

# HAITI

## THE PRESIDENT NORD ALEXIS SERIES, 1904

At the end of 1903, the government decided to issue a series of postage stamps in 1904, to celebrate the centenary of Independence. In addition to the republic's coat of arms which was to appear in the lowest value, the series was to commemorate the heroes of the struggle for freedom, François Dominique Toussaint Louverture (1743-1803), Jean Jacques Dessaline (1758-1806) and Alexandre Sabès Pétion (1770- 1818). The seven-value stamps were printed with two passes. First in lithography for the colour printing of the frame and one in recess in black to print the small effigies of the three commemorated figures.

They were printed by a printer in Paris, one Côte, on white paper without watermark, and were issued partly perforated 13 ½ and partly 14. In 1904, concomitantly, and again from the same printer Côte, a series of stamps, in this case only six as the value of 7 centimes is missing, with the effigy of President North Alexis, in office from December 1902 to December 1908. They were printed only in lithography.

On the 1 centime stamp, under the coat of arms, there is the inscription 'E. CÔTE - SCULPT', who would therefore also seem to be a sculptor. In the other values, the name appears under the figure of the left value, while the year appears under the right one, which is 1903.

The vicissitudes related to this issue are not clear, in particular whether the order to print the stamps was given by the Government which, at the time of payment, finding itself without funds, accepted the financial help of a high-ranking Haitian figure. Or if the initiative started directly from the person in question who, in all philatelic literature, is referred only as M. Borno, where 'M.' stands for Monsieur or Mister, and cited by Melville as 'millionaire'. There is no certainty, but it is likely that the patron is actually Louis Borno (1865-1942), future president between 1922 and 1930, who owed the tranquillity of his mandate to the presence of US troops on the island. Furthermore, the question linked to the three overprints that were applied to these stamps is still unclear.

These overprints, which caused so much sensation in the philatelic world in Europe and the United States, are of three types, similar to each other, but slightly different. The 1st and 2nd type measure mm. 11 x 17, but they differ in the line in the centre which in the 1st type measures mm. 9, while the 2nd type, is shorter, only mm. 6, and crossed by light lines. In addition, the 1st type has the letters of the word 'POSTE' slightly higher. The third type is larger and measures mm. 13 x 19. The first two overprints appear to have been prepared by the government to prevent the improper use of the stamps, a part of which appears to have been stolen during the journey from Paris to the motherland. The third type, on the other hand, probably has been used by Borno for his share of values made available to him to compensate him for the cost of printing. However, these are all stamps intended to be sold to collectors. It is therefore almost certain that the commemorative series was foreseen only for the philatelic market, while the one with the effigy of Nord Alexis, at least in its lowest and most current values, was also foreseen for normal use on the mail. The stamps without overprinting were reported in the philatelic press only in June 1904.

In the Pemberton's 'The Philatelic Records' on the month of February is stated: "... several values are to hand, but these we cannot illustrate as they are defaced by what is apparently a description of control mark ...". The illustration of the 1 centime stamp appeared in the number of May.

In April: "... we have seen some sets of the recent issues, both regular and commemorative without the control mark. These stamps, we are informed, are not recognised by the H. Government. Our informant states that the manufacturers of the stamps in question receive their pay, or a portion of it, in unused stamps and that it was to prevent the use of these very stamps that the control was applied. He states, further, that these stamps without the control-mark have never even been to Haiti but come directly from Paris, where the stamps are manufactured".

Finally, in June is stated that "Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. advise us that they received the commemorative set without the surcharge."

Cancelled copies and those on envelopes are difficult to find.



Commemorative type



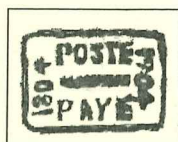
Nord Alexis type



1° type



2° type



3° type

# HAITI

THE PRESIDENT NORD ALEXIS SERIES, 1904



50c. claret (Yv. 89) of the 1904 issue



5c. blue (Yv. 117) of the 1906 issue



The President Nord Alexis (1820 - 1910) was in charge from 21 December 1902 till 2 December 1808.

# HAITI

## THE PRESIDENT NORD ALEXIS SERIES, 1904

### The issues of 1904

E. Côte., Paris.

1 centime, commemorative, in recess.

Other denominations, commemorative, frame in lithography and the effigies in recess.

President Nord Alexis in lithography.

perf. 13 ½ and partly 14, white machine-made paper, without watermark.



