

# Lost Ottoman Territories

## BILINGUAL TOWN CANCELS ON 1881-84 ISSUES

Ottoman P.O. in Bulgaria began to operate first in Filibe in 1840. Eventually, it established 64 post offices in different towns. However, this number dwindled down to 11 by 1877, the year of Russian-Turkish war. After the treaty of Berlin, the Russians established 14 new P.O. in May 19, 1879. Their operation was gradually transferred to the P.O. of Eastern Roumelia and by the end of 1885, 26 new stations were open. When an independent South Bulgaria was declared on September 6, 1885 an additional 6 post offices were added, bringing the total to 32. New cancels had to be prepared for all of these post offices. The name of the towns was inscribed bilingually both in Bulgarian, in Cyrillic and in French. The names, opening date and locations of these post offices are as follows:

1. ABRACHLARE ✓	01/01/1880	12. CARLOVA ✓	16/07/1879	24. T. PAZARDJIK ✓	01/07/1879
2. AITOS ✓	15/07/1879	13. CARNABAT ✓	01/07/1879	25. T. SEIMEN ✓	01/07/1879
3. AHIELO ✓	01/0/1880	14. CLISOURA	01/11/1879	26. HADJI ELLES ✓	24/01//1881
4. BELOVO	15/07/1885	15. COPRIVCHITZA	01/06/1880	27. HASKEUY ✓	01/07/1889
5. BRATZIGOVO	28/04/1885	16. KOTEL ✓	15/07/1879	28. HARMANLI ✓	01/08/1879
6. BOURGAS ✓	01/07/1879	17. NOVA ZAGORA ✓	01/07/1879	29. TCHEPELARE ✓	01/05/1882
7. JHTIMAN ✓	01/07/1879	18. PANAGURICHTE ✓	01/02/1880	30. TCHIRPAN	16/07/1879
8. CAVACLI ✓	01/11/1880	19. PECHTERA ✓	01/02/1880	31. SHIPKA	1878
9. KAZANLIK ✓	01/07/1879	20. PHILIPPOPOLE ✓	04/04/1879	32. YAMBOLI ✓	01/07/1879
10. KIZUL AGATCHE ✓	01/11/1879	22. SLIVNO ✓	01/07/1879		
11. KALO FER ✓	01/11/1879	23. STANIMAKA	25/09/1879		

### EASTERN ROUMELIAN POSTAL STATIONS BETWEEN 1878 AND SEPTEMBER 6, 1885









# Lost Ottoman Territories

POSTE BOURGASE

(ПОЩА БУРГАСЪ)

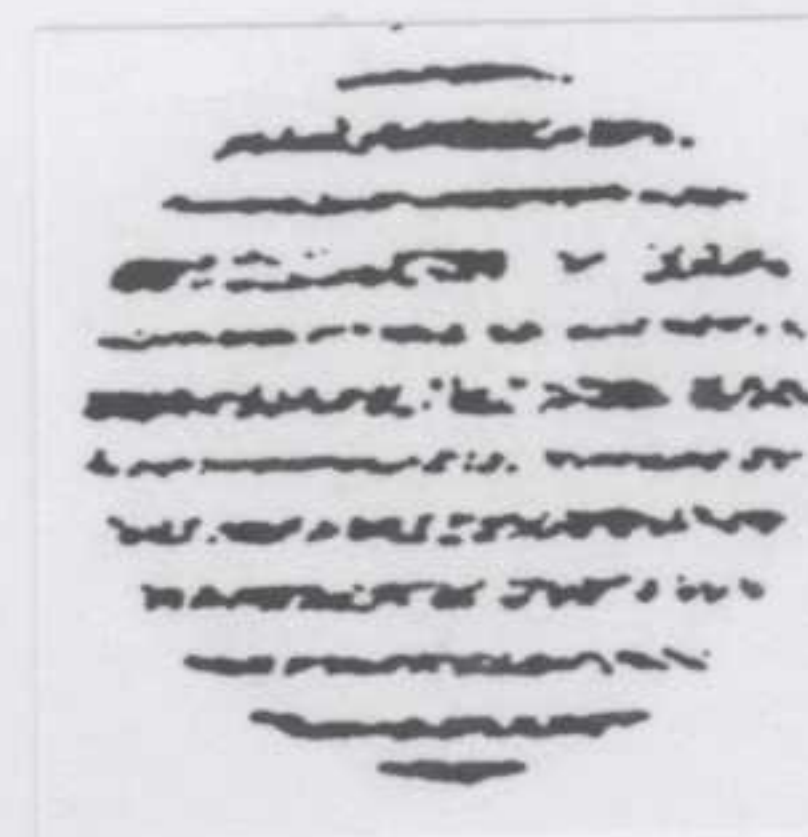
OFFICE OPEN 1865,  
DURING OTTOMAN PERIOD



An envelope with 20 Paras of 1881 issue mailed from Burgaz on July 4, 1885 to Hasköy (Haskovo, no back stamp); both towns are in Eastern Roumelia. Correct postal rate for an envelope mailed inland.



The first day this cancel used is: unknown



Mute cancel with 12 bars





Росия Государство



На тази страница ся пише само адресът.  
Ce côté est réservé exclusivement à l'adresse.

Господину Владимиру Карановскому  
Магистру Славянской Филологической Академии  
Monsieur W. Katchanoffsky Magistre  
Slavianskoj Filologii  
Poste restante S. Petersbourg



На тази страница ся пише само адресът.  
Ce côté est réservé exclusivement à l'adresse.

Monsieur  
Max Schenck  
IV Kollergerngass I  
à Vienne

Apr. 29 1888



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## NOVA ZAGORA (ZAGRE-I CEDID)



This is a postal stationery with mixed franking. It has one copy of 5 Paras each of 1881 and 1884 issue. It was sent from Nova Zagora February 5, 1885 to Plovdiv received the same day. The 10 Paras is the correct rate for postcards sent inland.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

ZAGRE-I DJEDID

(НОВА-ЗАГОРА  
NOVA-ZAGORA)

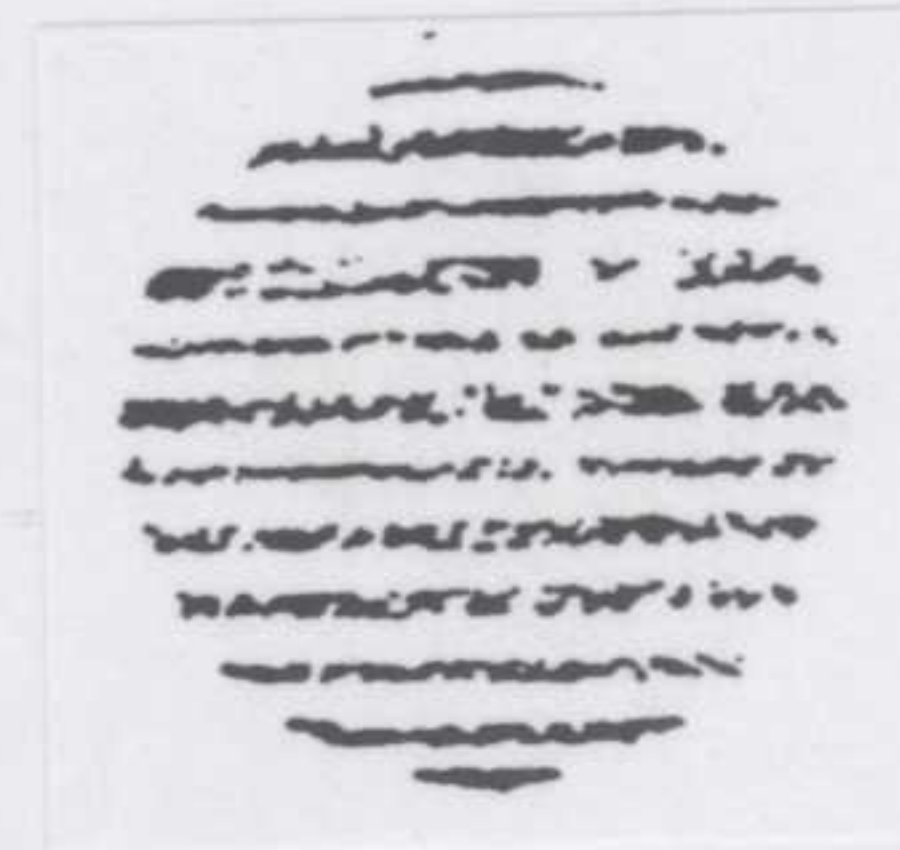
OFFICE OPEN 1871  
DURING OTTOMAN PERIOD



A postcard with 10 Paras issue of 1884 sent from Zagre-i Cedid (Nova Zagora) on March 24, 1885 to Kizanlik. There is no receiving cancel. Both towns are in Eastern Roumelia. The rate is correct for inland postage of a postcard.



The first day this cancel  
used is unknown



Mute cancel  
with 12 bars



# Lost Ottoman Territories

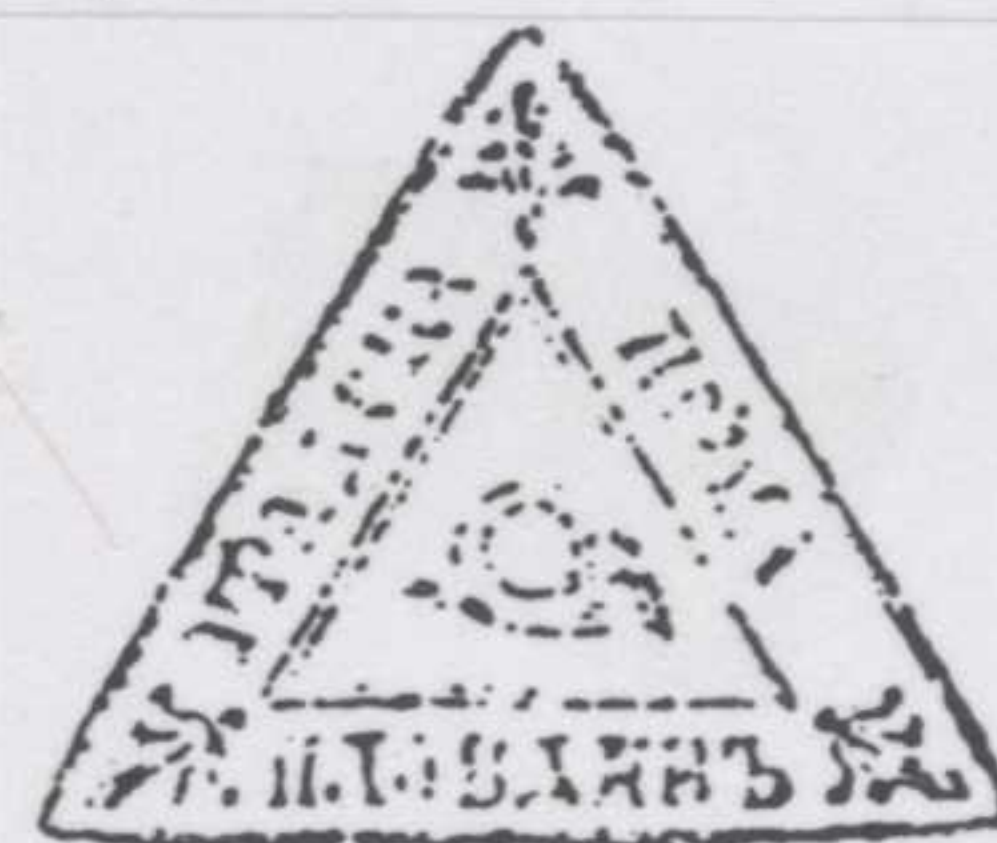
## FILIBE, CITY POST

(ГРАДСКА ПОЩА ПЛОВДИВЪ)

ESTABLISHED TOWARDS THE END OF 1880-  
BEGINNING OF 1881- TRIANGULAR CANCEL  
A POSTHORN IN PLACE OF DATE IN THE CENTER



A 5 Paras postcard of 1881 issue, with an announcement mailed within the city of Filibe, the capital on March 14, 1883. Correct city post rate.



First date this cancel used is: unknown



First date this cancel used is: unknown

A 5 Paras postcard of 1881 issue, with an announcement mailed within the city of Filibe, the capital on January 12, 1882. Correct city post rate.



First date this cancel used is: unknown



First date this cancel used is: unknown





# Lost Ottoman Territories

## SLIVNO (ISLIMIYE)



This is a postal stationery with 10 Paras stamp of 1881 issue affixed. It was sent from Slivno on February 7, 1883 to Plovdiv where it was received on February 8, 1883 (the cancel is on reverse). This is a correct rate for inland postcards.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## TIRNOVA - SEIMEN (TIRNOVACIK - TIRNOVA SEYMENLI)



This is a postal stationery with two copies of 5 Paras of 1881 issue. It was sent from Tirnova-Seimen April 12, 1884 to Harmanli April 18, 1884. This is a correct rate for postcards sent inland.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## YAMBOLI (YANBOLU – ALL CYRILLIC)



This is a small folded envelope cancelled with all Cyrillic Yamboli in red ink dated January 21, 1881. It has six copies of 10 Paras of 1881 issue stamps. On reverse there is an Arabic cachet that reads: "Tahrirat-1 Muhimme" (Important Mail). It was sent to Edirne (Andrinople) where it was received on January 22, 1881. This type of Edirne cancel is not reported by the Turkish cancel catalogues. The foreign postage rate was 1 Piastre (40 Paras). The use of 60 Paras might be explained by special handling of the mail required as indicated on reverse. **(RARE)**



# Lost Ottoman Territories

TO USA

## T. P. O. (BILINGUAL AMBULATORY TRAIN POST – TRAIN I – II)



An official postal form with 20 Paras of 1881 issue is shown. The sender's address is Plovdiv. It was sent by Eastern Roumelia Traveling Post Office on July 6, 1885. The cancel is bilingual since it was used for international mail. It passed through Istanbul July 18, 1885 (cancel on reverse) and reached its destination New York on 3 August 1885. (Ex. T. Hitzler) (RARE).



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## POSTE KARLOVO (KARLOVA POSTA)



This is postal stationery with 10 Paras stamp of 1884 issue affixed. It was sent from Karlovo June 23, 1885 to Plovdiv where it was received on June 24, 1885. This is a correct rate for inland postcards.





Messieurs  
Mrs Finsen  
Poste internationale  
Galata  
Constantinople.

12



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**Opinion only:**

Bulgaria, military cover from Bulgarian-Serbian war, free of charge, from Plovdiv to occupied Pirot in Serbia, dated 19 December 1885. The postmark is the re-used Plovdiv postmark of Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria in typical black colour.

The text of the military seal on the front: "General Staff of the Eastern Corps". The cover is backstamped: "1<sup>st</sup> Mobile Military Post Office" and "Pirot" (Serbian postmark with missing date).

It is known that the Bulgarian troops finally defeated the Aggressor and in a subsequent piece treaty the Serbs were force to accept the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Rumelia.

The postmark of the "1<sup>st</sup> Mobile Military Post Office" is extremely rare and only a few covers are recorded.

The cover is genuine in all details.

A wonderful and very rare cover. Good Bulgarian and Eastern Rumelian Postal History.



June 29, 2016  
No 1606029-4



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## KAZANLUK (KIZANLIK)



This is a postal stationery with 5 Paras of 1881 issue. It was sent from Kazanluk August 2, 1883. It passed through Slivno August 3, 1883 and reached its destination Plovdiv August 4, 1883 (cancel on reverse). It was taxed as indicated by "T" on front since the inland rate for post cards was 10 Paras.







# Lost Ottoman Territories



This is a small envelope with 5 Paras stamp of 1881 issue affixed. It was sent from Jhtiman on February 20, 1882 to Carnabat where it was received on February 23, 1882 (the cancel is on reverse). The rate for envelopes sent inland was 20 Paras, therefore it was underpaid but did not receive postage due upon delivery.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## PLOVDIV (PHILIPPOPLE – FILIBE)



Postal stationery with open frame lion overprint Type 1. Mailed as local post on September 25, 1885. The rate is correct for local postage. The back of the form contains the following message:

“Herewith I give you the information that tomorrow at 2.5 o’clock our revolutionary committee will have a meeting. Some questions that are important for our activities will be discussed there. During the meeting an important letter from our revolutionary committee to Sofia will be called out. You are asked to join the meeting witch takes place in the hall of our committee. Signed the Committee”

This is a perfect example of the revolutionary work that took place after September 6, 1885. Only two cards like this one exist, one with horizontal and one with vertical text.

**(UNIQUE)** (Ex. T. Hitzler).



# Lost Ottoman Territories

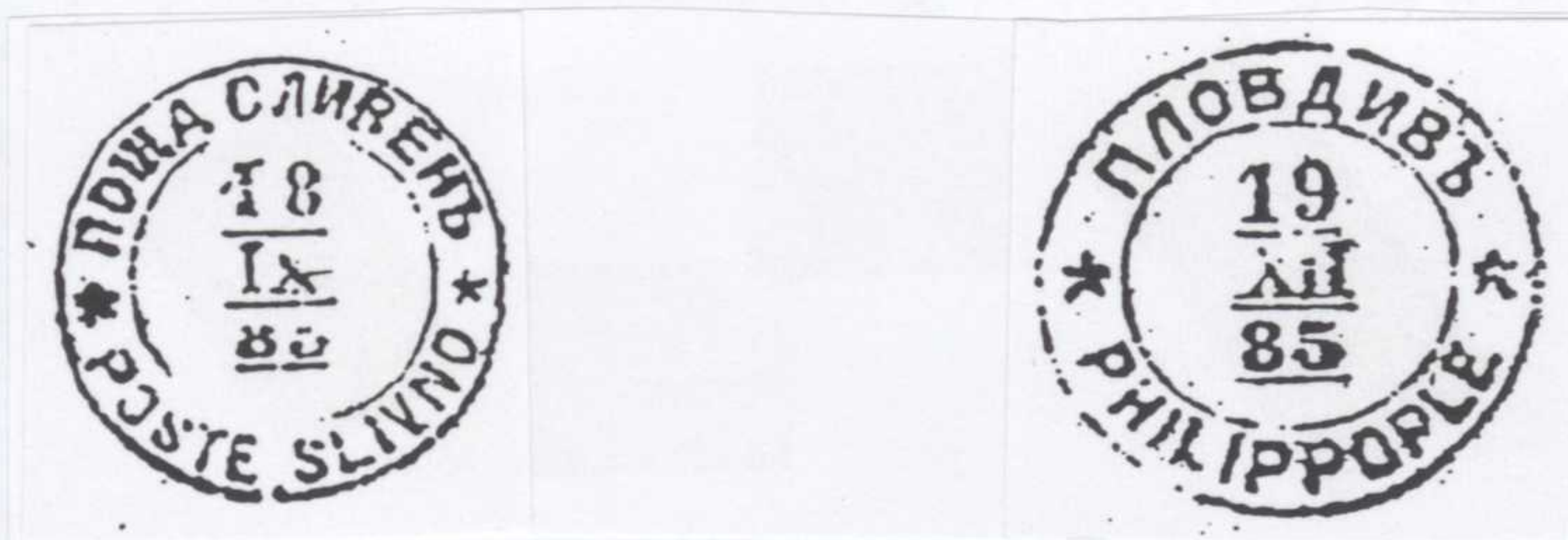
## POSTE SLIVNO (ISLIMIYE POSTA)



This is a mail sent without stamps from Slivno on December 28, 1884 to Plovdiv where it was received on December 30, 1884 and a 20 Paras stamp of 1881 issue was affixed (both the stamp and Plovdiv cancel are on reverse side). The inland rate for envelopes was 20 Paras.



# SLIVNO (ISLIMIYE)



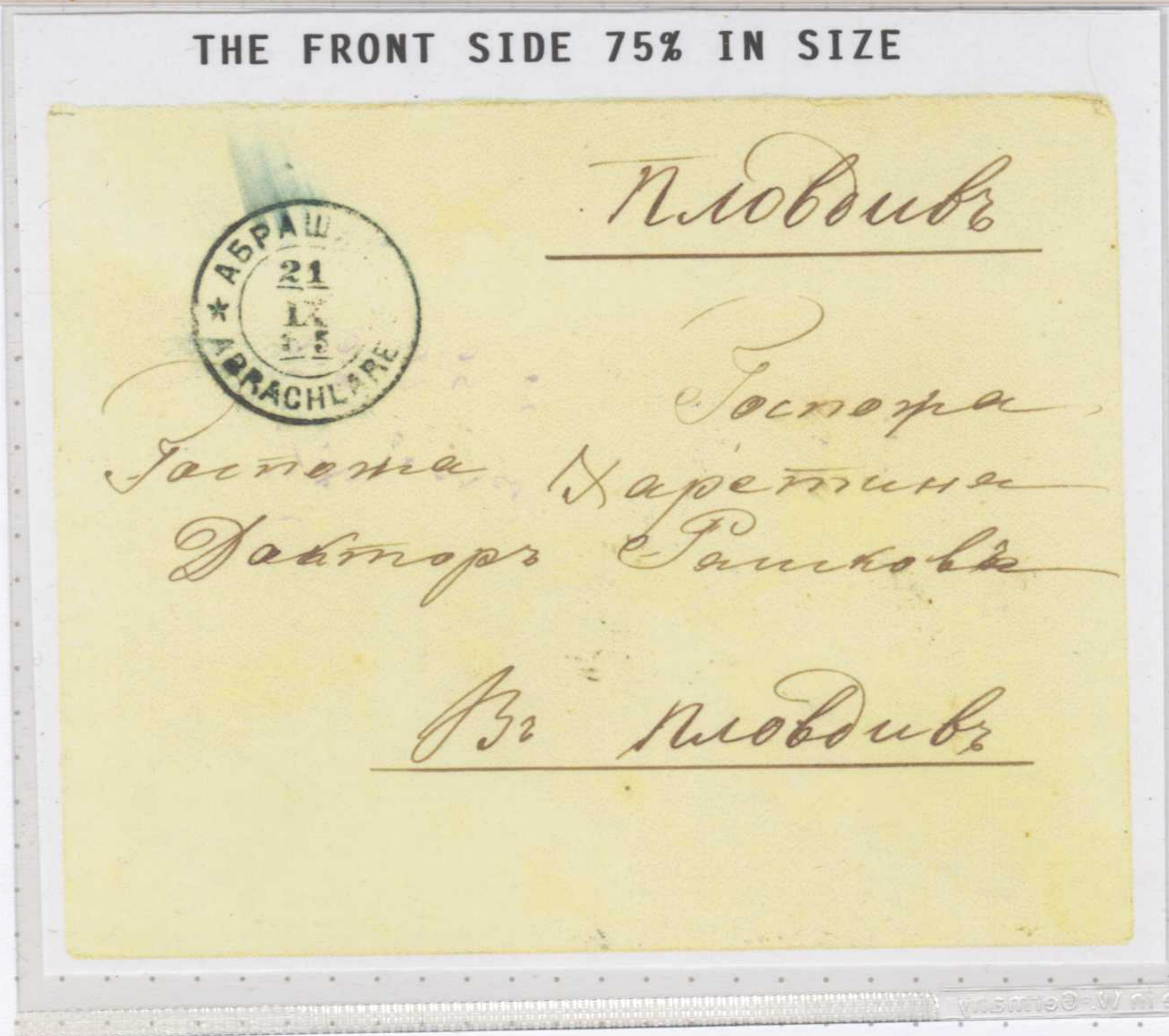
Registered postcard with 1880/81 20 Paras with Type 3 framed lion overprint in black ink. It was sent from Slivno on September 27, 1885 to Plovdiv September 28, 1885 (cancel on reverse). The blue hand stamp reads "Recommandée". The postal rate for this registered postcard is correct for inland mail. The card is illustrated in "D. Zagorsky-Ostrumelien 1878-1885, page 51, 1984).  
**(RARE)** (Ex. D. Zagorsky)



# Lost Ottoman Territories



THE FRONT SIDE 75% IN SIZE



## ABRACHLARE (NEW POST OFFICE)



Six new post offices were established in 1885: Abrachlare, Belovo, Brazigovo, Klissura, Koprivschitze and Kalofer.

