-1940). From 1940-1944 he was President of Finland and he concluded a military treaty with Germany directed against Russia.

When after World War II a government appeared strongly influenced by the U.S.S.R., Risto Ryti was sentenced to 10 years in prison as a war criminal, but pardoned in 1949.

Risto Ryti was initiated March 19,
1924 in "Suomi Lodge" No. 1 in Helsinki; passed April 27 and raised June 4 of the same year.

"Suomi Lodge" was founded in 1919 by the Grand Lodge of New York and since 1924 forms part of the Grand Lodge of Finland.


SIR JOHN J. C. ABBOTT
3rd Prime Minister of Canada 1881-92
John Joseph Caldwell Abbott, a native of St. Andrews, Province of Quebec, was born March 12, 1821. He earned the D.C.L. (Doctor of Civil Law) degree at McGill College (now University), Montreal. He also taught there and was dean of the faculty of law for ten years. He was admitted to the bar in 1847, the year of graduation. During his lifetime he served in the Canadian Assembly, the Dominion Parliament, the Senate and Executive Council of Lower Canada. He was appointed a member of the Queen's Privy Council in 1887, succeeded Sir John A. Macdonald as Prime Minister in 1891, but resigned on account of ill health November 25, 1892, and was knighted in 1892. He died at Montreal, October 30, 1893.

Abbott was a member of St. Paul's Lodge, No. 374 on the English Register, in Montreal, Quebec. The record shows that he was initiated January 26, 1847, passed March 9, and raised April 13, 1847. He retired from the Lodge, May 9, 1848 but re-joined January 8, 1856 and retired April 12, 1859.

Abbott appears on Canadian 3¢ stamp No. 318 in the 1952 Prime Minister series.—Marshall S. Loke.

ANDRE STRUG
(1871-1937)
Andre Strug, the Polish novelist, was Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite in Poland during the years 1922-1929. Stamp: Poland (1957) No. 796.

—Marshall S. Loke.

JONAS FURRER
Jonas Furrer was born at Winterthur, Switzerland, on March 3, 1805. He received his education at Zurich, Heidelberg, and Gottingen. He practiced as a lawyer in his native city of Winterthur after 1832. He was elected to the Grand Council in 1842 and was Mayor of Zurich in 1845. He was one of the chief supporters of the New Federal Constitution adopted in 1848 and during this adoption was president of the Grand Council. Upon the unification of the Swiss Confederation, he became the first President of the Federal Government. He died in Bad Ragaz on July 25, 1861.

Jonas Furrer was initiated on Jan. 16, 1830, passed on Jan. 7, 1837, and raised on Sept. 2, 1837, in Akazia Lodge, Winterthur. He served as speaker (similar to our chaplain) between 1844 and 1846, and was made an honorary member in 1849. He was later made an honorary member of Lodge No. 38 Modestia cum Libertate, in Zurich. He played a leading role in the foundation of the Grand Lodge Alpina in Switzerland in 1844, served as a Grand Officer, and was made an honorary member in 1849.

Jonas Furrer is pictured on a Switzerland stamp (Scott No. B308).—Robert A. Dominique

JAN HENRYK DABROWSKI
(1755-1818)
Jan Henryk Dabrowski was born near Cracow, Poland, August 29, 1755 and died June 6, 1818. He fought against Russia in 1792 with Poniatowski and again in 1794 when Koscuszko raised the standard of national independence.

He entered the French service in 1796, organized and commanded a Polish legion at Milan, Italy, during the French occupation of that area, fighting in the several Italian campaigns until 1801. In 1806 he raised an army of 30,000 Poles to fight for Napoleon and distinguished himself at the siege of Danzig and at the battle of Friedland 1809 in which he was wounded; and took part in the Russian campaign of 1812-13.

After Napoleon's fall, Emperor Alexander I of Russia made him a general of cavalry and appointed him to reorganize the Polish army. He was a senator in 1815 and retired the following year.