The commemorative series  
7 denominations (Yv. 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83)



The Nord Alexis series  
6 denominations (Yv. 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89)

# HAITI

## THE PRESIDENT NORD ALEXIS SERIES, 1904

The issues of 1904

Overcharged series commemorative series

E. Côte., Paris.

1 centime, commemorative, in recess.

Other denominations, commemorative, frame in lithography and the effigies in recess.  
perf. 13 ½ and partly 14, white machine-made paper, without watermark.



1° type



The commemorative series overcharged with the 1° type  
7 denominations (Yv. 77A, 78A, 79A, 80A, 81A, 82A, 83A)



2° type



The commemorative series overcharged with the 2° type  
7 denominations (Yv. 77A, 78A, 79A, 80A, 81A, 82A, 83A)

# HAITI

## THE PRESIDENT NORD ALEXIS SERIES, 1904

The issues of 1904

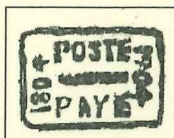
Overcharged series commemorative series

E. Côte., Paris.

1 centime, commemorative, in recess.

Other denominations, commemorative, frame in lithography and the effigies in recess.

perf. 13 ½ and partly 14, white machine-made paper, without watermark.



3° type



The commemorative series overcharged with the 3° type  
7 denominations (Yv. 77A, 78A, 79A, 80A, 81A, 82A, 83A)



Used copies

# HAITI

## THE PRESIDENT NORD ALEXIS SERIES, 1904

The issues of 1904

Overcharged Nord Alexis series

E. Côte., Paris.

President Nord Alexis.

In lithography. perf. 13 ½ and partly 14, white machine-made paper, without watermark.



1° type



The Nord Alexis series  
6 denominations (Yv. 84A, 85A, 86A, 87A, 88A, 89A)



With inverted overcharge

# HAITI

## THE PRESIDENT NORD ALEXIS SERIES, 1904

The issues of 1904

Overcharged Nord Alexis series

E. Côte., Paris.

President Nord Alexis.

In lithography. perf. 13 ½ and partly 14, white machine-made paper, without watermark.



2° type



The Nord Alexis series  
6 denominations (Yv. 84A, 85A, 86A, 87A, 88A, 89A)



With inverted overcharge

# HAITI

## REGULAR ISSUE OF 1904 SURCHARGED

In many occasions the 1 centime and 2 centimes, mostly used on domestic mail, ran short. In the mean time the stock of higher denominations was very large, so that overcharging them the supply of the two small values was assured.



First issue, 20 February 1906

SURCHARGE IN BLACK



1c. on 20 centimes orange (Yv. 92), 2c. on 50 centimes claret (Yv. 96)

Second issue, 1907

SURCHARGE IN RED



1c. on 5c. blue (Yv. 90), 1c. on 20c. orange (Yv. 92a), 2c. on 10c. brown (Yv. 94) 2c. on 50c. claret (Yv. 96a)

SURCHARGE IN BLACK



1c. on 5c. blue (Yv. 90a), 1c. on 10c. brown (Yv. 92a), 2c. on 20c. orange (Yv. 95)

SURCHARGE IN BROWN



1c. on 5c. blue (Yv. =), 1c. on 10c. brown (Yv. 91a)

# HAITI

1906, T. A. SIMON SAN ISSUES OVERCHARGED

In 1906, following the monetary disorder of that period and the consequent devaluation of the Gourde, pending an issue in the new currency denominated in Piastre, linked to the value of the US dollar, it was necessary to issue a new series of postage stamps, particularly for foreign correspondence. The quicker way to do this was to get rid of the huge stocks of unsold stamps of the President's T. A. Simon Sam of 1898-1899, and overprinting them. To do this a steel stamp was commissioned to American Bank Note & Co. with the words: 'SERVICE EXTERIEUR PROVISOIRE - EN PIASTRES FORTES'. The overprint was done by hand in red ink.

Issued in June 1906



The series (from Yv. 98 to Yv. 112)

# HAITI

1906, NORD ALEXIS, DOMESTIC AND FOR ABROAD MAIL

In 1906, two series of stamps were issued, one for internal use denominated in 'CENTIMES DE GOURDE' with only four values of 1, 2, 3 and 7 centimes. The second series, for mail addressed abroad denominated in 'CENTIMES DE PIASTRE', of 12 values including the high denominations of 50 cents and 1 Piastre. These stamps were issued during the presidency of North Alexis (1902-1908) and bear the 1906 year. They were printed as usual in New York by the American Bank Note & Co. In 1909 they were reprinted in different colours, but still bearing the 1906 vintage, they were used very little.

