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Addresses on Committee page

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LONDON SOCIAL

The Committee is organising a social get-together in London before the holiday season, with a mini-auction, mince pies and other seasonal goodies. All IBSS members and their guests are welcome. There will be a charge of £2 per person. December 12, 6 pm, Victory Club, 63 Seymour Street, London W2-just near Marble Arch Underground. Please come!

USA CHAPTER AT STRASBURG

The IBSS USA Chapter will be holding its traditional Saturday breakfast meeting at the Smythe Strasburg Show, January 20, starting at 08:00. Western mining expert Brian Levine will be the speaker, and there will be the usual free draw for a \$100 bill. Latecomers to this popular meal regularly have to be turned away!

IBSS AUCTIONS

There is no auction catalogue this time, but there will be an uncatalogued mini-auction at the London social meeting on December 12. The results of the June and October IBSS auctions are printed at the back of the Directory Supplement enclosed with this issue.

250th FRANKFURT MEETING

The circle of scripophilists who meet informally in Frankfurt every month will hold their 250th meeting in December. To celebrate, on December 2, they will be having a festive sausage-and-beer evening in a marquee at Gelnhausen (courtesy RAAB Verlag). Everyone is welcome. For information on the celebration and on the regular meetings, please phone Ingo Korsch, (+49) 6192 935541.

NEW US SHOW IN JANUARY

Our member Scott Winslow is organising the first Orlando Paper Extravaganza, Opex 2001, January 4-6, right next door to the well-known Florida United Numismatists Show. Scott describes Opex as the largest American Paper show in the South. As well as stocks and bonds, there will be cigar labels, post cards, autographs and other paper Americana, with over 100 dealers expected and a 1,500-lot auction.

WE READ IN ...

- HP MAGAZIN, in German, September: Australia; Crédit Mobilier part 2; Wogau & Co in Moscow; Elmshorn Shipping Co. October: Crédit Mobilier part 3; Wogau & Co part 2.
- L'INITIE, in French, #27: Monte Carlo-La Turbie rack railway; coal mining at Montmarault.

NEW BOOKS

Portafoglio Storico has published a new and expanded (4th) edition of *Titoli Azionari Antichi*, now with 6,000 valuations of Italian scripophily. With 480 pages and many illustrations, the book includes a new section on the bonds of the Italian states before unification and of the Kingdom of Italy and the Italian Republic.

A revised edition of *Vom Kassenverein zur Reichsbank*, a listing of the Reichsbank hoard, contains additional information. New editions for 2000 have been published of the well-known *Suppes* and *GET* listings of German scripophily. *GET* has added a special Volume III containing all known certificates issued in Deutschmarks, i e German certificates from 1948 to now, to be extended later to the end of 2001, when the DM is due to disappear.

CORRECTION

At a loss for the collective noun, we reported in our last issue a 'herd' of seals. We were corrected by **Miles Macnair**, who is researching British railway company seals. The proper term is a 'rookery'. Unbelievable, but true. For the animal variety, of course.

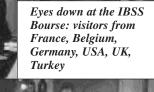
LONDON PAPER WEEKEND

Foreign and British, dealers and collectors alike, hugely enjoyed London's Paper Weekend on October 5-8. Three bourses of scripophily and paper money, three auctions, plus a major coin fair, a used books fair and two collectors' meetings! Scripophily dealers reported excellent business, the collectors were happy, and all are already looking forward to next October.



The Bourse Management do their best to relax: from left, Peter Duppa-Miller (Chairman), Philip Atkinson (Secretary), Bruce Castlo (Auctioneer)





Bidders at Phillips' Scripophily Auction





BERLIN

US MINES WITH FRENCH SHARES

Some US mines with French stock certificates are seen on the market. One which is little known is from the Clara-Swansea Mining Co, mining in Nevada, with its office in Los Angeles. This 1928 certificate, printed in French, shows the US office deleted and replaced by an office in St Maur des Fosses, a district of Paris. The share is issued to a Paris newspaper company.

Another little known example is that of the 1899 **Cactus Mining Co** share (the Cactus-Massachusetts copper mines, organised in Utah and perhaps mining there also). These, however, were standard US stocks, in English, simply bearing the stamp of the Paris office, but issued to bearer (not normal in the USA). Although many Utah copper mines were very successful, it may well be that cactus was the most valuable asset of this company!

A third, different style is a typical 1890s Anglo-French share, written in French as well as English, issued in London but in the French bearer share format, and unusually in this case, for a US mine – the Cripple Creek Shakespear Gold Mines.



CONTRACTOR SECTION OF





A BOND IN AUSTRIAN LIRE

The lira is usually associated with Italy, and perhaps Turkey, but a recent auction offered a bond for 1,000 Austrian lire! The reason is that it was issued in Milan in 1858, when Lombardy was under Austrian control, and the authorities chose to use an Austrian version of Italy's currency rather than their own kroner. The bond issue financed a strategic railway from a major army garrison town (Sesto Calende) to Tornavento, on the Sardinia-Piedmont frontier to the west.



OVER THE ANDES

A South American railway previously unknown to the scripophily world, has made its appearance – the Buenos Aires and Valparaiso Transandine Railway Co Ltd. The company was founded in 1886 by British and German interests. In 1904 the name was changed to the Argentine Transandine Railway Co Ltd, and in 1937 it was bought by the Argentine Government.

These two generic certificates have been found by **Joachim Block** in his search for panoramic views on certificates printed by the GOES company of Chicago (*Scripophily*, February 1999). Can anyone suggest any more?





REVALUATION OF GERMAN SHARES, 1923

Further to our article on German inflation in *Scripophily* June 2000, **Gerd Kleinewefers** has pointed out that we are wrong about the highest nominal value seen on a share. We showed the 5 milliard marks share of Hamburg lock maker Croning-Schloss. However, although we had the correct company, it issued higher value shares at the same time. We show the 100 milliard marks share. Since the 5md

Groning-Schloss Aktiengesellschaft
HUNDERT MILLIARDEN MARK

Per Vorstend Der Assenbrat

Schließ Bereiges Aktiengesellschaft

HUNDERT MILLIARDEN MARK

share is 'Lit A', and the 100md is 'Lit D', there were presumably at least two other values, 'Lit B' and 'Lit C', possibly for 10md and some other value between 10 and 100.

Another comment concerns our surprise that shares had apparently been issued in the old currency after the date of introduction of the new reformed currency

(November 20 1923). We are told that the date printed on a German share is not the date of the meeting at which the capital issue was authorised, but the date when that issue was entered in the Handelsregister (Register of Commerce). This could be several months after the date of authorisation of the issue, and in this case it was overtaken by the reform of the currency.

EQUIPMENT TRUSTS

Railroad equipment trusts – for the financing of large-scale equipment purchases – make an interesting and affordable niche theme. Over 100 will be in the next edition of Terry Cox's American railroads book. This Louisville & Nashville Railroad piece is a nice example.



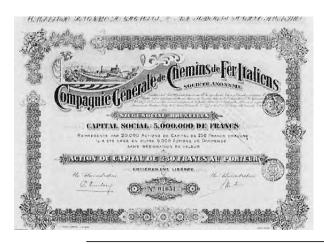


BADIKAHA ARTIST MAJORELLE

The Badikaha share certificates from the French Ivory Coast are well known and popular, but we have only now learned that the background illustration was composed by Jacques Majorelle (1886-1962), although his name does not appear. The artist had a 'black nude' period in 1931-35, to which the design of this certificate relates. Retrospective exhibitions have been held recently at the Institute of the Arab World in Paris and the Musée des Beaux Arts in Nancy (and touring other French museums), where a Badikaha certificate was on show thanks to our member **Gérard de Bure**. Majorelle spent many years in Morocco, at a time of considerable economic development, and it is not impossible that scripophily printed with his name may come to light.

We are grateful to articles by Roger Roubault in the Scripo Club de France's journal L'Initié for this information.

We show here the certificate for 1 share. Denominations of 10 and 25 shares were also issued



BIG NAME, SMALL REALITY

We are used to American railroad companies with big names, suggesting a line many hundreds or even thousands of miles long, whereas the reality was a few tens of miles. It was not only US lines which chose unreal names. The Compagnie Générale des Chemins de Fer Italiens, formed 1912 in Brussels, sounds like a nationwide undertaking, but its activities (planned and actual) were limited to the Sicilian city of Catania, where it established a rail-tram network of 26km.

CONFEDERATE RAILROAD

An 1864 share in the Western North Carolina Railroad, interesting because it is a Southern States railroad stock of a Civil War date. Two-thirds of the stock was subscribed by the State. By 1870, the railroad had built 92 miles of track and owned 5 locomotives, 6 passenger cars and 24 freight cars, generating gross income of \$113,000.

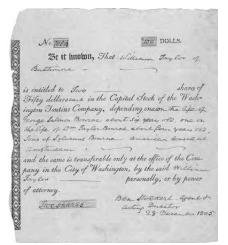


ROBERT MORRIS ASSOCIATION

A tontine (named after Lorenzo Tonti from Naples who originated the scheme in France about 1653) is a form of life insurance – an actuarial bet – in which the survivors from a group become entitled to the capital from those who have died. Commonly the investors nominate the lives of third parties, usually genetically-sound young children, as their 'runners' in this survival sweepstake.

In the case of this 1805 Washington Tontine Company certificate, the investor, William Taylor of Baltimore, has bought two \$50 shares depending on the lives of George Salmon Bourne and William Taylor Bourne (aged 6 and 4), described as the sons of Sylvanus Bourne, consul in Amsterdam.

Ten years earlier, Bourne had been one of Robert Morris's agents for the sale of North American Land Company shares in Europe (*Scripophily*, May 1999). As this was extremely unsuccessful, it seems that Bourne's other livelihood as a United States consul was sufficiently lucrative to promise healthy children. From the name of the younger child, the investor was perhaps the children's uncle or godfather.