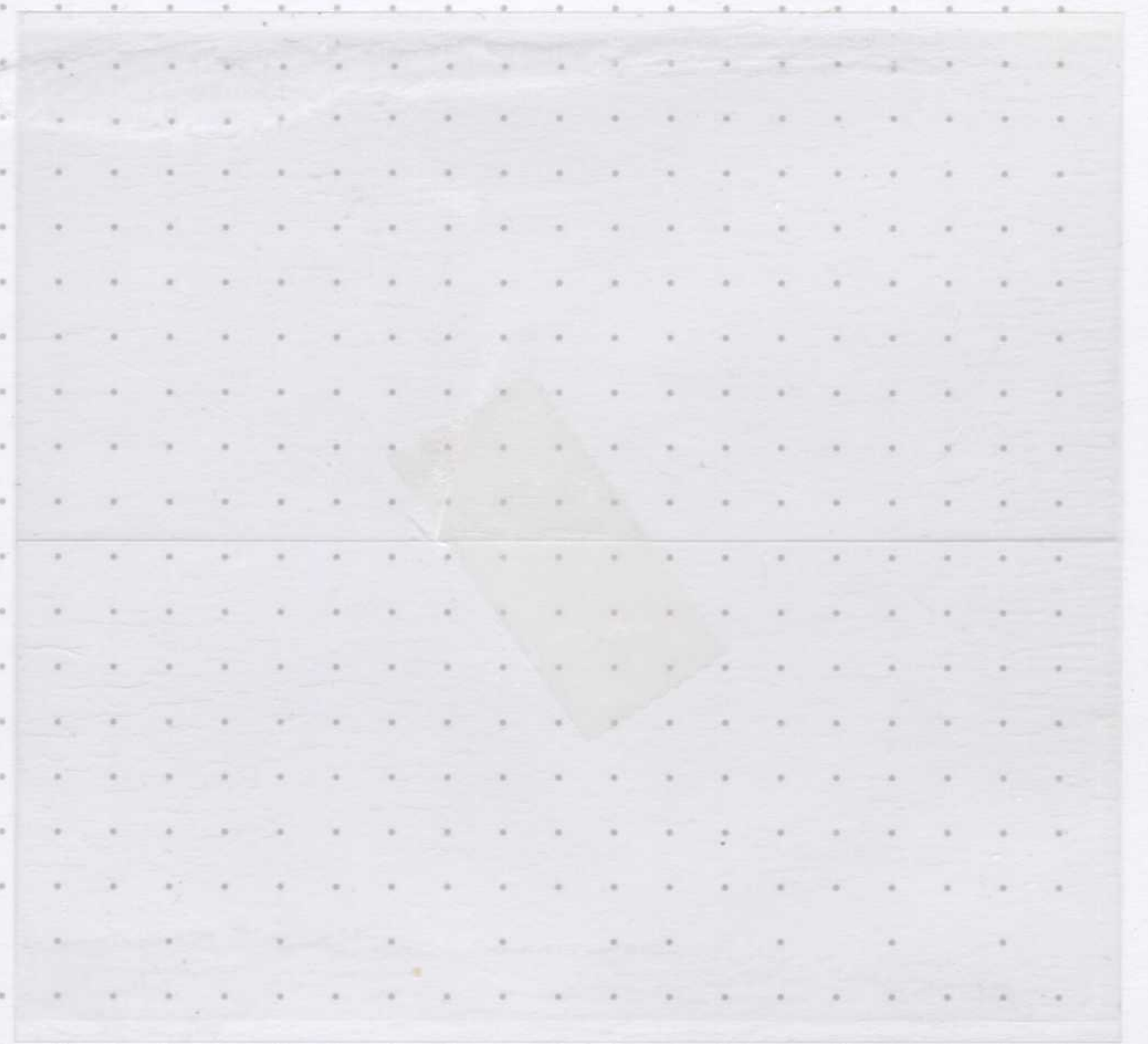
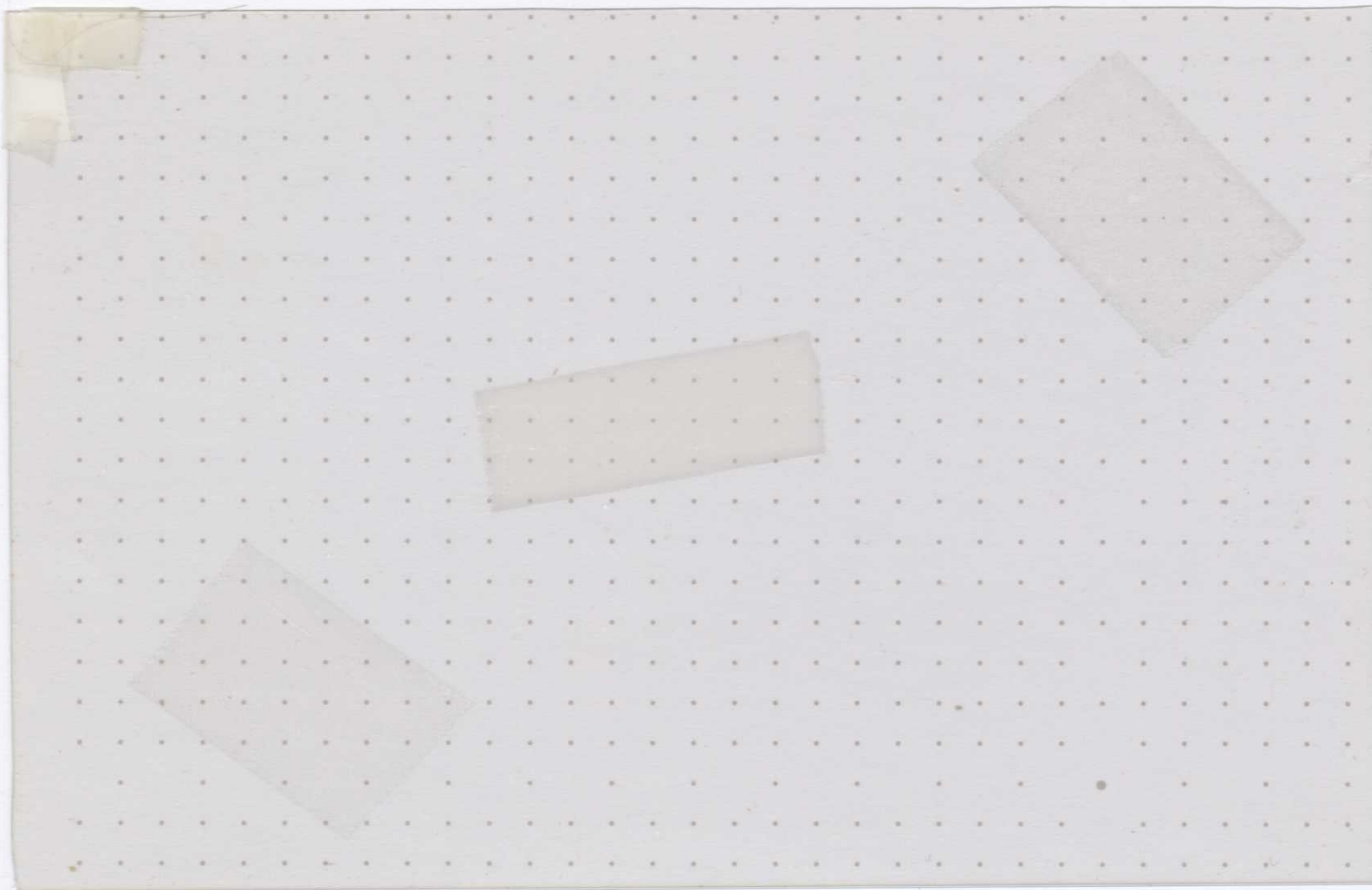
This is a letter sent with two copies of 10 Paras, Perf. 11.5 with Type 1 Lion overprint. It was sent from Abrachlare to Plovdiv, which is the correct domestic postal rate. The franking is on the backside of the cover and are cancelled with a genuine blue bar cancellation from Abrachlare. It contains a message in Bulgarian. The dates on Abrachlare and Philippople cancellations are September 21, 1885. Both the stamps and cancels are genuine. The Abrachlare cancel is on front, Philippople cancel is on reverse. Genuine covers from Abrachlare are **EXTREMELY RARE**; probably only two exist. This is one of the biggest rarities of the South Bulgaria (Ex. T. Hitzler).



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## BURGAS (BERGOS) (БУРГАСЪ-BOURGAS)

OFFICE OPEN 1865,  
DURING OTTOMAN PERIOD



A 10 Paras 1881 issue postcard sent from Burgaz December 21, 1883 to Hasköy (no back stamp) both in Eastern Roumelia. Correct inland postal rate for a post card.



The first day this cancel is used: unknown



Mute cancel with 12 bars





# Lost Ottoman Territories

## TIRNOVO-SEYMEN (SEYMENLI)



Postal stationery mixed franking: 10 Paras open frame lion overprint Type 1 in blue ink and one 10 Paras boxed lion overprint Type 3 in black ink. It was mailed from Tirnovovo-Seymen September 17, 1885 to Aitos (cancel is on reverse) September 19, 1885. Both stamps and cancels are genuine. It traveled postally however, it maybe philatelic. **(RARE)** (Ex. T. Hitzler).



Телеграфо-  
поченско  
Управление

SERVICE  
télégrapho  
POSTAL

ИСТОЧНА РУМЕЛИЯ

ОТВОРЕНО ПИСМО

ROUMÉLIE ORIENTALE

CARTE POSTALE



DRESDEN - LIBERKUNIG  
4/10  
85

П Л О Р Д И В  
13  
14  
PHILIPP

На тази страница ся пише само адресът.  
Ce côté est réservé exclusivement à l'adresse.

Herrn Ernst König  
Beamter der Sächsischen Bank  
Dresdnerstrasse No. 17. Dresden Löbtau  
Mettagen Dresden





PI I  
BLUE

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***Philatelic Expert for Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria***

**Opinion only:**

10 Paras (perf. 11 ½), issue 1884 of Eastern Rumelia, with Lion overprint type I (without frame) according to Michel catalogue.

Stamp with genuine blue overprint.

Stamp on postal form with address to Sliven and cancellation "Aitos September 25, 1885". Transit "Tatar Pazardjik".

Cover is genuine in all respects.

The first undoubtedly genuine cover from "Aitos" during the time of Lion overprints that I see.

Correct domestic rate to Bulgaria for postcards.

A very rare cover!



February 18, 2003

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## CLISOURA – CARLOVA (KILISURA – KARLOVA)



This is a folded letter with two copies of 10 Paras of 1881 issue. It was sent from Clisoura, the post office of which was not yet open. It went to nearby Carlova to receive a cancel, which is dated May 6, 1881. It was sent to Plovdiv, where it was received on May 7, 1881. The 20 Paras is the correct inland rate for letters. **(RARE)**.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## POSTE KALO FER (KALFER)



This is a postal stationery with 10 Paras stamp of 1884 issue affixed. It was sent from Kalofer on July 21, 1885 to Plovdiv where it was received on July 22, 1885. This is a correct rate for inland postcards.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## KAZANLUK (KIZANLIK)



This is a postal stationery with 10 Paras of 1881 issue. It was sent from Kazanluk October 7, 1884 to Plovdiv October 8, 1884 (cancel on reverse). The 10 Paras is the correct rate for cards sent inland.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## POSTE YAMBOLI (YANBOLU POSTA)



This is a postal stationery with two copies of 10 Paras of 1884 issue. It was sent from Yamboli November 16, 1884. It passed through Istanbul November 30, 1884 (cancel on reverse). It reached its destination Marianhilf-Vienna December 5, 1884. The 20 Paras is a correct rate for postcards sent out of country.





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***Philatelic Expert for Eastern Rumelia, South Bulgaria and Bulgaria***

**Opinion only:**

Bulgaria, military cover of Bulgarian-Serbian war, free of charge, from Plovdiv to Tirново-Seimen, dated 11 November 1885. The postmark is the re-used Plovdiv postmark of Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria in typical black colour.

The text of the military seals/cachets on the front: "Plovdiv Military Command – Quartermaster" and "Military Command Plovdiv" (intaglio).

The cover has a heavy vertical fold with a tear at the top. The paper is uniformly browned and shows some breakages at the left side. A private red notice is deleted with a black pen in the left corner below.

It is known that the Bulgarian troops finally defeated the Aggressor and in a subsequent piece treaty the Serbs were force to accept the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Rumelia.

The cover is genuine in all details. The cover shows several traces of history, but is still a nice and rare item.

A very rare cover. Good Bulgarian and Eastern Rumelian Postal History.



June 29, 2016  
No 1606029-5





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**Opinion only:**

5 Paras (perf. 13.5), issue 1880/1 of Eastern Rumelia + 10 Paras (perf. 11.5), issue 1884 of Eastern Rumelia + 5 Paras (perf. 11.5), issue 1884 of Eastern Rumelia with:

blue Lion overprint Type I without frame according to Michel catalogue (5 Paras 1880/1 and 10 Paras 1884)

and

blue Lion overprint Type II without frame according to Michel catalogue (5 Paras 1884)

on postcard from Plovdiv to Brussels (to the famous stamp collector Moens) via Sofia. Michel numbers: 13IAa + 16IBa + 14IIBa

Proper franking of 20 Paras for a postcard to foreign countries.

The stamps are cancelled with the typical black date cancel of Plovdiv. The card and the stamps are genuine in all details.

A sensational cover because a part (crown) of the Lion overprint on the 5 Paras 1880/1 stamp has a shift to the paper of the postcard.

The card proves that unused and franked postcards of Eastern Rumelia which were on stock after the revolution were used to get the Lion overprint.

Only a few postcards with thus shifted Lion overprints are recorded. The card is in perfect condition. A very big rarity. One of the most beautiful covers from South Bulgaria.





# Lost Ottoman Territories

## HARMANLI (HARMANLI)



Postal stationery with 10 Paras Perf. 11.5 with open frame lion overprint Type 1 in blue ink. It was sent from Harmanli September 23, 1885 to Sofia (cancel on reverse) September 28, 1885. After the revolution domestic rates became valid on mail to Bulgaria. Therefore 10 Paras is a correct rate. Both the stamp and both cancels are genuine, and it traveled postally. **(RARE)** (Ex. T. Hitzler).



# Lost Ottoman Territories



HASKEY  
(HASKEY)



This is a postal stationery with 10 Paras stamp of 1881 issue affixed. It was sent from Haskey on March 22, 1883 to Plovdiv where it was received on March 24, 1883 (the cancel is on reverse). This is a correct rate for inland postcards.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## KOTEL (KAZGAN – KOTEL)



This is a postal stationery with 20 Paras of 1881 issue. It was sent from Kotel on August 28, 1884. The bilingual Kotel cancel is not illustrated by Zagorsky (Ostumelien, 1878 – 1885, Mesa, California, 1984). It passed through Osman-Bazar, Bulgaria August 29 and 30, 1884. It reached its destination Roustchuk, Bulgaria August 31, 1884. The rate is correct for postcards sent outside the country.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## PANAGURICHTE (PANAGORIŞTA)



This is a postal stationery with two copies 5 Paras of 1881 issue. It was sent from Panagurichte May 1, 1884 to Plovdiv May 2, 1884. This is the correct rate for postcards sent inland.



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**Philatelic Expert for Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria**

**Opinion only:**

20 Paras, issue 1880/1 of Eastern Rumelia on official form used as postcard.

Cover to Sofia, Bulgaria. The transport was done with the Eastern Rumelian travelling post office. Senders address is in Yambol.

The cover bears a genuine and clear cancellation "Roumelie Orientale Du Train" (international type), date December 25, 1884.

This type is very rare and only a few covers are known!

The cover is genuine in every respect and is of almost perfect condition.

The foreign postal rate of 20 Paras is correct.

A beautiful and very rare cover!



August 09, 2003  
July 14, 2003



# Lost Ottoman Territories



**T.P.O.**  
**ИСТОЧНО РУМЕЛИСКА**  
**ПОЩА ВЛАКЪ 1**  
**(ISTOCHNO RUMELISKA**  
**POSTA VLAK 1)**

An envelope mailed from Eastern Roumelia by ambulatory post office through train on June 28, 1883 with two 20 Paras of 1881 issue. It was received in Galata P.O., Istanbul on July 8, 1883. Correct exterior postage rate.

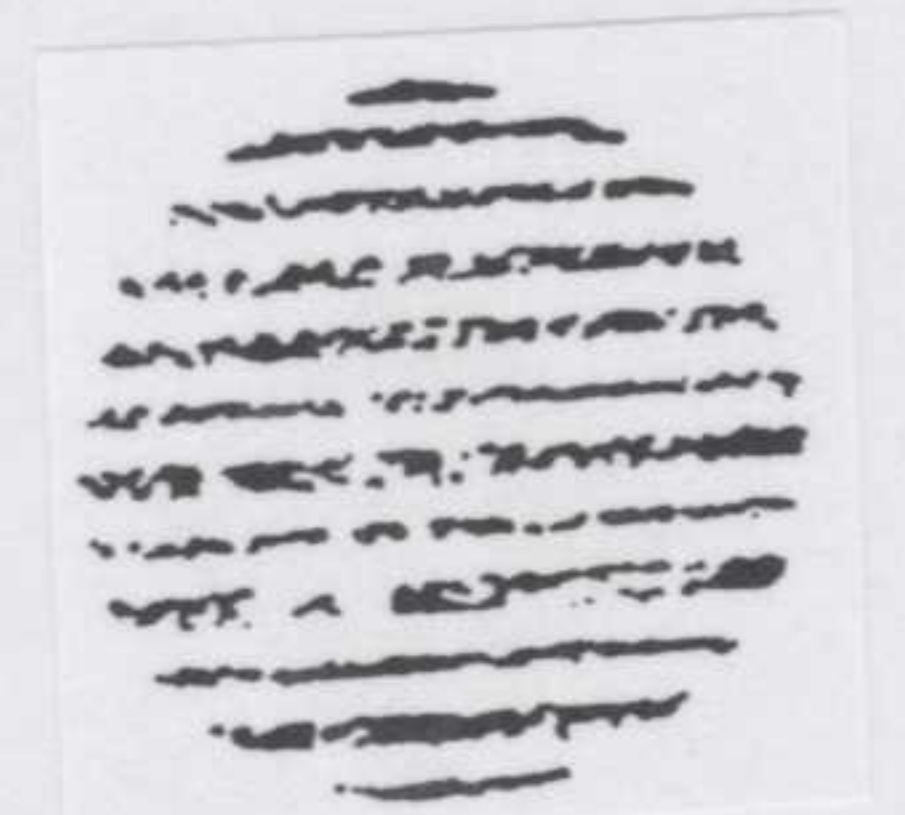


**ROUMELIAN AMBULATORY**  
**POST / TRAIN 1**  
First day this cancel used is unknown

**FULL SIZE SCAN OF REVERSE SIDE OF THE ENVELOPE**



**CONSTANTINOPLE / GALATA**  
**ARRIVÉE**  
Coles & Walker # 24



**MUTE CANCEL WITH 12 BARS**



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## POSTE KOTEL (KOTEL POSTA)

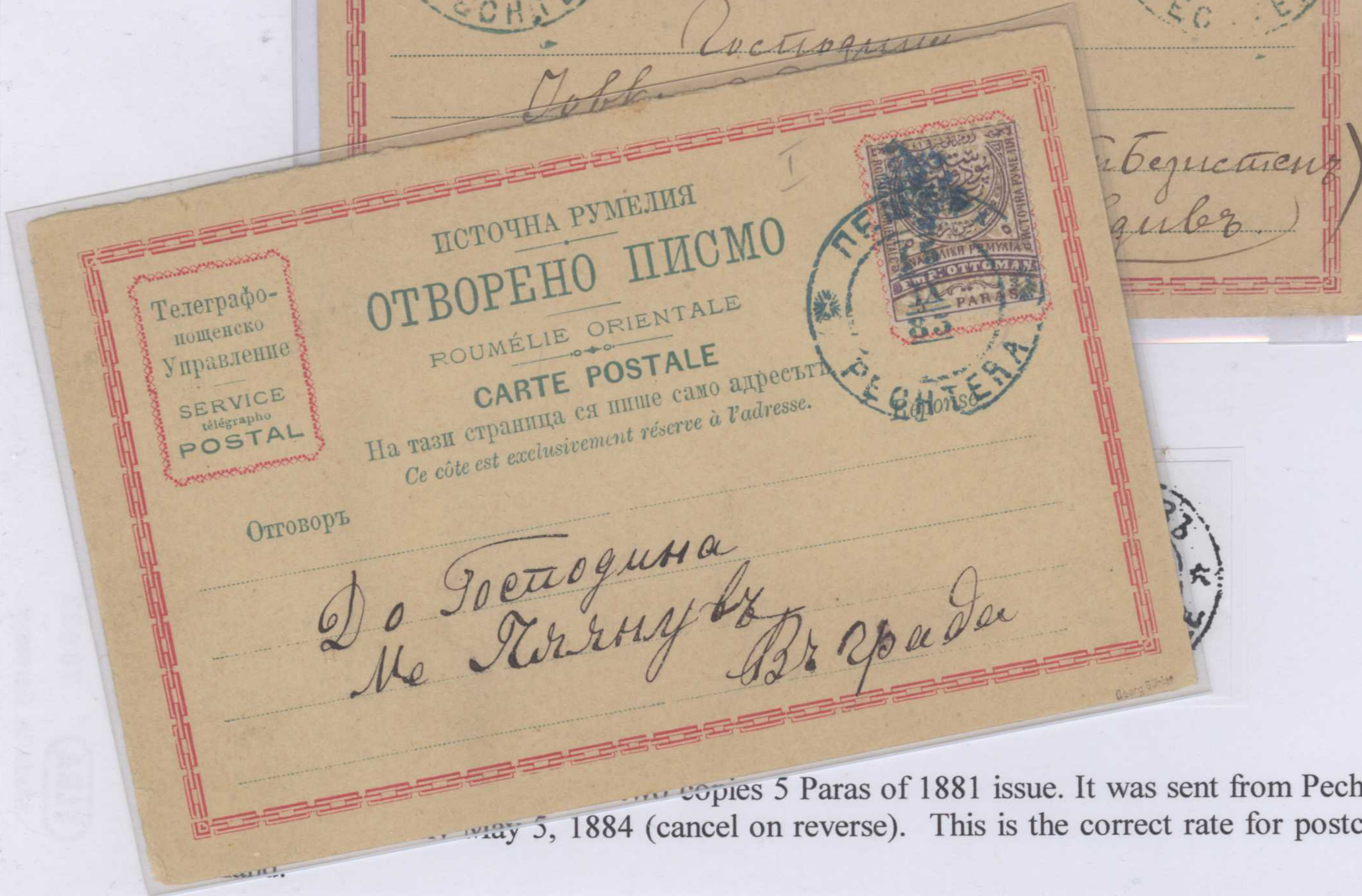


This is a postal stationery with a pair of 5 Paras of 1884 issue. It was sent from Kotel on December 29, 1884 to Plovdiv. There is no receiving cancel. The 10 Paras rate is correct for postcards sent inland.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## PECHTERA (NO OTTOMAN NAME)



copies 5 Paras of 1881 issue. It was sent from Pechtera May 5, 1884 (cancel on reverse). This is the correct rate for postcards sent







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**Philatelic Expert for Eastern Rumelia, South Bulgaria and Bulgaria**

Opinion only:

Bulgaria, cover with single 25 Stotinki stamp, issue 1882, so-called "Big Lion" from Kazanluk to Constantinople, dated 27 April 1887. The postmark is the re-used "Poste Kazanluk" postmark of Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria.