American Bank Note Co., New York  
Engraved, perf. 12, white machine-made paper, without watermark.

## Stamps for mail for abroad denominated in PIASTRE and CENTIMES DE PIASTRE



1c. (Yv. 113), 2c. (Yv. 114), 3c. (Yv. 115), 4c. (Yv. 116), 5c. (Yv. 117), 7c. (Yv. 118), 8c. (Yv. 119)  
10c. (Yv. 120), 15c. (Yv. 121), 20c. (Yv. 122), 50c. (Yv. 123), 1 Piastre (Yv. 124)

## Stamps for internal use denominated in CENTIMES DE GOURDE



1c. blue (Yv. 125), 2c. yellow (Yv. 126), 3c. slate (Yv. 127), 7c. green (Yv. 128)

# HAITI

## THE 1909 ISSUE FOR ABROAD MAIL

In 1909 the stamps in 'CENTIMES DE PIASTRE' issued in 1906 were reprinted, without the values bearing the effigy of President North Alexis, and in different colours. As they were reprinted with the wrong date, 1906 instead of 1909, they were used very little and almost all exhumed in 1914, along with other remnants of previous issues, and used with various overprints. In fact, following the conquest of power by General Oreste Zamor, most of these stamps were overprinted.

Stamps for mail for abroad denominated in  
PIASTRE and CENTIMES DE PIASTRE

American Bank Note Co., New York

Engraved, perf. 12, white machine-made paper, without watermark.



3c. (Yv. 136), 4c. (Yv. 137), 7c. (Yv. 138), 8c. (Yv. 139), 10c. (Yv. 140), 15c. (Yv. 141)  
50c. (Yv. 142), 1 Piastre (Yv. 143)

# HAITI

## 1909, ANTOINE SIMON, DOMESTIC AND FOR ABROAD MAIL

During the presidency of François C. Antoine Simon (1843-1923), President of Haiti from 6 December 1908 to 3 August 1911, for economics, American Bank Note & Co. was ordered in 1909 to reprint the stamps from the 1906 series. Since they were reprinted with the wrong date, 1906 instead of 1909, all values except the 2 centimes, absolutely necessary for the internal service, were not put on sale. The new series of the Simon presidency therefore includes four values with his effigy and with the date of 1909, and a single value of 2 centimes with the date of 1906. Two stamps were foreseen for the internal service, denominated in Gourde, and three for abroad denominated in Piastres.

American Bank Note Co., New York

Engraved, perf. 12, white machine-made paper, without watermark.

### Stamps for internal use denominated in CENTIMES DE GOURDE



1c. lake and black (Yv. 132), 2c. yellow (Yv. 126A)

### Stamps for mail for abroad denominated in PIASTRE and CENTIMES DE PIASTRE



2c. red/black (Yv. 129), 5c. blue/black (Yv. 130), 20c. green/black (Yv. 131)



8 August 1910, from Port au Prince to Rome (Italy), a simple registered letter Rated 10 centimes.

# HAITI

1912, CINCINNATUS LECONTE, DOMESTIC AND FOR ABROAD MAIL

During the presidency of Cincinnatus Leconte (1854-1912), President of Haiti from 15 August 1911 to 8 August 1912 when he dies in the explosion that destroyed the National Palace. Two stamps were foreseen for the internal service, denominated in Gourde, and just one for abroad denominated in Plastes.

American Bank Note Co., New York  
Engraved, perf. 12, white machine-made paper, without watermark.

Stamps for internal use denominated in  
CENTIMES DE GOURDE



1c. lake (Yv. 134), 2c. orange (Yv. 135)

Stamps for mail for abroad denominated in  
CENTIMES DE PIASTRE



5c. blue (Yv. 133)



27 January 1916, from Port au Prince to Rome (Italy), a heavy registered letter rated 15 centimes.

# HAITI

1914, ORESTE ZAMOR, DOMESTIC AND FOR ABROAD MAIL

Oreste Zamor (1861-1915) became President on 8 February 1914, but was dismissed already on 29 October 1914. He fled abroad, but when he returns he comes by order of President Sam, arrested and shot after nine months of imprisonment. News of his death ignites a riot and Sam is lynched by the mob. Following these unrest, the US government decides to act in Haiti, also to guarantee its own economic interests. Zamor took care to order from American Bank Note & Co., on May 1914, two series of stamps, one in centimes de Piastre and the other in centimes de Gourde, for a total of 13 denominations of which today there are only 10. The stamps show his effigy, that of his predecessor Tancredè Auguste, and the coat of arms of the Republic. However, they were handed over to Haiti when Gen. Zamor was already forced to give up power. Meanwhile, owing to the theft of a large quantity of this issue partly sold abroad, except for the 2 centime de piastre and the 1 and 3 centimes de gourde, which are unknown, the new government did not allow the stamps to be put on sale at post offices and decreed their incineration, which took place on 15 July 1916. The 1 centime de piastre, probably badly preserved, almost always appears without gum and with a bluish tinted paper; fresh and with full gum specimens are rare. The failure to use these stamps, which for years could have met the needs of the country, was the primary cause of the avalanche of overprints that raged until 1920.

