

a
Philatelic Story
of
Lt. Col. F.M. Bailey,
C.I.E.

1882-1967

based on the author's collection of covers
from Bailey's correspondence, 1903-1950



by

Frealon Bibbins

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INTRODUCTION

This is a story of Lt. Col. F.M. Bailey, C.I.E., based on my collection of covers from his correspondence over the span of his career. It is not the purpose of this work to go into great detail about his numerous accomplishments, but to give the reader an overview using the covers as reference points. He could best be described as a soldier, explorer, political agent, botanist, butterfly collector, special agent, linguist, writer-- the list goes on and on. He lived in a time when being an individual was accepted and encouraged, not like in today's corporate, specialized world in where the individualist is looked upon with suspicion and is to be avoided. I will try to bring out some of his remarkable talents. This work is, basically, for philatelists and I am picturing most of my collection to tell the story.

Bailey should be remembered for more than the Himalayan Blue Poppy named after him, the *Betonicifolia Baileyi*, or his magnificent butterfly collection which is in the Metropolitan Museum in New York. We philatelists remember him for saving all of his correspondence (see quote in the following PRELUDE of this book) we now have a better understanding of the Postal History of the Himalayan area because 'he saved things'.

I want to thank the following collectors who have helped me over the last decade or so putting together this accumulation of 'Bailey' material: Geoffery Flack, Leo Martyn, Jeremy Brewer, Armand Singer and through their auctions, George Alevizos, Michael Rogers, and Spinks.

I am humbled by this task and am open to any additions changes or corrections. I must give personal thanks to Leo Martyn for his encouragement and for editing my cryptic drafts, and to Janice Martyn for her patience in proof reading.

All the covers, with the exception of a few, are in black and white and some are reduced in size. I included Robson Lowe's 'Bailey's Movements' with some additions in the back of the book. Enjoy.

Frealon Bibbins
November 2003

PRELUDE

Lt. Col. F.M. Bailey C.I.E. who, in the early part of the twentieth century, was a major figure in the British-India-Himalayan area. His great and varied accomplishments are told through covers (envelopes) from his correspondence, in a time when the basic communication was letter writing to share their personal thoughts and events. We are fortunate that Col. Bailey was a prolific writer and saved almost everything. He also kept a diary as part of his daily reports. Bailey wrote three books in his retirement describing his explorations and adventures: *CHINA-TIBET-ASSAM, 1945*; *MISSION to TASHKENT, 1946*; *NO PASSPORT to TIBET, 1957*, plus numerous papers on various subjects. Bailey started an autobiography but failed to finish it. Arthur Swinson did write a biography, *BEYOND the FRONTIERS*, which was published in 1971. Arthur Swinson was a feature producer for B.B.C. in Manchester when he met F.M. Bailey; he wanted to do a dramatized version of *MISSION to TASHKENT* in 1955. Bailey's concern was for accuracy, the broadcast was done and he lost contact with him. After Bailey's death in 1967, Swinson wanted to tell the tale of this remarkable man. With the help of the Hon. Mrs. Bailey and gaining access to his papers and old friends, the book came into being in 1968. Peter Hopkirk and Alex McKay, in the last decade, did much research and writing about F.M. Bailey bringing out many interesting aspects of his accomplishments and intrigues. A few years ago, I did a Philatelic Exhibit about Bailey using many covers (envelopes) from his correspondence to highlight some events in his life. This opus will be an expansion of that Exhibit.

It might be of interest to the non-philatelists that a cover is just another name for an envelope that has been mailed. Much can be learned from covers by examining the markings, stamp(s), cancels, address, dates, and any other markings that may be affixed. The covers that are addressed to and from Bailey can tell us where he was and when, *place and time*.

To quote from *POSTAL HISTORY of TIBET* by Arnold Waterfall: "In 1942 a stranger walked into Robson Lowe's office wanting to exchange some Tibetan material for a new album or two. That was the introduction between Robson Lowe and Col. F.M. Bailey" (The late Robson Lowe was the premiere stamp dealer, auctioneer, and philatelist in London who is responsible for recognizing the historical importance of Col. Bailey's material and for properly cataloging it).

Frealon Bibbins, 2003

THE BEGINNING

Lt Col. F.M. Bailey, C.I. E.