GABRIEL Gonzalez VIDEILA

Gabriel Gonzalez Videla was born at La Serena, Chile, Nov. 23, 1899. He was graduated from the law school of the University of Chile in 1923 and in 1930 he moved to Santiago to take his place in the Chamber of Deputies where he served until 1939. In 1942 he was ambassador to Brazil; in 1945 was elected to the Senate. He had served as Chile’s minister to France, Belgium and Luxembourg from 1939 to 1941. He was elected President of Chile, Nov. 3, 1946, for a six-year term. He is presently residing in Santiago, Chile.

Gabriel González Videla was initiated Nov. 29, 1923, passed on Sept. 5, 1924, and raised on March 21, 1932, in Luz y Esperanza Lodge No. 11 of La Serena. He later demitted from the Craft.

A Brazil stamp (Scott No. 671), pictures this Chilean President.

—Robert A. Dominique

MAURICE H. THATCHER

The Thatcher Ferry Bridge, shown on Canal Zone (Oct. 12, 1962) No. 157, is a fitting monument to a man who, during construction of the Panama Canal, was a member of the Isthmian Canal Commission and headed the Department of Civil Administration.

Maurice H. Thatcher was born in Chicago, Illinois, August 13, 1870. The family moved to Kentucky in 1874. He studied for the legal profession and was admitted to the bar in 1896, beginning practice in Frankfort where he became assistant attorney general, later moving to Louisville where he was assistant U.S. attorney for western Kentucky. After his service in the Canal Zone, he resumed his law practice in Louisville.

It was in Falls City Lodge No. 376, F. & A.M., Louisville, Ky., where he became a Freemason. He was initiated September 19, 1922, passed March 20, 1923 and raised April 17, 1923. He is the author of “Masonic If,” a parody on Kipling’s poem.

Bro. Thatcher was Congressman from Kentucky 1923-1933, remaining in the capital, after his term in Congress, to practice law at 834 Investment Bldg., Washington 5, D.C.

The opening of the Thatcher Ferry Bridge October 12, 1982 was also commemorated by Panama with the issuance of a stamp No. 451, picturing the bridge as it looked before completion. —Marshall S. Loke.

GENERAL JAMES WOLFE

General Louis Joseph Saint-Veran Montcalm and General James Wolfe, leaders of the French and English forces respectively, were both mortally wounded in combat at Quebec on the Plains of Abraham, September 13, 1759. Canada No. 100: portrays both gentlemen on the 7¢ stamp of the Quebec Tercentenary Issue of 1908.

James Wolfe, born January 2, 1727, was the son of Lieutenant General Edward Wolfe. He entered the army as a 2nd lieutenant at an early age, was present at a number of battles and distinguished himself in 1747 and 1748.

It is claimed that Wolfe was a member of “Minden Military Lodge” (10,000 Famous Freemasons, page 343). In the interest of accuracy it must be explained that the lodge originally was known as Lodge No. 68 and did not acquire the name “Minden” until some years later in commemoration of its services at the Battle of Minden in August 1759.

The warrant for Lodge No. 63, on the Grand Registry of Ireland, was granted to the founders, Lord George Sackville, Lieutenant Colonel Edward Cornwallis and Captain Milbourne of the 20th Regiment, in December 1748. Major James Wolfe joined the 20th Regiment in January 1749 and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in March 1750 to succeed Edward Cornwallis who left the regiment at that time to become the first governor of Nova Scotia.

Lt. Col. Wolfe was in command of the 20th, or East Devonshire, Regiment from 1749 to 1754. Thereafter he received appointments and promotions until he became Major General and was placed, by William Pitt, in command of an expedition for the conquest of Canada in 1759. He arrived in the St. Lawrence with 8,000 men in June, was repulsed by Montcalm in the first attack July 31, but fell in the moment of victory September 13, 1759.