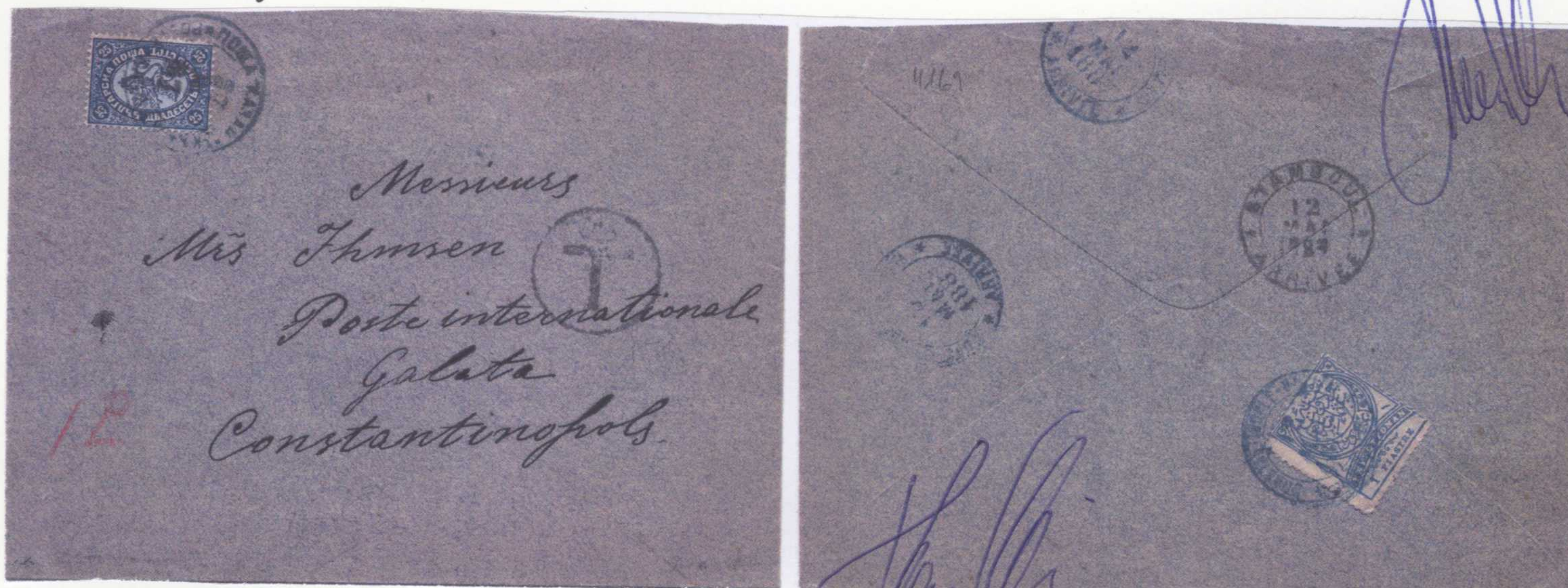
Proper franking of 25 Stotinki for a cover of the first weight step to foreign countries.

The Turkish postal administration marked the cover with a "T" postmark and the addressee in Constantinople was forced to pay 1 Piaster postage due fee. A blue 1 Piastre Turkish stamp, definitive issue 1884, so-called "Empire issue" was stick and cancelled in Istanbul to cover the fee.

The cover is genuine in all details.

It is known that the Turkish postal authorities did not accept the union of Eastern Rumelia (South Bulgaria) and the principality Bulgaria till the first months of 1887. Any mail from the territory of former Eastern Rumelia was considered as unfranked and excess postage was required. The excess postage was only the standard fee in Piaster and not the double fee.

A nice and interesting cover. Good Bulgarian and Eastern Rumelia Postal History.



June 29, 2016  
No 1606029-3

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# Lost Ottoman Territories

## T. P. O. (ROUMELIAN AMBULATORY POST – TRAIN I – II)



Two 5 Paras and one 10 Paras of 1881 issue on official postal stationery form is shown. It was mailed through Eastern Roumelia Ambulatory Train Post I-II on May 1, 1883 from Plovdiv. It passed through Istanbul May 15, 1883 and reached Döbling, Austria May 18, 1883. The foreign postal rate of 20 Paras is correct. (Ex. T. Hitzler).





ПЛОВДИВЪ  
PHILIPPOPLE



A small envelope franked with 5 Paras stamp of 1881 issue. It was sent from Filibe (Plovdiv) on January 1, 1882 to Karnabat. Both towns are in Eastern Roumelia. The postal rate is appropriate for a small envelope mailed inland. It is cancelled with the bilingual Philippople (Plovdiv) cancel.

*P. J. Ozand*

COST  
BOTH



10 para type I overprint on formula card.  
Local use from Plovdiv, September 25, 1885. Overpaid.



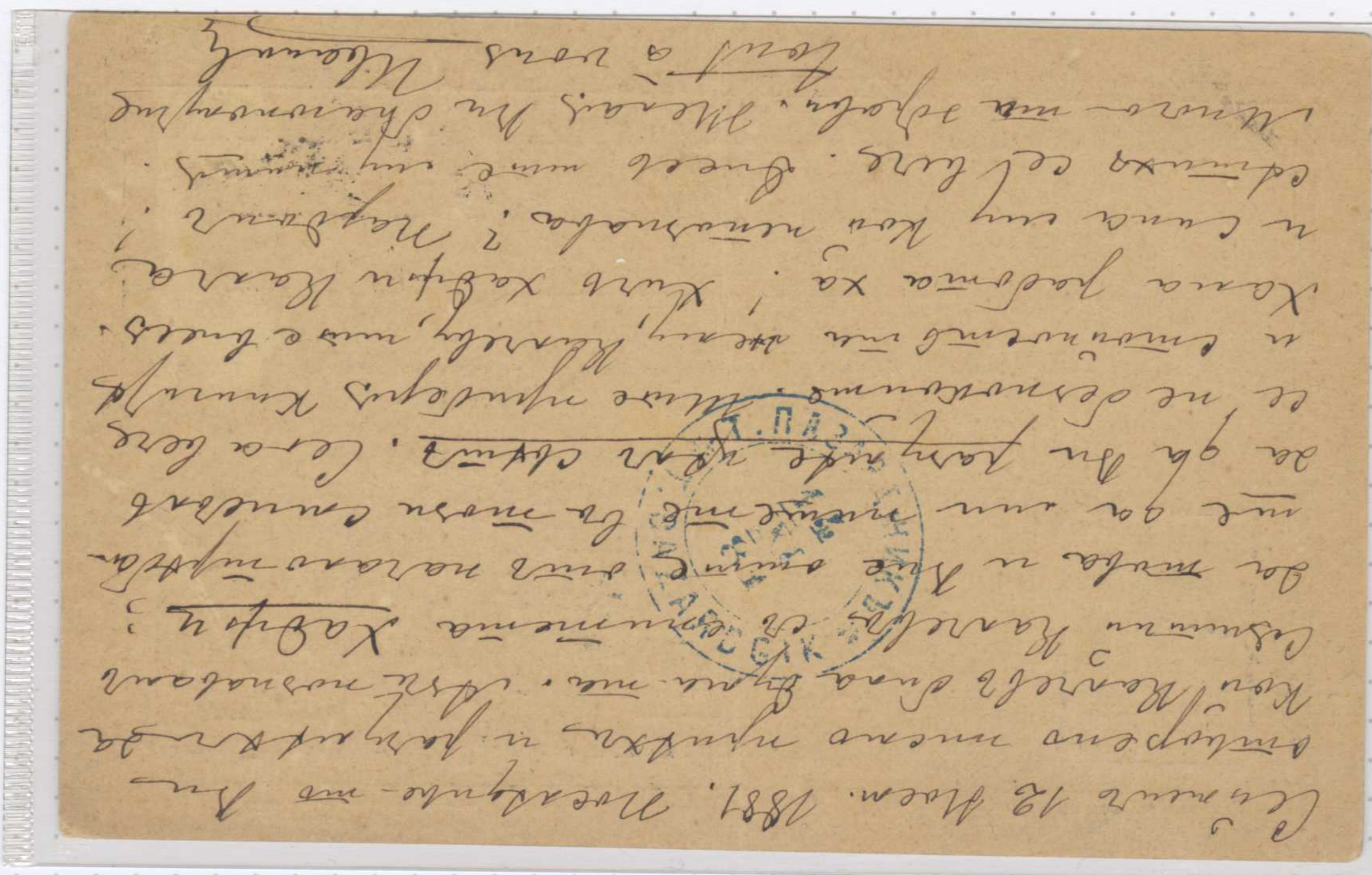
10 para type I overprint on reply pair or formula reply card.  
Local use from Peshtera, September 20, 1885. No barred obliterator, the usual use in Peshtera. Overpaid.  
From the Karapirovo correspondence, retained for philatelic purposes.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

**ТИРНОВА**  
 (ТЪРНОВО-СЕЙМЕНЪ  
 TIRNOVA-SEIMEN)  
 OFFICE OPEN 1847  
 DURING OTTOMAN EMPIRE

T  
 BAZARDGIK



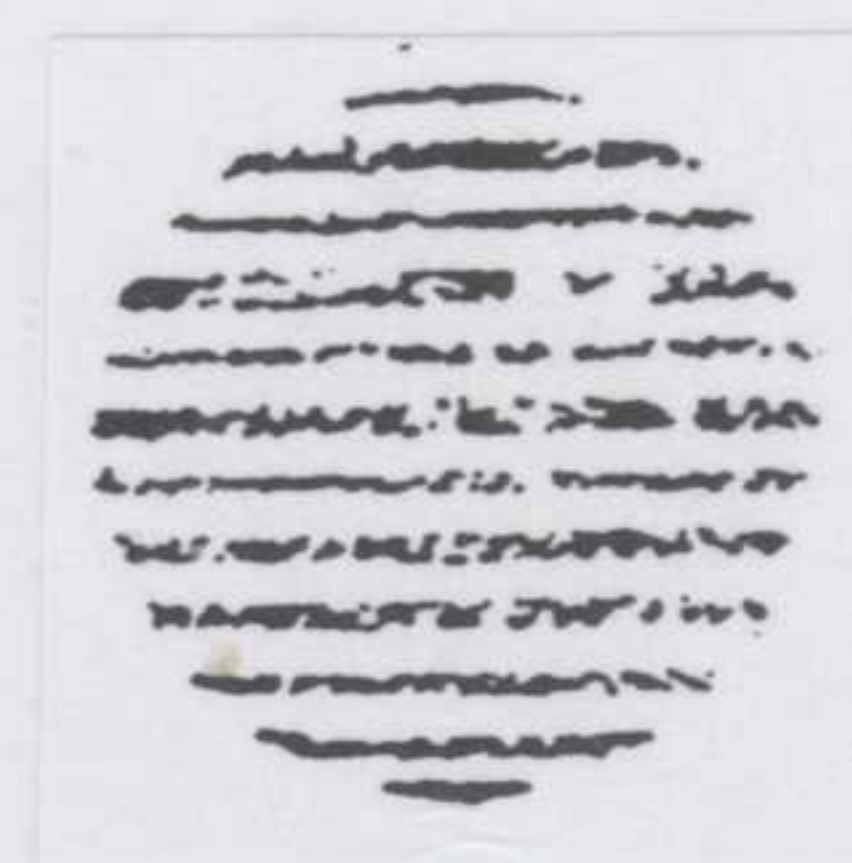
A 20 Paras 1881 issue postcard mailed from Tirnova (Tirnovovo-Seimen) on October 13, 1881 to Sofia, Bulgaria. It passed through Tatar Pazari (Tatar Pazardjik, on reverse side), Eastern Roumelia October 14, reaching Sofia October 15, 1881. Correct foreign postage rate.



First day this cancel used is unknown



First day this cancel used is unknown



Mute cancel with 12 bars





# Lost Ottoman Territories

## TCHPELARE

P171  
EX ZIMMER  
Sc 31b/10 Pa/1NY  
30/5 Pa  
MKD

Телеграфо-  
поченско  
Управление  
SERVICE  
télégrapho  
POSTAL

ИСТОЧНА РУМЕЛИЯ  
ОТВОРЕНО ПИС  
4399  
ROUMÉLIE ORIENTALE  
CARTE POSTALE



На тази страница ся пише само адресът.  
Ce côté est réservé exclusivement à l'adresse



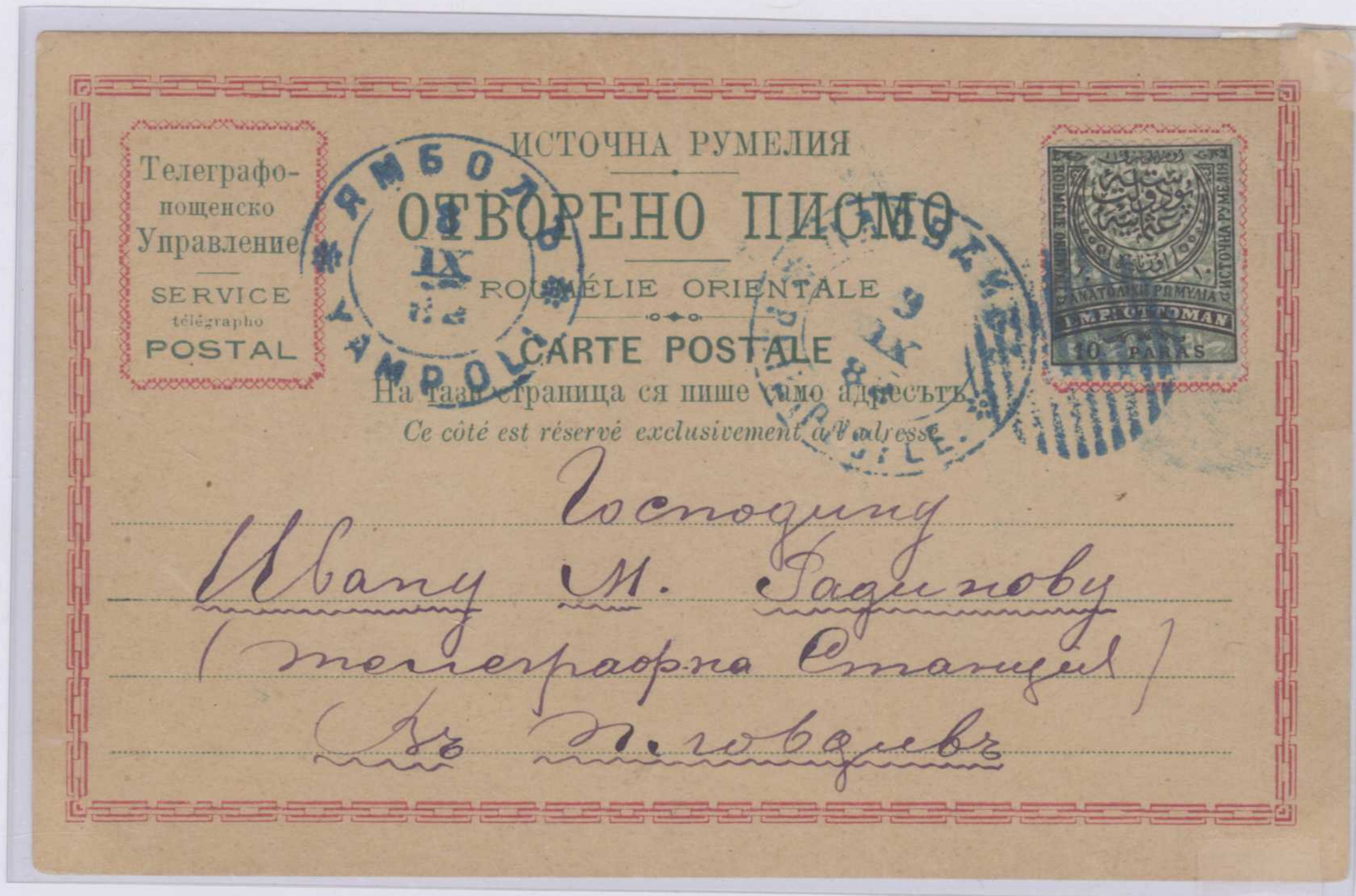
За Жан  
Григорий Франков  
Мм. Страня Франков  
в.г. Каварин

Made in Germany  
EGBY 10033



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## YAMBOLI (YANBOLU)



This is a postal stationery with 10 Paras of 1881 issue. It was sent from Yamboli September 8, 1882 to Plovdiv September 9, 1882. This is a correct rate for postcards sent inland.



**Thomas Hitzler**  
*Bergstrasse 15, 81539 Muenchen, Germany*



Tel.: +4989-69737176

e-mail: [Hitzlers@t-online.de](mailto:Hitzlers@t-online.de)

***Philatelic Expert for Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria***

**Opinion only:**

20 Paras, issue 1880/81 of Eastern Rumelia, with Lion overprint type I (without frame) according to Michel catalogue.

Stamp with blue overprint on postal form.

Stamp and overprint are genuine.

Postal stationary from Plovdiv (September 13, 1885) to Dresden, transit Sofia, with correct postal rate of 20 Paras.

All parts of the cover are genuine. Rare stamp on cover!

All really run covers of the Lion overprint stamps are rare. Defective corner of form and some toning should be accepted!



February 18, 2003

*[Handwritten signature]*



**Thomas Hitzler**  
**Bergstrasse 15, 81539 Muenchen, Germany**



**Tel.: +4989-69737176**

**e-mail: Hitzlers@t-online.de**

**Philatelic Expert for Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria**

**Opinion only:**

10 Paras (perf. 11 ½), issue 1884 of Eastern Rumelia with blue Lion overprint Type I (without frame) according to the Michel catalogue.

Two stamps with genuine overprints. Both stamps belong to a cover from Abrachlare to Plodiv with correct domestic postal rate of 20 Paras. The Lion overprint stamps are cancelled with a genuine blue bar cancellation from Abrachlare. The Abrachlare and the Plovdiv date cancellations (dates: September 21, 1885) are also genuine.

The franking is on the back-side of the cover.

Genuine covers from Abrachlare are extremely rare. This is the second cover with this cancellation that I know. The Abrachlare cancellation was faked in former times and many dozen of bogus covers exist.

The cover is in perfect condition. A wonderful reference piece, one of the big rarities of South Bulgaria!!



back side



part of fronts.

January 16, 2005

*[Handwritten signature]*



# ΑΪΤΟΣ (ISLIMIYE)



Postal stationery with Perf. 11.5 10 Paras overprinted open lion overprint Type 1 in blue ink. It was sent from Aytos September 25, 1885 to Sofia September 28, 1885, through Tatar Pazarcik September 27, 1885. After revolution domestic rates became valid for Bulgaria. The 10 Paras is therefore a correct rate for this postcard. Both the stamps and all cancels are genuine. Only very few genuine mail from Aytos exists. Therefore **(VERY RARE)** (Ex. T. Hitzler).



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## KIZUL-AGATCHE (KIZIL AĞAÇ)



This is a postal stationery with 10 Paras of 1881 issue. It was sent from Kizul Agatche February 9, 1884 to Haskeyu (nor receiving cancel). This is the correct rate for postcards sent inland.



# CORINPHILA AUKTIONEN AG

CORPORATION INTERNATIONALE



Wiesenstrasse 8  
CH-8034 Zürich  
Tel +41-(0)44-389 91 91

4150

Los/Lot \_\_\_\_\_



1610200133 L

Bulgarien

Los **4150**

SP: 250

Michel: 19/IIAb Brief

Lion overprint in black on 1 pi. black  
on pale blue, perf. 13½, Type II, single  
example used on 1885 cover from Pechtera  
to Plovdiv tied by PECHTERA datestamp  
(21/IX) in blue (Pechtera never used the  
circular twelve bar grid cancellation), ...

