

ORIENT EXPRESS

1888

A 2d registered envelope sent from Constantinople to USA on 16th June 1888. It has been uprated with an 80 paras on 5d green stamp of the 1885-88 issue. A dull red Orient Express label has been added and both the stamp and label (somewhat faded) have been cancelled with the single ring "BRITISH POST OFFICE / CONSTANTINOPLE" postmark. There is also an oval cachet at left of centre which reads "Antoine Dourson / CONSTANTINOPLE / Chemins de fer Orientaux"



There is a London registered postmark on the front and a similar one for New York on the reverse.

ORIENT EXPRESS LABELS

The "Express L'Orient" labels were produced by Antoine Dourson who acted as a railway agent giving his address as the British Post Office at Stamboul and used these labels to advertise his services. The labels exist in salmon, dull red and black with the black version being the scarcest.

Dull red and black labels

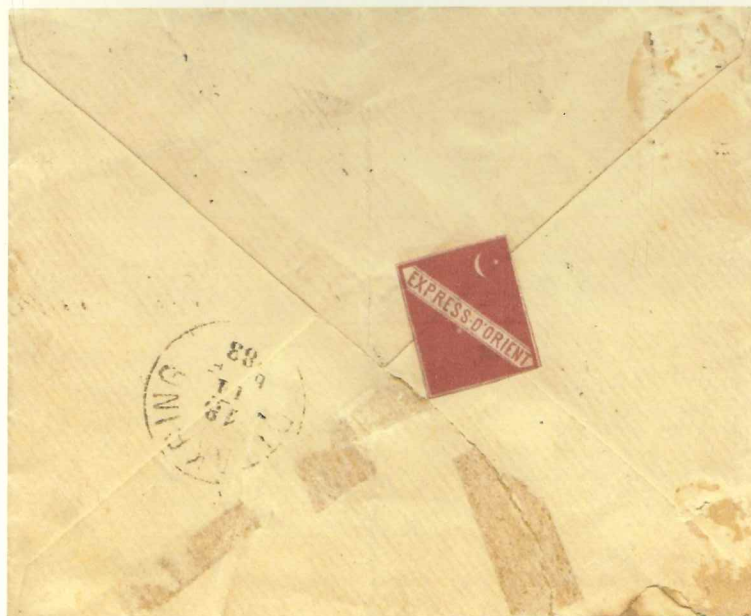


GERMAN POST OFFICES IN TURKEY
ORIENT EXPRESS?
1883

A registered envelope sent from Constantinople to Vienna on 9th November 1883. It has been franked with a pair of 20 pfennig stamps of the 1880-87 issue which have been cancelled with the single ring "KAISERL. DEUTSCHE P. A. CONSTANTINOPEL" postmark.