The foundation stone of the Wolfe and Montcalm monument at Quebec was laid by the Masons in 1827, an event which is perpetuated on a mural painting in the Masonic Memorial Temple in Montreal.

Marshall S. Loke.
SOO LOCKS WORKERS
FORM ELMIRA LODGE #72

Ground for the Soo locks was broken in 1853. On October 4 of that year, a small group of Masons who had come to help in the construction, met to form a lodge. They obtained a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Michigan, elected officers and furnished a lodge room. The initial rent was $5 a month, and this was later raised to $100 a year. In those simple quarters, the spirit of Freemasonry prevailed. On January 11, 1855, a charter was issued to Elmira Lodge No. 72.

How the name was chosen is not certain, but there is a presumption that the lodge was named after Elmira Williams, wife of the second Master, Henry A. Williams. Mrs. Williams in 1854 had presented an altar Bible to the lodge, suitably inscribed. That Bible, now owned by Bethany Lodge, is part of the centennial display at the Chippewa Historical Society.

Elmira Lodge had a brief history, which coincided virtually with the period of lock construction. It had four Masters. Dr. Oran B. Lyon, for many years the Sault’s only physician, was one of the candidates raised, and the lodge’s last treasurer. Capt. John Spalding, who arrived at the Sault in 1846, also received his degrees in Elmira Lodge. He was superintendent of the state lock in 1877 and of the federally-owned Weitzel lock from 1881-1886.

Steps were taken in 1881 to form Lyon Lodge (named after Dr. Lyons), but the plans were never completed. On January 25, 1882, Bethel Lodge No. 358 was instituted, with Marshall W. Wood as the first Master, followed by John Spalding. Bethel Lodge on August 20 will celebrate with a Freemasonry centennial dinner.

Here is another example where Masonic history is related to an important development in this nation. The “Soo” stamp makes a fine addition to a Masonic collection.

SIR J. A. MACDONALD

Sir John Alexander MacDonald was born in Scotland, Jan. 11, 1815; died June 6, 1891. He went with his parents to Kingston, Upper Canada, in 1820. There he was educated at the Royal Grammar School.

Sir John A. MacDonald was initiated into masonry on March 14, 1844, St. John’s Lodge No. 5 (Provincial No.) in Kingston, was re-organized in December 1843 under the authority of a warrant from the U.G.L. of England, becoming St. John’s Lodge No. 758. He was passed to the second degree at the April 22 meeting.

He received the sublime degree of Master Mason at the June 27, 1844 meeting. The lodge at that time met at Bro. Benjamin Olcott’s Inn, on the north side of Store Street, Kingston, Ontario.

MacDonald was also a Royal Arch Mason, under the Grand Chapter of Canada, and he was also a K.T.

When he was in Washington, D.C., where he signed the Treaty of Washington, May 8, 1871, he was elected an honorary life member of Lafayette Chapter, No. 5, R.A.M.

—Marshall S. Loke.

FOUR SCOTTISH RITE MASONSON VENEZUELAN STAMPS

Wor. Bro. Douglas Murison of Argentina calls attention to the fact that in the 150-year history of the Venezuelan Republic, 33 Masons have served as presidents. Four of these have been honored on stamps.

Gen. Jose Antonio Paez (1790-1863), a 33° Scottish Rite Mason, served three times as President of Venezuela: 1831-35; 1830-34 and 1861-63. He had waged guerilla warfare against the Spanish administration, his victory at Carabobo giving his country independence. When the republic was set up, he was chosen as the first president.

His Masonic record is a brilliant one. He was the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Venezuela. Upon the establishment of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite, 33°, in 1840, he became the first Sovereign Grand Commander, serving until 1843.

In 1940, Venezuela issued a 25¢ stamp picturing the Battle of Carabobo (No. 365) to commemorate the 150th anniversary of his birth. His portrait is to be found on a $b “instrucción” revenue stamp of 1911.