Käufer/Buyer \_\_\_\_\_

318

Zuschlag/Hammer price \_\_\_\_\_

600



# Lost Ottoman Territories

CAVACLI  
HADJI ELLE HAKIKOUY

Mi-13  
CAENABAT

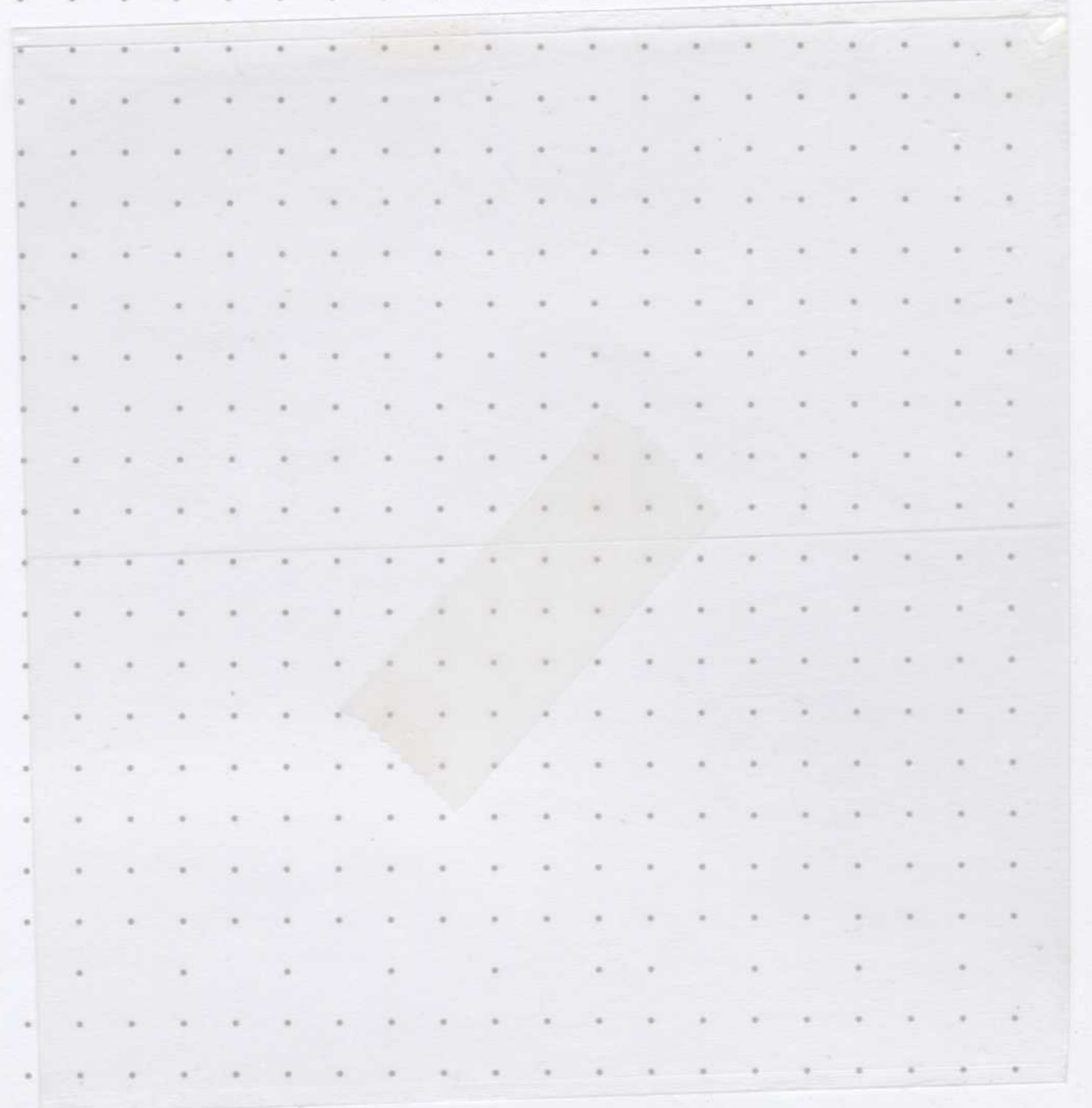
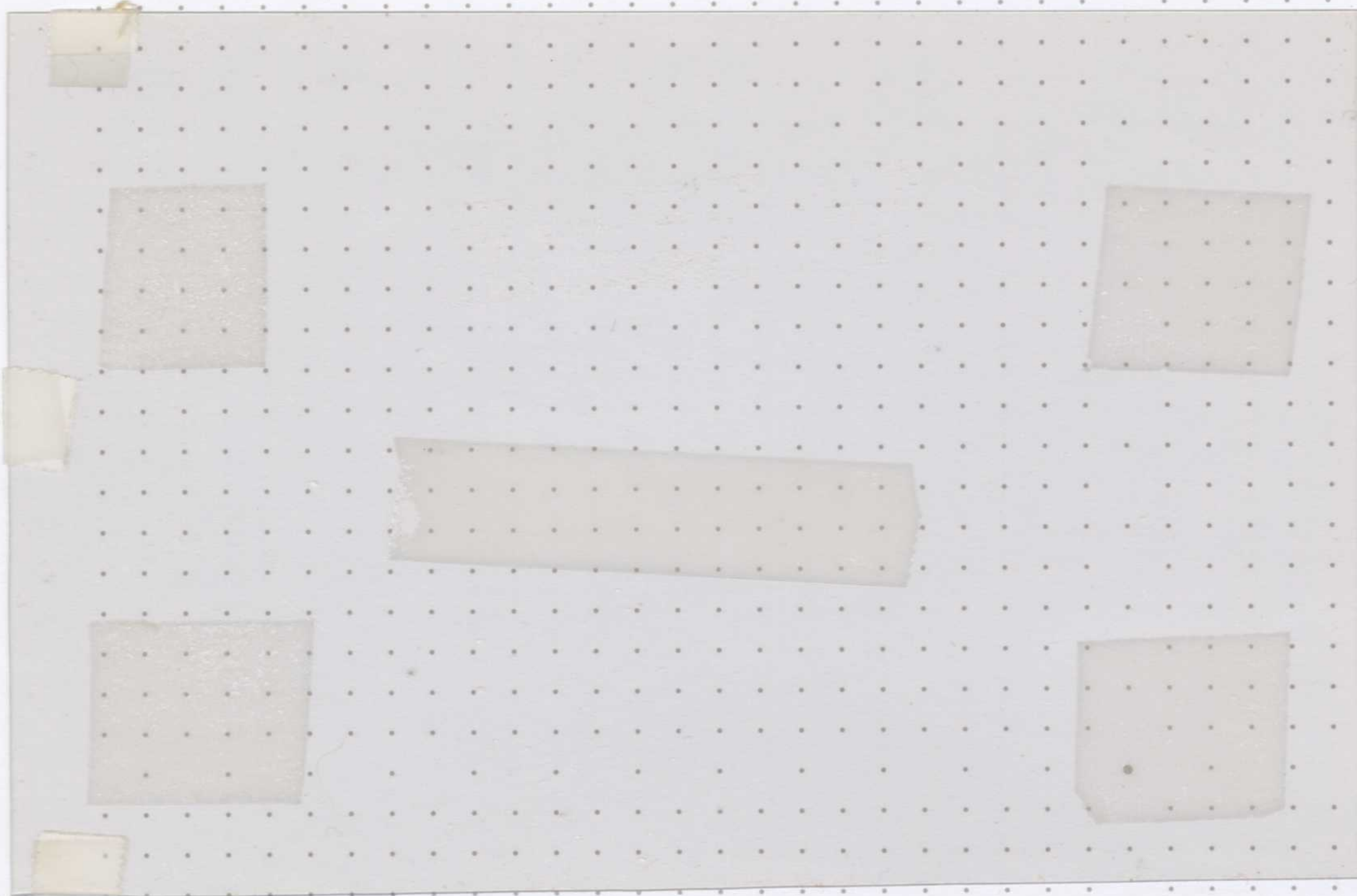


Издане в. Селшиу  
ЕГВУ 1833

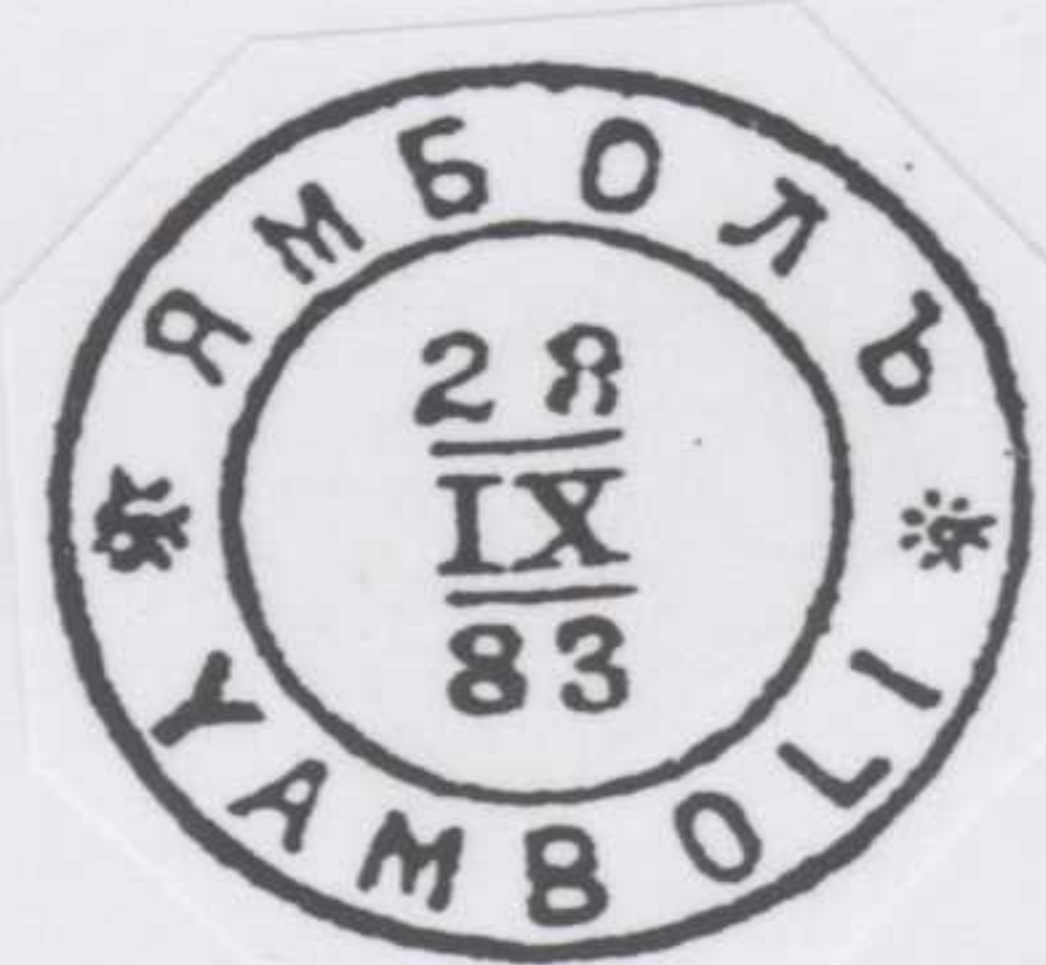


# Lost Ottoman Territories

**ISLIMIYE**  
**(СЛИВЕНЪ - SLIVNO)**  
 OFFICE OPEN 1868,  
 DURING OTTOMAN EMPIRE



A large part of a registered letter mailed from Slivno (cancel on reverse) on December 11, 1881 with four copies of 1881 issue 20 Paras (total of 2 Piastres). It passed through Yambolu December 16, reaching Yeni Djami / Istanbul December 26, 1881. The postage rate is correct for a registered letter abroad.



First day this cancel used is unknown    First day this cancel used is unknown    Constantinople Bayindir # 185





# Lost Ottoman Territories

**FILIBE (PLOVDIV)**  
**(ПЛОВДИВЪ - PHILIPPOPLE)**  
POST OFFICE OPEN IN 1840,  
DURING OTTOMAN EMPIRE



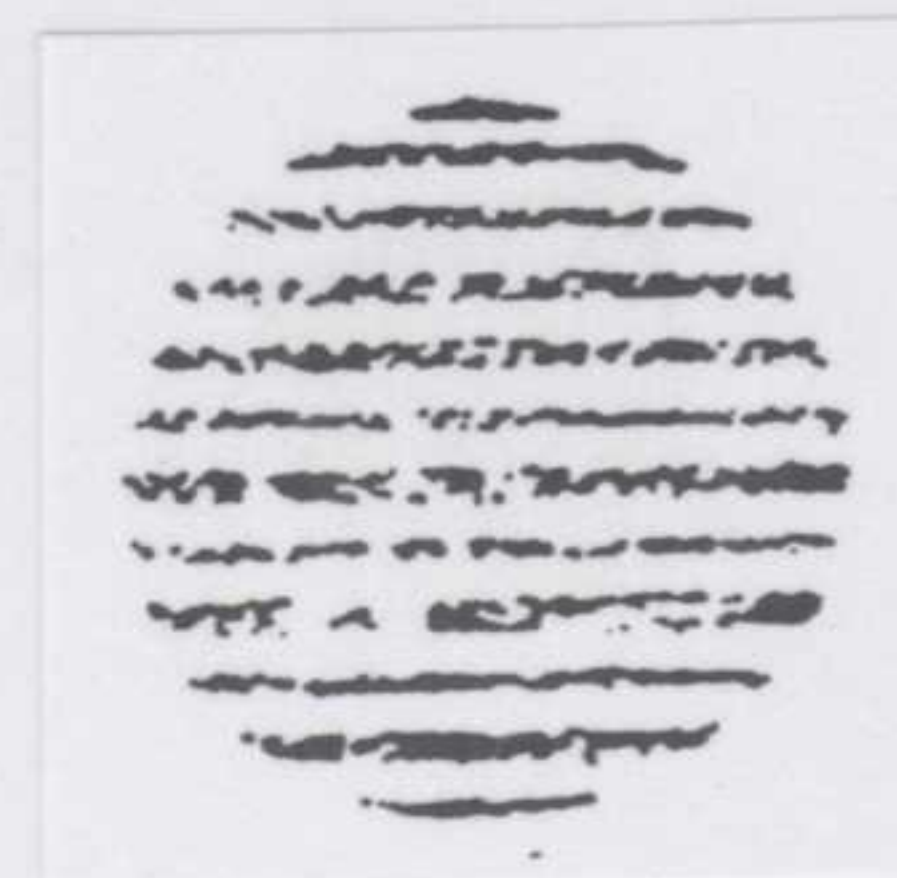
A letter with 20 Paras 1881 issue stamp sent from Filibe (Plovdiv) on December 1, 1882 to Yeni Pazar (Nova Zagora, the cancel is on reverse side) reaching its destination the same day. Both towns are in Eastern Roumelia. Rate is correct for inland mail.



First day this cancel used is unknown



First day this cancel used is unknown



Mute cancel with 12 bars



4167







До Филиппъ Павловичу

подпоручику

Балканския Корпуса

IV<sup>та</sup> Дружина 3<sup>та</sup> Рота

Во Пиротъ



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## T. P. O. (ROUMELIE ORIENTALE DU TRAIN)



2

An official postal form with 20 Paras of 1881 issue is shown. It was sent from Yamboli, to Sofia through Eastern Roumelia Traveling Post Office. This cancel in all Latin characters was used for international mail and it is dated December 25, 1884. The 20 Paras postal rate is correct. Only few covers with this cancel are known. **(Ex. T. Hitzler) (VERY RARE).**



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## MAIL WITH BILINGUAL TOWN CANCELS

During the existence of Eastern Roumelia 26 and during that of South Bulgaria an additional six, altogether 32 new post offices were established. Bilingual cancels Cyrillic on top and Latin at the bottom was used in these post offices. They were used after the middle of 1881. At the same time, mute obliterations with bars were applied on stamps to prevent their re-usage. The mail shown is in alphabetical order with Bulgarian name of town on top and Turkish name underneath in brackets.

### АХИЕЛО (AHYOLU)

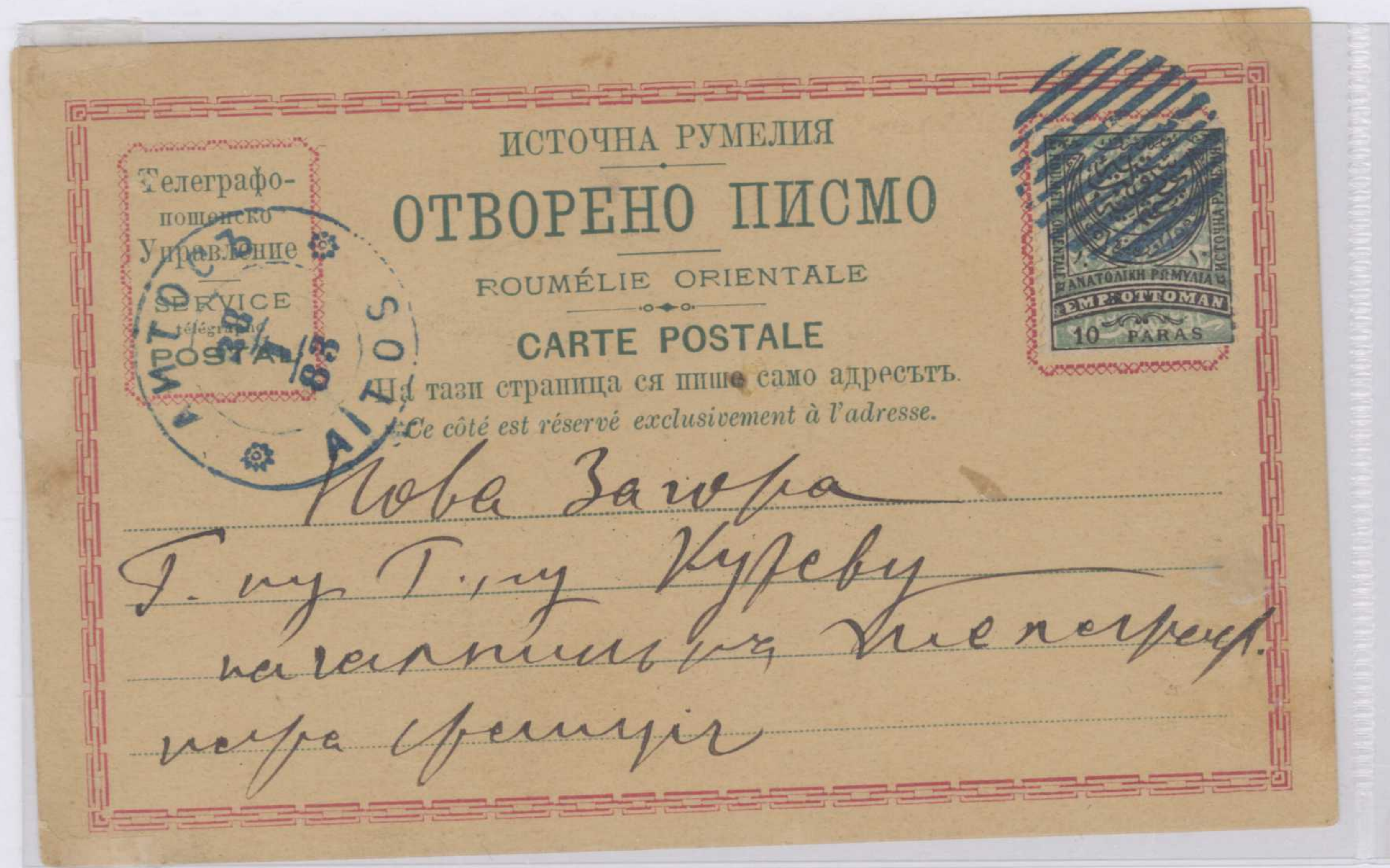


A postal stationery with 10 Paras 1881 issue is shown. It was sent from Ahielo on January 9, 1882 to Bourgas. The 10 Paras was the correct rate for cards sent inland.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## ΑΙΤΟΣ (AYDOS)



A postal stationery with 10 Paras 1881 issue is shown. It was sent from Aitos on January 28, 1883 to Nova Zagora. The 10 Paras was the correct rate for cards sent inland.



Lost Ottoman Territories

№ 2/26

742

До Зна Околийски стхуръ

RETOUR

Во 1. Кавакли.

70



Отъ Централногo Друже. Св. Николаево

PLOVDIV

(ПЛОВДИВЪ/  
PHILLIPPOPLE)

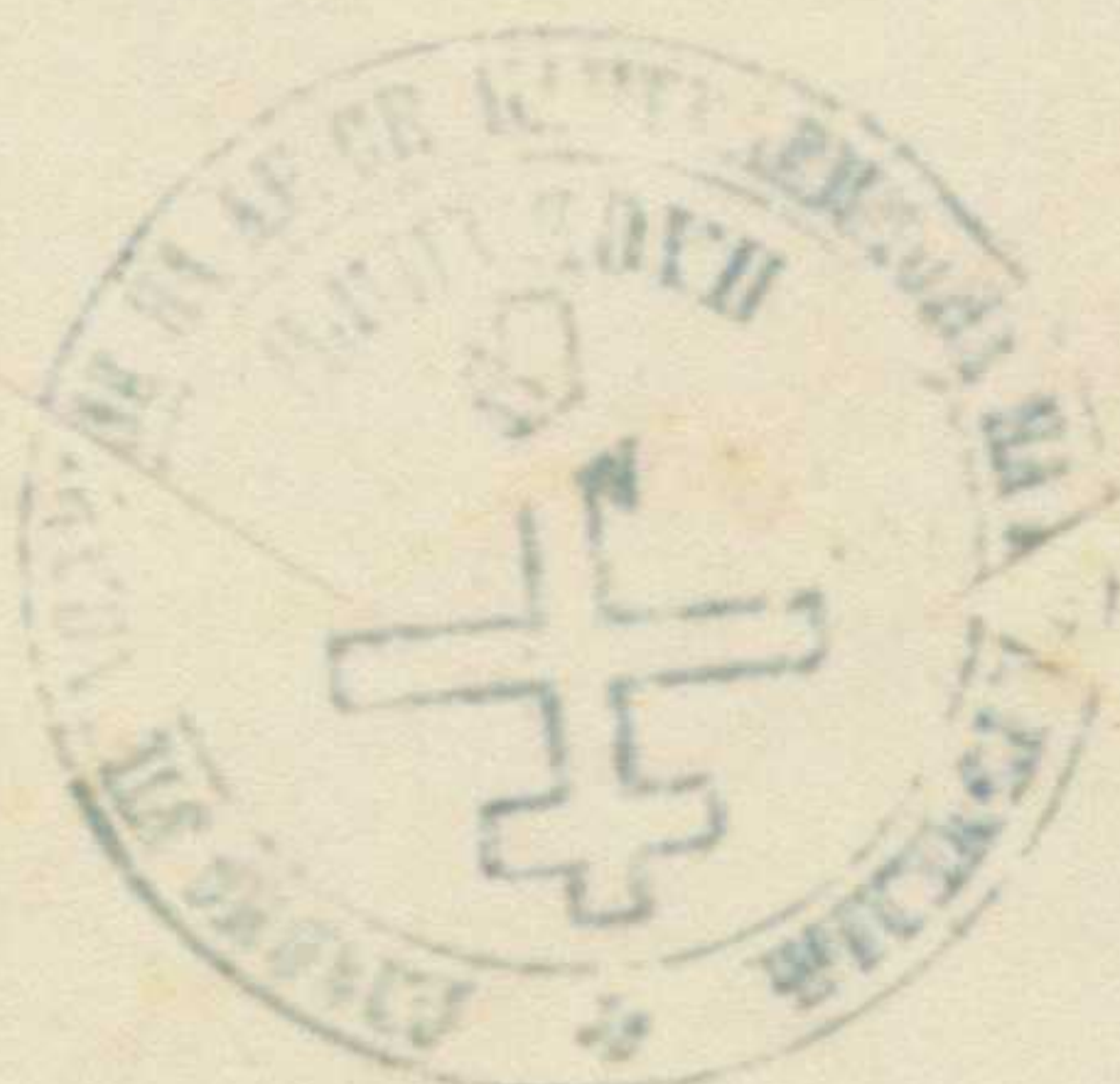
Stampless church mail from Filibe September 11, 1885 to Kavakli September 13, 1885. The addressee was not found and the mail was returned back to Filibe September 23, 1885. The enclosure requests relief efforts to be organized for a war. Obviously a war with Turkey, who refused to recognize Southern Bulgaria, was expected. An important historical document.



ПЛОВДИВЪ/  
PHILLIPPOPLE

SCAN OF THE TOP HALF OF THE REVERSE SIDE OF THE ENVELOPE

Адреса отъ тѣлѣ еста отъ града ни и неизвѣстна  
за 1906 е назначено — заминала  
станица Кавакли



КАВАКЛИ/  
CAVACLI



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## PLOVDIV (FILIBE)



This is envelope franked with 5 Paras of 1884 issue. It was mailed in Plovdiv through the local post (triangular Plovdiv cancel) on September 5, 1885 only few days before the South Bulgaria stamps were issued. The 5 Paras is the correct local post rate.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

ZAGRE-I ATIK  
(СТАРА-ЗАГОРА  
STARA-ZAGORA)  
OFFICE OPEN 1862  
DURING OTTOMAN EMPIRE



A postcard with two copies of 1881 issue 5 Paras stamp mailed from Zagre-i Atik (Stara Zagora) on December 31, 1883 to Hasköy (Haskovo) (no back stamp). Both towns are in Eastern Roumelia and the postal rate is correct for inland postage of a card.



The first day this cancel  
used is unknown



Mute cancel  
with 12 bars



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## TATAR PAZARDGIK (TATAR PAZARI)



This is a postal stationery with two copies of 10 Paras of 1884 issue. It was sent from Tatar Pazardgik June 22, 1885 (date slug is inverted). It reached its destination Sofia June 23, 1885. This is a correct rate for postcards sent outside.



*Lost Ottoman Territories*

MILITIA TO ROUMELIAN  
TRAVELLING OFFICE  
(ЖАНДАРМЕРИЯ НА ИСТОЧНА РУМЕЛИЯ)

A bill with details of expenditure shown on reverse side with a year date 1883.  
The Militia responsible for the Traveling Office prepared it; and it has no stamps.

of Circ. Sec. M.