BRITISH IN DEATH VALLEY

This £100 bond was issued in 1914 by the Death Valley Railroad, California, and signed as President by F M 'Borax' Smith (1846-1931), founder of the Pacific Coast Borax Co, which produced borax to be used in assaying and smelting gold, silver and copper. Smith made millions from borax and from silver mined in the

Tonopah district. He operated mines in the Death Valley area owned by Borax Consolidated Ltd of London, and the railroad was backed at least in part by British funding, as shown by this bond.

The railroad was opened in 1914 to service new borax mines and was described

in the technical press as 'the most remarkable railroad in the world'.

It operated at an average 15 miles per hour. The locomotive shown here is of 'Pacific' 4-6-2 wheel configuration, which British investors would have considered unsuitable for a freight engine.



LEONARDO BONDS

We have recently spotted in a 1998 newspaper a report on an unusual bond issue, redeemable in facsimiles of works by Leonardo da Vinci. The issue came from a Florence publisher of high quality art books who, with the Milan bank Credito Italiano, put together a 15 billion lire issue of bonds (£5.4/\$9 million at the time). The idea arose from an issue of bonds made in Italy in 1997 with warrants entitling holders to cases of Brunello wine. The Leonardo bonds were interest-bearing and negotiable, but not redeemable for cash. There were four levels of investment –

Lire 25m, which on maturity after either 3 or 4 years entitled the holder to a facsimile of the 2,000 pages of Leonardo manuscripts held by the Institut de France.

Lire 8.5m, earning a facsimile of the Forster codex owned by the Victoria & Albert Museum in London.

Lire 4m, the drawings of Leonardo and his group in American collections. Lire 2.5m, Leonardo's book on painting kept by the Vatican Library.

The bonds were to be sold in sets bound in leather and gold, and 998 sets were to be produced. We do not know whether the issue was a success. We would be pleased if a reader could show us an illustration of one of the bonds, which might be quite exotic and will become defunct, and therefore scripophily, in 2001/02.

BRITISH RAIL ARCHIVE

SCRIPOPHILY 2000 No 4

The 1,000,000 stock certificates of the London & North Eastern Railway group of companies auctioned in London last year (*Scripophily*, March 2000) were acquired jointly by Scott J Winslow Associates and the American autograph dealer Gerard A J Stodolski. They are currently preparing the material for sale and are already open to enquiries.



Noted
British rail
collector
Ted Little
(left)
negotiated a
pre-release
deal with
Scott
Winslow

SALVADOR DALI, NOTARY?

We are all familiar with the bizarre paintings of Spain's Salvador Dali, and many have visited the spectacular museum in Figueras, inland from the Costa Brava, dedicated to his work. However, was he also a notary?

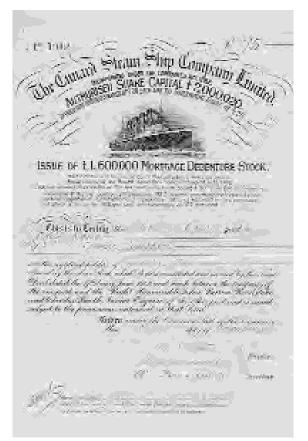


Agricultura y Ganaderia SA, was formed in Figueras in 1922 by Don Salvador Dali y Cusi, notary of that city. However, research by the Scripo Club de France has established that the notary was in fact the father of the celebrated painter.

DOUBLY INTERESTING

Although a bond, this Cunard Steamship piece specifies the company's share capital as £2,000,020, to include a single Government Share of £20 - a 'golden share' like those retained by governments in strategic companies being privatised in the last two decades. Nothing is new!

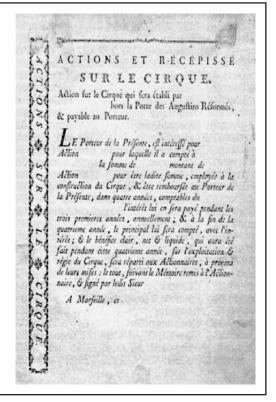
Dated 1910, the bond shows a 'blue riband' liner, similar to the Lusitania, which was built for Cunard in 1906 and sunk in the Atlantic in 1915 by a German submarine, with the loss of many lives including Americans (who were neutral at the time), antagonising American public opinion.



A CIRCUS SHARE OF THE 18th CENTURY?

This unissued and undated share of a circus in Marseille, France, has an 18th century look to it, although being undated we cannot be sure and it could be very early 19th century.

However, it must be by far the earliest circus share known. The circus was to be established outside the gate of the Reformed Augustines (presumably church). The holder was to invest a sum to finance the building of the circus, and to receive interest during three years. After the fourth year, the principal was to be repaid, together with that year's interest and a share of accumulated profits. The owners must have been very optimistic! Unfortunately, no further information is available.



LOS ANGELES WINE

In 1857 a group of German immigrants at Anaheim, California, incorporated the Los Angeles Vineyard Society with fifty

members at \$2,000 per share, planning to achieve dominance of the fast-growing California wine business.

By 1859, with some 400,000 vines, they were indeed the largest wine-producing group in the state, but they lacked expertise, the wine was not of high quality, and they were soon overtaken by groups

in the Napa Valley. The rare share instalment receipt shown here was issued in 1859 in San Francisco.



'THIS MEANS YOU'

This was the heading on the share prospectus of the Birch-Coulee Placer and Gold Quartz Mining Company of Washington, with its office in Minneapolis, in the 1890s. Prospectuses are closely related to scripophily, and can be very interesting. This one advertises strongly the merits of investment in gold mines (and thus the Birch-Coulee).

Gold! Gold! Gold! Gold! Bright and yellow, hard and cold.

THIS MEANS YOU
IF YOU WISH TO MAKE MONEY, READ THIS
AND ACT ACCORDINGLY

Gold rules the world.

There is no better friend in misfortune than gold.

There is no lock one cannot open with a golden key.

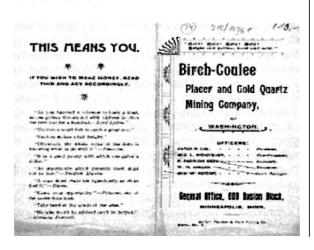
When gold clinks, arguments are of no avail.

Venture is a small fish to catch a great one.

Venture makes a full freight.

Know your opportunity.

There is also the usual practical information on location, transport, and a request for 'good representatives' to place the stock. Doubtless the real opportunity was to lose one's whole investment!



HIDDEN TREASURE

Theme collectors are familiar with crossovers – companies which straddle two or more themes, such as the Morris Canal & Banking Co, Georgia Rail Road & Banking and the Huddersfield & Manchester Railway & Canal. Not all crossovers are so obvious, however.



This **Gold Bluff Dredging Co** stock, issued in 1873, could legitimately be collected as 'shipping' or 'navigation', or mistakenly as 'construction industry'. But, believe it or not, it is primarily a mining piece. Gold Bluff is a district in Klamath County on the Northern California shoreline, which was mined for \$1 million of gold in the period 1852-80. These were the first beach sands in the Western States found to contain placer gold.



The South Fork Canal Co was a very early California gold rush company, which constructed ditches and flumes for the movement of water to the hydraulic mines and placer gold deposits near Placerville. The company had more than 34 miles of ditch and 108 miles of lateral channel. This share was issued in 1852, and the gold connection is indicated by the dog and safe vignette. It is collectible by both mining and canal enthusiasts, and of course by collectors of California stocks, or of dog vignettes.

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400 Years Ago

The World's First East Indies Company

— Brian Mills —

December 31st is the 400th anniversary of the birth of the world's first East Indies joint stock company. On that day Queen Elizabeth I granted a royal charter giving a trading monopoly to **The Company of Merchants of London Trading into the East Indies**.

This was not England's first royally chartered joint stock company, a distinction given to the Muscovy or Russia Company in 1555, which had been formed out of a venture to find a route to the Spice Islands via Russia. Other companies had followed. Planning for the East Indies company had begun in September 1599, and in October of that year the Queen had met a group of the London merchants involved, and shown her enthusiasm (in part on account of the customs duties she would gain).

The first Governor was Sir Thomas Smyth, former Ambassador to Russia and closely involved in the Muscovy trade and the settlement of Virginia. About 200 subscribers contributed the joint stock for the first voyage, many investing around £200 each —

R Eceived the to day of Marry 1857 - for the use, and by the appointment of the East-In-dia Company of me Machachy proposed the funme of Society for showing for bis soon payment on his Adventure to the East-In-dies in this general Stock

Call receipt for £62 10s issued in 1658 in connection with a refunding of the company authorised by Oliver Cromwell. This was one of very few company fundings during England's experiment with republican government

grocers, vintners, tailors, haberdashers, goldsmiths. Initially each voyage was funded separately, capital and profits being divided amongst the stockholders when the ships returned.

The first fleet of five vessels, the largest, the *Red Dragon*, just 600 tons, left London for the Spice Islands, the East Indies, in January 1601, only a few days after the grant of the company's charter. They eventually reached Sumatra after 18 months of sailing. Much of

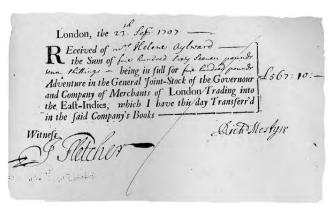
the goods they had taken for trade, such as English cloth, proved unsuitable,

and the adventurers turned to looting and piracy of other European ships.

Sir Thomas Smyth, first Governor (chairman) of the East India Company

After violent struggles with the Portuguese and the Dutch, one of the ships got back to England in May 1603, and the others in September of that year. They brought back a million pounds weight of pepper on which the owners made a substantial profit, and paid £917 in customs duties. 182 of the 460 crew had been lost.