Gen. Antonio Guzman Blanco, another 33° Mason, served three times as president: 1870-77; 1879-84 and 1886. He decreed that the Grand Lodge of Venezuela could send out communications postage free, a privilege which has since been rescinded. President Blanco erected the beautiful Masonic Temple in Curacas, the largest and most complete in South America.

Another interesting point about Venezuelan Freemasonry is that the Supreme Council uses a seal with the three colors of the Venezuelan flag—red, blue and yellow. No one else is
permitted to make use of the combination of colors for seals or otherwise.

Blanco is pictured on a 5c "instrucció" revenue stamp of 1911. The flag, in colors, is shown on a souvenir sheet of 1944 (No. 388) and a series of eight air mail stamps (No. C181-C188).

Two other Scottish Rite Masons who served as presidents are to be found on Venezuelan stamps. Diego Bautista Urbaneja (1782-1856), was a 33rd Mason. He is portrayed on a series of 12 stamps issued beginning with 1940. Jose Maria Vargas (1786-1854), a Scottish Rite Mason, is shown on a 3c "instrucció" revenue stamp of 1911.

SIR ALEXANDER FLEMING (1881-1955)

The "British Discovery" series includes a stamp issued 19 September 1967 honoring Alexander Fleming, who discovered penicillin in 1928 for which he was awarded the Nobel prize in 1945. He was knighted by King George in 1944 and was awarded the Distinguished Service Citation of the Grand Lodge of New York in 1953.

Sir Alexander Fleming was a member of several English lodges. In 1925 he was master of Santa Maria Lodge No. 2692 and later secretary. In 1935 he was master of misericordia Lodge No. 3286 and later treasurer. He was also a member of the London Scottish Rifles Lodge No. 2310.

He was a Royal Arch Mason; served as High Priest of Aesculapius Chapter and in 1942 was Past Grand Sojourner of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England; and later was Past Grand Scribe. He was a member of the Scottish Rite and sovereign of Victory Chapter, of Rose Croix.

—Marshall S. Loke

JOSEPH ANTON PONIATOWSKI (1762-1813)

Prince Joseph Anton Poniatowski was a nephew of Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski, the last king of Poland. He was born at Warsaw, May 7, 1762. He entered the service of Austria at age 18. Recalled to help re-organize the Polish army, he obtained the rank of major-general. At the outbreak of hostilities with Russia in 1792, he was made commander of the army defending central Poland. When the king acceded to the confederation of Targovitza, the general resigned his commission.

On the outbreak of the insurrection in 1794, he enrolled himself as a volunteer under Kosciuszko. In command of a division, he had charge of the defense of the northern side of Warsaw.

Napoleon arrived at Warsaw December 19, 1806 and Poniatowski accepted an invitation to become a general of the National Polish Army which hoping for national independence, gathered 27,000 to assist Napoleon in his Russian campaign. After the Peace of Tilsit, July 7, 1807, Poniatowski became Minister of War.

During Napoleon's campaign he held command of the Polish army corps, distinguishing himself at Smolensk, Borodino and Leipzig where he took 1,000 prisoners. In token of his brilliant exploit, Napoleon created him a marshal of France that same evening. He was wounded in the retreat from Leipzig and in endeavoring to swim the river Elster, to join the main army, he was drowned October 19, 1813.

Poniatowski was an honorary member of the Lodge "Bracia Polacy Zjednoczeni" (which means United Brethren of Poland). A Lodge of Sorrow was held in his honor. Stamps: Poland (1930) No. 329, and (1959) No. 722.

—Marshall S. Loke

MELVIN JONES

This year, 1967, is the 50th anniversary of Lions International, a service organization established in more than 130 countries and geographical areas. The man responsible for the founding and success of the great federation of clubs was a young Chicago insurance man and Freemason, Melvin Jones. He held the post of secretary general and treasurer from the beginning and was editor of the organization's official paper "The Lion." Melvin F. Jones was born January 13, 1879 at Fort Thomas, Arizona, where his father was a captain in a small army post, and later transferred to St. Louis, Mo., and again to Quincy, Ill. Jones began his business career in Chicago selling insurance, then opened his own agency.