He was born Frederick Marshman Bailey on the 3rd of February 1882, in Lahore, India, to a military family. His father, Frederick Bailey, R.E., was head of the Forestry Survey Department in India. Because of frequent bouts of malaria, the senior Bailey was advised to leave India. The family moved to France where Col. Bailey instructed forestry students at Nancy until 1890. Here, the young Bailey, called "Eric", started to learn French and to use his exceptional talent for languages, which we will see played an important part in his career. At this time, Bailey's father retired from the Army and moved to Scotland to become lecturer in forestry at Edinburgh University.

The young Bailey was sent to Edinburgh Academy in 1891, for three years, then to Wellington in Berkshire, a public school, to be groomed for Sandhurst (a school to train young men for military service). While at Wellington, a bleak, austere school, Bailey showed his ability to adapt to situations and surroundings earning him the reputation as the "Hatter" (mad as a 'hatter') because of his pranks.

Another trait was his ability to express himself through his correspondence and journals. He spent his vacations fishing and learning about outdoor life with his father while inspecting forests in the Scottish Highlands. (Bailey's early training as frontiersman). Bailey was also expected to follow in his father's foot-steps into the military so he took examinations for Sandhurst Royal Military College in 1899, with expectations for a commission in the Indian Staff Corps. Having passed, he started at Sandhurst on the 24th of January, 1900. After the first term, in June, Bailey went to Norway for some Salmon fishing only to have his holiday cut short after hearing from the War Office. Bailey must be prepared to sail for India by the end of September. Back in Edinburgh, he prepared for his military career by getting uniforms, equipment, and taking riding classes at the Royal Scots Greys depot. For financial reasons, service in Indian Army was a better choice. At the end of September, Bailey was on his way to India aboard the P.&O. boat *s.s. China*, arriving in October. Bailey was assigned to the Middlesex Regiment which served in the Madras Army at Wellington in the Nilgiri Hills (inland from Calicut, at the southern tip of India).

New officers had to spend one year with a British regiment, then one year with an Indian regiment before being eligible for transfer. They must master Urdu, the official language for the Indian Army, in order to command native troops, learn drills, inspections, and all the other duties of an officer. For Bailey, with only six months at Sandhurst, this was essential, but he was impatient and wanted to be where the action was, in the north. He wrote to his father to see if he could use his influence to have him transferred sooner. Col. Bailey contacted his friend, Lord Roberts, to see if he could be of some help. Some time later Bailey received a letter from Lord Roberts' Military Secretary stating that after the first year at Middlesex he could transfer, quoting the letter as authorization.

The BEGINNING

During his time in the Nilgiri hills, Bailey observed the wonderful natural history of the Himalayan wild life. Bailey's fascination with all the species was instrumental, in the course of his career, discovering and collecting many new species, some named after him. Bailey wrote many articles and lectured about his discoveries. We see another facet of this man emerging.

After the first year, Bailey was transferred to the 17th Bengal Lancers at Rawalpindi, but he was determined to see some action by transferring to a Pioneer regiment. In 1903, he joined the 32nd Sikh Pioneer Regiment, which would be his unit during his career. Ten days after he reported to his new commanding officer, Colonel Brander, the regiment was called up to Gangtok in Sikkim (a small state at the eastern end of the Himalayans between Bhutan and Nepal). Bailey now found himself crossing India by train from Jhelum to Siliguri, near Darjeeling. At Siliguri, they marched up the Teesta valley where Bailey was amazed by the magnificent butterflies; I believe this was the start of his famous collection.

The regiment was ordered to cut roads at Rangpo on the Sikkim frontier including one through a steep cliff. The roads were for large numbers of mule trains carrying army rations and supplies towards the Tibet border. This is when Bailey met Capt. O'Connor, who was one of the few officers who could speak Tibetan. Bailey could only speak a few words of Tibetan but after meeting O'Connor he decided this was an opportunity to learn it, he practiced phrases with any Tibetan who would talk to him. O'Connor was acting as interpreter for the Tibetan Frontier Commission to be headed by Major Francis Younghusband who had a reputation as a soldier, explorer, geographer, and diplomat. Bailey knew something big was going on because everything was hush-hush; little did he know how this was going to change his life.