American Bank Note Co., New York

Engraved, perf. 12, white machine-made paper, without watermark.

Stamps for internal use denominated in  
CENTIMES DE GOURDE



2c. ochre/black (Yv. 186A), 5c. yellow-green/black (Yv. 187), 7c. rose/black (Yv. 188)

Stamps for mail for abroad denominated in  
PIASTRE and CENTIMES DE PIASTRE



1c. deep green/black (Yv. 180), mint and with toned paper



3c. (Yv. 181), 5c. (Yv. 182), 7c. (Yv. 183), 15c. (Yv. 184), 20c. (Yv. 185)

# HAITI

## 1914, ORESTE ZAMOR PRESIDENCY OVERPRINTED ISSUES

Oreste Zamor (1861-1915) became President on 8 February 1914, but was dismissed already on 29 October 1914. He fled abroad, but when he returns he comes by order of President Sam, arrested and shot after nine months of imprisonment. News of his death ignites a riot and Sam is lynched by the mob. Following these unrest, the US government decides to act in Haiti, also to guarantee its own economic interests.

To commemorate his ascent to the presidency Zamor ordered to take advantage of the huge stock of postage stamps on hand, overprinting them, by hand and one by one, maintaining at first their original value. Were used two handstamps, slightly different, showing the letters 'G.L.O. Z.' for General Oreste Zamor' and the date in French '7 Fév 1914'. The stamps that were overcharged can be listed in six groups:

Stamps from the series of Simon San, 1898-1899, just one stamp.

Stamps from the series of Nord Alexis and independence, 1904, six stamps.

Stamps from the series of Nord Alexis, coat of arms and monuments, 1906, 13 stamps.

Stamps from the series of president A. T. Simon, 1910, just one stamp.

Stamps from the series of Cincinnatus Leconte, 1912, three stamp.

Stamps for abroad in 'Centimes de Piastre', 1913-14, eight stamp.



From the series of Simon San, 1898-1899



8c. carmine (Yv. 144 ex 56, Sc. 169 ex 61)

# HAITI

1914, ORESTE ZAMOR PRESIDENCY OVERPRINTED ISSUES



Stamps from the series of Nord Alexis and independence



1c. green (Yv. 144A ex 84, Sc. 170 ex 96), 2c. carmine (Yv. 144B ex 85, Sc. 171 ex 97), 5c. blue (Yv. 145 ex 86, Sc. 172 ex 98)  
10c. orange brown (Yv. 146 ex 87, Sc. 173 ex 99), 20c. orange (Yv. 147 ex 88, Sc. 173 ex 100), 50c. claret (Yv. 148 ex 89, Sc. 172 ex 101)



50c. claret, already handstamped in blue, (not listed in Yv., Sc. 176 ex 107)



18 July 1927, from Port au Prince to Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic), sent by Air Mail, rated 75 centimes.

# HAITI

1914, ORESTE ZAMOR PRESIDENCY OVERPRINTED ISSUES



Stamps from the series of Nord Alexis, coat of arms and monuments, 1906



(Yv. 149 - 161)

# HAITI

1914, ORESTE ZAMOR PRESIDENCY OVERPRINTED ISSUES



Stamps from the series of president A. T. Simon, 1910



(Yv. 162 ex 131 - Sc. 198 ex 164)

# HAITI

## 1914, ORESTE ZAMOR PRESIDENCY OVERPRINTED ISSUES

In 1909 the stamps in 'CENTIMES DE PIASTRE' issued in 1906 were reprinted, without the values bearing the effigy of President North Alexis, and in different colours. As they were reprinted with the wrong date, 1906 instead of 1909, they were used very little and almost all exhumed in 1914, along with other remnants of previous issues, and used with various overprints. In fact, following the conquest of power by General Oreste Zamor, most of these stamps were overprinted.