On Feb. 2, 1906 he petitioned Garden City Lodge No. 141 A.F. & A.M., Chicago, Illinois, and was elected March 6. He was initiated March 14, passed April 3 and raised July 17, 1806. He became a 50 year member on July 17, 1956 after which he was exempt from payment of all dues. In his later years he had not attended Lodge due to his advanced age. He died June 1, 1961 at his home in Flossmoor, Ill. The lodge was not notified of his passing so he was not given a Masonic funeral service.

Melvin Jones has appeared on sev-

JONATHAN SWIFT; WILLIAM Hogarth

Johnathan Swift and William Hogarth were two Englishmen who lived 2½ centuries ago. Both were satirists and both were early Freemasons. The first gained fame for his writings, the other for his paintings which are still appreciated today.

Jonathan Swift (1667 - 1745), although born in Dublin, Ireland, was of pure English descent. He was educated in Trinity College, lived alternately in London and in Dublin, and wrote many books of which the best known was “Gulliver’s Travels.” In Ireland he took the orders of the church and was made dean of St. Patrick’s Cathedral in Dublin.

He was a member of Lodge No. 16 which met at a tavern known as “Goat at the Foot of the Haymarket” in London during the years 1723-1745, the year of his death. He was buried in St. Patrick’s.

A set of two stamps marking the tercentenary of the birth of Jonathan Swift will be on sale November 30, 1967 in Ireland. The 3d is a reproduction of a bust of Swift, and the 1/5 is an illustration from “Gulliver’s Travels.”

William Hogarth (1697-1764), born in London, the son of a poor schoolmaster, was apprenticed to a silver-plate engraver until his 20th year when he struck out on his own as a commercial artist, and soon became famous for his caricature and satirical paintings. His best known Masonic engraving entitled “Night” shows an inebriated master being assisted down the street by a Tyler. Another painting “The Sleeping Congregation” represents Dr. Dessagulliers, Grand Master in 1720, preaching to a congregation. The sleepers include a number of grand lodge officers and Masonic notables, whom Hogarth knew well.

Hogarth is on the records as having been a member of the lodge at the “Hand and Apple Tree,” Little Great Queen Street, in 1725 and at the “Bear and Harrow,” Butcher’s Row in 1730. He served as Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of England in 1735. He designed the jewel of the Grand Stewards Lodge that is still used today.

A self-portrait of Hogarth is the design of one in a set of “paintings” stamps issued in 1967 by Umm Al-Qiwain. —Marshall S. Loke.

JOSE ABAD SANTOS (1886-1942)
Philippine Patriot & Martyr

The Masonic fraternity of the Philippines paid a heavy toll in lives and property during the Japanese occupation of the Islands in 1942-1945. One of the victims was Jose Abad Santos, the Secretary of Justice, who had been Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines in 1938-39. He and his son, together with Manuel L. Quezon, who was President of the Philippine Republic at the time and had been Grand Master in 1918-19, escaped from Corregidor in February 1942 aboard a U.S. submarine. Quezon came to the United States where he died in 1944. Abad Santos and son went to another island which was then still free from enemy control. On April 11, 1942 he was captured by the Japanese. Refusing to collaborate with the enemy, he was cruelly tortured and finally shot on May 2, 1942.

In 1959 the Grand Lodge of the Philippines purchased the lot on which Jose Santos was slain at Malabang in Mindanao, and on May 2, 1959 unveiled a marker there as a fitting memorial to the memory of the late Past Grand Master.

A stamp with his portrait was issued by the Philippines in 1952, Scott No. 590. —Marshall S. Loke.

Mason Antonio Jose de Suarez (1795-1830) appears on the stamps of Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, etc., as he aided in the war of liberation from Spain. When on his way to become president of Ecuador, he was slain by wartime enemies.