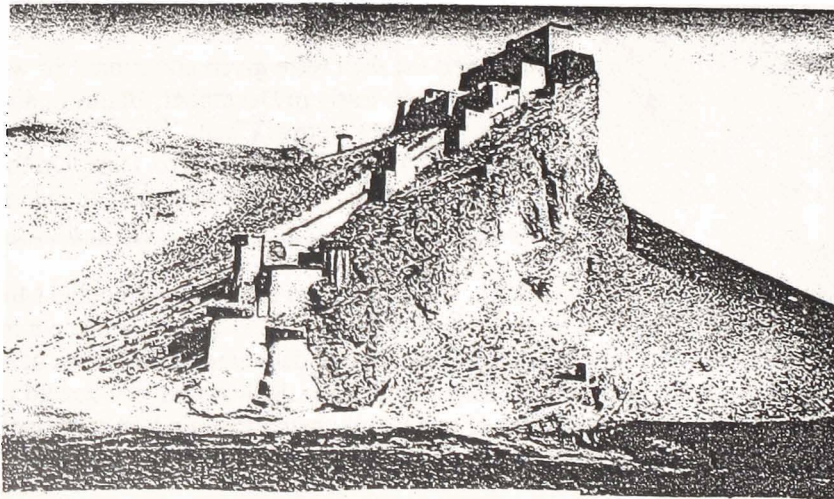


MOUNTED INFANTRY at Khamba Jong

1903 FRONTIER COMMISSION

Major Francis Younghusband was appointed to lead the Commission by Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India. He was given the temporary rank of Colonel. Other members of the original Frontier Commission were: J.C. White, Political Officer in Sikkim; Captain Frederick O'Connor, as Tibetan interpreter and Secretary; and Ernest Wilton of the Consular Service to serve as Chinese interpreter. Younghusband's original orders were to move to Khamba Jong to meet with high ranking Tibetan and Chinese representatives. If they failed to arrive, the Mission would move to Shigatse or Gyantse and then to Lhasa. At Gangtok, Younghusband got a telegram from the authorities in Darjeeling modifying his orders, '*he must wait for suitable Tibetan delegates before entering Tibetan territory*'. Since nothing was happening Younghusband interpreted his orders as, '*he must wait*', not the Commission, so he sent the Escort with Capt. O'Connor and Mr. White ahead to Tangu. The support group of 200 men of the 32nd Pioneers which included Lt. F.M. Bailey, arrived at Tangu on the 26th of June, 1903. Younghusband sent O'Connor and White with Bethune's 200 man escort forward to Giaogong, they arrived on the 4th of July. Giaogong is on the north border of Sikkim at an altitude of 12,000 feet; there is a wall marking the boundary built by the Tibetans. The Escort set up camp on the south side of the wall and were met by two Tibetans of high rank, White said he would be delighted to receive them in his camp the following evening but could not hold discussions in Giaogong. The next morning O'Connor rode up to the wall with an escort, including Bailey, and parlayed with the Tibetans telling them there would be no discussions with the Mission until it reached Khamba Jong. This did not set well with the Tibetans who became very upset and the escort had to be called to clear the way before serious trouble erupted. The Tibetans retreated, making threats. The next morning the Escort crossed the border and continued to Khamba Jong, arriving on the 7th of July. They set up camp by the Great Fort- the Mission and Bailey were now in Tibet.

The Support group with Col. Younghusband joined the Mission at Khamba Jong eleven days later, on the 18th of July, 1903. The Mission would stay in Khamba Jong for the next five months waiting for a legitimate response from the Tibetans.



GREAT FORT at KHAMBA JONG

1903 KHAMBA JONG

The Mission was now in Khamba Jong, which is on a high plain 16,000 ft. above sea level. Bailey was on his first real assignment and would spend the next five months here, he was becoming a *frontiersman* and being hardened to the harsh life on high mountains of the Himalayans. Col. Younghusband wanted his escort to be Mounted Infantry, the escort assigned to him was a Pioneer unit. Bailey was given the job of training some of his men of the Pioneers to be Mounted Infantry, he then put together ponies and equipment as best he could and started the training. Bailey put the men through their paces, drilling them in extending, wheeling, closing, dismounting to fire, and so on. This was a difficult task since they had to carry heavy tools and equipment as Pioneers. Bailey did this job and was taking his newly trained Mounted Infantry on patrols, they patrolled the surrounding mountains and villages and sent back information on the activities of the Tibetans. Bailey used this opportunity to practice his colloquial Tibetan phrases in the villages.

