



The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 25

MAY 1969

NO. 9



Mexico recently issued this Air Mail Souvenir sheet, Scott's No. C345, Imperf. and should grace any Masonic collection. It shows the likeness of Bro. Miguel Hidalgo Y Costilla (1753-1811), a Roman Catholic Priest and Mexican Patriot, born at Corralejos near Guanajuato on May 8, 1753.

He devoted his life to helping the downtrodden and oppressed. On Sept.

16, 1810 he and his followers proclaimed independence from Spain and started the Mexican revolution. A crushing defeat followed several minor victories. He was betrayed to the Spaniards, degraded from the Priesthood and executed as a traitor on July 31, 1811. In 1806 he became a Mason in the Arquitectura Moral Lodge in Mexico City.

Submitted by Peter I. Lee.

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DUDLEY HILBORN
Editor

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By the sign of the Gavel

I would like to express my thanks to Bro. Edwin Mayer for the contribution of stampless covers, the proceeds of which went to the Masonic Stamp Club. Bro. Louis Bernstein and Bro. Henry Wall also contributed stamps, with the proceeds as well going to the Masonic Stamp Club.

The Auction of April 11 held in the Beacon Hotel at 75th and Broadway, was a success, which may be attributed to the three members who were so generous in their donations. I would be amiss if I did not mention Bro. Milton Tunick. Due to the effort he

★ MEETINGS ★
First Friday of each month
Collectors Club Building
22 East 35th Street, N. Y. C.

put into the occasion, some of the members bought stamps at very good values.

We just heard that our distinguished Bro. Harry Lindquist was honored in England. Upon his return, I will try to get additional information regarding the occasion.

The following two letters are published below for your edification:

Dear Bro. Munk:

I am in the process of disposing of my cover collection. I thought one of your members—incidentally I am also a member—might have an interest in those with Masonic cachets.

I have 39 Masonic History Cover Club envelopes—a Xerox copy of one is enclosed. Also 83 First Days commencing Sept. 6, 1957 covering 52 different issues; and 36 anniversary and similar cachets on ordinary covers.

If you know of any one with an interest, please inform me.

Fraternally, C. H. Reinhardt, Jr.

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Dear Sir & Brother:

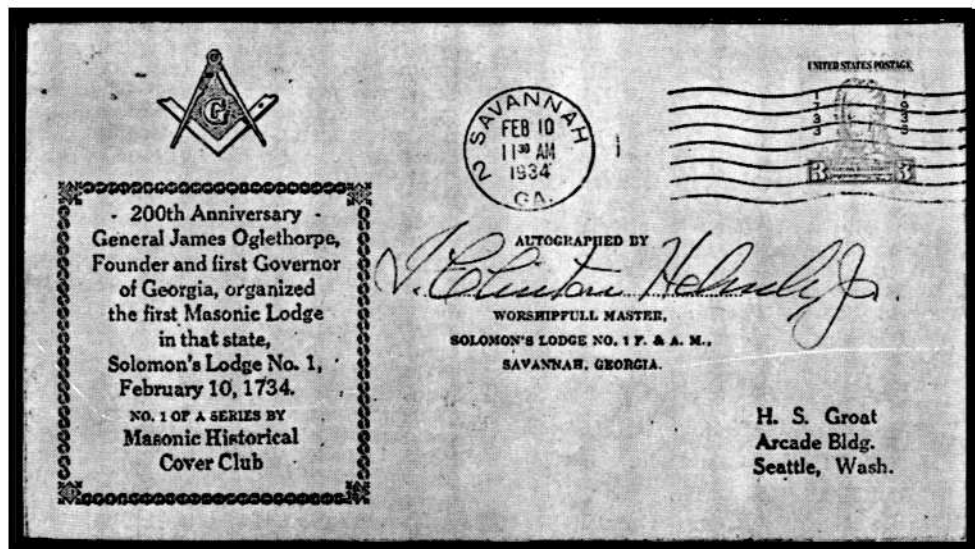
Along with the announcement by William C. Doyle, National Commander of the American Legion, in respect to the release in 1969 of a commemorative postage stamp in honor of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Legion, be it known that a good member of the Craft is connected with this Founding.

Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., a member of Matinecock Lodge #806, Oyster Bay, N.Y., a 32° of the Scottish Rite and a Nobel of Kismet Shrine Temple of Brooklyn, N.Y. earned recognition as the "Father of the American Legion" through his initiative in bringing about the AEF Caucus in Paris, France in 1919. He also served as temporary chairman of the St. Louis, Mo. Caucus, at which the Legion organization started in Paris, was completed.

Thought the members would like to know these facts, if not already known to the Brethren.

Fraternally, R. M. Needham

Gen. James Ogelthorpe, Mason, founder of Georgia



The 3¢ stamp issued in 1933 (No. 726) on the 200th anniversary of the settlement of Georgia and in honor of its founder, Gen. James Edward Oglethorpe, recalls an outstanding example of a Mason applying one of the principles of Freemasonry — Brotherly Love.

Gen. Oglethorpe was born in London in December 1696, the son of Sir Theophilus and Lady Eleanor Oglethorpe, two staunch Jacobites. He was educated in Eton and Corpus Christie College, Oxford. Entering the English Army at an early age, he held a succession of commissions until 1715. He served as aide-de-camp to Prince Eugene of Savoy in a war against the Turks.

In 1722, at the death of his brother, he became head of the family estate of Westbrook in Godalming, Surrey. He served in Parliament for 32 years, his reform activities including an unrelenting fight to abolish penal laws which permitted imprisonment for unpaid debts.

In 1732, he obtained a grant from the King of England for the founding of what is now the State of Georgia. Funds for the settlement came heavily from Masons. The Grand Lodge of England in 1733 passed a resolution which authorized charity for the society "enabling the trustees to send distressed brethren to Georgia where

they may be comfortably provided for."

Gen. Oglethorpe led a band of 35 families (130 persons) to settle at the mouth of the Savannah River. They made terms with the Indians. Chosen first governor, he laid out Savannah, supervised its civic affairs and built its fortifications. He returned to London in 1734, sent back 150 settlers, and in 1735 returned to Savannah, accompanied by another 300 immigrants.

In 1735, the Grand Lodge of England issued a warrant for the establishment of King Solomon's Lodge No. 1 at Savannah, now Solomon's No. 1. Gen. Oglethorpe served as its Master for nine years.

On another trip to England in 1738 he recruited an army of 700 men which he took to Georgia. After five years of warfare, the fear of Spanish power in the South was terminated. The settlement, however, was not a success and the charter was surrendered in 1753.

At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Gen. Oglethorpe was offered the supreme command of the British forces in America, but he refused unless he was given an opportunity first to try to conciliate the difficulties. The command then went to Gen. Gage. Gen. Oglethorpe died June 30, 1785, the only founder of an American

colony to see the formation of the United States.

Gen. Oglethorpe early in his life denounced the pleasures of court life and devoted his best years to the relief of human suffering. He took his Masonic vows seriously.

"Voice of Masonry" in October 1866 reported that on June 21 of that year a chair was presented to Solomon's Lodge "made from the oak under which Provincial Grand Master Oglethorpe convened the first Masonic Lodge in Georgia." Attention also was called to the fact that the Lodge has a Bible presented by Oglethorpe in 1735.

This is the story I recall when I look at the stamp bearing the portrait of Gen. James Oglethorpe, founder of Georgia.

—From Mirt's "Masonry on Postage Stamps."

ALEXANDER IOAN CUZA

The Kingdom of Romania was formed in 1859 from the union of the principalities of Moldavia and Walachia. Col. Alexander Ioan Cuza, who became Minister of War in 1858, was elected Prince of Moldavia, Jan. 7, 1859 and Prince of Walachia, Feb. 5, 1859 becoming ruler of the united principalities. He assumed the title Alexandru Ioan I and was recognized immediately by Napoleon III and subsequently by other powers.

Cuza was born in 1820 at Galatz in Moldavia of an ancient noble family. He studied abroad from 1834 to 1839, part of the time at a military school in Paris, returning home with Western ideas. He married in 1845; was Prefect of Galatz from 1850 to 1857 before entering the army where he quickly rose to the rank of colonel.

