

# HAITI

## LIBERTY HEAD ISSUES

Haiti joined the UPU on 3 September 1880, but the first stamps were issued on 1 July 1881. The stamps were printed from an electrotyped forme of 50 individual stamps into which plugs with the numerals were inserted prior to printing each value. The complete plate was probably of 200 stamps, the single plate of 50 stamps being printed four times. Printed on paper toned, the tint also printed in typography in a colour similar to that of the stamp. Hence the existence of the tête-bêche varieties. The rates, that lasted valid for many years, at least till 1915, were as follow: 1 centime for printed matters, but none is known; 2 centimes for inland letters and postcards and for official letters of the General Post Office sent abroad; 3 centimes for postcards for abroad; 5 centimes for inter-Antillean postage for letters and for the receipt of Registered mail for abroad; 10 centimes for a simple letter for abroad and 20 centimes for Registered letter for abroad.

### 1st issue, 1 July 1881

Typographed by the private typography of M. G. Richard, Paris  
No watermark, on surface tinted paper, imperforate, on sheets of 50 (10 x 5)



*The six denominations issued in July 1881, imperforate.*

### 2nd issue, September 1882

Typographed by the private typography of M. G. Richard (Paris)  
No watermark, on surface tinted paper, perf. 13 ½, on sheets of 50 (10 x 5)



*The five denominations issued in September 1882, perf. 13 ½.*

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When supplies of the imperforate stamps were nearly exhausted, orders were placed for supplies of perforated stamps. New plates were made for these printings but by a method quite different from that used for the imperforate issue. Exact dates of issue of the perforated stamps are not known. The first values appeared about mid 1882, but available supplies of some imperforate values delayed issuance of those denominations until as late as 1885. Usage continued into the 1890's even though a different series appeared in 1887.

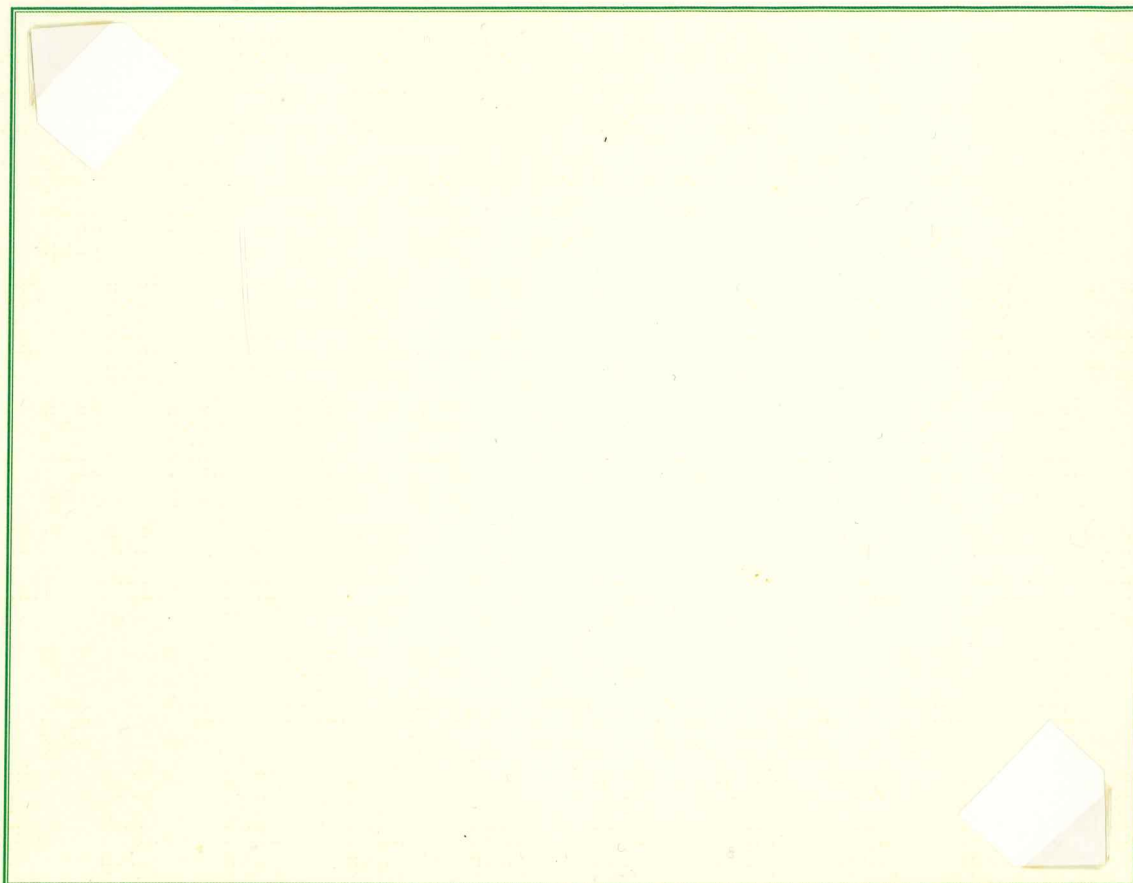
### 2nd issue, September 1882

Typographed by the private typography of M. G. Richard (Paris)

