The "Bishop Mark" in Canada
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La Société Philatélique de Québec

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In keeping with the forthcoming commemoration of the bicentenary of the founding in 1763 of Canada's first Post Offices in Quebec, Trois-Rivières, and Montreal by Benjamin Franklin, Deputy Postmaster General of all British America, La Société Philatélique de Québec has adopted a new letterhead showing, in the upper left corner, the "QUEBEC CANADA" broken Circular Postmark, encircling t h e BISHOP MARK.

The MARK, invented by Henry Bishop, was applied by an instrument first used in 1661 in England then in America around 1750. It consists of the day and the month and measured about 15 to 16 mm. in diameter. It is known in black, red, red-brown, magenta, and brown-black. In the North American Colonies, it was first used in New York, then in Albany, Boston, and Philadelphia.

In Canada, the MARK was used only in Quebec City from 1776 to 1800 and is believed to exist in black only.

Bishop was Postmaster General under Charles II from 1660 to 1663. In reply to charges of mismanagement, he wrote:

> "A stamp is invented that is putt upon every letter shewing the day of the moneth that every letter comes to the office, so that no LETTER Carryer may dare detayne a letter from post to post: which before was usual."

Bishop died on March 23rd, 1692, and was buried in Henfield, Sussex, England.

The Auctions

RECENT REALIZATIONS

Harmer, Rooke, New York—April 2
Dominica, 1886, 1d on 6d green,
two short perfs. $2,100
Barbados, 1875, 4d, perf.
14 x 12½ (53b) ....$ 700
Trinidad, 1882, pair No. 66,
black ink manuscript 1d on
6d green ....$ 800
Austria, 1946 Renner souvenir
sheets, (B185-188), unhinged ....$ 280