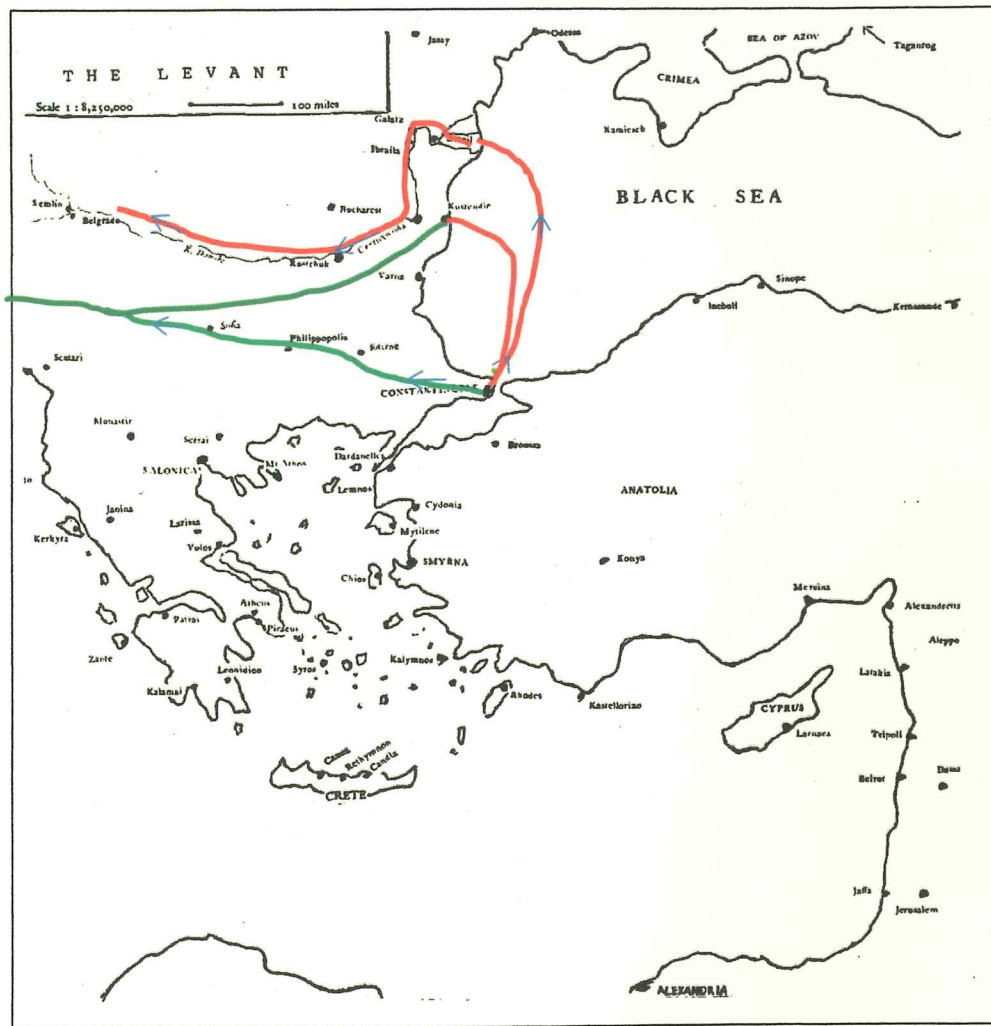


There is salmon ORIENT EXPRESS label on the reverse. It is likely that the label does not belong as they are almost always applied next to the postage stamps and 1883 is very early date.



Overland routes from Constantinople to Western Europe

Orient Express or Danube Steam Navigation Company



By ship through Black Sea and then River Danube →

By rail via Orient Express →

Letter concerning the Orient Express labels

It is from Norman Williams, the well know expert on Cinderella Philately. The letter also mentions the stamp transfers produced by Georg Zechmeyer.

22 February 1982

Mrs M Z Pain
110 Swan Court
Chelsea Manor Street
LONDON SW3 5RU

Dear Mrs Pain

Further to our telephone conversation of last evening, I have
raided my file on the Orient Express and have taken various



*Monsieur G. Zechmeyer
Briefmarken-Handlung
Nürnberg
Bavieren.*

I trust will give you some satisfaction
as a photograph of a postcard
berg to G Zechmeyer, a toymaker,
ous stamps, who make transfers
back of one's hand many years
he never made a transfer of the
particular point of interest in the
ation "S" within an oval of bars;
dated stamp of the British Post
one usually found on such items.
s understandable from their
content. The
of a book not known generally in
this country.

I should be grateful for a copy of the publication when it appears.
Further, if you during your researches encounter any reference,
no matter how slight, to mail carriage by the train I shall be
grateful for the text and chapter and verse.

If I can help further please let me know. I suddenly have realised
that I did not photocopy my piece with King George V stamps on it and
marked or rather handstamped in purple ink "PAR ORIENT-EXPRESS"; the
stamps are cancelled with the BRITISH POST OFFICE CONSTANTINOPIE postmark
used at the time, dated 6 October 1920, and the piece, it is a portion of
an envelope, bears part of printed inscription which reads, I think,
BANCA ITALIANA DI SCONIO and, certainly, SEDE DI CONSTANTINOPOLI. No
portion of the address is visible.

Yours sincerely

Norman Williams

*Compagnie Internationale
des
Wagons Lits
et des Grands Express Européens*



*Agence
Bureaux
Directeur Général
Paris, 69, Boulevard Haussmann.*

Paris, le 9th October 1886. *188*

Dear Sir,

Re— Service de Luxe

N^o 4881/9

We beg to own receipt of your letters

C 36|61 & C 36|176 addressed to our General Manager temporarily away from Paris, and to give you, in his name, confirmation of the accord agreed upon between your goodself and our M. Morisot, viz.:

1st. that the London, Chatham & Dover Railway Company, besides the full fare, supplements included, paid by thirty two passengers which amount of L. 66.16." is guaranteed by us to the aforesaid Company as a minimum average receipt, shall receive $1\frac{1}{2}$ of the supplement from 32 to 50 passengers, and $1\frac{1}{3}$ of the same over and above this latter figure.

2^d. that deck cabins shall be placed at our disposal

William Forbes esq, Continental Manager office. Victoria station.
Pimlico. London. S. W.

under the conditions named in your letter of the 1st of
October.

You will find enclosed the complete time table as
far as Ventimiglia which will be the terminus station of
our train during the month of November. After the 1st of
December, we intend to run it as far as Pisa. We shall
in due time bring to your knowledge the time table on
the Italian reseau.

We beg to remain, Dear Sir, Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. L. ...', is written above a long, sweeping horizontal line that extends across the width of the signature.

ORIENT EXPRESS or BLACK SEA MAIL

1897

An envelope sent from Constantinople to Leeds in June 1897. It is franked with two 1 piastres stamps of the Austrian Post Office in Turkey which have been cancelled with the large decorative oval "Conspoli - Paris" postmark. It is believed that this postmark is not an Orient Express mark but applied on board a Romanian ship crossing the Black Sea from Constantinople to Konstanza connecting with the section of the rail network that passes through Bucharest joining the main Orient Express line in Budapest.