No watermark, on surface tinted paper, perf. 13 ½, on sheets of 50 (10 x 5)



*The five denominations issued in September 1882, perf. 13 ½*



*10 February 1886, a five port letter of 50 centimes franked with a 20c. and a 5c. pairs, addressed to Hamburg in Germany.*

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In 1883, with the same printing plates of 1882, the entire series was reprinted, including therefore also the 20 cents. The stamps of this edition are distinguished from the previous one by the slightly different colours.

3rd issue, 1883

Typographed by the private typography of M. G. Richard (Paris)  
No watermark, on surface tinted paper, perf. 13 ½, on sheets of 50 (10 x 5)



*The six denominations issued in 1883*

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Typographed by the private typography of M. G. Richard (Paris)  
No watermark, on surface tinted paper, perf. 13 ½, on sheets of 50 (10 x 5)



The six denominations issued in 1883

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In 1884, another printing was made comprising only three values, 2 and 5 centimes, on white paper, and 20 centimes on tinted paper. For the 2 centimes aniline inks were used.

4th issue, ca. April 1884

Typographed by the private typography of M. G. Richard (Paris)  
No watermark, on surface tinted paper, perf. 13 1/2, on sheets of 50 (10 x 5)



*The 2c. denomination was printed using aniline inks*



*The three denominations issued in April 1884*

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In 1884, another printing was made comprising only three values, 2 and 5 centimes, on white paper, and 20 centimes on tinted paper. For the 2 centimes aniline inks were used.

4th issue, ca. April 1884

Typographed by the private typography of M. G. Richard (Paris)

No watermark, on surface tinted paper, perf. 13 ½, on sheets of 50 (10 x 5)



*The three denominations issued in 1884*



*7 March 1887, from Cap Haitien to Hamburg (Germany) via New York, a 20 centimes double letter, delivered on 28 March.*

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In 1886 additional supplies of the 1, and 2 centimes values were produced. The electros were 'recut' and new electrotype was made from the original wood-cut die. Unlike the previous issues, the clumsy plugging technique was eliminated by plugging the value figure only once into a single electro-type. The single plugged re-cut electrotype was used to stamp five moulds from which a master electrotype was grown and used repeatedly to produce the final plate of 50 clichés. The re-cutting produced clearly distinctive differences from the previous issues. Stamps of this issue are easily distinguished by the value figures, which are larger in both denominations, and by the shading on the face and the neck formed by horizontal, rather than oblique strokes.

5th issue, ca. March 1886

Typographed by the private typography of M. G. Richard (Paris)  
No watermark, on surface tinted paper, perf. 13 1/2, on sheets of 50 (10 x 5)



The two denominations issued in 1886

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In 1887 a new 5 centimes was issued, combining in its design some features of the previous issue, like the larger denomination figures, but not the horizontal lines of the shading on the face and the neck. A long normal apostrophe takes the place of the dot that is found on the earlier issues after the letter 'D' of D'HAITI. Also for this issue the electros were 'recut'.

6th issue, April 1887

Typographed by the private typography of M. G. Richard (Paris)  
No watermark, on surface tinted paper, perf. 13 ½, on sheets of 50 (10 x 5)

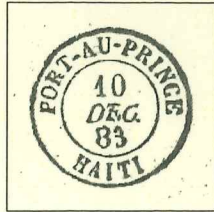


*The only denomination of 5 centimes, issued in 1887*

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### TOWN POSTMARKS



Most probably when was delivered the first consignment of postage stamps also a series of datestamps was included. These postmarks were identical to those used in France at that time. It is not known how many postmarks were sent and for which town they were done.

During the period of use have been found the cancellations of ten offices, that indicating their relative scarcity can be divided these into three groups, as follows:-

In the first group, although PORT au PRINCE is easily the commonest, CAP HAITIEN comes a good second and is sufficient to be ranked with it.