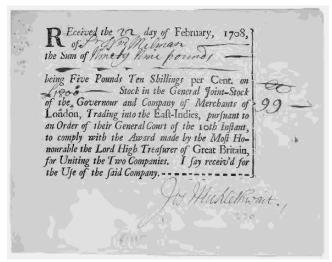
Two more voyages, each with a subscribed capital of £50-£60,000, were highly successful with profits just under 100% and 234% respectively (for the lengthy voyage, not per annum). In 1607 the company was able to reduce its cost base by starting to build its own ships in a yard at Deptford on the Thames. In 1609 a new royal charter was sought with greater powers. At the same time, the method of funding was changed and the capital became permanent,



Inscribed stock certificate issued in 1707 for £500 of capital at a price of £113.5 per £100. This is the nearest thing seen to a share in the first East India Company

like a modern company, and only the profits were distributed after each voyage. Over its first 20 years the company imported over £2 million of goods into England at an average profit per voyage of 138%. By 1621, one in 2,000 of England's population is estimated to have been in the service of the company.

So began the activities of the company that was to lay the foundations of the British Indian Empire. The company eventually lost its fight against the much larger Dutch East Indies company for



Receipt for a 5½% call on £1,800 of the 'old' company's stock made in February 1709 (one month before the merger with the 'new' company) 'to comply with the Award made by the Most Honourable the Lord High Treasurer of Great Britain, for Uniting the Two Companies'. A similar piece is known for a call of 10% in January 1709

present-day Indonesia, but out of this failure it enabled England to acquire Manhattan, in exchange for one of the smaller Spice Islands. It then concentrated its efforts on India, which its successor company would govern until 1858.

From its incorporation exactly 400 years ago, the 'London' East India Company traded until 1709. By then it had become politically unpopular and lost its monopoly of the Indies trade in 1698. In 1709 the company merged with its young competitor, the 'English' East India Company, to form the United Company of Merchants of England Trading into the East Indies.

Only a handful of scripophily papers are known from the first East India Company. We show three of them here.



Arms of the first East India Company, taken from a shareholder's noncompetition declaration, signed in 1698

References

The East India Company, Brian Gardner, London, 1971, an introductory history of the company and its successor for the entire period 1600-1874

Nathaniel's Nutmeg by Giles Milton, London, 1999 - an entertaining dramatised account of the company's early ventures and battles with the Dutch in the Spice Islands, now Indonesia

The Constitution and Finance of English, Scottish and Irish Joint-Stock Companies to 1720, Vol. I by W R Scott, Cambridge, 1912 - a detailed description of the capital structure and stock market performance of early British companies including the several East Indies companies

The Monte Carlo Story

— Howard Shakespeare —

In the 1850s it was apparent that tourism was to be an important part of the future of the southeast coast of France (not yet the Côte d'Azur), and the tiny Principality of Monaco wanted to be part of it. Casinos and thermal cures were proving popular and profitable in other parts of Europe, and the Monaco authorities felt that they had potential for them too, especially as gaming was banned in nearby France. The first gaming concession was granted in 1856, along with others for a sea-bathing establishment, hotels, villas, steamship and bus services to Nice, a newspaper, a port warehouse, and the Monaco section of the Nice/Genoa railway. Gaming started at the modest Maison Bellevue, ancestor of the present casino.

Unfortunately, the original concessionaires, Léon Langlois and Albert Aubert, proved incapable. The concessions were sold to one Pierre Daval in 1858, then to François Lefèbvre in 1859. They proved no better, but Daval did organise the building of the first casino. The rock now known as Monte Carlo (after Prince Charles III) was at the time a barren area of scrub, named the Plateau des Spélugues and grazed by goats. The building of the original casino took until 1863. In that year it was apparent that the new casino had to be exploited by someone more capable, and the choice fell on François Blanc, a Bordeaux stockbroker who for 20 years had been running the casino at Homburg, north of Frankfurt, with conspicuous success.

The innocuously-named Société des Bains de Mer et du Cercle des Etrangers de Monaco, or 'SBM' – translating as the 'sea bathing company and foreigners' club'- was formed by Blanc in 1863, as a result of a new concession granted by the Prince of Monaco in April of that year. The concession was for 50 years, to be extended as needed. The statutes of the new company were ambitious. As with casinos elsewhere, the aim was to give visitors a comfortable and luxurious stay, and the company was to provide high-quality hotels and restaurants, gardens, pavilions, and shady groves in which to relax. Balls and concerts were to be organised. The casino would offer whist, écarté, piquet, pharaon, boston, reversi, roulette (with one or two zeros) and 'trente et quarante'.

Blanc set the highest standards for all the SBM activities, and the big gamblers and the wealthy of Europe started to flock to Monte Carlo. In its first year, 1864, the casino made a profit of F500,000,

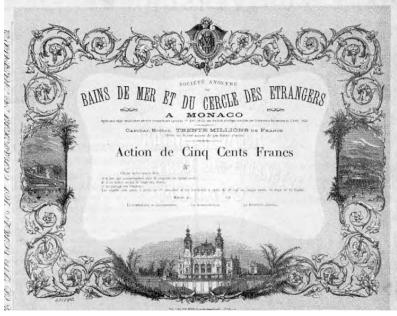
but by the end of the century it was making F27 millions, being 95% of the total revenues of the Principality. Blanc knew that the objectives set out in the statutes were the right way forward, and spared no expense to make Monte Carlo the epitome of luxury and good taste for the most discriminating people in Europe. The finest hotels were built, luxurious villas were encouraged, elegant boulevards and a yacht-harbour were laid out, the finest foods and wines (regardless of cost) were served, and the best opera, orchestras, and later ballet, were available. The railway arrived in 1867, and direct trains from Paris brought the clients. SBM undertook most services – water, electricity, gas, street lighting, rubbish collection, the newspaper – and was influential in the post office and the fire service also. Blanc became banker to the Principality, and sole lender to the government.



1899 one-fifth bearer share, with a design showing all of Monaco's attractions – the city, the harbour, the palace, semitropical fruits and two classical maidens holding images of, respectively, the casino and what appears to be a folk singer. This design was also used for other issues of bearer shares

SCRIPOPHILY 2000 No 4

The defeat of France by Prussia in 1870 threatened Monaco, and hurt the casino business greatly, but Blanc turned it to advantage by offering a contribution to the indemnity that France had to pay, thus making gaming seem respectable. Business picked up quickly after the war, and the casino began to attract European royalty. Blanc died in 1877, but his young, rich and influential wife assisted their son Camille to take over his father's position, until her own death in 1881. By this time Monte Carlo was the only place in the whole of Europe where gaming was legal. A loan of F4.5 millions by SBM to the city of Paris, to enable it to complete the Paris Opéra, gained valuable friends in high places. The designer of the Opéra, Charles Garnier, was engaged to build a large and luxurious new casino, on the site of the existing one, and the main part of the present casino was built in 1878-79.



1884 bearer share (unissued) showing the casino at the foot and two scenes of the city from the harbour

By 1883 the company had repaid half its shares out of profits, and the remaining original shares were cancelled and replaced by new shares on the basis of two new for one old, thus restoring the original capital. Of the 60,000 shares, 52,000 were owned by the Blanc family. The original shares have not been seen, but the new shares, dated 1884, are known to collectors, although they are very rare. In 1899 the market value of one share was over F5,000, and the issue of certificates for 1/5 share was authorised. The high level of profits made it unnecessary for SBM to increase its capital until 1915, to F36m, followed by increases to F38m in 1919 and to F52m in 1929.



1898 bearer bond for F300

The SBM and the casino survived World War I, and flourished until the end of the 1920s. In the early 1920s, control was acquired by the then famous but ruthless arms magnate and financier Sir Basil Zaharoff. After the death of his wife, he lost interest in the casino, and sold his controlling interest to the Paris banking house of Daniel Dreyfus. The annual profit in the mid- and late-1920s far exceeded the nominal capital of the company, and enormous dividends were paid; in those years the annual dividend per share was F725, 45% above the nominal value of that share. The value of the shares on the Paris bourse rose in 1926 to F20,000.

In the early 1930s, the world depression decimated the takings, and the company (and Principality) treasury was empty. Moreover, the casinos along the nearby French Riviera were now offering strong competition. In 1936 the company revealed a loss, and no dividend was paid; the shares plummeted. The gas, water, electricity, roads, fire and postal services had to be taken over by the government. For various reasons, World War II restored the

profitability of Monaco, and laid the basis for the wealth of both the casino and the government today. However, the years after the war saw the casino making losses and unable to compete with the Riviera casinos.

By 1954, Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis, who had long seen the potential of Monte Carlo (and had been quietly buying SBM shares) gained control (520,000 shares of the 1 million issued), and this revived confidence in SBM and the Principality. This was further boosted by the marriage of Prince Rainier to Grace Kelly in 1956. 1966 saw a controversial move by the Monaco government (always at odds with Onassis), authorising an increase in the capital of SBM and the issue of new shares to the government, thus depriving Onassis of his majority. In 1967 the Principality acquired the Onassis holding (at an enormous profit for the Greek shipowner) and thus control of SBM, and remains in control today.

Scripophily of the SBM

Shares

1863	* Action F500,	capital F30m,	issue 60,000
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1884 Action F500, capital F30m, issue 60,000, black/buff

1899 1/5 Action F500, capital F30m, blue

1/5 Action F500, capital F36m, blue/green/orange 1915

1919 * 1/5 Action F500, capital F38m, issue 20,000

1929 Action F500, capital F52m

1929 * 1/5 Action F500, capital F52m

Action F500, capital F80m, black/yellow 1942

1/5 Action F500, capital F80m, blue 1942

1946-53 † Actions F500, capital F500m, black/blue

1966-83 † Actions F500, capital F9m, black/blue



1935 £10 bearer bond with vignette of the city seen from the Mediterranean

Bonds 1898 Obligation F300, issue 80,000, green/beige/grey

PARTIE TITY'S . I'M, man Constitut Departmentions

* Obligation F300, issue 53,300 1905

* Obligation F300, issue 33,333 1910

1935 Obligation £10, issue 54,500, brown/orange

1935 1/5 Obligation £10, issue 2,000, violet/beige

* not seen on the collectors' market

† The last two types of share are nominative (registered) shares, and all the other papers are bearer.

It is possible that from 1946 bearer shares with the F500m capital were also available, and that after the introduction in 1960 of the new franc (= 100 old), nominative shares showing capital F5m were issued, but none of these has been seen.