As Prince of Romania he instituted a program of drastic reforms, abolishing feudalism, which displeased the landed aristocracy. On Feb. 23, 1866 a group of conspirators broke into the palace and compelled the prince to abdicate and leave the country. He lived in exile in Germany and died at Heidelberg in 1873.

Prince Cuza was W.M.M. of the Lodge at Jassy which was founded in 1856.

Prince Cuza appears on Romania No. 22-27 of the year 1865 and in 1959 on No. 1263 commemorating the centennial of the Romanian Union.

—Marshal S. Loke

The article on Anthony Wayne (April issue) was also written by Mr. Marshall S. Hoke.

MASONRY IN RUSSIA

By Wessel M. Lans

In 1759 Andrej Nikivorovic Voronihin was born as a son to Baron A. N. Stroganov and his serf, Marfa Ceroeva. Under these circumstances, the boy could not assume the name Stroganov, but registered with the family name of the office clerk, N. S. Voronihin, another serf of the Stroganovs.

At first Andrej studied iconography and went in 1777 to the School of Art in Moscow. In 1786 he went abroad and remained there several years, visiting Switzerland, Germany and Paris. After his return to his native country, he became especially famous for his part in building the Cathedral Kazansky. He died in 1814.

Voronihin was initiated around 1780 in a Lodge of the Reichel System (Swedish) and received his second degree in a Lodge of the Elagin System (English). He joined the Lodge "Perfect Concord" in 1786. In Paris he also proved to be an ardent Mason and was especially interested in the mysticism of Saint-Martin (1743-1803). He did not become a Master Mason until 1810 in the Lodge "United Friends." In 1960, Russia honored this great architect with a stamp on which his portrait and the Cathedral Kazansky are shown.

The above facts are taken from the book mentioned in an earlier part of this series, "Le Repertoire Biographique des Francs-masons Russes."

ARKANSAS STAMP RECALLS WORK OF MASONIC PIONEERS

The 3¢ Arkansas centennial stamp (No. 782) issued in 1936 is of especial interest to Masonic philatelists because it pictures Arkansas Post, the birthplace of Arkansas Freemasonry in 1819, soon after the formation of Arkansas Territory. In that year, the Grand Lodge of Kentucky issued a dispensation, and a year later a charter, to Arkansas Post Lodge No. 59.

Arkansas Post was a French-established fort and Indian trading center on a bluff along the Arkansas River 20 miles above the point where the river empties into the Mississippi. The buildings for the traders and soldiers were enclosed within a stockade for protection against hostile Indians.

The land came into American possession through the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 (see Vol. 2 page 25 for role of Masons). In 1819, Congress passed an act defining Arkansas Territory and naming Arkansas Post as the seat of the new territorial government.

James Miller, a member of St. John's Lodge, Boston, was named as first governor and Robert Crittenden, a Kentucky Mason and charter secretary of Arkansas Post Lodge No. 59, was selected as territorial secretary.

At that time, the post was a village of about 100 people, but the act of Congress opened up the region to settlement. Among the pioneers were a number of Masons. One of their first acts was to organize a lodge in the wilderness. Most of the members also were active in the territorial government. Consequently, with the transfer of the seat of government to Little Rock, a more central location, in 1821, the lodge became dormant. The charter was surrendered in 1822.

In 1835, the Grand Master of Tennessee issued a dispensation for a lodge at Fayetteville, and two years later it was given a charter as Washington Lodge No. 82, now No. 1. Other lodges at Little Rock, Arkansas Post and Washington followed. The Grand Lodge of Arkansas was formed in 1838. The membership then was less than 200. Today, there are about 385 lodges in the state, with a membership of more than 53,000.

Arkansas was admitted into the Union in 1836 under the administration of President Andrew Jackson, a Past Grand Master of Tennessee. In that year, the state capitol (pictured on the stamp) was completed. Thomas Thorn, later a member of Western Star Lodge No. 2, Little Rock, was one of the contractors. From Mirt's "Masonry on Postage Stamps."

Gentlemen and Brothers:

Hope the enclosed are of interest to you. Walt Disney the first DeMolay on U.S. Stamp and Clara Barton the first Eastern Star.