ЖАНДАРМЕРИЯ НА ИСТОЧНА РУМЕЛИЯ

№ 713

до Г-на Председателя на Сани-

тарний Советъ

Отъ Щабъ на Жанитармерию на

Г. Пловдивъ

Traveling PO  
cover front  
no stamps

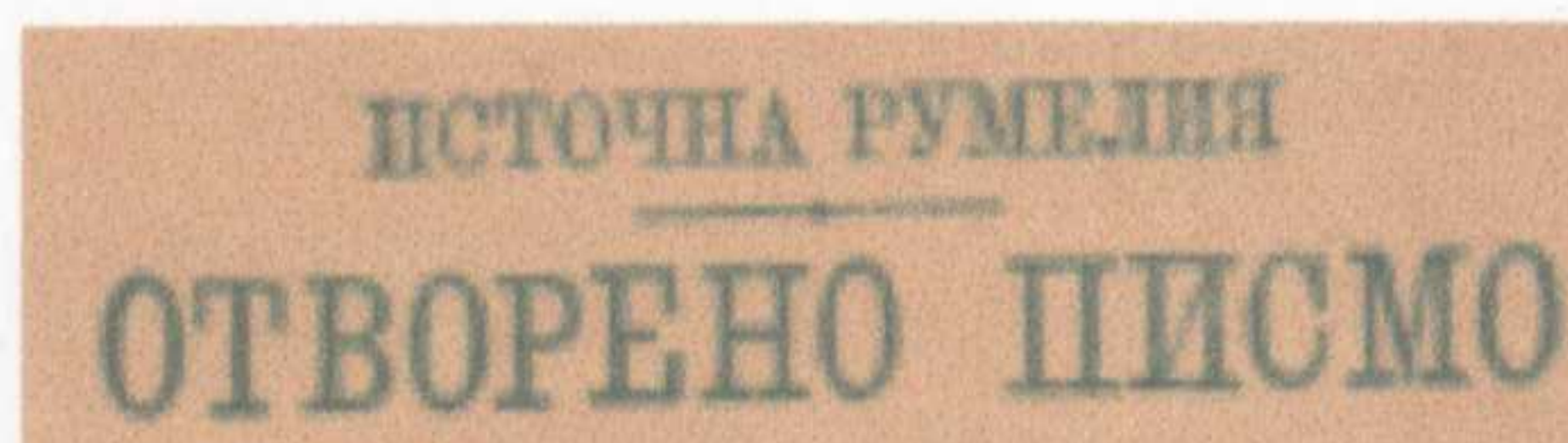
99



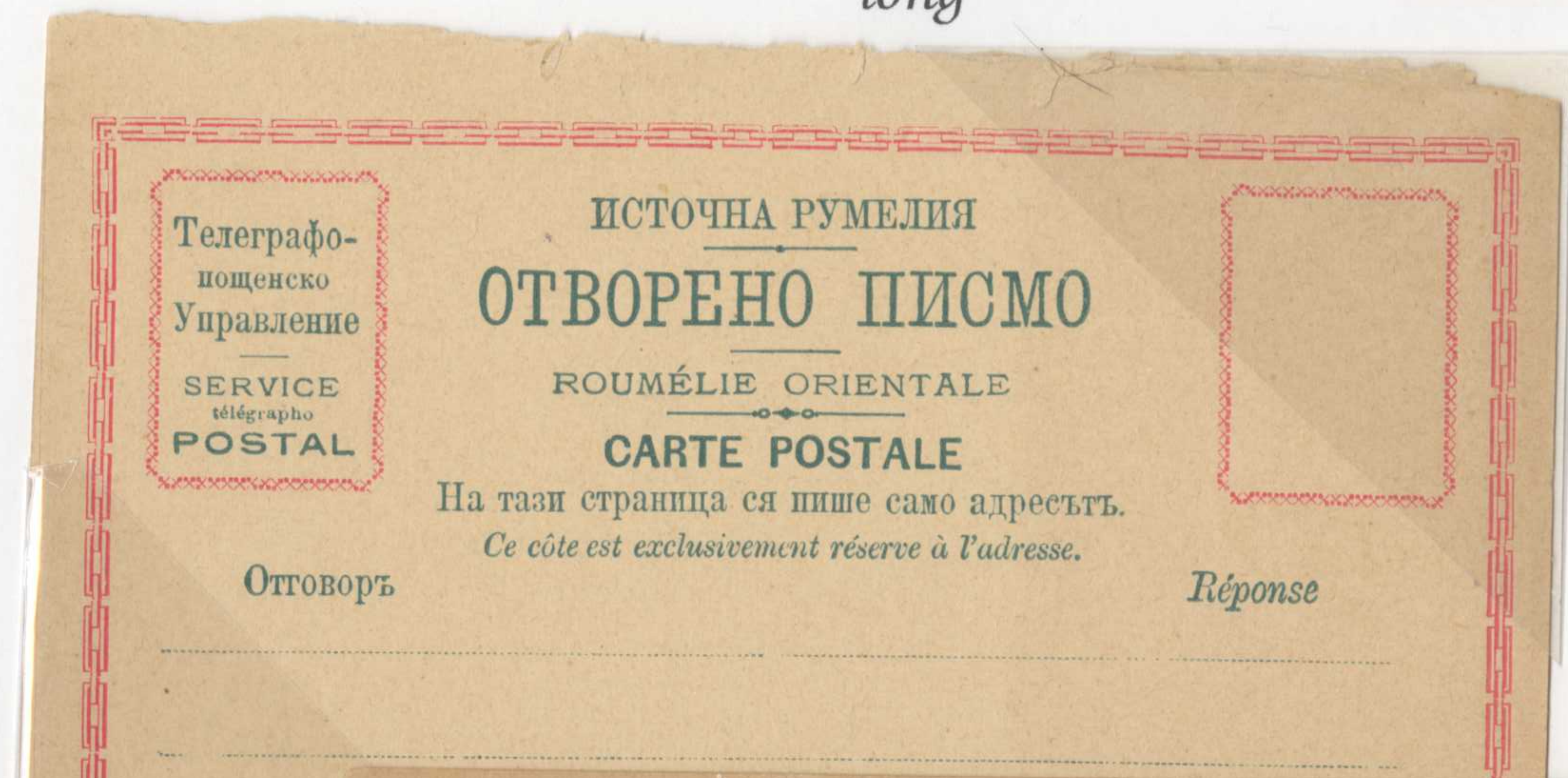
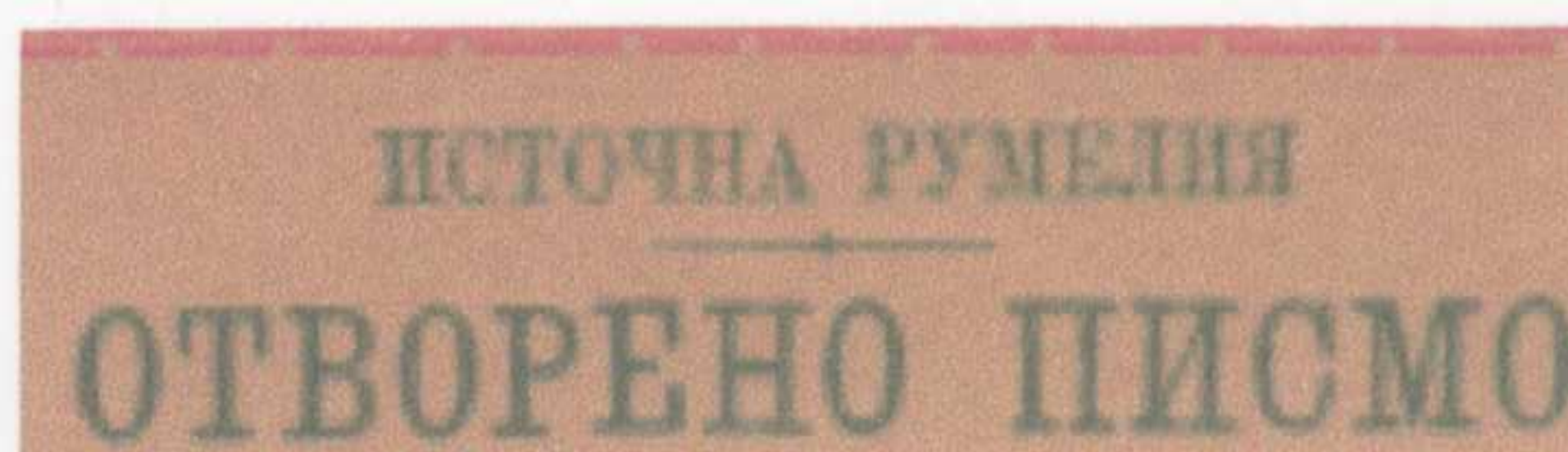
# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria The Formula Basic Cards - Types

All regular issued cards are formula cards, with regular postage stamps added by the Post Office. The formula cards come in two types from an assumed single plate.

Type 1: "H" over right side of "B" & 2nd line 54mm long



Type 2: "H" over "O" & 2nd line & 2nd line 57mm long



Type 1



Type 2



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria 1881 Denominations & Specimens

The denominations issued in 1881 and the following issues were as follows. They were never added to or changed, though all denominations were not released for all issues.

Single Cards		Message/Reply Cards	
5 paras	Black and olive	5 + 5 paras	Black and olive
10 paras	Black and green	10 + 10 paras	Black and green
20 paras	Black and rose	20 + 20 paras	Black and rose

All 3 single cards and the 3 message/reply cards are known with "Specimen" overprint in Cyrillic, the 20 para value is shown below.



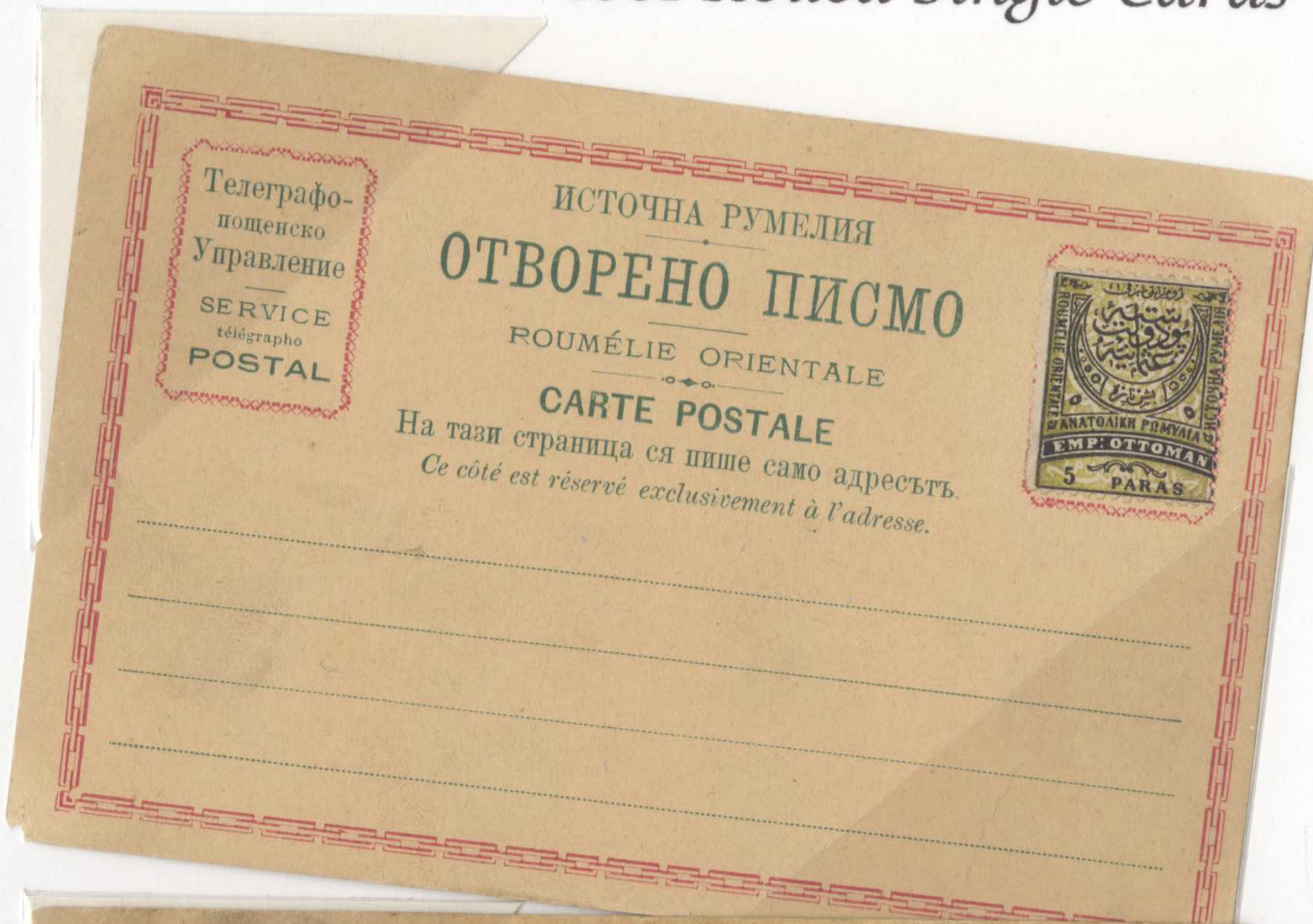
20 para single card with "Specimen" overprint



20 para message/reply card with "Specimen" overprint



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria 1881 Issued Single Cards



5 paras single  
card unused



10 paras single card  
used from Phillippo-  
ple



20 paras single card  
used from Bazardg-  
ik to Vienna and  
returned



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria 1881 Issued Message/Reply Cards



5 paras  
message/reply



10 paras  
message/reply  
unused



20 paras reply, used  
 from Kazanlik  
 \* Very Rare used



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria 1884 Issued Single Cards

In 1884 a new issue of cards in shades of the same color instead of a color and black were issued. Only the 5 paras and 10 paras single cards were regularly issued, but as we will see on the next page there were apparently exceptions and message/reply cards do exist with these stamps. No 20 paras cards have been seen so far.

The regular issued single cards:

5 paras Lilac & pale lilac  
10 paras Green & pale green

5 Paras  
single card,  
unused



10 Paras  
single card,  
used from  
Philippople  
(Plovdiv)



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria 1884 Issued Message/Reply Cards

The 1884 message/reply issue cards that are not supposed to exist, but do.



5 paras reply card with additional 5 paras stamp to make-up the 10 paras intra province rate, used from Stara-Zagora.

\* Very Rare card used

10 paras message reply card, unused





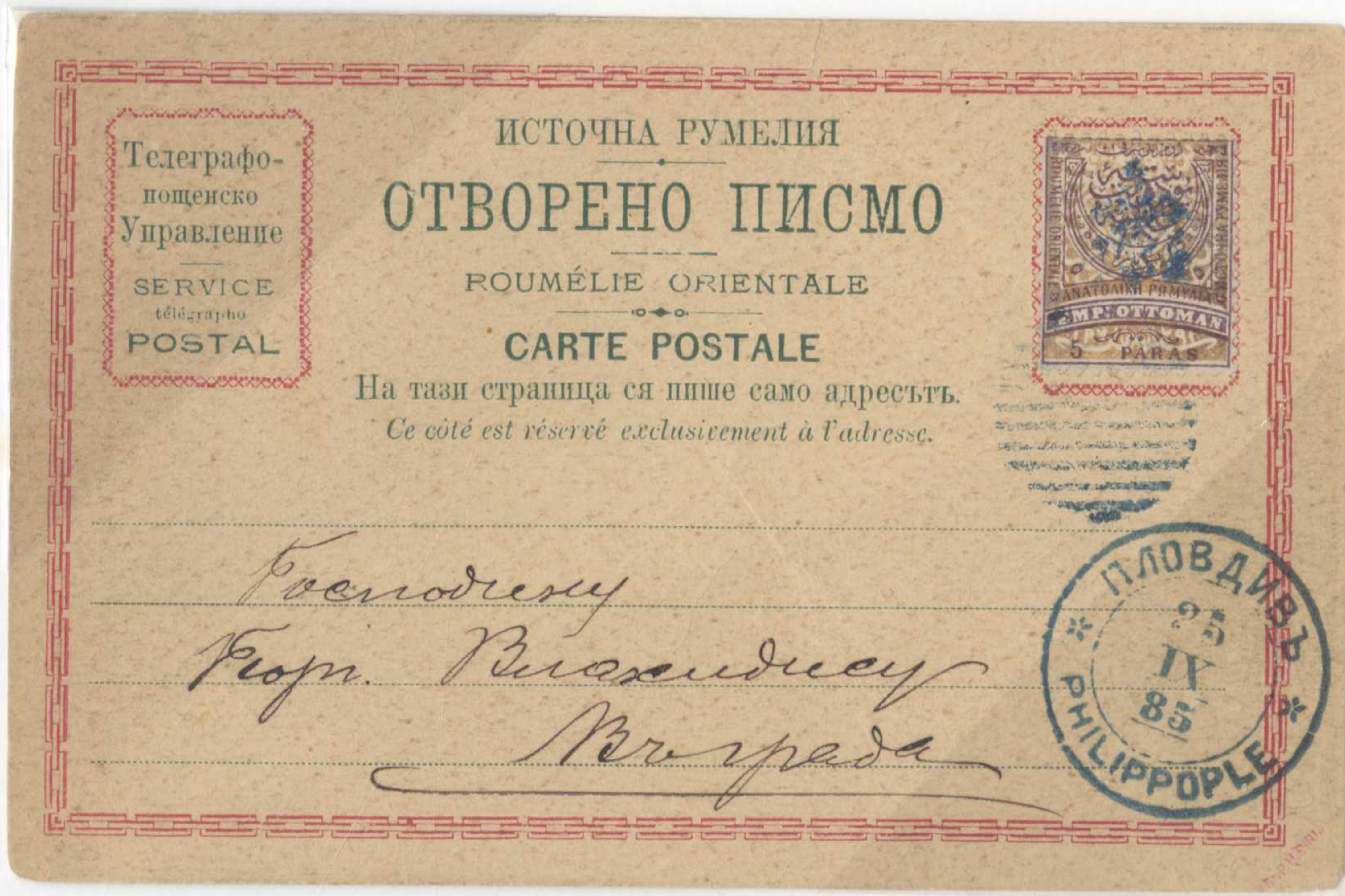
# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria South Bulgaria

South Bulgaria was created by a bloodless revolution in Plovdiv on September 6, 1885 and was successful. It lasted until effectively absorbed by Bulgaria late in September 1885. The first stamps (and I assume postal cards also) with Unframed Lion were issued in Plovdiv on September 9th. and a little later the Framed Lion. Bulgaria convinced the rebels to quite using separate stamps and stationery, as they were afraid Turkey would go to war and they didn't want that. The last official day of use was September 27, 1885. Bulgarian stamps were rushed in and used from then on. A few uses of the South Bulgarian stamps are known after this date, but they are very rare. Thus all South Bulgaria cards (and stamps) were only used for 19 days. All of these cards are completely genuine as, all/most all, are known genuinely and commercially used. During April 1886 the great Powers of the day allowed South Bulgaria to merge with Bulgaria over Turkish objections.

All denominations in both styles both single and message reply were issued.

All used South Bulgaria cards are rare at a minimum.

The first style overprint is an Unframed Lion in both blue & black.



5 paras 1884  
stamp, single  
card with blue  
overprint, used  
from Philippople



Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria  
South Bulgaria

The first style overprint, Unframed Lion



10 paras 1884 stamp, single card with blue overprint, with lion on "Istotchna Rumelja" a trial overprint position by postmaster Micheiloff with genuine Philippople. CDS and fantasy address and message. 00



20 paras 1884 stamp, single card with blue overprint, unused.



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria South Bulgaria

The first style overprint, Unframed Lion

5 paras 1884  
stamp, message/  
reply card with  
black overprint,  
unused.



10 paras 1884  
stamp, message/  
reply card with  
blue overprint,  
unused.



Message card  
used,

\* Very Rare



5 paras 1884 stamp, message/reply card with blue overprint used from  
Philippople.



Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

South Bulgaria

The first style overprint, Unframed Lion

Любезна ми Мамо.  
 Съ нѣтъощетѣ си, наа аа  
 ви и: та и зарава мѣ ле  
 азъ ми 15 деня бѣхъ  
 много болень. нѣ сега за сега  
 азъ съмъ много аобре  
 и сега таиръ малко вре  
 ме ще аа излеза и ще  
 си аамаа у аама  
 поздравѣ стоманъ  
 анка и аава вела.  
 вашъ любезенъ синъ  
 Иванъ Аммовъ.  
 1. октя. Г. Софиа  
 1885 Годинѣ

Телеграфо-  
 пощенско  
 Управление  
 SERVICE  
 télégrapho  
 POSTAL

ИСТОЧНА РУМЕЛИЯ  
 ОТВОРЕНО ПИСМО  
 ROUMÉLIE ORIENTALE  
 CARTE POSTALE

На тази страница ся пише само адресътъ.  
 Ce côté est exclusivement réservé à l'adresse.

20 PARAS

Иванъ Аммовъ  
 Александровска Годиница  
 Въ Г. Софиа

Друга та карта  
 служи за отговоръ.  
 (La carte ci-jointe est destinée  
 à la réponse.)

Pisa

20 paras 1881 stamp, message/reply with blue (trial) overprint used from Panagyurishte to Russia and with reply returned, used on October 3, 1885.

Extremely rare use after September 27, 1885, the official cutoff date for use of Southern Bulgaria stamps.

\* Message with Reply used both ways, Extremely Rare probably unique



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

## South Bulgaria

The second style overprint, Framed Lion

The second style overprint is in 2 types, they were issued 2 days later than the Unframed on September 11, 1885. Both types shown together. They were only overprinted in black.

Type 1 is an "O" in the second letter of the word at top  
Type 2 is an oval "o" in the same position

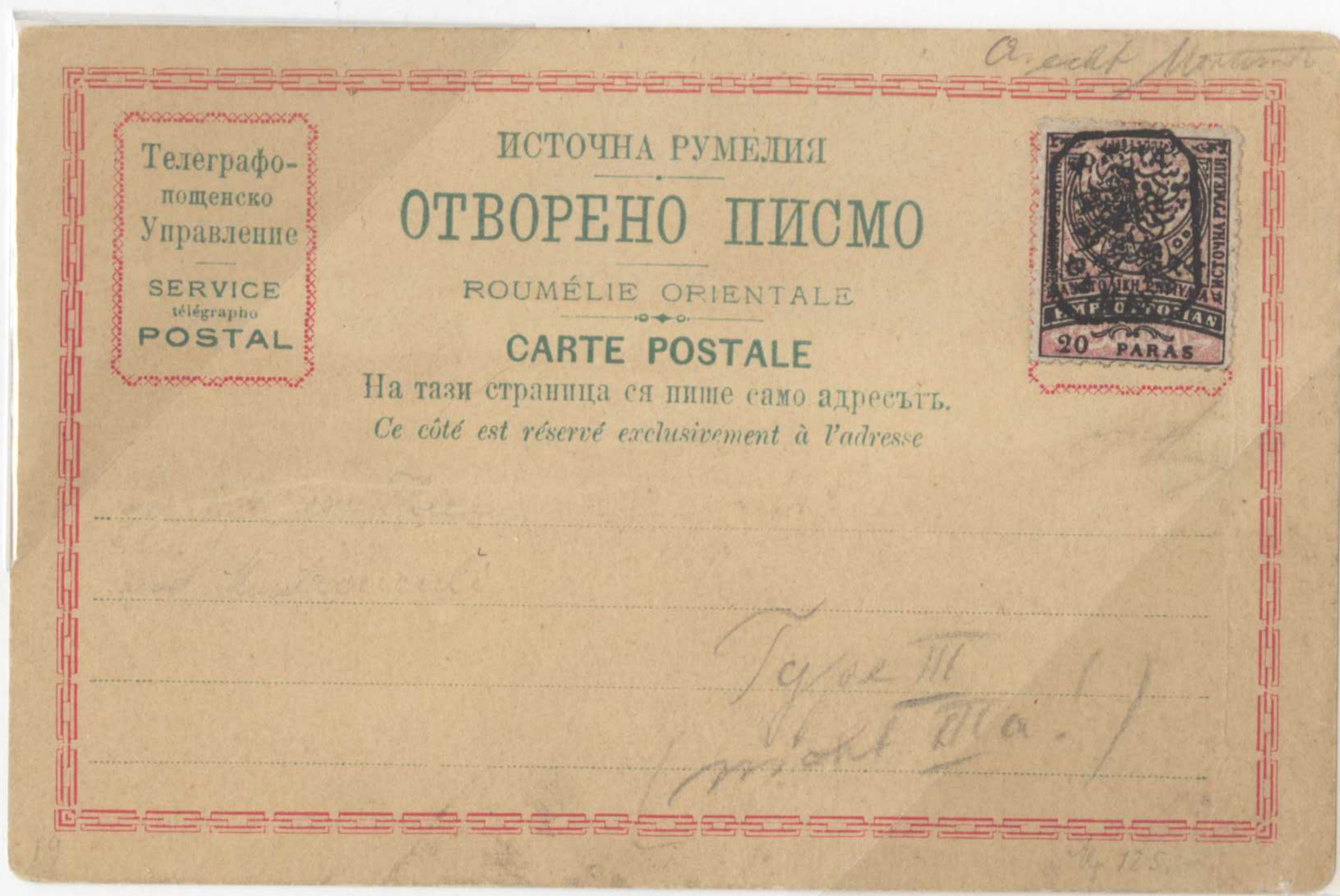
5 paras 1884  
stamp, single  
card, Type 1 "O"  
in 2nd letter of  
word at top  
of overprint,  
unused



10 paras 1884  
stamp, single  
card, Type 1 "O"  
in 2nd letter of  
word at top of  
overprint, with  
rare overprint  
inverted,  
unused



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



20 Paras, Type 3 Ovpt., Unused



Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria  
South Bulgaria  
The second style overprint, Framed Lion

Philippopolis 17 Septembre 1885 an

Mon chère ami!

