

# *In This Issue*

**Mark Lorentzen** explains the early operation of the Danish post for foreign mail in **From Denmark to the Old German States: The Rayon System, 1854–1865**. With rates progressing at different increments and covers often bearing strange combinations of stamps from two different countries, it is easy to become confused. This is a fine start to understanding many of these features.

**The Black Ball Line: The Early Years 1818–1822** by **Jim Pullin** deals with the beginning of ocean mail service between the United States and England after the War of 1812. Pullin's research through Lloyd's lists, contemporary newspapers and other original sources has come up with a list of 50 sailings with dates of departure and arrival, both over and back, during this period, by which covers can be identified.

**Robert Johnson** has searched 35 years for covers into and out of Smyrna for a three month period in 1922 and has managed to locate only four. In **Smyrna: Its Destruction in September 1922 and the Effect on Postal Services**, he tells of the situation and how the mail was handled, with illustrations of all four.

**Robert Rose** returns to our pages with an account of **The American Colonial Postal System's Year of Transition, 1775**. Past writings by various students conflict and sometimes have contradicted the findings of each other. This article is accompanied by an extensive set of endnotes that show these differences. The text of the article offers the basic story of the transition period of the post in 1775 while the set of endnotes, readable as an article in its own right, tells another story of conflicting scholarship by some students.

**A Remarkable New Tibet Die-and-Plate Proof Find** solves one of the problems that has bothered collectors of Tibet for many years, whether the high "one sang" value was created at a much later date or intended for use in 1912 when the others were introduced. **Armand Singer** offers proof that the denomination was planned for 1912 through a newly discovered find.

In "Cover Story," **David Straight** tells of another cover, similar to that shown in the September/October 2006 "Cover Story." In **Sabetha, Kansas, Revisited** he shows a second cover with a bisected 8¢ Winged Globe used to pay postage due, and offers a suggestion as to why this may have happened.

**Correction:** A note in this department in the September issue erroneously referred to King Henry IV instead of Louis XIV as using the Huguenot galley slave in Kees Adema's article, in which it was properly referenced.

**On the Cover:** In 1854, when permitting stamps to be used for foreign mail, the Danish post allowed the use of the 2 RBS stamp only for local delivery. With the only denominations available for foreign mail being 4 RBS, which would usually involve overpayment of the fees involved, the Danish post authorized use of the 2 RBS to make smaller divisions, but only in Copenhagen. Only three covers are known with five of the 4 RBS and a single 2 RBS, of which this is considered the finest example.