Stamps for abroad in 'Centimes de Piastre', 1913-14



(Yv. 166 to 173)

# HAITI

1914, ORESTE ZAMOR PRESIDENCY OVERPRINTED ISSUES



Stamps from the series of Cincinnatus Leconte, 1912



(Yv. 163 ex 134, 164 ex 135, 165 ex 136)

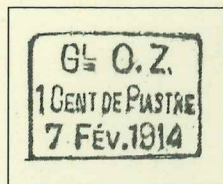


19 August 1915, from Port au Prince to Bersac (France), put on board a Dutch vessel of the 'KONINLIJKE WEST-INDIES MAILDIENST', rated five centimes and franked with a single 5c. blue of the President Leconte series.

# HAITI

## 1914, ORESTE ZAMOR PRESIDENCY, OVERPRINTED ISSUES

A second hand-stamp was prepared, not only to celebrate the coming into power of Oreste Zamor, but also modifying the value from 50 centimes de Piastre and 1 Piastre both to the denomination of 1 centime de Piastre.



The second type



1c. *opd(d)* on 50. red (Yv. 174, ex 123 - Sc. 213 ex 41), 1c. *opd(d)* on 50. orange (Yv. 175, ex 124 - Sc. 215 ex 142),



1c. *opd(d)* on 1P. claret (Yv. 176, ex 124 - Sc. 214 ex 143), 1c. *opd(d)* on 1P. red (Yv. 177, ex 143 - Sc. 216 ex 144),

# HAITI

1914, ORESTE ZAMOR PRESIDENCY, OVERPRINTED ISSUES



1 March 1915, from Port au Prince to Rome (Italy). Registered letter, rated 15 centimes de piastre, franked with a single 8c. rose issued in 1906, three 2c. red maintaining their value, and a single 50c. orange (Yv. 175, ex 124 - Sc. 215 ex 142), overcharged with the mark of the second type.

# HAITI

1914, ORESTE ZAMOR PRESIDENCY, OVERPRINTED ISSUES

A third hand-stamp was prepared, not only to celebrate the coming into power of Oreste Zamor, but also modifying the value from 20 and 50 centimes to 7.



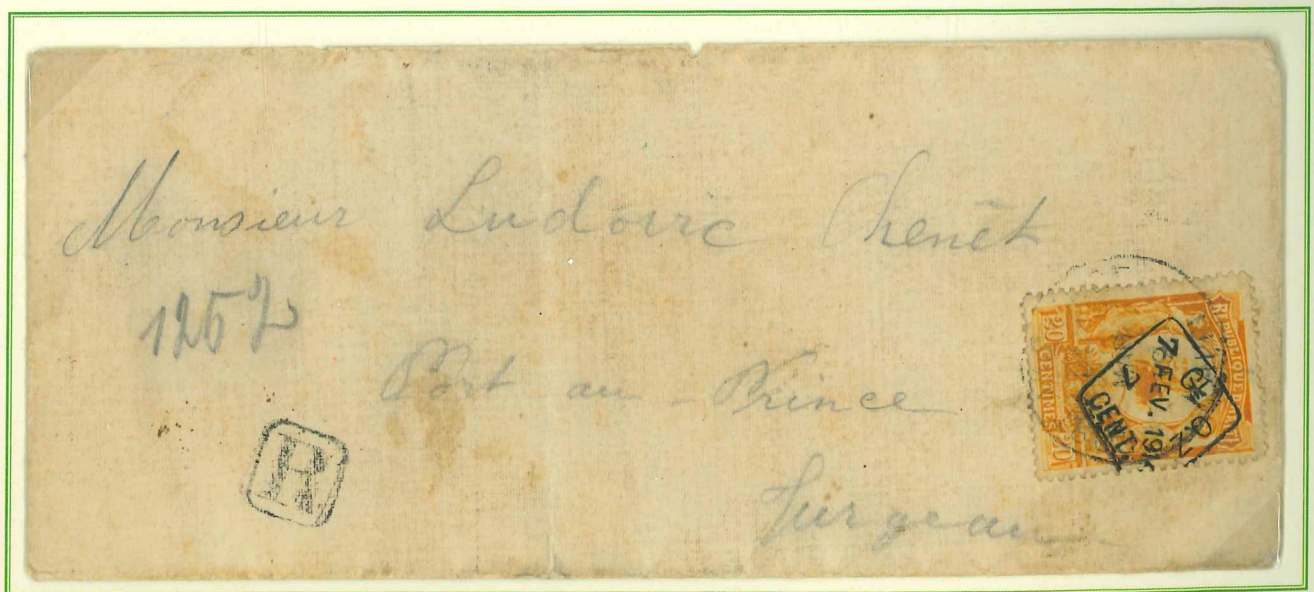
The third type



7c. overcharged on 20c. orange (Yv. 178, ex 88 - Sc. 217 ex 88), perf. 13 ½ or 14



7c. overcharged on 50c. claret (Yv. 178, ex 88 - Sc. 218 ex 89), perf. 13 ½ or 14



14 March 1919, delivery date. Inland registered letter, rated 7 centimes franked with a single 20 centimes orange, Nord Alexis issue of 1904 (Yv. 178, Sc. 88), overcharged with the mark of the third type.