Registered share of the 1946-53 series, this one dated 1947, with vignette of the casino

Gregor MacGregor, Cazique of Poyais

Two Major Discoveries

Richard T Gregg

Subsequent to publication in 1999 of the monograph, Gregor MacGregor, Cazique of Poyais, two hitherto unknown types of Poyais land security have been discovered, thanks to Mr. Stephen A. Clements of Hyattsville MD. Mr. Clements is a descendent of a London stock broker, John Robson (1780-1845 - who apparently commenced trading as a stock broker in 1795, at the age of 15), and the documents have been found in family archives.

Earliest Land Grant

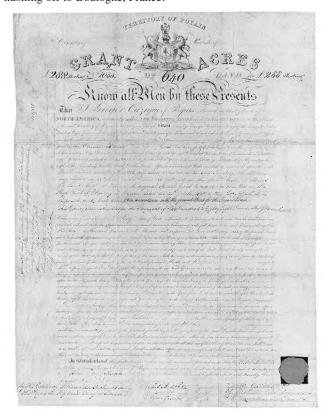
A newly-found Land Grant is five years earlier than any other known, and is entirely different, being on vellum, with handwritten denomination, a handwritten account of the grant from the King of the Mosquito Nation, a different coat of arms and a wax seal. It was issued in London, possibly at the "Poyaisian Legation" on Dowgate Hill.

Serial No. 1038, dated November 3, 1823, the grant is partially printed and partially hand-written. It is for a principal amount of 640 acres (one square mile) for a consideration of 1,280 dollars (probably United States dollars but without precision as to the currency). This amount was paid by "a Native of Great Britain" in pounds sterling, with an exchange rate of 4/6 per dollar cited. This would be 4 shillings 6 pence per dollar, which would convert to the £288 mentioned in the title block of the Grant.

to the author

The document is signed and sealed "William John Richardson per pro Gregor P" (Prince), pursuant to a Power of Attorney dated June 4, 1823, and likewise signed a second time on the left-hand margin in acknowledgement of the receipt of £288. Richardson is described as His Poyaisian Highness's Envoy at London. Both signings were witnessed by Alex(ander) Arnott (Agent), Gregor Geddes and Robert Middleton.

Would you buv a used Land Grant from these characters? Stephen A Clements (left) displays the 1823 Poyais Land Grant The grant was issued at about the time the £200,000 (actually £300,000) issue of Poyais bonds of £100 each, was taking place (October, 1823, also signed by Richardson). Indeed, there has been added to the end of the hand-written portion of the grant, in another hand, a statement "& in accordance with the general Bond for the Poyais Loan". Who could question the bona fides of a wellstructured bond issue, when care had even been taken to add a protective clause by hand to the Land Grant being issued in November? In fact, however, the bond issue was already in default in November, 1823, with Gregor MacGregor and family soon hustling off to Boulogne, France!



Land Grant, dated November 3 1823, the earliest Povais land grant known, and the only one on vellum (Gr.23.2)

In another strange turn of events, readers of the monograph might recall there had been an abortive instalment scrip offering for £100 6% Poyais Bonds in 1822, the proceeds of which it was alleged had been misappropriated by the Contractor thereof, Mr. John Lowe. You may also recall that MacGregor's Lt. Governor, Hector Hall, withdrew from the Poyais project on arriving on the Poyais coast in May 1823, evacuating such settlers as were still alive. John Lowe, however, reappeared, according to a Letter to the Editor of the London *Times* (dated November 8, 1823, issue of November 11) in which it was quoted, from a letter dated July 20 from John Lowe in Nassau, New Providence, (received November 5) that he is leaving the following day for Black River as Governor (appointed by whom?); that he was embarking 'a large emigration'; that he never was nor is now, an agent of Sir Gregor M'Gregor (sic)! But, for whom would he be working?

But, to return to the 1823 Land Grant. The conditions of sale of the later Land Certificates and Land Grants (1827-1830, 1828, 1834) were in effect perpetual, and required payment of one cent of a dollar per acre per annum, after taking possession. The 1823 Land Grant terms were, however, quite different. A Feu Duty, or Perpetual Annual Lease Rent, was due on such portion of this Grant which the holder desired to retain for himself, on the expiration of five years (the afore-mentioned one cent per acre). That portion on which the Feu Duty was not paid would revert to Gregor MacGregor. The first annual payment under this 1823 Grant was due on December 24, 1828. At any future time, should Feu Duty for two consecutive years remain unpaid into the third year, then the rights under the Grant that apply to such land shall become null and void, and revert to Gregor MacGregor.

Curiously, the descriptive boundaries of the initial Land Grant from King George Frederick II to Gregor MacGregor are completely hand-written on the reverse of the 1823 Land Grant. It is odd that such a document, partly printed on its face, should not have had the vital information on territorial boundaries so essential to such a Grant, also printed.

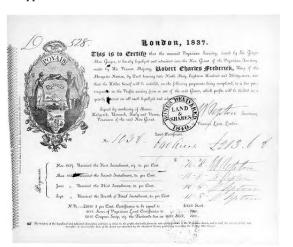
"New" stock certificate

Attached to the 1823 Land Grant was an 1837 document with the original 1823 Land Grant Serial Number, 1038, identified thereon. This document legalises and admits the 1823 Grant (called in the 1837 document: "Poyaisian Security, issued by Sir Gregor Mac Gregor") into the "New Grant of the Poyaisian Territory made by His Present Majesty, Robert Charles Frederick, King of the Mosquito Nation". (He was the son of King George Frederick Augustus II, who signed MacGregor's original Grant.) This certificate was issued by the same Poyaisian Office, located at 13 Pancras Lane, London, that sold Poyais Land Debentures in 1829, 1838 and 1839, using the same boundary description as Gregor MacGregor had established in 1820.

The certificate declares that the holder of the 1823 Land Grant is entitled to participate in the profits arising from the New Grant, with a yearly interest payment. It is a certificate for a financial interest, "stock" not land. The new certificates were issued on the basis of onefor-three: £1,000 of new Stock for £3,000 of MacGregor's 3% bonds or 3,000 acres of his Land Certificates. The 640 acres in the 1823 Grant were thus valued at £213 6 shillings 8 pence (written on the document). A fee of 1% of this sum, in four payments of 10 shillings 8 pence, totalling £2 2 shillings 8 pence, was payable to the Poyaisian Office. How the "value" was arrived at, is not known. The document is also stamped "BONUS DELIVERED. 1840. LAND & SHARES" but what this bonus was, by whom paid, and how it was calculated, is not known. It is possible that Gregor MacGregor, through this 1837 document, was trying to save the value of certain Land Grants and Bonds, but his actual arrangements and relationship, if any, with King Robert Charles Frederick and the Poyaisian Office in Pancras Lane are not known.

The saga of General Sir Gregor MacGregor is amazing, and, though large sums of money passed hands, in the end his nephew James MacGregor, 12th Chief of the House of Glengyle, had to provide the money to permit him to journey back to Venezuela in 1839. So, our "hero" or "villain" (call him what you will!) spent his ill-gotten gains just to keep his dream from becoming unravelled. But his capabilities remained intact, because he was able to charm the Venezuelan Government into providing him with back pay and a pension.

The author's monograph *Gregor MacGregor, Cazique of Poyais*, published by IBSS in 1999, is available at £5.50 or \$10.50 post paid from Richard T Gregg, P O Box 430, Hackensack, NJ 07602, USA, or the Editor of *Scripophily*. A Supplement to his monograph, containing illustrations and a transcription of the newly-discovered Land Grant, and the 1837 certificate, and a number of additions and corrections to the monograph principally concerning Gregor MacGregor's descendants, is available at no charge, on application to either of the above sources.



Certificate signed 1837, to admit the 1823 grant into the New Grant of the Poyaisian Territory made by King Robert Charles Frederick. This is the only document so far seen which connects the MacGregor grants with the later royal grants (Gr.37)

SIMON LAKE AND THE SUBMARINE

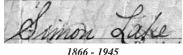
— Jeffrey B Lake —

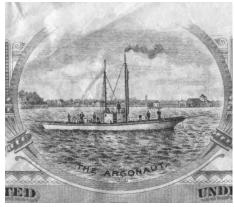
Governments were attracted to the idea of submarines long before the first effective vessels went into production. In 1620 Cornelius van Drebel, a Dutchman, demonstrated a submarine to King James I in the River Thames. More serious attempts began in the late 18th century. In 1776 a Yale student, Daniel Bushnell, devised the Turtle and attacked the British blockade with it. The American engineer Robert Fulton developed the Nautilus for Napoleon in 1801 and, after it failed to sink any British ships, he transferred to the British side, again unsuccessfully. In 1863 the Confederate Navy's Hunley (designed by Army captain Horace L Hunley) sank the USS Housatonic. More submersible boats were developed in Europe in the 1870s/80s, with varying success, but submarines which we would recognize today were a later American invention

The life of Simon Lake spanned 79 years from 1866 to 1945. He was born in Pleasantville NJ into a 'Family of Invention'. His uncles Jesse and David Lake invented the caterpillar tractor in 1892. Jesse Lake invented the whistling buoy, the cable-car crib, the mowing machine, and a ratchet for house-moving in the 1880s. Another uncle, Vincent Lake, invented an automatic justifying type-setting machine in 1882.

Simon's father, John Christopher Lake, patented the roller shade and built steering mechanisms for vessels. He maintained a foundry in New Jersey where young Simon honed his skills in mechanical operations at The Lake Manufacturing Company (1885). Simon's first invention was the Lake Canning Machine. He also







Argonaut as shown on the shares of the Sound and Coast Wrecking Co

developed bicycle mechanisms and fishing and oystering equipment, much used in the Chesapeake and Delaware bays. In working with his father in the J C Lake and Son Company (1892) and with his inventive uncles, Simon Lake was destined for a life of invention and manufacture, during which he formed many companies to market his inventions relating to submarines as well as other areas of engineering.