Venez chez nous ce soir.

Je vous dit quelque chose  
mots

Votre amie

Amalie

ИСТОЧНА РУМЕЛИЯ  
ОТВОРЕНО ПИСМО  
ROUMÉLIE ORIENTALE  
CARTE POSTALE

Телеграфо-  
пощенско  
Управление  
SERVICE  
télégrapho  
POSTAL

На тази страница ся пише само адресът.  
Ce côté est exclusivement réservé à l'adresse.

Отговоръ      Réponse

Mademoiselle  
Amalie Gavronsky  
Philippopolis



5 paras 1884 stamp, message/reply card, Type 1 "O" in 2nd letter of word at top of overprint, used to and from Philippopole on September 17th and 18th, 1885

\* A great rarity used, most likely unique as used, Framed Lions are even rarer than Unframed Lion.



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

During 1877 Russia and Bulgaria fought a war with the Ottoman Empire which they won. They took Southern Roumelia and much of Eastern Anatolia. The western powers of Great Britain, France, Prussia and Austria were not comfortable leaving Eastern Roumelia to Bulgaria so by the Treaty of Berlin of July 18, 1878 it was to become an independent province under the suzerainty of The Ottomans.

The Russians continued to occupy the area until May 18, 1879 when they turned the government over to the East Rumlensians.

The First Stamp of Eastern Rumelia were issued in late December, 1880 or January 1881. The "RO" overprints were used for about 2 months.

Particularly rare items will be marked with a red star (\*)



A Turkish postcard of Bulgaria. The yellow is Bulgaria and the pink is Eastern Rumelia. Note the card shows Eastern Bulgaria and the mileage indicator on the pink Eastern Rumelia.



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



Russian military mail during war with Turkey, sent on July 28, 1877, from (in Russian) "ПОЛЪВОЖЕ ПОШТА ОТДЕЛЕНІЕ (1)" to St. Petersburg.



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

## A couple of unusual cards



\* 5 paras 1884 stamp, Unframed Lion overprint and additional 5 paras 1884 stamp with Framed Lion Type 1 with inverted overprint used together, used from Philippople.

Only a few Framed and Unframed combination items

\* 20 paras 1884 stamp with 2 Unframed Lions, one in black the other in blue and used correctly to Bulgaria, used from Seymen.

Very Rare, if not unique.





# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

## Cancel Types



Mute Killer -  
Circle of 12 Bars

Town Cancel -  
Large Stars



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

## Cancek Types



## Town Cancek - Small Stars



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

## Cancel Types



Straightline "RECOMMANDÉE" on Card



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

## Cancel Types



City Post double lined Triangle with Posthorn in center



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Circular cancels were provided by the Russians in Russian as the first cancels. Used during the Russian Occupation and by the Eastern Rumelian government in the beginning.

"FRANCO" (paid),  
from Carnabat on  
September 12, 1879, to  
Plovdiv, all in blue. \*



"FRANCO" (paid) and  
"RECOMMANDEE",  
from Burgas on May 6,  
1880, to Plovdiv, all in  
blue.



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

The Ottoman government decided that this new district should have there own stamps. Thus the R.O. overprints on Turkish stamps were born. They produced 2 trial overprints:



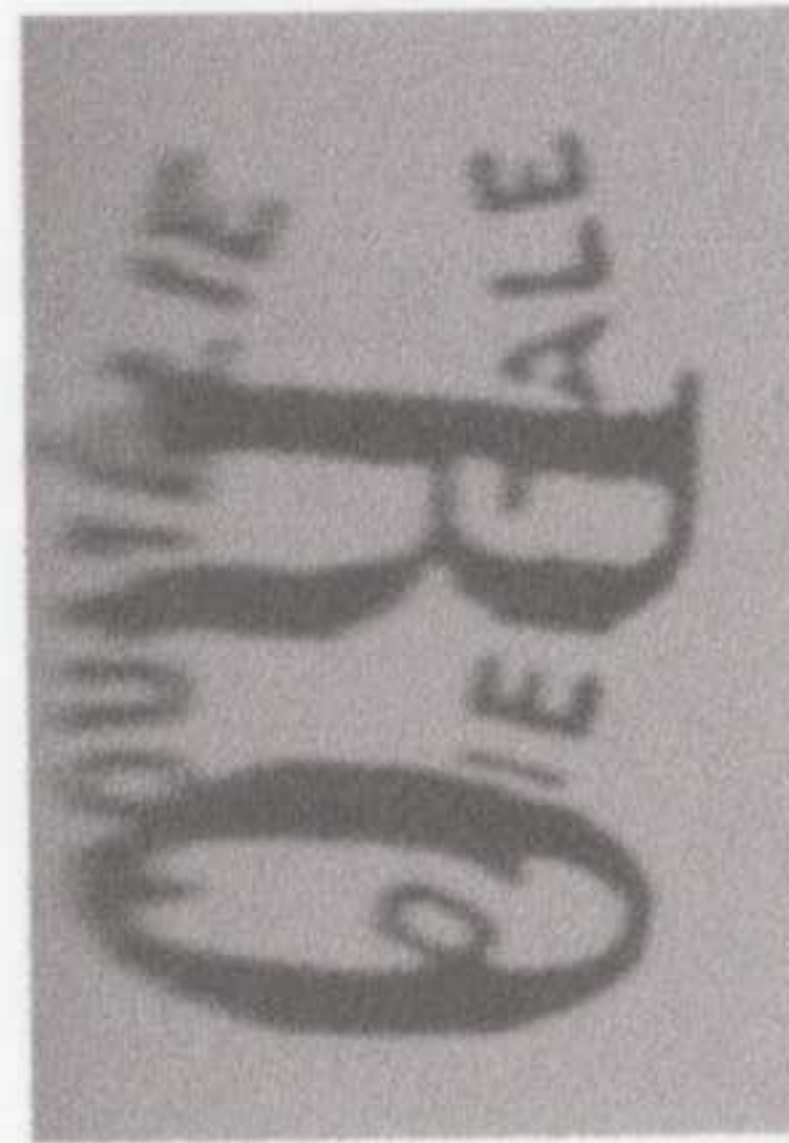
*Trial Type 1*



*Trial Type 2*



*RO Ovpt.*



*RO + Trial  
Type 2*



*Trial Overprint  
On 10 Upright*



*Trial Overprint  
On 10 Inverted*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



Unused 1/2 Piaster surcharged on 20 Para



Used 1/2 Piaster surcharged on 20 Para, with Plovdiv cancel



Strip of 3, middle stamp without surcharge\*



Used strip of 4 of 1/2 Piaster surcharged on 20 Para



used block of 4 of 1/2 Piaster surcharged on 20 Para\*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



A cover with a pair of 1/2 Piaster surcharged on 20 Para cancelled with Russian style cancel of January ?, 1881 to Istanbul. It was delivered by Local Post which required the 1 1/2 Piaaster of Turkish Duloz stamps.\*



86



Tel.: +4989-69737176

e-mail: Hitzlers@t-online.de

**Philatelic Expert for Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria**

**Opinion only:**

1/2 Piastre, issue 1876/7 of Turkey, so-called "Duloz" type, with blue handstamp overprint "R.O."

Pair on a cover from Plovdiv to Constantinople. Stamps are cancelled with blue date cancellation "Plovdiv ....(?) January 1881."

Stamps, overprints and cancellations are genuine. Correct foreign rate of 1 Piastre. On the backside Turkish stamps for the efforts of the Istanbul city mail. An extremely rare and nice cover! Regarding rarity a damage of the right RO-stamp should be accepted!

Only a few covers with RO-stamps are known!

*Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten signature*



Feb. 12, 2003

*Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten signature*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



*Unused & used  
pairs of "RO"  
Overprint on 20  
Para Turkish*



*Used "RO" Over-  
print on 20 Para  
Turkish Duloz  
stamp*



*Inverted Overprint*



*A vertical pair of "RO" overprint on 20 Para Turkish Duloz stamps on cover from Plovdiv on June 21, 1881 with bilingual "Philippople" cancel and the "Ambulatory Easter Roumelia Train Service #1" to Yamboli with its bilingual receiving cancel*





Tel.: +4989-69737176

e-mail: [Hitzlers@t-online.de](mailto:Hitzlers@t-online.de)

**Philatelic Expert for Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria**

067

**Opinion only:**

20 Paras, issue 1876 of Turkey, so-called "Empire" type, with blue handstamp overprint "R.O."

Vertical pair on back of cover from Plovdiv to Yambol. Transport of the cover was done with train No. 1 of the Eastern Rumelian railway (cancellation on the front of the cover with date 21/VI/81).

Date of Plovdiv cancellation: 21/VI/81.

Cover with genuine railway and date cancellations. Maybe correct double domestic rate of 1 Piastre, but most probably one stamp is missing on the back. It does not seem to be cover of double weight! Many domestic covers and some foreign covers to Turkey of 1881 bear the old Turkish franking of 60 Paras, so one single stamp of 20 Paras is missing on the back. Regarding rarity of genuine "R.O." covers the missing stamp should be accepted.

A very nice cover which proves that the "R.O." overprint stamps were also used after the issue of the first regular stamps ("Empire" type) of Eastern Rumelia.



April 10, 2004

.....  
*[Handwritten signature]*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



Unused & used "RO" on 2 Piaster Turkish Duloz stamps



Pair of "RO" on 2 Piaster Turkish Duloz stamp, one INVERTED\*



Unused & used\* "RO" on 5 Piaster Turkish Duloz stamps



Unused "RO" and arched "ROUMELIE ORIENTALE" on 10 Paras Turkish Duloz stamp



Same 10 Paras "RO" stamp with Inverted "ROUMELIE ORIENTALE" overprints, unused



Same 10 Paras stamp in a block of 4



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

*The 1881 issue was issued in a perforation of 13 1/2. In the remainder was found a few in perforation 11 1/2, the basic perforation of the next issue of 1884.*



*5 Paras*



*20 Paras*



*1 Piaster*



*5 Piaster  
Very Scarce*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

The first regular issue is referred to as the 1881 issue but was actually issued during December 1880. This has been proven by covers with December 1880 dates. The stamps closely resemble the Turkish issue except they say Eastern Rumelia in 5 languages. This issue is not plentiful mint but common used except for the top denomination, the 5 Piaster. There are several different sets of Essays and Proofs, most will be shown.



5 Paras



10 Paras



20 Paras



1 Piaster



5 Piasters



Used block of 4 of the 5 Paras



Used block of 4 of the 10 Paras



Block of 6 of the 5 Piaster



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

## A group of Rarities



10 Paras bisect on piece



1 Piaster COLOR ERROR, black & OLIVE, the background color of the 5 Paras\*



Strip of 3 of 20 Paras with 10 PARAS in plate of 20 Paras and middle stamp here



Turkish 1 Piaster strip of 3 with an Eastern Rumelia 1 Piaster in plate and middle stamp here



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



*Thin paper*



*Specimen Type 1*



*Specimen Type 2*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

1884 Issue, colors are now the same throught the stamp (black removed), same donominations as 1881 issue. Perf 11 1/2 is now the normal perf.



5 Paras,  
Unused, Block  
of 4



10 Paras,  
Unused, Block  
of 4



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



5 Paras, Black & Olive, a block of 40, a large block for this denomination



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



1881 Essays with Black background and overprint in issued colors



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



1881 Essays with Black background and overprint in issued colors, except for the 5 Piaster, it is a Trial Color



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

On September 6, 1885, There was a bloodless revolution in Plovdiv that received immediate support from the entire region of Eastern Rumelia. They renamed the country South Bulgaria and was there intension to merge with Bulgaria.

All the stamps in Plovdiv were immediately overprinted with the 3 toed (Type 2) and 4 toed (Type 1) unframed bears and issued in Plovdiv on September 9th and the rest of the country starting the same day. On September 11th began the overprinting with the framed lions Type 3 and Type 4.

The display with be organized first by Type, then by 1881 or 1884 issue of basic stamps, then by color of overprint, then by perforation lastly..



Type 1  
4 toed



Type 2  
3 toed



Type 3  
round "O"



Type 4  
oval "O"



Block of 12 with trial overprint in RED in upper right and lower left corners, other side has normal Blue Type 2 overprints applied later\*



Passport  
HITZLER IN BOOK

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e-mail: Hitzlers@t-online.de

**Philatelic Expert for Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria**

**Opinion only:**

5 Paras, Eastern Rumelian stamp issued 1884 with Lion overprint type II (without frame) according to Michel catalogue. perf. 13 1/2.

Block of 12.

The first and the last stamp (in the corners) bears a red trial overprint type II. The red overprint was corrected with a second blue overprint. It was printed exactly upon the red overprint. This fact can be recognised by regarding the backside.

The other stamps bear only the blue overprint type II.

Extremely rare, maybe unique multiple!



backside, original size



front, enlarged

February 27, 2003

*[Handwritten signature]*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 1 (4 toed) on 1881 Issue, Black Overprint, Perf. 13 1/2



20 Paras  
Unused



20 Paras  
Used



20 Paras  
Unused  
Inverted  
Ovpt.



20 Paras  
Used  
Inverted  
Ovpt.



1 Piaster  
Unused



1 Piaster  
Used



10 Paras  
Unused  
Inverted  
Ovpt.  
Unlisted  
Denomina-



1 Piaster  
double Ovpt.  
1 Blue & 1 Red



1 Piaster  
Specimen



1 Piaster, Unused, Block of 15



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 1 (4 toed) on 1884 Issue, Blue Overprint, Perf. 11 1/2



5 Paras  
Unused



5 Paras  
Unused  
Inverted  
Ovpt.



5 Paras  
Unused  
Double  
Ovpt.



5 Paras  
Specimen



5 Paras  
Used  
Perf. 13 1/2 X 11 1/2\*



5 Paras, used strip of 3



10 Paras  
Unused



10 Paras  
Used



10 Paras  
Unused  
Double  
Ovpt.



10 Paras  
Specimen



20 Paras  
Unused



20 Paras  
Used



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



5 paras, block of 50 stamp in the 1st row is double overprint





10 Paras, block of 100, largest known block of South Bulgaria overprints-  
double overprint Row 7, stamp 1\*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria



A flimsy cover from Philippople to Sofia, Bulgaria with a pair of the 5 Parass, block of the 10 Parass, and singles of 5 & 20 Paraas and a 1 Piaster for a total of 3 Piasters postage.. This is all the denoinations except for the 5 Piaster which is not known on cover.



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 1 (4 toed) on 1884 Issue, Black Overprint



10 Paras  
Unused  
Perf. 11 1/2



20 Paras  
Unused  
Perf. 11 1/2



20 Paras  
Used  
Perf 11 1/2



5 Paras  
Unused  
Perf 13 1/2



10 Paras, Unused, Perf. 11 1/2, Block of 25



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 1 (4 toed) on 1884 Issue, Black Oveprint-



20 Paras, Unused, Perf. 11 1/2, Block of 25



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 2, 1881 Issue, Blue Overprint



5 Paras  
Unused\*  
unlisted  
probably a  
fake



20 Paras  
Unused



20 Paras  
Used



20 Paras  
Used  
Inverted  
Overprint



1 Piaster  
Unused



1 Piaster  
Used



5 Piasters  
Unused



5 Piasters  
Used\*  
Only known on Piece,  
no covers known



10 Paras, Unused, Block of 6



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 2, 1881 Issue, Black Overprint



1 Piaster  
Unused



1 Piaster  
Used



5 Piaster  
Unused



5 Piaster  
Used on  
piece\*



5 Piaster, Unused, Block of 4, <sup>R</sup>largest multiple known\*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 2 (3 toed), 1884 Issue, Blue Overprint, Perf 11 1/2



5 Paras  
Unused



5 Paras  
Used



5 Paras  
Used  
Red Trial Ovpt.\*



10 Paras  
Unused



10 Paras  
Used



10 Paras  
Unused  
Perf 11 1/2 x 13\*



20 Paras  
Unused



20 Paras  
Used pair



20 Paras  
Specimen



5 Paras, Unused, Block of 8



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 2 (3 toed), 1884 Issue, Blue Overprint, Perf 11 1/2



10 Paras, Unused, Block of 6



20 Paras, Unused, Block of 4



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 2 (3 toed), 1884 Issue, Black Overprint, Perf. 11 1/2



5 Paras  
Unused



5 Paras  
Used pair



5 Paras  
Unused  
Pair of Double Ovpt.



10 Paras  
Unused



10 Paras  
Used



20 Paras  
Unused



20 Paras  
Used



20 Paras  
Specimen



20 Paras  
Unused  
Double Ovpt.



*Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria*  
*Type 2 (3 toed), 1884 Issue, Black Overprint, Perf. 11 1/2*



20 Paras Unused, Block of 74,  
largest block known\*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 3 ("O" at top). 1881 Issue, Perf. 13 1/2



5 Paras  
Used



10 Paras  
Unused



10 Paras  
Used



20 Paras  
Unused



20 Paras  
Used pair



20 Paras  
Pen cancelled  
Unusual



1 Piaster  
Unused



1 Piaster  
Used



5 Piaster  
Unused



5 Piaster  
Used\*



5 Piaster  
Unused  
Blue trial ovpt.



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 3 ("O" at top). 1881 Issue , Perf. 13 1/2



20 Paras, Unused, Block of 4



1 Piaster, unused, Block of 6



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 3 ("O" at top). 1884 Issue, Perf. 11 1/2 & 13 1/2



5 Paras  
Unused  
all normal  
5 Paras  
perf. 13 1/2



5 Paras  
Used



5 Paras  
Unused  
Perf. 11 1/2



5 Paras  
Used  
Perf. 11 1/2



5 Paras  
Unused  
Perf. 11 1/2  
Trial ovpt.  
in Blue



5 Paras  
Used  
Perf 11 1/2  
Trial ovpt.  
in Blue



5 Paras  
Used  
Perf. 11 1/2  
Inverted  
ovpt.



10 Paras  
Unused  
all 10 Paras  
perf. 11 1/2



10 Paras  
Used



10 Paras  
Used  
Inverted  
ovpt.



10 Paras  
Unused  
Trial ovpt. in  
Blue



10 Paras  
Used  
Trial ovpt. in  
Blue



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 3 ("O" at top). 1884 Issue, Perf. 11 1/2 & 13 1/2



20 Paras  
Unused  
Perf. 11 1/2



20 Paras  
Used  
Perf 11 1/2



20 Paras  
Unused  
Perf. 11 1/2  
Inverted ovpt.



20 Paras  
Used  
Blue Trial  
ovpt.,  
perf. 13 1/2



5 Paras, Unused  
Perf. 11 1/2  
Block of 4  
Only 2 blocks known\*



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 3 ("O" at top). 1884 Issue, Perf. 11 1/2 & 13 1/2



Type 3, 5 Paras, Perf. 13 1/2, unused block of 25





10 Paras, Unused, Block of 100 (sheet was 150), largest block from South Bulgaria



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 3 ("O" at top). 1884 Issue, Perf. 11 1/2 & 13



Cover from Plovdiv to Copenhagen, Denmark all are perf. 11 1/2, with a pair of the rare 5 Paras, a 10 Paras and finally a 20 Paras to make up the 40 Paras rate abroad.



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 3 ("O" at top). 1884 Issue , Perf. 11 1/2 & 13



20 Paras, Unused, Block of 15



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 4 ("0" at top), 1881 Issue, Perf. 13 1/2



5 Paras  
Unused



5 Paras  
Used



20 Paras  
Unused



20 Paras  
Used



20 Paras  
Used  
Trial ovpt. in  
Blue



20 Paras  
Used  
Trial ovpt. in  
Red



1 Piaster  
Unused



5 Piaster  
Unused



5 Piaster  
Unused pair\*



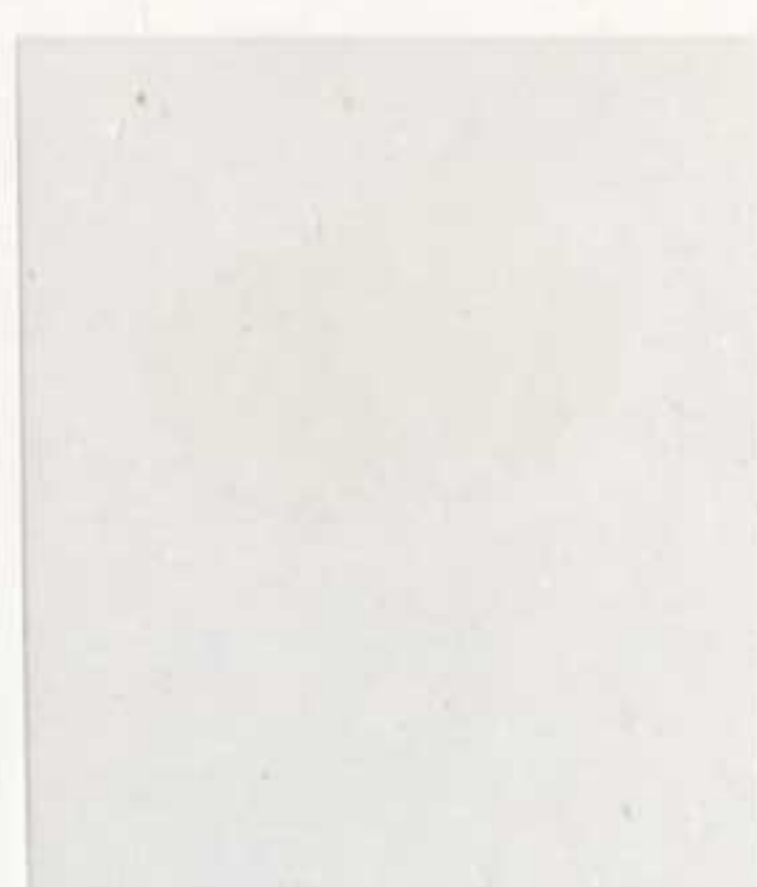
5 Piaster  
Used\*



5 Piaster  
Trial ovpt. in  
Blue



Type IV overprint. In the genuine overprint the lion's crown is solid and the lower left corner of the letter **Д** in **ДЖНА** is often truncated.



On 5 para definitive of 1881.  
An unusual mint stamp, perhaps removed from  
a formula card. Signed Kossack and Bloch.



$P 13 \frac{1}{2} \quad 17 \frac{1}{2} \text{ EA}$

17.5  
25  

---

875  
350  

---

\$437.50

COST  
~~MAV~~  
MAV

On 5 para definitive of 1884.

