Philately and Social History

Ken Nilsestuen
France & Colonies Philatelic Society
June 9, 2017
Our Agenda

› The philatelic piece
› The addressee
This started it all

- Showed up in a French auction
- Algiers to New Orleans, April 1, 1873
- Transit markings in London, New York
More details

› All stamps canceled “5005”
› Pre-printed envelope from U.S. consulate
› Boxed red “PD”
› Routing request at upper left
The rate source

- Alexandre, et al., rate book
- Section is rates to foreign destinations, pre-UPU
- 1873 is close to the bottom
### How I read the rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transport method</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
<th>Prepaid Letters</th>
<th>LNA</th>
<th>Samples</th>
<th>Printed Matter</th>
<th>Newspapers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paq. à vap. Fran. ou Etran. naviguant entre France et Etats-Unis</td>
<td>1.07.71</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. d'Angleterre</td>
<td>1.07.71</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toutes voies</td>
<td>1.08.74</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Only rate that makes sense
- Even multiples of 1fr20
Both London and New York marks indicate full prepayment

Of course no reference to actual rate
Check the stamps again

› Obvious(?) problem?
› Less obvious problem?
Check the stamps again

› Stamps on the back flap aren’t tied!
What’s left with the front only

› At least it looks like front of envelope
› Rate still inexplicable – 15fr90?
The final clues

- One more stamp not tied
- Red crayon accounting mark
Back to the front

› Ignore that stamp, rate is 15fr60, divisible by 1fr20
› 13\textsuperscript{th} weight step, 120<wt<130 grams

Thank you, Jeff Bohn, for getting this right!
Our Agenda

› The philatelic piece
› The addressee
J. L. Tissot

- Practicing attorney and property owner in New Orleans
- Very little web info about him
- Had a son, also attorney, who probably handled the matter in the envelope
Enough already!

› Tissot’s son has lots of web info available
› Dwayne Littauer helped find info about case
› Further searches have been dead end

› Questions?