Simon Lake was fascinated with the Nautilus in Jules Verne's Twenty Thousand Leagues Under The Sea, and he vowed that one day he would build the infamous submarine of fantasy. Thus began his journey of submarine invention. His main interest in submarines was for peaceful and commercial purposes: carrying cargoes under ice in Northern waters, charting and improving waterways, salvaging sunken ships and cargoes, and challenging the sea to give up her treasures of oysters, shellfish, pearls, sponges, minerals and oil. However, governments of the world demanded military submarines, and Simon responded to a US Government invitation in 1893 to submit designs. The features of the Lake design which afterwards attracted the most attention of the scientific journals were the wheels for driving along the sea bed, and the airlocked diving compartment, which permitted entrance and egress under the sea.

The major US competitor to Lake was John P Holland with his Holland Torpedo Boat Company (merged in 1899 into the Electric Boat Company). The Irish-born Holland had designed a submarine around

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1875, and he too responded to the government invitation in 1893. The Lake design was viewed in many quarters as more practical technology than the Holland vessel, but Simon could not get past Holland's vast lobbying capability, and was unable at that time to raise enough funds to build his invention.

Lake organized his first company for commercial submarines, The Lake Sub-Marine Company, in 1895, at the age of 29, and built the submersible *Argonaut*. This vessel received worldwide renown as the first practical submarine to operate in the open sea, and when in 1898 Simon made a successful voyage from Norfolk VA to NewYork, he received a congratulatory telegram from Jules Verne.

In the meantime, in 1899, the Holland Torpedo Boat Co was rescued from financial collapse by lawyer-financier Isaac Rice, who merged it with The Electric Launch Co to form The Electric Boat Co and produced in 1900 the first submarine purchased by the US Navy.

In contrast to John P Holland, Simon Lake was expert in manufacturing and marketing as well as invention. In 1901 he formed the Lake Torpedo Boat Company and in the following year built the first practical military submarine, *Protector*. Still shut out of US Navy procurement, he found his early sales in Europe (though Britain adopted the Holland model). He sold *Protector* to Russia (used in the Russo-Japanese war) and built at least nine more in that country, and based himself in Berlin for two years to



Two hundred shares in the company formed jointly by Simon Lake and his father, issued to and signed by Simon as Treasurer, 12 days after the company's incorporation

supply consultancy in central Europe. In 1910, after his technology was adopted by several foreign governments, and the Holland vessel *Plunger* proved somewhat lacking, Simon Lake was recalled to the US, at last to build submarines for his own country, as he originally intended. The *Seal* in 1911 was the first Lake submarine built for the US, and it established a world depth record of 256 feet.



The Lake
Sub-Marine
Company
share
certificate,
issued in
1897 to and
signed by
Simon Lake
as President.
This
company
built the
Argonaut

Unfortunately, there is considerable evidence that the development of the infamous German U-boats was primarily of Lake technology. One can only ponder that. What if the US Congress had purchased the Lake submarine in the early days? How would that have affected Germany's development of the submarine, and the ensuing U-boat menace in the 1914-18 war?



1886 certificate for 200 shares in The Lake Manufacturing Co, issued to and signed by Simon's father (as Treasurer) in exchange for property put into the company. This is where Simon learned his engineering craft

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1915
certificate
for 10 shares
of common
stock in
The Lake
Torpedo
Boat Co,
the principal
company for
Lake's
military
submarines



Lake Scripophily

In addition to certificates of the two early companies (The Lake Manufacturing Co and J C Lake & Son Co), the Simon Lake Project has identified surviving stock certificates from the companies marked (C) in this article.

Simon Lake's main companies were The Lake Torpedo Boat Company (C) for military vessels and The Lake Submarine (originally Sub-Marine) Company (C) for commercial ventures. He also formed many smaller companies such as Lake Wrecking and Submarine Navigation Co in 1896, Sound and Coast Wrecking Co (C) in 1900, Pearl Fisheries Submarine Machinery Co in 1909, Bedrock-Gold Submarine-Machinery Co (C) in 1911, The Catawba Dredging Co (C) in 1911, Lake Motor Boat and Aero Co in 1914, Submarine Exploration and Recovery Co (C) in 1920, Deep Sea Submarine Salvage Corp in 1929, Industrial Submarine Corp (C) in 1930, Explorer Submarine Corp and Lake Underseas Development Corp (C) in 1932, Underseas Recovery Corp in 1938.

Lake & Danenhower Inc (C) (1928) related to the re-outfitting of a Lake submarine for under-ice navigation, re-named the *Nautilus* after Verne's fictional craft. Other marine companies included The American Submarine Torpedo Boat Co in 1908, California Shipbuilding, 1916, and Housatonic Shipbuilding (C) in 1917. The most profitable commercial companies were the Argonaut Salvage Corp (C) (1919) and The Lake Submarine Salvage Corp (C) (1930).

Simon Lake was a creative engineer in non-marine areas of engineering as well. He designed tunnels, and developed a variety of building construction methods using pre-fabricated concrete walls. As well as Lake Engineering Co, formed 1907, he established

Black Rock Estates Inc in 1916 and, in the 1920s/30s, Connecticut Lakeolith Corp (C), Connecticut Building & Supply Co, and Sunshine Homes and Concrete Products Co (C). Other companies included Lake Heat Engine Co (C) in 1900 for building diesel engines and The Lake Aero Corp in 1919. The smaller companies never prospered as well as the main companies.

At one time, Simon Lake employed nearly 5,000 people, and an estimated 10,000 people worldwide during his lifetime. In the United States, he had offices in Milford and Bridgeport CT, Norfolk VA, Baltimore MD, Ocean City NJ, California and New York. Abroad he maintained offices in Austria, Russia, Germany, Italy and England - where he shared his office space with London newcomers, Wilbur and Orville Wright! After his death, his enterprises were apparently all dissolved. The buildings of The Lake Torpedo Boat Company existed until 1970, when they were finally torn down.

Simon Lake is credited with the development of the basic technologies which are essential for safe and successful operation of submarines, such as even-keel hydroplanes, ballast tanks, the divers' compartment, periscope, twin-hull design, and much more. He achieved over 200 patents in his lifetime. No modern submarine could operate without using the advances made by Simon Lake, which were adopted worldwide in the early 1900s. As well as being an inventor, he was successful as entrepreneur and industrialist. He can now be seen as the Father of the Modern Submarine.

The author is a great-grandson of Simon Lake, and Director of The Simon Lake Project in Grant, Florida - www.simonlake.com



Certificate for five shares of the Sound and Coast Wrecking Co, part of Lake's commercial submarine arm, issued to Simon's father in 1901

THE SOUTH SEA COMPANY - III

1739-1856: THE FINANCIAL CORPORATION

Geoffrey L Grant

The South Sea Company had no physical trade after 1739 but, despite this, it continued in existence for a further 117 years. The reason for the company's long existence was its activity as a financial corporation, principally managing the South Sea Annuities described in Part II (*).

National debt reorganised

In 1750 Henry Pelham's government carried out a major scheme whereby the part of the national debt bearing interest at 4%, was converted to pay 3½% interest until 1757, and 3% thereafter. This encountered considerable opposition from stockholders in general, largely influenced by the initially hostile attitudes of the Bank of England and the South Sea Company. Only about two thirds of the outstanding stock was offered by the closing date. The remainder of the stockholders were offered a second chance ('the Second Subscription') but on slightly worse terms, that the 3½% period would end in 1755, and this brought in another 21%. The restabout £3½ million – had to be paid off in cash. About £2½ million of these were holders of the Old and New South Sea Annuities.

To fund this purchase from holders unwilling to convert, the government raised £2.1 million by public issue of a new annuity, also managed by the South Sea Company. Because of its small size, this issue usually stood a point or two cheaper than other stocks. It is now so rare that it is difficult to ascertain its exact name - the company referred to it as 3% South Sea Annuity 1751 but most other contemporary sources leave out the words 'South Sea'. £700,000 of this loan was raised by lottery in which all ticket holders were allocated stock, with prize winners receiving additional quantities.

The South Sea Annuities are exceptional in that they were continued after 1750 (at the new interest rates) whereas all other government stocks involved were swapped into new stocks. Stock transfer receipts for the Old and New South Sea Annuities are seen in collections, spanning the entire period from their first issue up to the liquidation of the company in 1856. Transfers for the 1751 annuity are very rare – in fact, the author has never seen one.

Nominally as compensation for the company's surrender of the *asiento* contract and its right to an annual ship to Spanish America (*see Part I*), the government agreed that interest payable to the

company on the Exchequer annuity would remain at 4% until 1757 and then reduce to 3%. This rate remained thereafter, supporting the ordinary stock dividend of $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ per annum. The company's other income included an annual fee for managing the South Sea Annuities (see Part II), about £14,500 but falling towards £7,000 as the government redeemed parcels of the annuities; licence fees from those wishing to trade within its monopoly area, typically £500 per annum, and stock transfer fees, perhaps £50 per annum.

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Inscribed stock certificate for the transfer for £1,000 of the 'New Joint Stock of South Sea Annuities', dated 19 April 1774 and priced at only 84½, the market perhaps being down just three weeks after Parliament closed the customs house at Boston in retribution for the 'tea party'. At a later date the wording in the body of these certificates was changed to 'Joint Stock of New South Sea Annuities', bringing it into line with the form of words on the Old Annuities

In addition, annual income from the company's investments amounted to, say, £20,000 but diminishing. These investments originated from various windfalls - compensation of £100,000 received in 1750 from Spain; cash confiscated from the 1720 directors; £10,000 received in 1743 from Robert Knight (the 1720 cashier); and about £40,000 of old trading debts and unclaimed stock. The investments were actively managed, sometimes in

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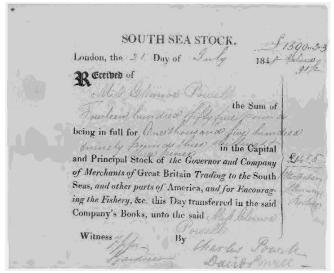
South Sea securities, sometimes in other government issues. Expenses might be £14,000 a year, chiefly for directors and staff salaries.