22/11A  
ess



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 4 (" ") at top), 1881 Issue , Perf. 13 1/2



20 Paras, Unused, Block of 25



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 4 (" " at top), 1884 Issue, Perf. 13 1/2 & 11 1/2



5 Paras  
Unused Perf.  
13 1/2



5 Paras  
Used  
Perf 13 1/2



5 Paras  
Unused  
Perf 13 1/2  
Blue trial  
ovpt



5 Paras  
Unused  
Perf. 11 1/2



10 Paras  
Unused  
Perf. 11 1/2



10 Paras  
Used  
Perf. 11 1/2



20 Paras  
Unused  
Perf. 11 1/2



20 Paras  
Used  
Perf. 11 1/2



20 Paras  
Unused  
Inverted ovpt.



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

Type 4 (" " at top), 1884 Issue, Perf. 13 1/2 & 11 1/2

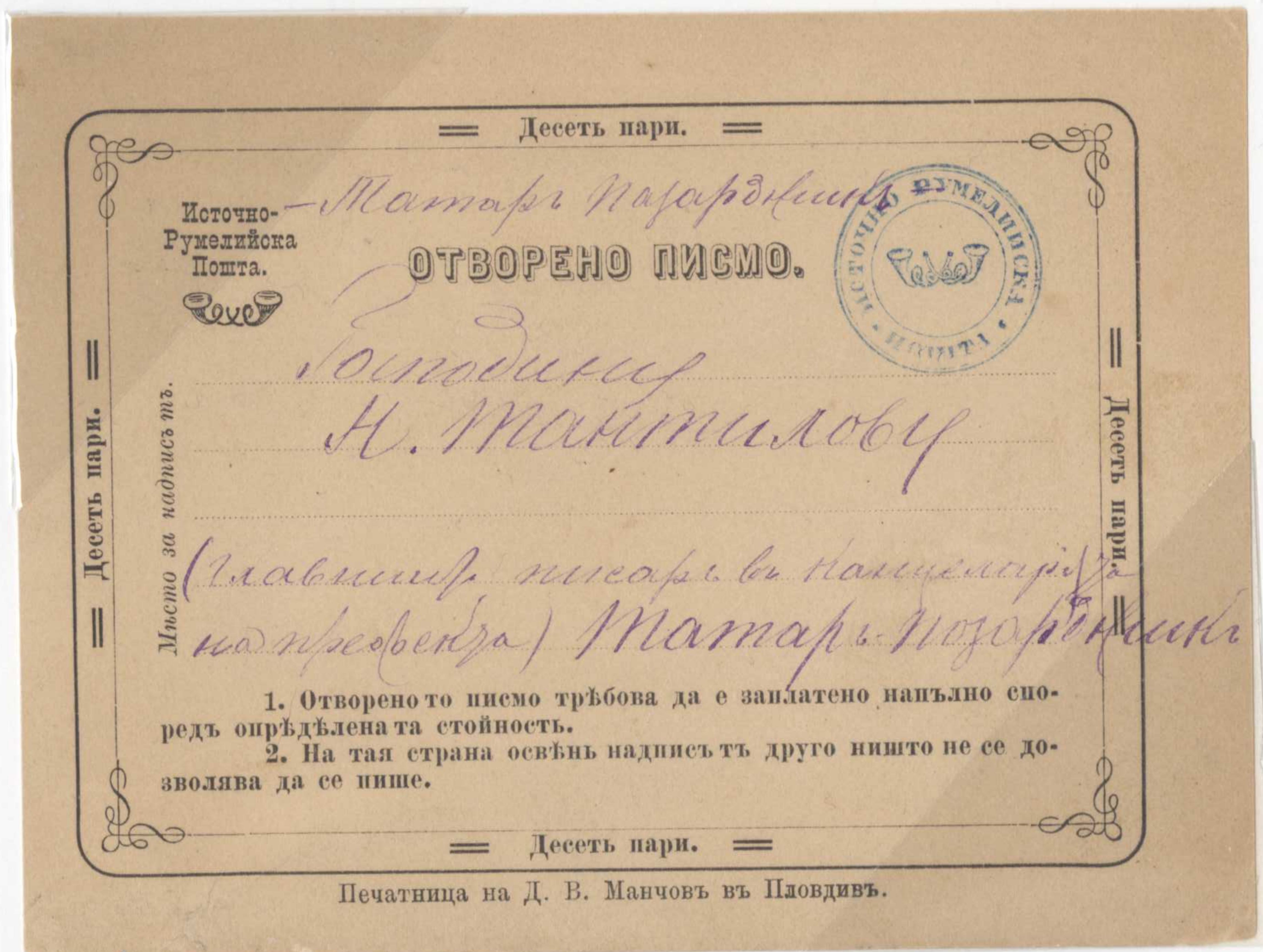


5 Paras, Unused, Perf. 13 1/2, Block of 25



# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria Stationery

Stationery was the first postal issue with the Provisional cards of 1880. The basic card for Eastern Reumelia and South Bulgaria was a formula card without stamps. The stamp were applied at the post office as required. So there is an 1881 and 1884 issue issue cards and all varieties of the South Bulgarian overprints.



Used copy of Provisional Card from T. Pazardjik cancelled with Russian double circle during 1880, only 3 used copies recorded per "Stamps & Postcards of Eastern Rummelia & South Bulgaria 1878-1885" by Spas Panchev and others, 2013\*



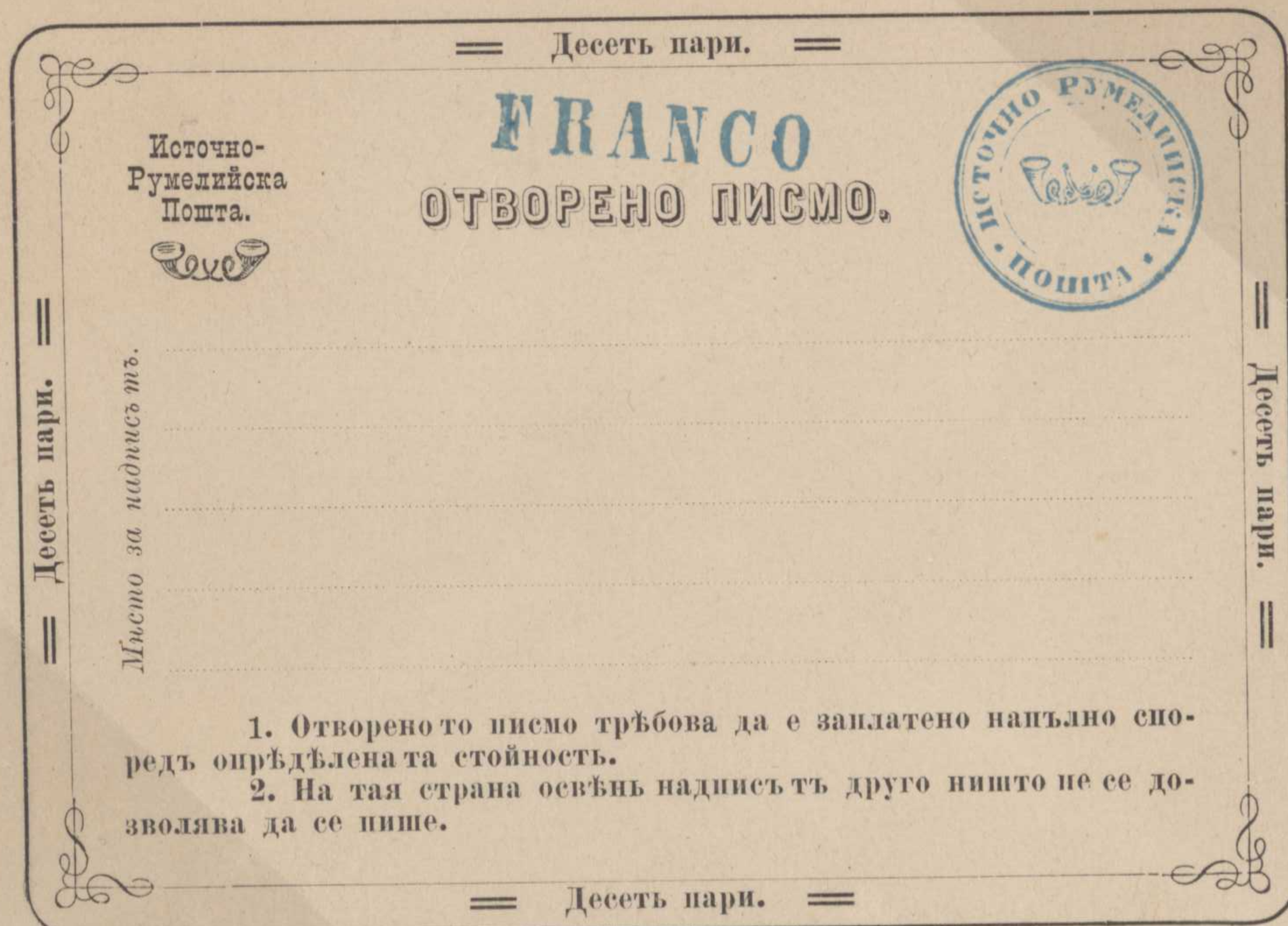
# Eastern Rumelia & South Bulgaria

## The Provisional Card

The first card was printed in black on buff cardstock. It came out 11 months prior to the issuance of stamps or regular postal stationery per a circular dated January 19, 1880 sent to the major post offices in the district. It indicated that they were to charge 15 paras not the 10 paras as printed on each side of the card. This card was not to UPU specifications as it is entirely in Cyrillic and has a blue double circle with a double horn in the center placed at the upper right of the card. This is the only card that had any printing on the back. The card is also known with a "FRANCO" handstamp, normally near the top, that comes in heights of 5mm and 6mm and by lengths of 30mm and 31mm, also on thin and thick papers. Used, both with and without overprinted "FRANCO" copies are known to me.



Normal card,  
unused



"FRANCO"  
5mm high  
31mm length,  
unused

Печатница на Д. В. Манчовъ въ Пловдивъ.



## EARLY MAIL WITH ALL CYRILLIC TOWN CANCELS

The all Cyrillic cancels used on "R.O. mail remained in use after the 1881 issue was released. The earliest encountered on mail with stamps is December 24, 1880 and the latest May 1881. Since they were used for approximately six months, mail with such cancels is scarce. The bilingual Latin / Cyrillic town cancels gradually replaced them in 1881.

### BOURGAS (BURGAZ)



The envelope shown is mailed from Bourgas on December 24, 1880 with eight copies of 5 Paras of 1881 issue. The all Cyrillic Bourgas cancels are on reverse and on front. This is a very early date for usage of 1881 stamps. It was sent to Istanbul where it was received on December 27, 1880 (cancel on reverse). The rate of  $8 \times 5 = 40$  Paras is correct for foreign postage. In Istanbul it was distributed by the City Post as indicated by the Baghtche Kapusu cancel on reverse on the 1 Piastre stamp of 1881 issue Empire stamp applied. **(VERY RARE)**



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## CLISOURA (CARLOBA) (KILISURA - KARLOVA)

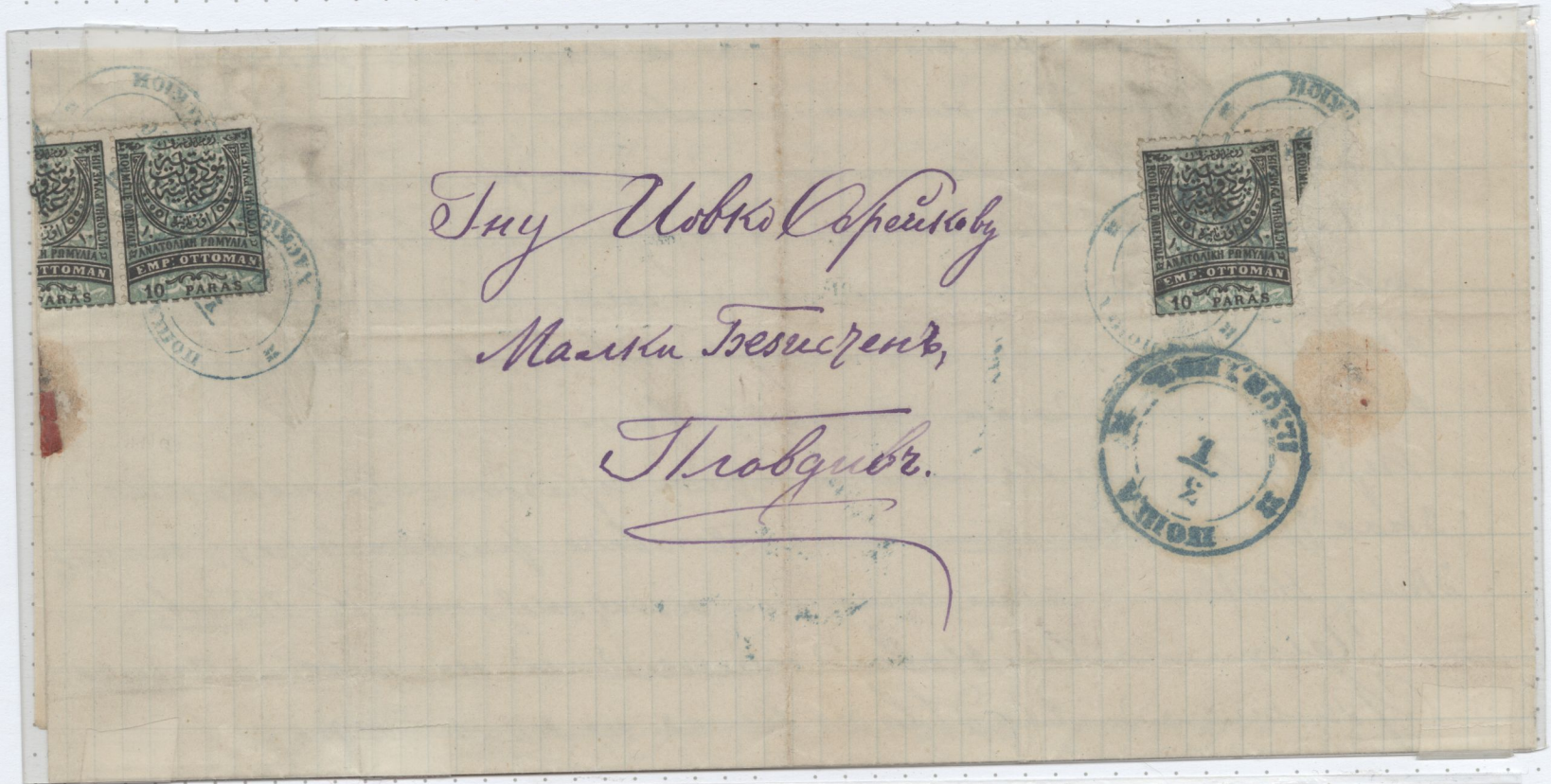


This is a folded envelope with two copies of 1881 issue 10 Paras stamp sent from Clisoura. At the time the Clisoura cancel was not available, it went to nearby Carloba on March 18, 1881. It reached Plovdiv, its destination, March 20, 1881. The 20 Paras is correct rate for internal mail. The stamps were pen cancelled in Clisoura by a cross to prevent re-usage. The barred mute obliterations commonly used in all Eastern Roumelia P.O.'s became available later **(RARE)**



# Lost Ottoman Territories

**НАСКЮЙ**  
 (ПОЩА / ХАСКЮИ)  
 OFFICE OPEN 1868  
 DURING OTTOMAN EMPIRE



ПОЩА ПЛОВДИВЪ  
 POSHTA PLOVDIV  
 All Cyrillic- Type  
 Eastern Roumelia



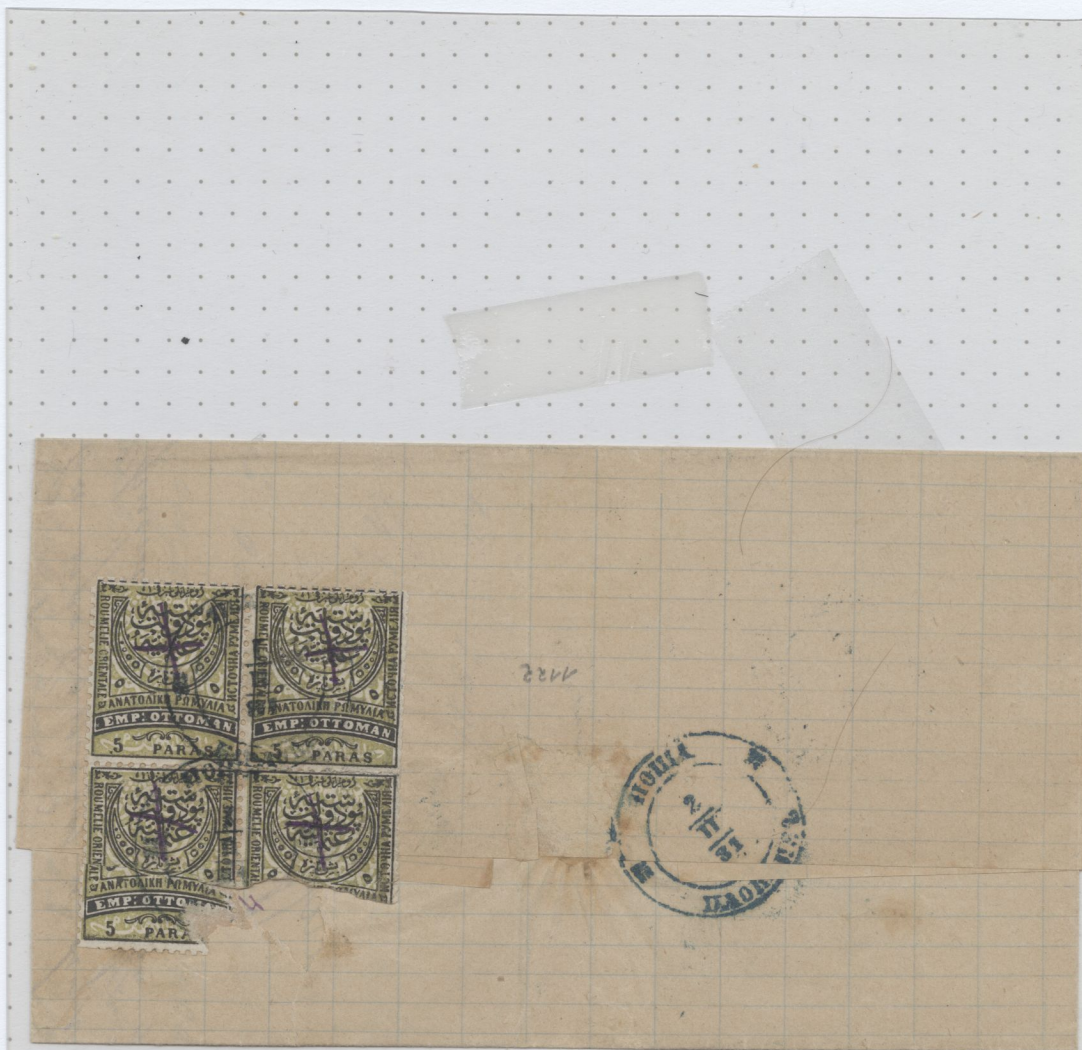
ПОЩА ХАСКЮИ  
 POSHTA HASKEUY  
 All Cyrillic  
 Type unreported

Folded envelope mailed from Haskoy January 2 (?1881) to Filibe (Plovdiv) January 3, (?1881). It was franked with three copies of 10 Paras stamps of 1881 issue (Total of 1½ Piastres). The correct postage for an envelope sent by regular internal mail through Eastern Roumelia P.O. was 1 Piastre. The reason for over franking might be its heavy weight. The “POSHTA HASKEUY” is a Russian type cancel and is not reported nor illustrated by Zagorsky.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

**KARLOVA**  
(ПОЩА / КАРЛОВО)  
OFFICE OPEN 1871,  
DURING OTTOMAN PERIOD



Folded envelope mailed from Karlova January 1, to Filibe (Plovdiv) January 2, 1881. The “POSHTA KARLOVO” and “POSHTA PLOVDIV” are Russian type cancels. Four 5 Paras of 1881 issue is the correct rate for inland postage of a letter. Stamps were also obliterated by a killer strike of “X” in ink.



**ПОЩА КАРЛОВО**  
**POSHTA KARLOVO**  
First used: May 19, 1879  
ALL CYRILLIC: RUSSIAN TYPE



**ПОЩА ПЛОВДИВЪ**  
**POSHTA PLOVDIV**  
First used: in 1878  
ALL CYRILLIC: RUSSIAN TYPE



# Lost Ottoman Territories

FILIBE

(ПОЩА ПЛОВДНВЪ)

All Cyrillic, Eastern Roumelia type



Folded cover mailed from Filibe (Plovdiv) on March 25, to Hasköy (Haskovo) March 27, 1881. Both town cancels are all in Cyrillic. It was franked with a single copy of 20 Paras stamp of 1881 issue. This is a correct rate for inland postage of an envelope. The all Cyrillic POSHTA HASKEUY cancel on reverse side of the letter is not illustrated nor mentioned in Zagorsky's book.



ПОЩА  
ПЛОУДИВЪ



ПОЩА ХАСКЮИ  
50 % Enlarged  
from reverse side



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## KAZANLUK (KIZANLIK)



This is envelope with two copies of 10 Paras of 1881 issue (affixed on reverse and obliterated with barred cancel). It was sent from Kazanluk on April 22, 1881 to Carnabat (no receiving cancel). The 20 Paras is the correct rate for envelopes sent inland.









## ПОЩА БУРГАСЪ

Mailed from Burgaz ?/?/1881 to Karinabat with two 10 Paras (20 Paras) 1881 issue. Correct rate for inland mail for envelopes. No backstamp. All Cyrillic Eastern Roumelia type cancel.





# Lost Ottoman Territories

FILIBE

(ПОЩА ПЛОВДНВЪ)

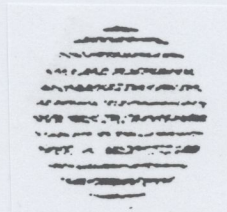
All Cyrillic, Eastern Roumelia type



Mailed from Filibe (Plovdiv) on May 15, 1881 to Karinabat, both in Eastern Roumelia. The letter was franked with two copies of 10 Paras (total of 20 Paras) of 1881 stamps. There is no back stamp. This is a late usage of this all-Cyrillic cancel. The rate is correct for inland postage of an envelope.



ПОЩА  
ПЛОВДНВЪ



Mute cancel with  
with 12 bars

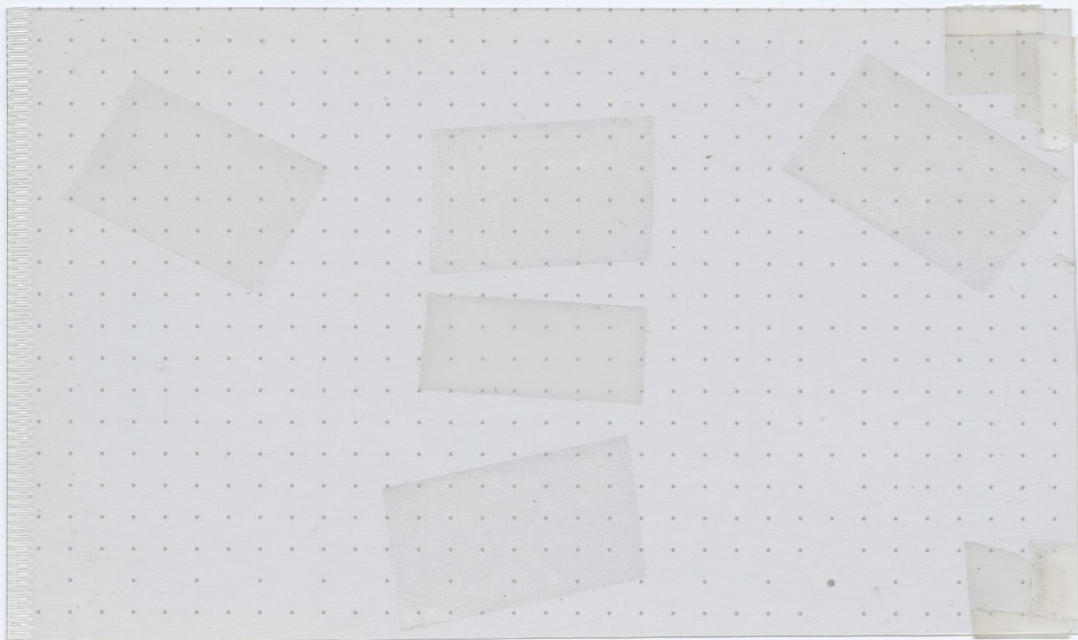


# Lost Ottoman Territories

**BURGAS (BERGOS)**

**(БУРГАСЪ-BOURGAS)**

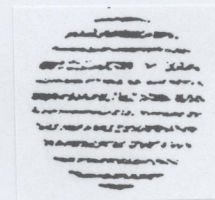
OFFICE OPEN 1865,  
DURING OTTOMAN PERIOD



Mailed from Burgaz on March 1, 1882 to Karinabat (no back stamp). Two copies of 10 Paras of 1881 issue is the correct envelope inland postage rate.