# HAITI

THE PRESIDENT NORD ALEXIS SERIES, 1904

Issue of 1906



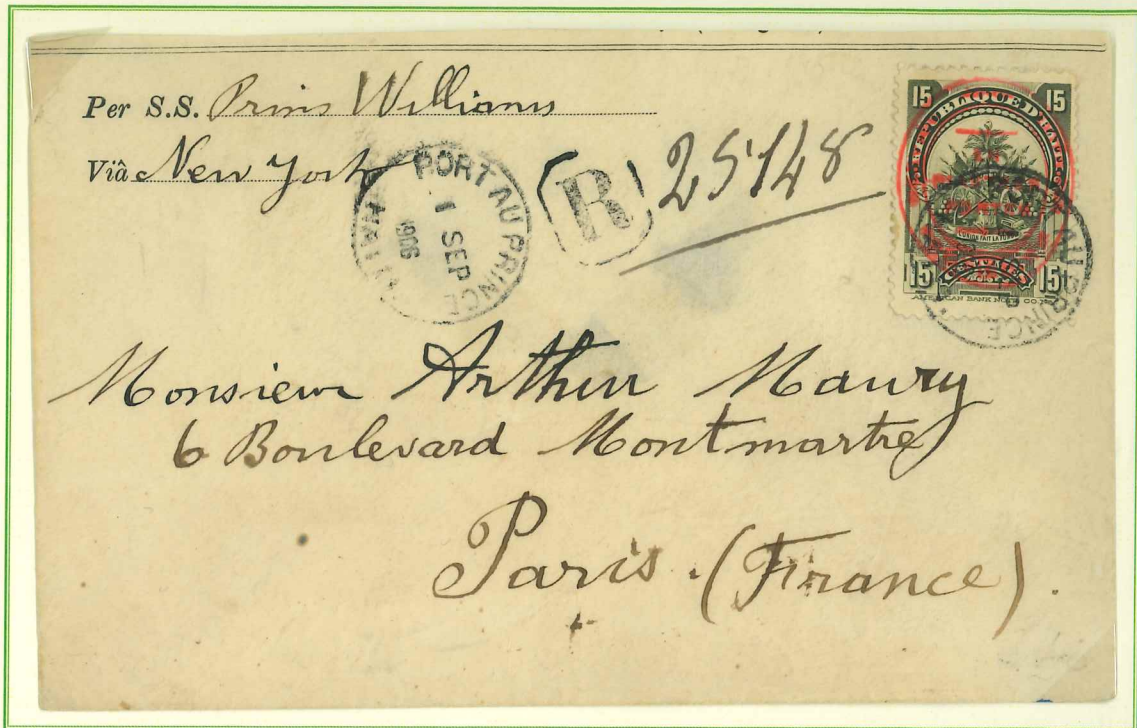
18 November 1906, from Port au Prince addressed to Paris, a 1c. postal stationery with a pair of the 1c. green without the surcharge to form the 3 centimes rate for this kind of mail.



22 April 1905, from Port au Prince addressed to Amsterdam. A picture postcard with a single 1c. and 2c. without the surcharge to form the 3 centimes rate.

# HAITI

1906, T. A. SIMON SAN ISSUES OVERCHARGED



1 September 1906, from Port au Prince to Paris, a registered letter addressed to Arthur Maury, the well known dealer and publisher of 'Le collectionneur de timbre-poste', which seat was actually in Boulevard Montmartre. The new issue was described in the magazine in the number 308 of June (p. 170 and 174).



6 November 1908, a registered letter from Port au Prince addressed to Rome.

**HAITI**

1906, T. A. SIMON SAN ISSUES OVERCHARGED



3 June 1906, a simple letter from Cap Haïtien addressed to Havre (France). Probably wrongly rated only 5 Piastres instead of 10.