South Seas monopoly abandoned

In 1815 there was a further change. Without a trade nor any **I** stomach for acquiring one, the company surrendered its monopoly rights (and licence fees) and the trade was declared open to all but subject to export duty. In a curious arrangement, the government undertook to invest, in government stock, the revenue from the export duty until it reached £610,464, the amount required to yield interest equal to a dividend of 1/2% on the company's ordinary stock. At this point the government stock would be handed over to the company "as a full satisfaction for the Surrender of their exclusive Privileges of Trade, within the existing limits of their charter". The objective was to maintain the dividend on the ordinary stock at 3½%. In the years immediately following, the export duty yielded about £8,000 p a. Only about 60% of the required fund had been purchased after 28 years and probably the scheme was never completed. In the interim the government subsidised the company, up to a limit of ½%, for whatever amount was required to maintain the dividend at 31/2%: about £2,000 p a rising to £9,000 p a by the 1840s. Thus the government guaranteed

4	New South-Sea Annuities, 2d Subscription.
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	London, the 3 - Day of June _ 1762
	R Eceived of Robert Hodsley Esgl
	Onethousand and Sixty Eight pound 14 M
	being in full for One thousand pound - 1068:18:0
	South-Sea-Annuiries, Second Subscription, this Day transferred in the said Company's Books, unto the said Robert Hadsley 139
20	Wings, By Jon Hickory
8	O My 3
- 8	Set top & Proces

Inscribed stock certificate for the transfer for £1,000 of 'New Joint Stock of South Sea Annuities, Second Subsciption', priced at 106 %%, dated 3 June 1752. The heading is in black



Ordinary stock (shares) transferred at a price of 91½% on an inscribed stock certificate dated 21 July 1848, close to the end of the company's life. The heading is in black

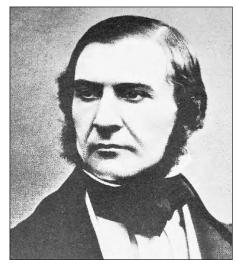
the company against a fall in its income from the government! **Winding up**

The company, with its three governors, 21 directors (reduced from 31 in 1753) and a prime London office, had nothing to do but manage the transfers of ordinary stock and annuities, and the payment of the dividends on its capital and the interest on the part of the national debt it was managing, about 4% of the total after the Napoleonic wars. It is surprising that steps to terminate the company were not taken until 1853, when William Gladstone took this action during his first spell as Chancellor of the Exchequer. At that time £2.7 million Old South Sea Annuities, £2 million New and £400,000 of the 1751 issue remained in circulation.

Gladstone needed only to redeem the Exchequer annuity, revoke the company's charter by Act of Parliament and arrange for the Bank of England to handle the annuities. Instead he tried to push through a reduction in interest rates, offering the holders a bewildering variety of alternative stocks. These were rejected by the company, both in respect of the Exchequer annuity and for a large holding of South Sea annuities which it owned. Altogether, holders of about 75% of these three annuities elected for cash, the remainder mostly converting to a government stock called New 2½% Annuities. The government redeemed the Exchequer annuity on 5th January 1854 and paid off or converted the annuities on 5th April 1854.

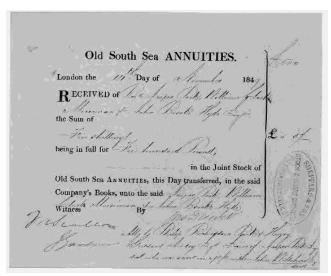
Meanwhile the shareholders were agitating for winding up, but the

directors had other ideas. They proposed to convert the company to "undertake the business of execution of trusts" - to act as trustee for anybody willing to appoint them There would be a guarantee fund of £350,000 in addition to the capital. The government was willing (the guarantee would be invested in state funds). The shareholders were less enthusiastic and insisted on provisions by which members not agreeing could be paid out. Twice, the necessary Parliamentary bill was defeated, *The Times* reporting, without a trace of irony, that it "encountered prolonged opposition from the legal profession under the fear that the creation of a trust company



William Ewart Gladstone (1809-98), who as Chancellor of the Exchequer initiated the company's liquidation. He was later Prime Minister four times for thirteen years in all

To counter accusations that the directors were delaying matters, in December 1853 the company offered advances to shareholders waiting to be paid out, at 4% interest (reduced to 3% in the next month), which drew the not unreasonable comment that they were being charged to borrow their own money. Thereupon the company arranged to buy the ordinary stock if requested, at £115, raised to £118 in January 1855, these amounts being about £2 above the stock market prices and a little below the forecast asset value. In February 1855, South Sea House in Threadneedle Streetwas sold to an architect, T Nelson, for £56,750, the book value having been £12,000. It was to serve as the Baltic Exchange for some years and was later demolished. In July the company made a first capital distribution to shareholders of £115 per £100 nominal together with its last dividend, which despite the lack of management fee income was 11/2% for the six months. The Act terminating the charter received the Royal Assent in the same month, July 1855.



SCRIPOPHILY 2000 No 4

Old South Sea Annuities (those issued up to 1733) continued to be traded throughout the company's long existence, as shown by this inscribed stock certificate dated 14 November 1849. Unlike the New Annuities, the heading is in black

The End

The final shareholders meeting was on 15 February 1856, at which a further £5 per share was distributed, to congratulations all round except perhaps from those who had accepted the company's first offer of £115. £44,000 was retained against potential remaining liabilities (which to the extent not required may have resulted in another small distribution later) but on that day, 145 years after it was chartered, the Governour and Company of Merchants of Great-Britain Trading to the South-Seas and other Parts of America, and for Encouraging the Fishery, ceased to exist.

References

* References to 'Part I' and 'Part II' are to the articles in Scripophily, June and September 2000, respectively. Other references are given in Part I.



The Dividend Hall in South Sea House in about 1820, by Rowlandson and Pugin



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NEW EUROPEAN AUCTION RECORD

When Reinhild Tschöpe's auction house hammered down **DM981,570** (£303,000/\$433,000) at her auction in Düsseldorf on



November 4, she beat by a good margin the European record set by Classic

Effecten eleven years ago. It has been an amazing year of growth for Frau Tschöpe. Her two 2000 auctions, with combined hammer sales over DM1.7 million, sold more than her six sales in the previous three years added together. Each of her auctions this year has sold more scripophily, in DM, than any other auction in Europe since 1989.

MORE FROM PENN CENTRAL

Penn Central Railroad has decided to speed up the sale of its remaining stock certificate archive, currently occupying a large warehouse on the tenth floor of a prominent office building in Philadelphia. They have signed an agreement with R M Smythe to sell off the certificates in the near future. A large offering (1,000 or so transfile boxes) is to be auctioned at the Strasburg Show in January.

The lots will be available for viewing at the warehouse in Philadelphia, from about a week or so before the auction, right up through the auction, including weekends. Samples will be on view at Strasburg, and possibly at Opex 2001 in Orlando FL also. The actual auction will be part of the regular January Strasburg auction.

Although there will be some surprises, most of the lots will consist of quantities of the certificates that have been listed in Smythe's fixed-price lists as 'R1 - 500 or more exist'. Smythe feel that the availability of a large quantity of attractive certificates at reasonable prices will help the hobby, as it did when the Penn Central material first came on the market.



RECORD DM PRICE

The top-priced piece in the Tschöpe recordbreaking auction created another record – the highest DM price ever paid for an antique share in Europe. A hammer price of DM110,000 was obtained for a share of the New Orleans & Ohio Telegraph Lessees, issued to Samuel Morse, inventor of the Morse Code and other telegraphic devices, and signed by him on the reverse.

A successful portrait painter and Professor of Painting and Design at New York University, in 1832 Morse had the idea of an electromagnetic recording telegraph for the rapid transmission of intelligence. His only previous knowledge of electricity came from a course he attended in 1827. Eventually in 1843 he obtained government backing for a line from Washington to Baltimore, and ultimately became wealthy through the commercial exploitation of his invention.



Samuel F B Morse (1791-1872) displaying his European medals, and a certificate of shares in the New Orleans & Ohio Telegraph Lessees, issued to Morse in 1856, which he has signed on the reverse

FHW ACQUIRES

AG für Historische Wertpapiere, the owner of FHW, is to acquire Hanseatisches Sammlerkontor on January 1. Hanseatische will continue to trade under its own name and the management of Christian Schroeder. In April, Michael Weingarten, the other former Hanseatische director, will move to the holding company to become director of all FHW auctions. Earlier this year FHW acquired the the annual Berlin auction, previously operated by IAB.

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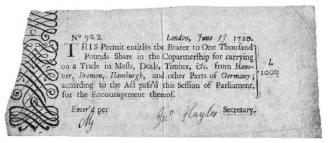
HANSEATISCHE

Hamburg, September 2

This auction was outstanding, with the total sales about three times the figures for the firm's past auctions. The overall quality of material on offer was high, greatly strengthened by a part of the European collection of Hans Braun, as used in his book *Historic Share Certificates*. The auction atmosphere was excellent, with 80 in the room, and great enthusiasm over the many bidding battles.

The total hammer price of the 1,100 lots was DM579,000 (£178,000/\$260,000) for the 66% sold, but this was 96% of the total of start prices for the whole auction, indicating many lots were sold for well above start price. As our member **Gerd Kleinewefers** points out in his expert report for *HP Magazin*, these pieces were offered in 1999 at another German auction, and failed to sell at about the same price as was reached this time. However, on that occasion they were offered, with others from the same source, as one lot, whereas this time they were offered separately, at naturally far more accessible prices.

The Braun pieces brought DM220,000. Of this, DM67,000 was for two Danish pieces, the highest prices ever for any Scandinavian scripophily. These were both from the Danske West-Indiske og Guineiske Compagnies, 1733 (DM36,000) and 1734 (DM31,000). There were other fine pieces in the non-German sections. Top UK piece was a £1,000 share in a trading company importing timber



Issued in London in June 1720, at the crest of the South Sea Bubble, this English share is for £1,000 in the Copartnership for carrying on a Trade in Masts, Deals, Timber etc from Hanover, Bremen, Hamburgh and other Parts of Germany

from Germany (listing Hamburg as one of its sources), dated 1720, which sold for DM5,400 (£1,660). Also impressive was the Colorado Springs & Cripple Creek Aerial Tramway Co, a remarkable US share for building a tramway to bring Cripple Creek gold down for processing - a crazy project which never got off the ground, but its share now selling for DM5,000 (\$2,250). Apart from the Danish West Indies, the best European (non-German) price was DM8,500 (EEE4,350) for the Société d'Histoire Naturelle à Gand (the Ghent zoo, Belgium), 1851.