CLARA BARTON - founder of the American Red Cross was initiated into the Order of the Eastern Star by Dr. Robert Morris, founder of the Order. The Clara Barton Chapter at Oxford, Mass., is named in her honor.

Clara Barton—Born Christmas Day, 1821 at North Oxford, Mass. Died April 12, 1912.

WALT DISNEY — "I feel a great sense of obligation and gratitude toward DeMolay for the important part it has played in shaping my life. Its precepts have been invaluable in making decisions, facing dilemmas and crises, holding on to the face and ideals, and meeting those tests which are borne when shared with others in a bond of confidence."

Walt Disney — Born December 5, 1901, in Chicago. Died December 15, 1966. He was initiated on May 29, 1920, as the 107th member of the original Mother Chapter of DeMolay in Kansas City, Mo.

Fraternally, S. J. Bensen
Caldwell Lodge #59

FAMOUS MASONS HONORED ON STAMPS OF THE WORLD

By Water C. Marshall—

A philatelic journey around the world would bring before our eyes many different stamps of Masonic interest. We would find many stamps honoring great men who are Masons, many of whom were Masons before they rose to fame.

Voltaire became a Mason at the age of 84. King Kamehameha IV of Hawaii invited his brothers to the Royal Palace to celebrate his initiation.

President Theodore Roosevelt while Governor of New York, was initiated by his gardener, who was Master of the Lodge. The Duke of Edinburgh joined the Lodge of the Royal House of England in 1952.

The list of Masons appearing on the stamps of the world is indeed imposing. In our discussion, we are omitting such well-known Americans as George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and Franklin D. Roosevelt and such South Americans as Simon Bolivar and San Martin who appear on stamps of countries all over the world.

In this list, an admission must be made of the possibility of some errors or omissions since many famous people have been called and are considered Masons with a definite lack of proof.

The famous Ludwig von Beethoven, whose Ninth Symphony fairly breathes Masonry, and Friedrich von Schiller have been referred to as Masons, but no proof has been available; in spite of which fact many Lodges have adopted their names.

Kings dominate on the stamps of the British Empire. King Edward VII and King George VI were Masons. King George V was a Protector of Masonry and not actually initiated into the fraternity. Capt. Cook and Lord Nelson are mentioned as Masons, but definite proof is lacking.

For Empire issues, however, we may include Australia—Sir Edmund Barton (240) and the Duke of Edinburgh (267); Canada—Sir John A. Macdonald

(141), Sir Robert Laird Borden (303), the Duke of Edinburgh (315), Richard Bedford Bennett (357), and Sir Mackenzie Bowell (350).

Also Egypt — Khedive Ismail Pasha (253); Newfoundland — the Duke of Connaught (113); New Zealand — Shackleton and Scott (L2); and Rhodesia — Cecil Rhodes (54).

For one man's collection, some of the more interesting items from Latin America include: Argentina — General Belgrano (18); Vicente Fidel Lopez (38); and President Domingo Fastino Sarmiento (72).

Also Bolivia — General Antonio Jose de Sucre (52); Brazil — President Epitacio Pessoa da Silva (235); Chile — Heinrich von Stephan (260); Colombia — Roosevelt and Churchill (520); and Cuba — Palma (284), Marti (264), and Masonic Temple (369).

And, Canal Zone — Senator Blackburn of Kentucky (114); Nicaragua — Melvin Jones, founder of Lions International (800); Panama — William Howard Taft (C55); and Venezuela — Francesco de Miranda (250) who was proposed by Gen. Lafayette.

The stamps of Europe are replete with designs of Masonic interest. Famous men depicted include: Austria — Mozart (609) whose Magic Flute is based on a Masonic theme, and Lithuania — Thaddeus Kosciuszko (42) the Polish patriot who fought for General Washington.

And, Czechoslovakia — Tolstoi (231) has not been proven a Mason, but he used a Masonic background in "War and Peace;" Finland — Jean Sibilius (247); and France — von Goethe (863) whose "Wilhelm Meister Lehrjahre" was inspired by Masonry.