# HAITI

1906, NORD ALEXIS, DOMESTIC AND FOR ABROAD MAIL



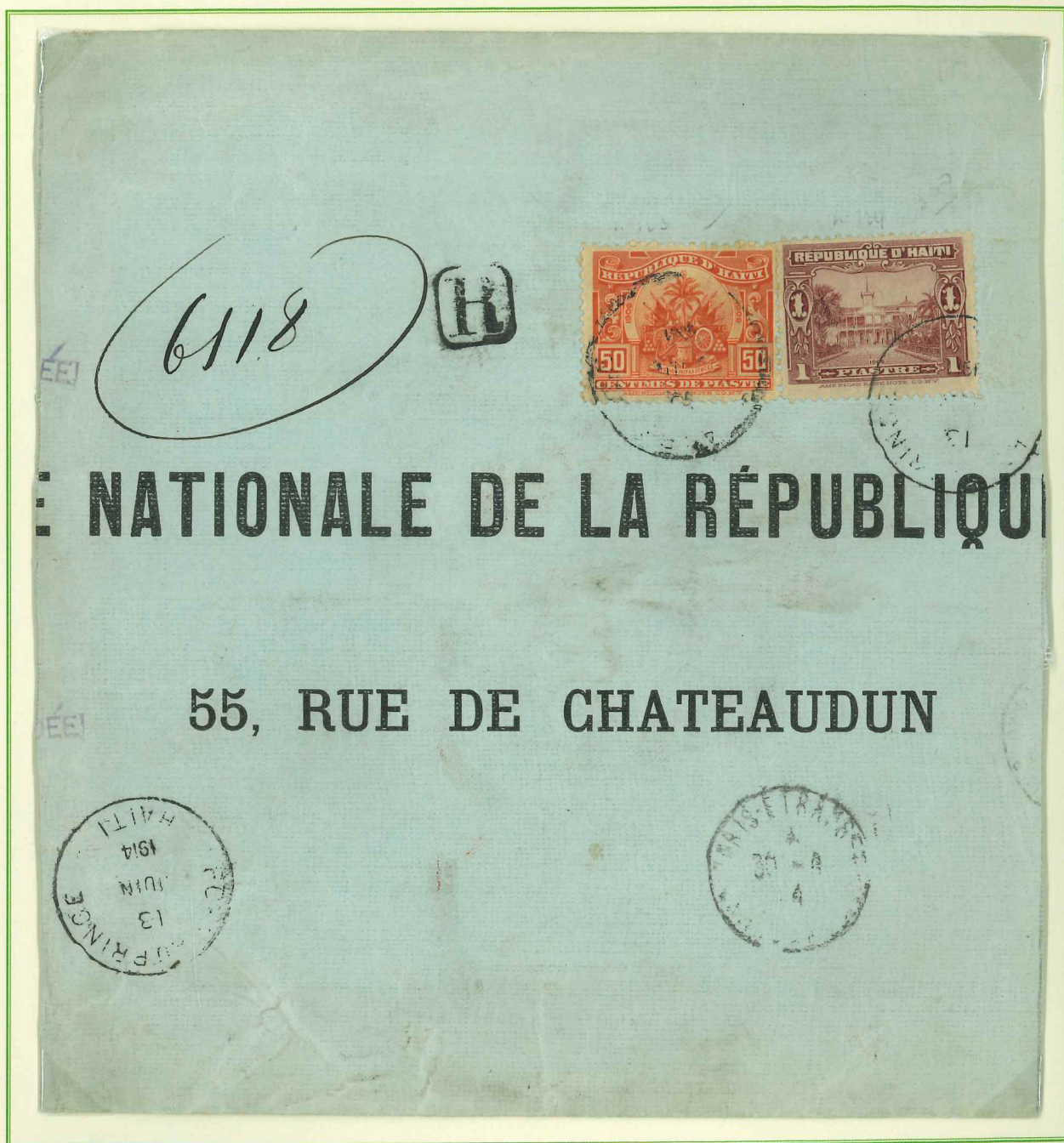
4 February 1911, from Port au Prince to Rome (Italy), a simple registered letter franked with 5 centimes pair.



21 June 1907, from Port au Prince to Havre (France), a simple letter franked with a single 5 centimes.

# HAITI

1906, NORD ALEXIS, DOMESTIC AND FOR ABROAD MAIL



13 June 1914, from Port au Prince probably to Paris (France) delivered on 30 June. Part of a heavy registered cover rated 1 Piastre and 50 centimes franked with the two higher denominations of the series. Registered 'R' in square and manuscript registration number '6118'.