SCRIPOPHILY

2000 No 4



1936 loan of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, sold for DM78

However, the top-priced lot in the auction (another Braun piece) was German, the Royal Bengal Company of Emden, 1754, at DM 44,000 (£13,500/\$19,750). This is the oldest German share known

(but one of the youngest of Europe's East Indies companies), authorised by the King of Prussia in 1750, although the French language and signatories, and Dutch investor and ship suggest non-German influence. Other top German prices were DM22,000 for a share of 1857 in the Hamburg-Bremer Feuer-Versicherungs-Gesellschaft (fire insurance), DM18,000 (£5,500/ \$8,000) for an 1881 share in the North German racing & trotting club, Hamburg, and several others above the remarkable figure of DM10,000. The high prices in the German section included several lots selling for between two and three times their start prices. Local interest in Hamburg/north German material was very noticeable.

Art déco design of marine symbols on this 1922 share of a North German fish trade company, which fetched DM750



SCRIPOPHILY 2000 No 4

FHW

Frankfurt, September 16



The Frankfurt auction has returned to its original, much-liked venue, the Frankfurterhof Hotel in the city centre. While this auction achieved a respectable result, the sales figure, at €187,500 (DM367,000/£113,000/\$164,000) was well below the corresponding auction in 1999, and far below other recent German auctions. Just over 50% of the 1,632 lots were sold. There was a distinct lack of quality material, both in non-German and German pieces.

The most obvious success was in German breweries. Rare material, some from the famous Jess collection, sold a couple of years ago as a single item, is now coming on to the market and is in strong demand. Two examples here were the Vereins-Brauerei Berliner Gastwirthe, 1873, selling at €7,000, and the Erste Culmbacher, 1898, at €5,000. Another fine brewery, the Paulshohe, issued Schwerin 1873 (not stated as ex-Jess) brought €5,000.

Perhaps the best European piece (and the best price) was the share of Entreprise Générale des Télégraphes Publics de Jour et Nuit, Paris 1832 – a most attractive share, which sold at €2,800 (£1,700/\$2,450). This was followed in price by by familiar pieces: an American Express, 1856, at €2,500 (\$2,200) and a Centennial Exhibition, 1878, at €2,000 (\$1,750). The attractive American Submarine Tunnel Co, 1854, was unwanted at the same price.



Entreprise Générale des Télégraphes Publics de Jour et Nuit, Paris 1832 surely the earliest telegraph share known? It sold at €2,800 (£1,700/ \$2,450)

The American Atlantic Cable Telegraph Co \$1,000/£200 gold bond, 1870, not wanted at €900 (\$800)

PORTAFOGLIO STORICO

Milan. October 5

A lex Witula's 15th auction was held in its now regular home in Milan, and, while primarily scripophily, also offered banknotes and books. Scripophily was not only the largest but the most successful part, with 70% sold, for a total of 37 million lire (€19,240/£11,500/\$17,000), with a noticeable lack of rare material.

Much the greatest interest was in Italian pieces, in particular banks. Perhaps the best were two bonds of the Monte di Pietà in Tuscany – one from Florence, 1771, and one from Pistoia, 1839. These brought L1,500,000 (€775) and L800,000 (€413) respectively (see *Scripophily*, May 1996). Two good automobile pieces sold well. A FIAT share of 1961, a less well known piece showing the vast factory at Turin, brought L1,200,000, and a share of L'Automobile, Pavia, 1901, showing an early motorbus, sold for L900,000. A rare bond of the short-lived Repubblica Romana, 1849 (much less common that the well known Venice bond of the same period) sold for L1,200,000.



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A 'Monte' bond from Pistoia (near Florence), 1839



A bond of the Banco di Corte, Naples, 1822, of the florid type described in Scripophily, November 1999, sold for €85

1901 share of SA L'automobile, with perhaps the earliest picture of a motor bus on any share London, October 5

The total sales figure of £36,000 (\$52,000/€60,000) was higher than usual, with a respectable 62% sold, a third of them at or above upper estimate. Nevertheless, while 62% is good for a typical European auction, it is low for Phillips and they were disappointed, after the exceptional figure in March and with 50 people in the room, including many continental and American dealers. Bids may also be placed on www.phillips-auctions.com/uk



One of the finest of British shares, for the world's first inter-city railway, built by George Stephenson, on vellum with a grand vignette showing the Exchanges of Liverpool (left) and Manchester

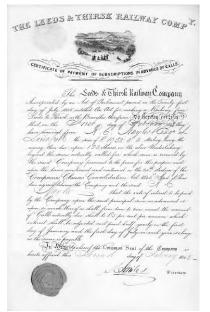
The fine vignetted Liverpool & Manchester Railway share sold for £4,500 (\$6,500/€7,500), the second highest price ever achieved in Britain for an English railway share. It was uncancelled but not bright, and of a late date for this piece (1829). There had been speculation that the record price for the previously unseen 1830s Stockton & Darlington at the last auction would encourage others onto the market. This did not happen, although vendors did offer four 1850s shares of the Railway, three of them with the familiar vignette but of various types, some scarce, which sold for £550, £550 and £400. Other scarce British railways did well, noticeably a plain 1845 £50 share of the London & Brighton Railway at £480, a Middlesbro & Redcar Railway share of 1846 with an attractive vignette, at £460, and several Southern Railway component companies around £150 each.

IBSS mail auction, October 13

The total of £3,998 for 84% of the 160 lots shows the continuing growth of the IBSS members' auction. All except four of the 58 US lots were sold, the best price being £110 (\$160) for an uncancelled 1873 city bond for Montgomery Avenue, San Francisco. China did well, with all lots sold, including a 1947 \$1,000 Treasury Note at £215.

A group of 125 Confederate uncancelled bearer Scrip Certificates (Cr.175), with a face value over \$2 million, fetched £4,400 (\$6,300), the result of a long bidding tussle after opening at £550 (estimate £700-900). The rest of the large American section did not do so well, with only 55% sold, because much of the material was rather familiar.

Amongst Chinese, a Hukuang Railways £20 gold loan 1911, American issue (K236), sold for £1,050 (\$1,500), Reorganisation and bonds were again wanted, £420 (\$600) being paid for a group of 15 pieces. Russians were very weak, only 4 of the 19 lots selling. Most other European countries sold out, although France suffered. A 1753 Canal de Richelieu, the vignetted variety, was sold for just £210 (€350).



SCRIPOPHILY 2000 No 4



Samuel Smiles, later the author of the classic Lives of the **Engineers** and of the Victorian moralistic work Self Help, signed as company secretary this rare 1848 share subscription receipt of the Leeds & Thirsk Railway, sold for £500 (\$720/€830)



Astonishing 1891 founder's share of the Grand Restaurant Brébant et Bouillons Parisien, which sold for £120 (€200)

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SCRIPOPHILY 2000 No 4

This 51st HHW auction was held in its usual location, the ■ Vienna casino, and offered 774 lots, with as always a heavy emphasis on material from Austria and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Within this field the choice was wide, but the other countries were represented by a handful of rather ordinary pieces at best. 57% were sold for aq total hammer price of Sch1,337,000 (€97,000/£58,000/\$83,000)

In quality, the Austrian material was much the finest, so naturally the best prices came from this area too. Top was Sch70,000 for a very unusual lot (if not strictly scripophily) - the concession documents for the Ybbstalbahn, a railway near Linz, Austria, signed by Emperor Franz Joseph in 1871. This was followed at Sch55,000 (€4,000/£2,400/\$3,400) by a very attractive bank share from 1869, a Georgenberg savings bank, with fine views of the five towns served by the bank (now in Slovakia).

Two rare and strange bonds, Berliner Strassenbahnen issued in Berlin, 1877, and Italienische Eisenbahnen, Rome, 1900, yet with the same two signatures and allowing subscriptions at the 'Royal Court cash office', brought Sch6,500 and Sch4,500. A Hungarian state bond, Budapest, 1874, with the same signatures and subscription arrangements, was unsold at Sch4,500. These were perhaps the most interesting, and certainly the most curious, non-Austrian pieces. However, we also liked a rare but unissued shipping share, of the Associazione Marittima di Ragusa/Dubrovnik (now in Croatia), from about 1870, and very decorative. This sold for Sch4,500.



The highest-priced scripophily piece in the auction - 1869 share of a savings bank for five towns in Georgenberg, showing vignettes of all five towns

Gelnhausen, October 14

RAAB

The RAAB auction had its usual and distinctive offering of a ■ large number of fairly low-priced German and international pieces, often modern, with some higher-priced ones here and there. The catalogue has an excellent index, which other auction houses could imitate with benefit, but still suffers from some distorted photographs. The auction was conducted in euros, but a majority of the lots sold at their start price in DM – hence the 'odd' euro prices realised.



Arizona

Territorial mining

stock, #5 for

10% of the

which was

unsold at

€77 (\$66)

capital.

Of the 936 lots, 63% were sold, for a total of €79,995 (£47,000/ \$69,000). Thirteen pieces sold for €500 (£300/\$430) or more, four of them British and three American, but the highest price by far was €4,100 (double the start price) for a share of a building-stone company near Dresden, Sächsische Bauhütte.