Also Germany — Carl Schurz (691) who fled from Germany and was later a senator from Missouri, and Gen. G. C. Marshall (821); and Italy — Garibaldi, Cavour, and Mazzini (778); Liberia — President James Monroe (C68); Rumania — Robert Burns (1265) and Mark Twain (1341);

And, finally, Ryukyus Islands — Commodore Perry (28); Spain — Premier Manuel Ruiz Zorilla (534) Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Spain, and Lindbergh (C56); Sweden — King Oscar II, District Grand Master and King Gustav V Grand Master of Sweden. These are some examples.

Henry Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross and a Mason, is depicted on the stamps of Algeria (C375), Belgium (B233), Chile (322), Colombia (RA55), East Germany (350), Ecuador (C375), Greece (657), France (B328),

Germany (B330), Honduras (RA4), India (291), Norway (401), Poland (868), Saar (B95), Sweden (B45), Switzerland (B48), and Viet Nam (136).

He wrote a booklet on the sufferings of soldiers entitled "Un Souvenir de Solferino" (on sale at the American Red Cross in Washington) which shocked the conscience of the world.

As a result, the International Red Cross was organized in 1863 in Switzerland when a meeting of the Committee of Five was held on Feb. 17 and of the Society for Public Welfare on October 26.

Due to the business reverses, Dunant's health failed. Lying in the Heiden Hospital near Lake Constance in December 1901, he was informed that he and Frederic Passy were co-winners of the Nobel Peace Prize. He used his share of the money to pay off his debts, and finally died Oct. 30, 1910.

MASONS TO COMMEMORATE WASHINGTON'S INAUGURAL

The 180th Anniversary of George Washington's inauguration as first President of the United States will be commemorated on Sunday, May 4, 1969 at 2 p.m. by the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of New York. The ceremonies will take place in Flushing Meadow-Corona Park, at the foot of the statue of George Washington which the Grand Lodge erected on the site of the World's Fair Lunar Fountain, a short walk from the Shea Stadium on the IRT Flushing line.

George Washington's inauguration took place in Federal Hall, New York City on April 30, 1789. The oath was administered by Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, then Grand Master, on a Bible, still in existence, belonging to St. John's Lodge No. 1. This historic Bible will be displayed at the ceremony. In 1788, Washington became first Master of a Virginia Lodge now known as Alexandria - Washington Lodge No. 22. He helped lay the cornerstone of our Capitol at Washington, D.C. with Masonic ceremonies, wearing the Masonic apron presented to him by General Lafayette, and embroidered by Madame Lafayette.

The Grand Master, Dr. Charles F. Gosnell, of Suffern, Director of Libraries of New York University, will address the assemblage. William R. Knapp, of Valley Stream, Deputy Grand Master, will exhibit the original inauguration Bible, through the courtesy of its owners, the officers and members of St. John's Lodge No. 1, Harry Ostrov, of Rockville Centre,

Past Grand Master, will recall the exhibition of the Bible and the Statue in the Masonic Brotherhood Center at the New York World's Fair. Former Associate Judge Charles W. Froessel of the Court of Appeals, now Dean of the New York Law School, also a Past Grand Master, and Chairman of the Washington Monument Committee, will preside. Other members of the special committee are:

Raymond C. Ellis, of Setauket, Past Grand Master; Robert L. Olson of Ridgewood, New Jersey, Grand Treasurer; LaVerne W. Getman, of Albany, and George A. Guerdan, of Bronxville, Grand Marshal and Deputy Grand Marshal, respectively; Albert G. Pf-luger of Brooklyn and Chris W. Cremo, of Suffern, Grand Deacons. Kismet Temple Shrine Band will furnish the music and the Masonic War Veterans will present the colors.

Those traveling by car will find parking space by proceeding via Lawrence Street to Avery Avenue, making a right turn into the parking field northeast of the Pitch and Putt Golf Course, a short distance from the Washington Statue. Spaces will also be available at the New York City Building parking lot in the old Fair Grounds.

THE SCOPE, MASONIC PHILATELY

By R. W. Louis E. Krohn

Past District Deputy

2nd Oneida Masonic District

The collecting of what is known as "Masonic Stamps" is a comparatively new hobby in philately, rapidly increasing in popularity among members of the Masonic fraternity, having originated less than 50 years ago. It now ranks 16th in popularity in thematic philately.