The second group comprise about 25% of the used material in existence, and are of about equal occurrence in relation to one another. These are: LES CAYES, GONAIVES, JACMEL and JEREMIE.

The third group is really rare and between them all they would constitute about 1% of the used material. In this group are recorded the following locality: MIRAGOAVE, PETIT GOAVE, PORT DE PAIX and SAINT MARK.



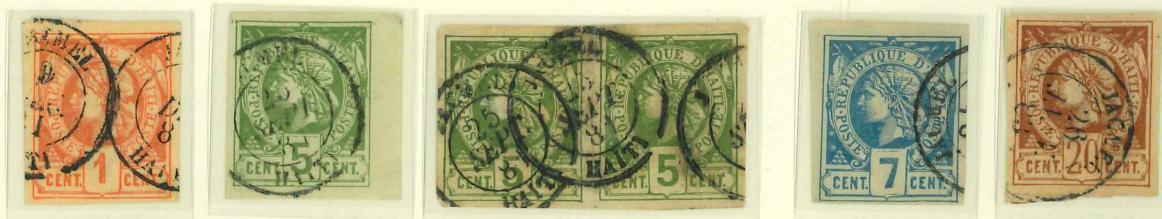
Port au Prince



Cap Haitien



Gonaives



Jacmel

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### TOWN POSTMARKS



Les Cayes

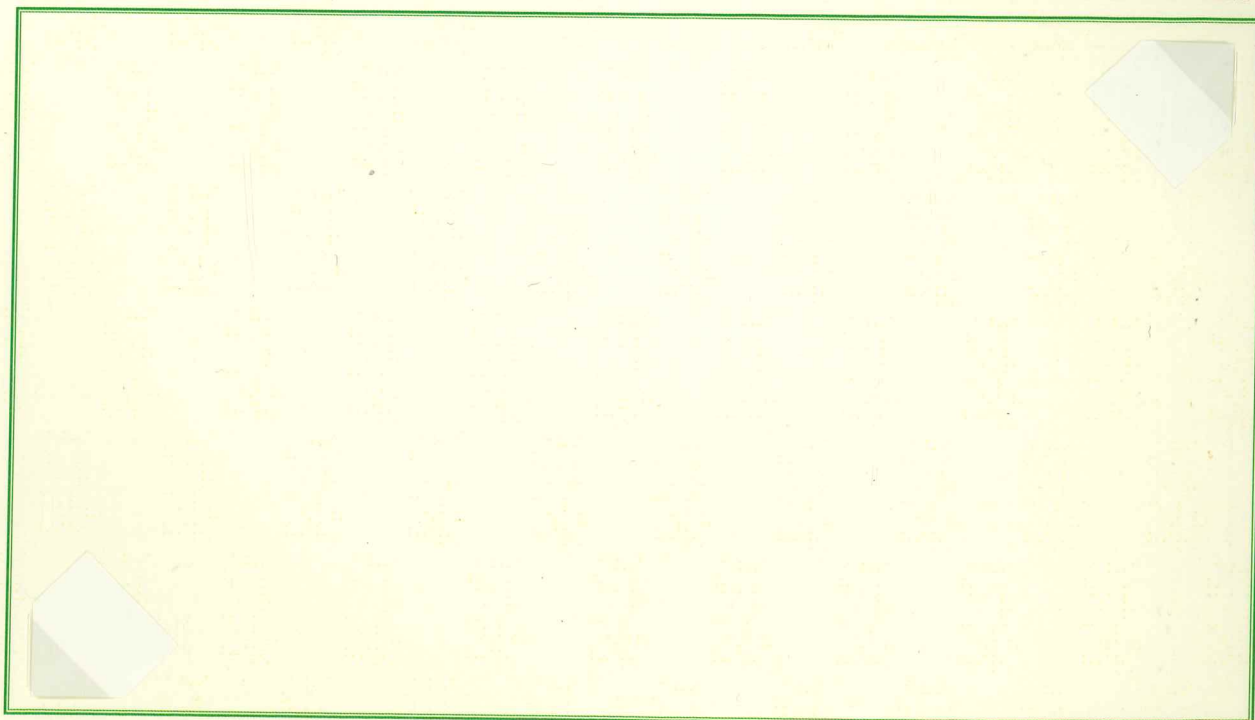


Jeremie



Saint Mark

A VERY RARE COVER FROM MIRAGOAVE



2 February 1887, from Miragoave to Genova (Italy), rated 10 centimes and franked with a pair and a strip of three of the 2 centimes, of the last issue with newly engraved printing plates with modified figures. Stamps showing the usual oily handstamp used in that post office.