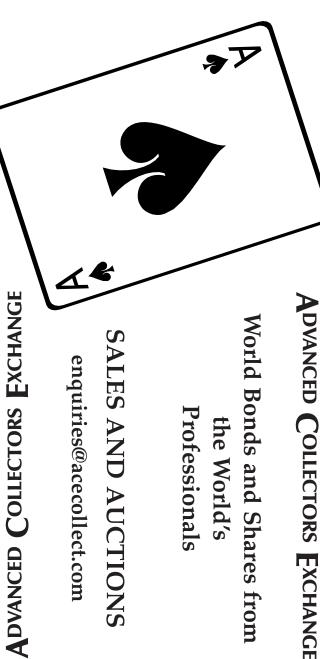
A 1941 certificate of the Pittsburgh Screw & Bolt Corp brought €1,585 (\$1,350), its start price. It was issued to Samuel Firestone, perhaps a relation of the founder of Firestone Tire. In contrast, an Arizona Territorial certificate, #5 for 5,000 shares (10% of the capital) in Sweetland Mining Co, signed by the President, D Sweetland, with an unusual mining vignette, had everything going

for it but was not wanted at just €77 (\$66). Amongst British, a 1794 share and a 1798 mortgage bond of the Huddersfield Canal made €614 (£360) and €1,023 (£600) respectively, and a vignetted Girvan & Portpatrick Junction Railway share of 1876 reached €460 (£270).





1882 share of Pharmacie Centrale de France, sold for €110



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The astounding hammer figure of DM981,570 (£303,000/\$433,000) gave this auction house the record achievement for a scripophily auction in Europe. Only 58% of the 493 lots were sold, but it was the lower-priced pieces that were left unwanted. No fewer than 24 lots were sold at more than DM10,000 (£3,100/\$4,400).

As usual for this firm the autograph pieces, especially US, were the stars of the sale, led by DM110,000 (£34,000/\$48,500) for Samuel Morse's signature on the reverse of an 1856 share of the New Orleans & Ohio Telegraph Lessees. Despite its taped condition, DM65,000 (\$28,700) was paid for a 'three-generation' New York & Harlem Rail Road – 'Commodore' Cornelius VanDerbilt on the reverse, his son William H as President and grandson Cornelius Jr as Treasurer. Several other scarce autograph pieces sold around DM25,000-28,000 (\$11,000-12,500) – Guglielmo Marconi on a British transfer for a Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co share (well above its start price of DM18,000), a Standard Oil Co 'double Rockefeller', and 'Charlie Chaplin' as President on Chaplin Studios Inc, although Buster Keaton similarly on Flamingo Films Inc made only DM4,800.



A 'three- generation' New York & Harlem Rail Road share, printed in red, with the signatures of Cornelius VanDerbilt, his son William H and grandson Cornelius Jr

The leading Europeans were more mixed. Johann Strauss the younger was offered at DM90,000 on Vienna Komische Oper share #06619, similar to the piece #06623 that was sold in Vienna in May for Sch760,000 (DM108,000), but could not find a buyer this time. Lots sold in the DM25,000-28,000 bracket included a 1739 'bodmereibrief' (bottomry bond?) of the Swedish East Indies company, and two different Frankfurt Zoo pieces, strongly bid for (an 1858 share with no vignette starting from DM16,000 and an 1874 bond from DM11,000). A 1745 piece from the Danske West-

Indiske og Guineiske Compagnies, offered at DM28,000, failed to sell, even though two slightly earlier items from this company had sold at higher prices in Hamburg in September. A German share of Texan interest, the 1846 Wiesbaden 'Union for the Protection of German Immigrants', share # 15 (see *Scripophily*, February 1999), sold for DM16,000 (\$7,000), well up from its start price of DM12,000.



SCRIPOPHILY

2000 No 4



Another striking French share, Paris 1855, in a company for the manufacture of 'Draps Fins d'Abbéville', sold for DM14,000, the start price

The art nouveau Home Décor, Paris 1898, made DM8,000



Splendid share in a Hamburg ships' chandler, 1927, sold for DM1,200 (£370/\$530)



There were many lower-priced lots also. Amongst British, an Anglo-Persian Oil share, 1932, for DM3,500 (£1,080), and an 1833 Brazilian Company share for DM2,800 (£865). J P Morgan on the familiar New Jersey Junction Railroad bond sold for DM900 (\$400). Other lesser US autographs included the Vanderbilts, Wells and Fargo, Edison, Harriman, Gould and many others, but there was very little US material without autographs. The vast majority of the lower-priced lots were German pieces.

DAUGHERTY Eastham MA, October 28

 \mathbf{T} op price this time, \$260, went to an unfamiliar 1828 stock of the Boston & Providence Citizens' Coach Co. Another unusual piece, the Tremont Theatre (sic), printed in very similar style, issued but undated, sold for \$130. Russell Sage signing a Chicago Milwaukee & St Paul Railway stock, 1875, heavily cancelled but not touching the signature, went for only \$52.

MEETINGS/EVENTS

December

2	Frankfurt Scripophilists' Circle 250th
	Party, Gelnhausen (+49) 6192 935541
12	IBSS Seasonal Party & Mini-auction,
	London (+44) 1225 837271

January

4-6 *	OPEX 2001 Show and Winslow
	Auction, Orlando FL
	(+1) 603 641 8292
18-21	Smythe Show & Auction Strasburg PA
	(+1) 212 943 1880
20	IBSS USA Chapter Meeting Strasburg PA
	(+1) 201 489 2440

March

5	*	Phillips Auction, London
		(+44) 20 7629 6602
5		IBSS Social Meeting, London
		(+44) 1225 837271
24		FHW Auction & Bourse, Frankfurt
		(+49) 5331 9755-0
30		IBSS Mail Auction closes
		(+44) 1707 875659
31		RAAB Auction & Bourse, Gelnhauser
		(+49) 6051 82014

^{*} Scripophily with paper money, coins or other collectibles

COLLECTORS' MEETINGS

Amsterdam Saturday lunchtimes, 1100-1300 hrs, five times a year. Hugo van der Molen (+31) 50 534 8795 Bern Scripophila Helvetica often meets on the same day as WP auctions. Peter Bürgi (+41) 32 753 87 13 Brussels Fourth Thursday of every month except August (no meeting) and December (third Thursday), at 1800 hrs. Jean-Luc de Beir (+32) 2 763 33 68 Frankfurt/Main First Thursday of every month. Ingo Korsch (+49) 6192 398 25

Kristiansand Monthly meetings. Oddvar Walle Jensen (+47) 22 52 4677

Marseille Last Friday of every month except August & December. Daniel Heilmann (+33) 4 42 28 83 96 Oslo Meetings with auctions May, October, December. Oddvar Walle Jensen (+47) 22 52 4677 Paris Monthly on Wednesday of the second week, 1800-2100 hrs. François Milleret (+33) 6 07 23 12 53 Zürich Most Thursday lunchtimes. José Truyol (+41) 1 980 38 06

Dates are sometimes changed at short notice, so it is advisable to check with the organiser before attending.

Contact phone numbers are given.

Most fax and email numbers are in the IBSS Directory.

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Tel (+1) 713 621 1262 email: maritess@hal-pc.org

BOOK ON POYAIS

Richard Gregg's *Gregor MacGregor* on the Poyais bonds and land grants. £5.50 or \$10.50 post paid. See the review in November 1999 *Scripophily*. IBSS, P O Box 9, Tadworth, KT20 7JU, UK email: editor@scripophily.org

BANQUE NATIONALE DE PARIS

I am looking for bonds and shares of this Bank Gilles Reynaud, 2 chemin privé des Tamaris, F-13100 Aix-en-Provence, France

NEW ZEALAND MINES

Any NZ mining stocks, old mining photos, miners' rights, company reports wanted.
Ross Barnett, 24 Bryndwr Road,
Christchurch, New Zealand
email: ross@geog.canterbury.ac.nz

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WORLD DEALER LISTS

Adam Historical Shares, P O Box 370426, D-14134, Berlin, Germany

Preisliste 2000/03 specialises in world railways, with 50 good colour illustrations from 12 countries (no GB, no Germany). Preisliste Winter 2000/2001 has 30 international decorative pieces below DM400. adamshares@aol.com

Alistair Gibb, 17 Floors Place, Kirkcaldy, Fife, KY2 5SF, UK

Bankbooks 00/2, 00/3 and Financial Books 00/1 continue this used book dealer's series of listings, each with 30 or so books and original Acts of Parliament, mostly to do with UK and British Empire banking and finance. alistairg@mail.fife.ac.uk

GKR Bonds, PO Box 1, Kelvedon, Colchester, CO5 9EH, UK

GKR's Christmas list has some attractive Cunard Steamship debenture stock (bonds) of 1908-11 showing a four-funnelled liner, priced at £65, and 20 international pieces well presented in colour, plus 20 more in a typed listing.

Ken Prag, P O Box 14817, San Francisco, CA 94114 Sales List P Another of Ken Prag's frequent typed listings of 100 or so US stocks and bonds, mainly affordable railroads and mines this time. Prices from \$6.50 up to \$265/\$385 for gold bonds of streetcar companies and the Denver & Rio Grande Western. KPrag@Planeteria.net

Scott J Winslow Associates, P O Box 10240, Bedford, NH 03110, USA

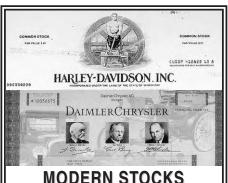
Fine Historical Collectibles, Summer 2000, is an 8-page, densely written, newsheet with scripophily, autographs and paper money offerings, mostly with detailed research, plus news of the firm's developments on the internet and on dry land. scott@scottwinslow.com

Turnstock Collectables, Low Place Farm, Cross Lane, Bishop Norton, Lincs, LN8 2AJ, UK

The colourful *List C* has 160 bonds and shares from 32 countries, mostly in the £8-£50 bracket. Many pieces we have not seen before, including some mid-19th century British rails. Strong in GB, Canada, Russia, Spain, USA, many others.

W H Collectables, 500 Chesham House, 150 Regent Street, London, W1R 5FA, UK

Sales List DJ has 140 certificates of 33 countries priced from £9 up to £675 for an 1813 government bond of Puerto Rico. Interesting Hispanic-American pieces and some good British and US rails, as well as Russia and the British dominions, and more. Michael Wheeler also puts out lists of ephemera and books, including recently 20 British Empire mining books.



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