# HAITI

1906, NORD ALEXIS, DOMESTIC AND FOR ABROAD MAIL



29 February 1908, from Port au Prince to Rome (Italy), a simple registered letter rated 10 centimes



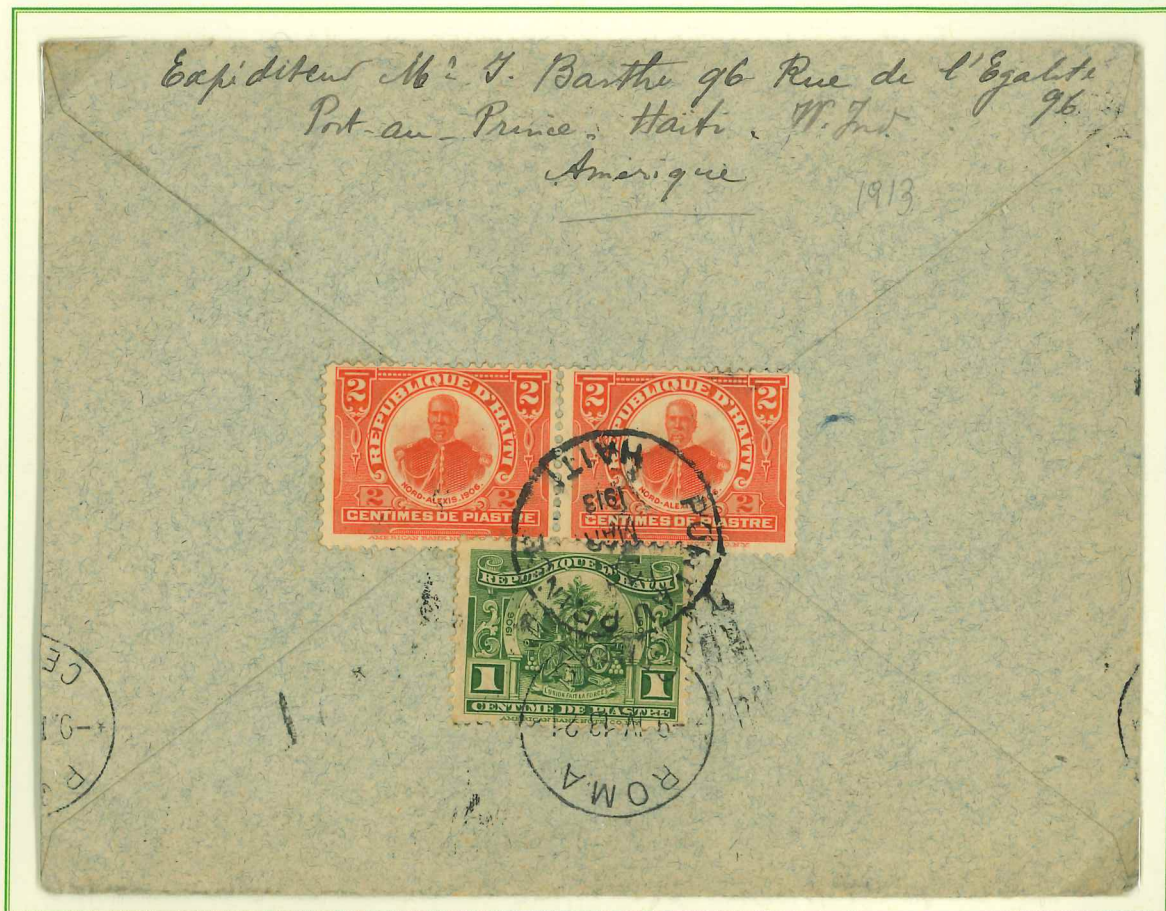
23 June 1914, from Port au Prince to Paris (France) delivered on 8 July. A simple registered cover rated 10 centimes franked with five 2 centimes stamps. Registered 'R' in square and manuscript registration number '6542'.

# HAITI

1906, NORD ALEXIS, DOMESTIC AND FOR ABROAD MAIL



28 May 1912, from Port au Prince to Rome (Italy), a simple letter rated 5 centimes



22 March 1913, from Port au Prince to Roma (Italy). A simple registered cover rated 10 centimes.

# HAITI

1912, CINCINNATUS LECONTE, DOMESTIC AND FOR ABROAD MAIL



28 September 1912, from Port au Prince to Rome (Italy), a simple letter rated 5 centimes delivered on 28 October.



1 February 1916, from Port au Prince to Paris (France), a simple registered letter rated 10 centimes. Registration mark 'R' in square and manuscript registration number 725'.