The subject provides an area sufficient for the application of ingenuity, research, education, originality and pleasure. The landmark of secrecy, necessarily limits the full appreciation of such a collection to non-members, as well as to members of the Craft. Care must be exercised that the material and explanations of the various stamps do not violate the ancient Landmark.

The subject of a Masonic collection is limitless in scope, and never completed, and if permitted to run wild, may destroy the true significance and value of the hobby. It is my observation and belief that some basic guide or rule should be established and recognized, to limit the subject within reasonable bounds. I have no quarrel with those who wish to include every-

thing and anything, regardless of relevancy or objectiveness of the stamp, if they enjoy so doing.

But the question is "What is a Masonic Collection?"

There is no difficulty about the definition of a collection of ships, trains, animals, flowers, music, etc., but the definition of a "Masonic Stamp" is not so easy. I doubt if in a lifetime a collector could assemble a complete collection of pure Masonic stamps, even with proper and reasonable limitations.

1. Persons. A stamp which bears a representation or picture of a Mason.

2. Buildings. A stamp which depicts Masonic Temples, Homes, Structures, Memorials, and the like.

3. Symbols & Furniture. Stamps depicting all the symbols used in Masonry, such as the gavel, Bible, compass, square, level, hoodwink, spade, and all the other symbols, and furniture comprising the altar, Mosaic Pavement, Blazing Star, Indented Tarsel, etc.

4. Tenets. Stamps depicting the Tenets of Masonry, such as Relief, Light, Brotherly Love, Truth, Faith, Patriotism, Belief in God, Fortitude, Integrity, and so on.

5. Ritualistic. (a) Stamps depicting parts of the ritual, such as perambulation, prayer, knelling, obligation, oath, apprenticeship, burial, singing, penny, casket, fortitude, so forth. (b) Stamps depicting or having on it's face, words, letters or Language mottos, etc., for illustration "Give me Liberty or give me death" Peace, and the other mottos of the Credo series, the Letter "G" Penny, and all other words, letters, signs, figures, etc., having direct Masonic significance.

6. Landmarks. Stamps depicting the Landmarks such as secrecy, Bible, Legend of third degree, Worshipful Master, Wardens, Belief in God, Immortality, Equality, etc.

All the above is sufficiently extensive to suit the scope of any collector without the inclusion of remote, extrinsic, foreign or collateral matter.

I disapprove the classification of a stamp as Masonic under the following category viz:

1. A stamp depicting a building, structure or memorial, not directly Masonic, simply because a Mason may have built, designed or dedicated it.

2. A stamp depicting a battle or other event, simply because a Mason may have participated in it. Most all battles had some Masonic participation.

3. A stamp depicting a country, State or other municipality, because a Mason was a President, Ruler, or

Governor of the same. All political divisions have had Masons in prominent positions.

Stamps of this character, are by far too collateral, remote irrelevant and indirect to be properly classified as Masonic. Including such stamps as Masonic renders the whole collection meaningless, absurd, and of no value.

Exceptions. A non-Masonic stamp may become relevant and properly used in instances where the theme of a page may be devoted to a main central Masonic subject, and when the non-Masonic stamp is closely allied to and descriptive of the main central subject. For instance a page devoted to George Washington, as our first President, as a dominant and central figure, could include a non-Masonic stamp, such as a cherry tree, White

House, his home, burial place, and other subject related to Washington. But standing alone, I do not think such stamps should qualify as a Masonic Stamp.

"Homenaje a Roosevelt" (Homage to Roosevelt) is above the portrait of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt on three stamps—3¢, 7¢ and 12¢ recently issued by Uruguay. President Roosevelt was raised in Holland Lodge No. 8, New York, Nov. 28, 1911. He also was a member of the Scottish Rite and a Shriner.—Mirt.

United Nations on June 12, 1953, issued two stamps, 3¢ and 5¢, as a tribute to the Universal Postal Union, founded by a German Mason, Heinrich von Stephan.—Mirt.