The first day this cancel used is: Unknown

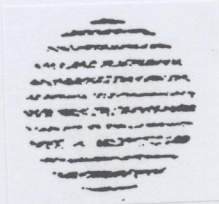


Mute cancel with 12 bars

Mailed from Burgaz March 2, 1882 to Karinabat (no back stamp). Two copies of 10 Paras of 1881 issue is correct inland envelope postage rate.



The first day this cancel used is: unknown



Mute cancel with 12 bars





# Lost Ottoman Territories

## BOURGAS (BERGOS - BURGAS)



A postal stationery with 10 Paras 1881 issue is shown. It was sent from Bourgas on November 23, 1883 to Plovdiv received on November 25, 1883 (cancel on reverse). The 10 Paras was the correct rate for cards sent inland.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## HARMANLI (HARMANLI)



This is a postal stationery with 10 Paras stamp of 1881 issue affixed. It was sent from Harmanli on September 23, 1881 to Plovdiv where it was received on September 26, 1881. This is a correct rate for inland postcards.



# Lost Ottoman Territories

**НАСКÖY**  
(ХАСКОВО-HASKEUY)  
OFFICE OPEN 1868  
DURING OTTOMAN EMPIRE



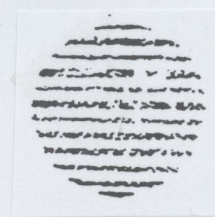
Mailed from Hasköy on April 27, 1885 reaching Filibe (Plovdiv) the same day. Both towns are in Eastern Roumelia. The 10 Paras postcard is 1884 issue. The rate is correct for inland post.



The first day this cancel used was July 1, 1879



The first day this cancel is used: unknown



Mute cancel with 12 bars



# Lost Ottoman Territories

**FILIBE (PLOVDIV)**  
(ПЛОВДИВЪ - PHILIPPOPLE)  
POST OFFICE OPEN IN 1840,  
DURING OTTOMAN EMPIRE



**ПЛОВДИВЪ**  
**PHILIPPOPLE**

An envelope mailed from Filibe (Plovdiv-Philippople) on December 2, 1884 to Istanbul (Stamboul - Arrivée cancel on reverse); the date is not clear. The Eastern Roumelia stamp on reverse side is 1 Piastre of 1881 issue, which is a correct rate for international mail. The killer strike on it is with 12 bars. A stamp is removed from the reverse side; it probably was a stamp used for City post distribution.





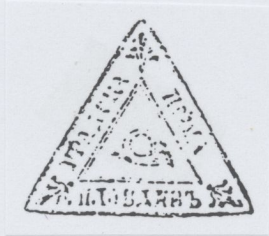
Mourning cover sent from Filibe (Plovdiv) on July 9, 1884 to Sophia, Bulgaria, received on July 10, 1884. Two copies of 1881 issue 20 Paras, total 1 Piastre is the correct rate for international postage. Plovdiv cancel is shown:



*P. T. Ozand*



A postcard with 5 Paras of 1884 issue stamp. It was posted locally at Filibe (Plovdiv) on June 24, 1885; announcing a meeting of the Plovdiv club. The addressee's name is erased. The rate is correct for local postage of a card.



First date this cancel  
used is: unknown



First date this cancel  
used is: unknown

*P. T. Ozand*



**Thomas Hitzler**  
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Tel.: +4989-69737176

e-mail: [Hitzlers@t-online.de](mailto:Hitzlers@t-online.de)

***Philatelic Expert for Eastern Rumelia and South Bulgaria***

**Opinion only:**

1 Piastre, issue 1880/81 of Eastern Rumelia, with Lion overprint type I (without frame) according to Michel catalogue.

Pair with genuine black overprint

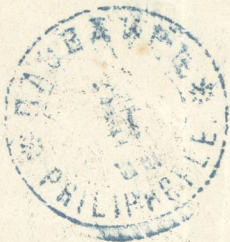
Stamps are on large fragment of a cover - probably to Vienna. Stamps bear genuine bar cancellation from Plovdiv with 12 bars.

Nice and rare fragment.



February 12, 2003





Генерал  
Кемпер Мамееву



Во Града

древн. градостемпел  
von Manis - Philippinen



# Lost Ottoman Territories

**KARLOVA**  
(КАРЛОВА-CARLOBA)  
OFFICE OPEN 1871,  
DURING OTTOMAN PERIOD



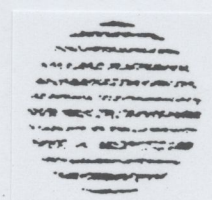
Mailed from Karlova (Eastern Roumelia) April 26 to Bahçe Kapısı, Istanbul, Turkey (Constantinople cancel on reverse), April 29, 1884. Distributed on May 10, 1884 (Stamboul arrivée cancel of unreported type on reverse). The postal stationery of 20 Paras is of 1881 issue. The exterior postage rate is correct for a postcard.



The first day this cancel  
is used: unknown



Bayindir cancel  
+# 184



Mute cancel  
with 12 bars



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## CARLOBA (KARLOVA)



This is a postal stationery with 10 Paras of 1881 issue. It was sent from Carloba March 10, 1883 to Plovdiv March 11, 1883. The 10 Paras is the correct rate for cards sent inland.



# Lost Ottoman Territories



Г-ну Г. С. Х. ЗАГРАФСКИЙ кметъ  
Самоковъ

ВЪЗРАЖЕНИЕ

Годишна цѣна на  
Кукурига е:

За Южна България	
За 1 година фр. текущ.	
За 6 мѣсеца „ 7 „	
За 3 мѣсеца „ 4 „	
За Северна България	
За 1 година фр. 14 тек.	
„ мѣсеца „ 8 „	
„ мѣсеца „ 5 „	
„ отъ Българско	
За 1 година фр. 14 злат.	
За 6 мѣсеца „ 8 „	

правилно работата  
сравственността, пази  
ди честенъ гражданинъ  
ли такъвъ доста ще тя калвъ.

ВЪЗРАЖЕНИЕ

15  
83

16  
83

ВЪЗРАЖЕНИЕ

ВЪЗРАЖЕНИЕ

10 PARA



Lost Ottoman Territories

FROM TURKLET  
TO  
E.R.  
EBIZIMAN

دولت علیّه عثمانیّه

réponse payée UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE

Buchhandlung S. H. Weiss **TURQUIE**  
E. HEYDRICH Nachfolger  
gegenüber dem russischen Consulat  
Konstantinopel.

مکتبہ س. ه. وایس  
کونستانتینوپول

Carte Postale

Messieurs Gota Pappagouk  
Koyanli

EMPIRE OTTOMAN  
20 PARAS

CONSTANTINOPLE  
DECEMBRE  
1887  
DEPART

N.B. Ce côté-ci est réservé  
exclusivement à l'adresse

Monsieur  
Monsieur Koller  
Constantinople  
Station du Chemin de Fer.

CONSTANTINOPLE  
DECEMBRE  
1887

EMPIRE OTTOMAN  
20 PARAS



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## STARA ZAGORA (ZAGRE-I ATIK)



This is a postal stationery with two copies of 5 Paras and one copy of 10 Paras of 1881. It was sent from Stara Zagora May 9, 1882 to Breslau, Germany. It passed through Bulgaria, Gabrovo May 13 (cancel on reverse), 1882 and Roustchuk May 13, 1882. The 20 Paras is the correct rate for postcards sent outside the country.



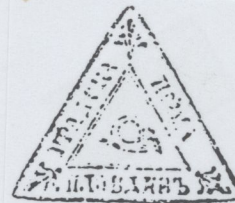
# Lost Ottoman Territories

## FILIBE, CITY POST

(ГРАДСКА ПОЩА ПЛОВДИВЪ)

ESTABLISHED TOWARDS THE END OF 1880-  
BEGINNING OF 1881- TRIANGULAR CANCEL  
A POSTHORN IN PLACE OF DATE IN THE CENTER

A 5 Paras postcard of 1881 issue, with an announcement mailed within the city of Filibe, the capital on October 5, 1882. Correct city post rate.

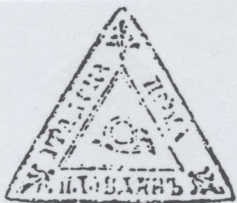


First date this cancel used is: unknown

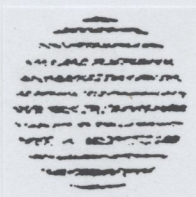


First date this cancel used is: unknown

A 5 Paras postcard of 1881 issue, mailed within Filibe. No other Filibe cancel with date. Correct city post rate.



The first day this cancel used is: unknown



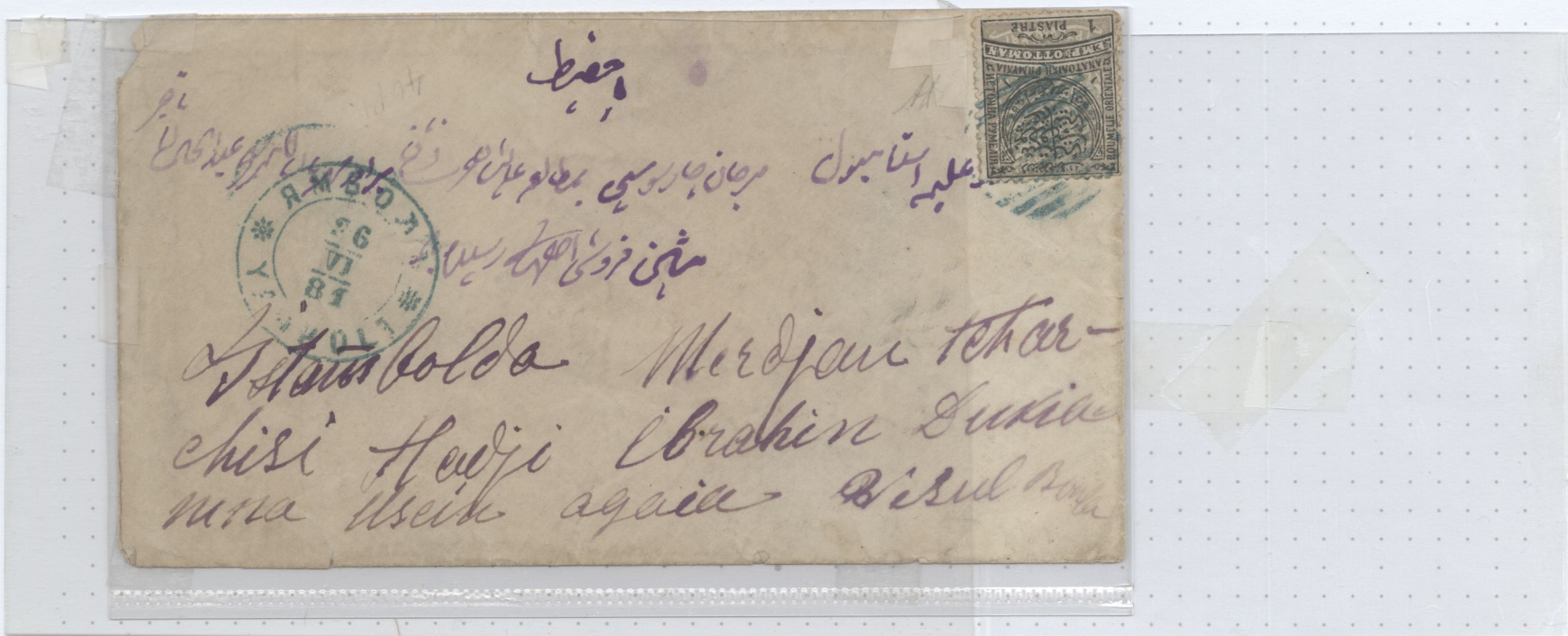
Mute cancel with 12 bars



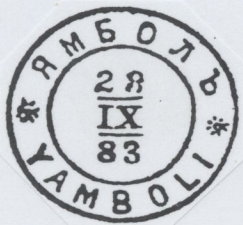


# Lost Ottoman Territories

**YANBOLU**  
 (ЯМБОЛЬ / YAMBOLI)  
 OFFICE OPEN 1871  
 DURING OTTOMAN EMPIRE



A postcard with 10 Paras stamp of 1881 issue, mailed from Yanbolu November 21, to Islimiye (Slivno) November 22, 1883 (cancel on reverse). Both towns are in Eastern Roumelia. Correct rate for postcard.



First day this cancel used is unknown



First day this cancel used is unknown





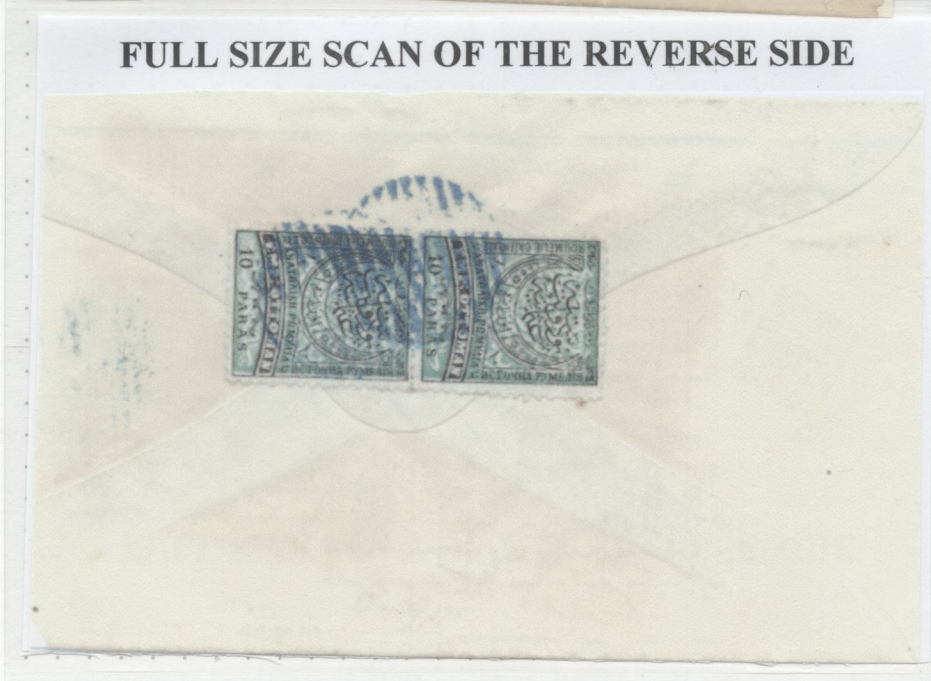
*Palatine*



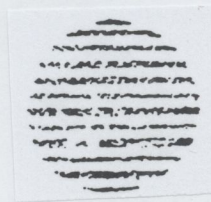
**YANBOLU**  
(ЯМБОЛЬ / YAMBOLI)  
OFFICE OPEN 1871  
DURING OTTOMAN EMPIRE

A small envelope with two copies of 1881 issue 10 paras mailed from Yanbolu September 9, 1882 to Karinabat (no receiving cancel). Both towns are in Eastern Roumelia and letter rate is correct.

FULL SIZE SCAN OF THE REVERSE SIDE



First day this cancel used  
is unknown



Mute cancel with 12 bars



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## POSTE YANBOLU

(ПОЩА ЯМБОЛЬ  
POSTE YAMBOLI)  
OFFICE OPEN 1871  
DURING OTTOMAN EMPIRE



A postcard with 10 Paras of 1881 issue mailed from Yanbolu December 19, 1884 to Islimiye (Slivno) December 20, 1884. Both towns are in Eastern Roumelia. The rate is correct for inland postage.



First day this cancel used is unknown



First day this cancel used is unknown

A postcard with 10 Paras of 1884 issue mailed from Yanbolu April 17, 1885 to Filibe April 18, 1885. Both towns are in Eastern Roumelia. The rate is correct for inland postage.



First day this cancel used is unknown



First day this cancel used is unknown





# Lost Ottoman Territories

T.P.O.  
 ИСТОЧНО РУМЕЛИСКА  
 ПОЩА ВЛАКЪ 1  
 (ISTOCHNO RUMELISKA  
 POSHTA VLAК 1)



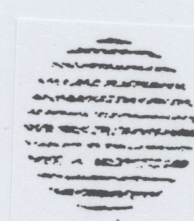
A postcard with 1881 issue 5 Paras, additionally franked with 1881 issue 10 Paras sent by ambulatory train post on February 8, to Filibe (on reverse 2 cancels: April 8 and 9, 1884). The postage was paid 5 Paras in excess. The 5 Paras postcard was for local use and the sender might not have had a 5 Paras stamp.



Rumelian Ambul. Post / train 1  
 First day used is unknown



First day this cancel  
 used is unknown



Mute cancel  
 with 12 bars



# Lost Ottoman Territories

## T.P.O. ROUMELIE ORIENTALE DU TRAIN (ALL FRENCH)



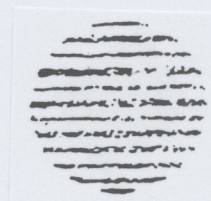
A 20 Paras, 1881 issue postcard mailed from Filibe. There is no Filibe cancel and only a dark blue killer strike; the message is dated August 1, 1883). A partial strike of T.P.O. on reverse side dated August 1, 1883, indicates the card was sent by train. It reached its destination Sliven on August 2, 1883. The 10 Paras overpayment might be due to the T.P.O. charge.



The first day this cancel used is unknown



The first day this cancel used is unknown



Mute cancel with 12 bars





faked



faked



overprint ok  
cancellation  
faked



RO maybe ok  
roumei orientale  
faked





FORGERY



1155

N/C  
FORGED  
COPIES





FORGERY



FORGERY

TYPE 3  
PERF. 13.5  
BLACK

fake  
N/C





FORGERY



FORGERY





FORGERY



extr good  
forgery



FORGERY



excellent  
forgery





FOURNIER FORGERIS

FORGERY



FORGERY





# PROOFS

## IMPERFORATE PROOFS ON REGULAR PAPER



(RARE)

## IMPERFORATE PROOFS ON CARBOARD





IN DARKER  
COLOUR





18 1884  
1P  
P. 11 1/2

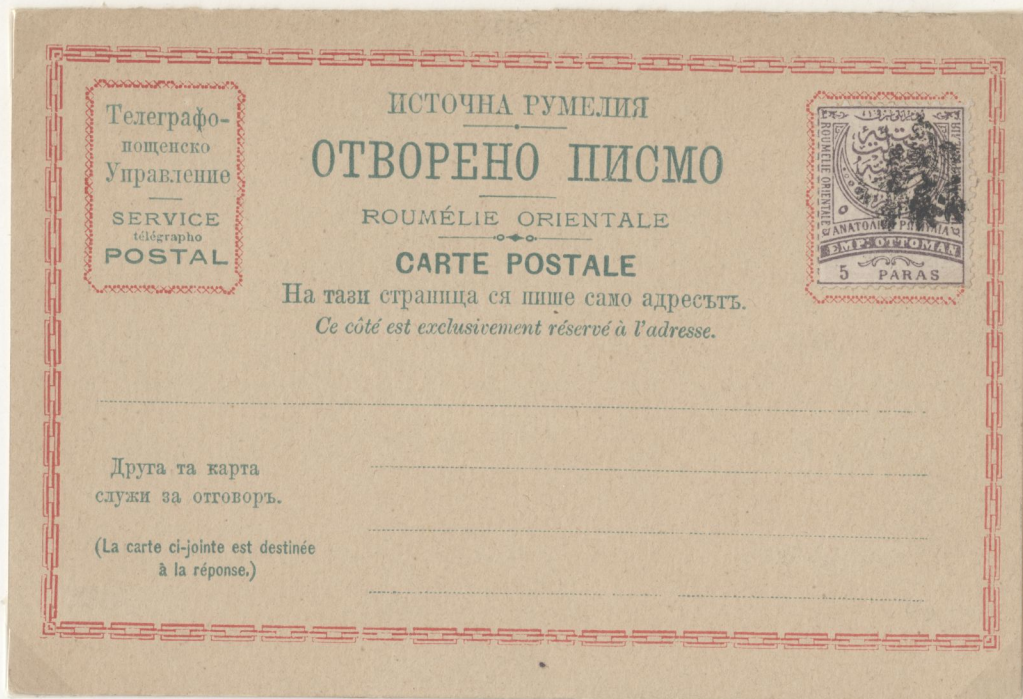


19 1884  
5P  
P. 11 1/2





5 para black type II overprint. More common on formula cards than as an adhesive.



P13 1/2  
~~2700~~  
 2750

40-



Q

Double overprint (on formula reply card).

Q

10 para blue type I overprint, the common 10 para of this issue.



Specimen



P11 1/2  
 SC 728a  
~~\$248~~  
 \$1920

29  
 12  
 58  
 29  
 348  
 COST  
 NVO



T4 Cont  
1894



RED  
OVRT



10 Pa 3 Gum  
T4 P. 11 1/2  
DOUBLE



SPEZ.  
EX  
HITZL



CERT



10 Pa unL  
T4  
P. 11  
INV. OVRT.



HAVE  
CERT.  
INV  
OVRT



TRIAL OVERPRINT OF P.O.  
IN RED INK. TYPE 4 PERF. 11.5  
IT NEVER CAME TO USE AND  
THEY WERE LATER CORRECTED BY  
APPLYING BLACK OR BLUE INK  
ONLY FEW STAMPS WITH RED  
OVERPRINT SURVIVED. THIS IS  
THE ONLY KNOWN EXAMPLE OF  
10 PARAS (UNIQUE) (Ex. T.Hitzler)



POSTAGE CERTIFICATE  
IN THE NAME OF THE BLACK  
EMPEROR AND SALES MARCH  
(Ex. T. Hitzler)



SPECIMEN

#10 1881  
5pc  
BLACK  
P. 13 1/2

X  
IN  
BOOK



Post  
Yamboli

FREAK  
CUT



11 1881  
10 Pa  
BLACK  
P. 13 1/2

#14 1881  
5pc  
P. 13 1/2



SPECIMEN

X  
IN  
BOOK





P 13 1/2





H. CENT  
#25  
T1  
BLACK

les with Type 1 overprint (RARE)(Ex. T. Hitzler)

BOTH  
BLOCKS  
↓



H. CENT  
Sc #25  
T1  
BLACK



# 1884 ISSUE WITH TYPE 3 P.11 1/2



SPEC.

T3 Sc 386

EX.  
HITZLER

Spa  
INU

TYPE 3  
PERF. 11.5  
BLACK  
INVERTED

386 var  
NIC



5Pa 386

T3  
P 11 1/2

2nd SET



BLUE  
TRIAL  
OUT 7

NL (←)

3 Spa

11 1/2

E30615A

BLUE?



10Pa 39

T3  
P 11 1/2

2nd SET



HAVE  
CERT



HAVE  
CERT



HAVE  
CERT





20Pa 40  
 T3  
 P 11 1/2  
 2ND SET



HAVE  
 CENT



INV.  
 OPT

BLUE  
 TRIAL  
 OPT  
 EB615AV



HAVE  
 CENT



HAVE  
 CENT