Being at Khamba Jong gave Bailey the opportunity to be noticed by O'Connor and Younghusband. He was a frequent dinner guest with them. Bailey later became the protégé of O'Connor because of his adventurous spirit, and his language skills. The five months spent at Khamba Jong were important in shaping young Bailey's career, because he was isolated in this remote place and was in close contact with the famous Younghusband. I believe Younghusband and O'Connor were grooming Bailey for the select group of *frontiersmen* who influenced the policies in the Himalayan area, *the British Raj*.

On the 21st of August, the head Abbot of Tashilampo Monastery, which is near Shigatse, came with his entourage to make another representation on behalf of the Tashi Lama. He was a courteous, kindly old man who was accompanied by two Monks and a lay representative of the Tashi Lama. The Abbot was there to make another representation, but there was no progress. The Abbot stayed on at the Mission camp and would come and socialize with O'Connor and Bailey, having lunch and tea; then they would spend hours playing with the gramophone, typewriters, picture photographs, and all the various novelties at the camp. At this time the Post Office was established in Khamba Jong, the 19th of August, so stamps, cancels, and a typewriter were readily available along with an Abbot and a Bailey playing around with camp novelties.

The cold winter was setting in and the men were given allotments for winter gear; that was when Bailey ordered his Gilgit boots. Early in December, Bailey and his 25 Mounted Infantry were ordered to Gangtok; they were at Chung Tong (Nyima) 11th to the 19th of December, and Gangtok the 24th to the 27th then back to Tibet. On the 4th of January, 1904, with no response from the Tibetans, the Mission started on the long trek to Lhasa.

Colonel J.R. MacDonald, R.E., was selected to head the augmented Military Support Group in September, 1903, as he was the only senior officer available. He put together a large army and saw to it that supplies and equipment were delivered to the troops as they advanced. He was given the temporary rank of Brig. General for the Mission. MacDonald was a stiff and cautious officer who was very aware of one's rank; many thought him to be incompetent. The advance to Lhasa was slow and tedious.

FRONTIER COMMISSION

Khamba Jong, 1903

EAST INDIA QUARTER ANNA POST CARD

SRINABAR, 9 NO. 03; TEMPORARY P.O. B, (xx) NO. 03; KHAMBA JONG/TIBET
18 NO. 03, cds., (Hellrigl Type B 30)



From A.A.'s (or Cockburn's Universal) Agency No. 4825 L. de. Daily
Srinagar Kashmir. 13/11/03 7th Nov 1903
who beg to advise you of the despatch per V. P. P. to your address
this day, of the undermentioned:—

	Rate.	Rs.	a.	p.
To <u>Gilgit boots</u>		9	-	-
<u>Pairing and</u>		-	7	-
<u>the P. Commission</u>		-	4	-
<u>Entire paid</u>		-	12	-
<u>Total Rs.</u>		10	4	-

.....Manager A.A.'s Agency.



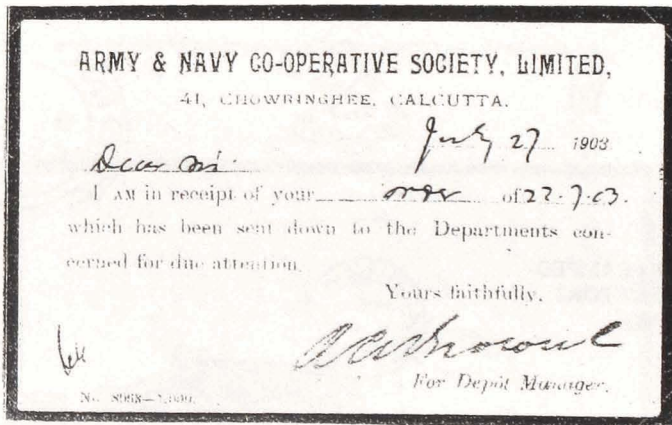
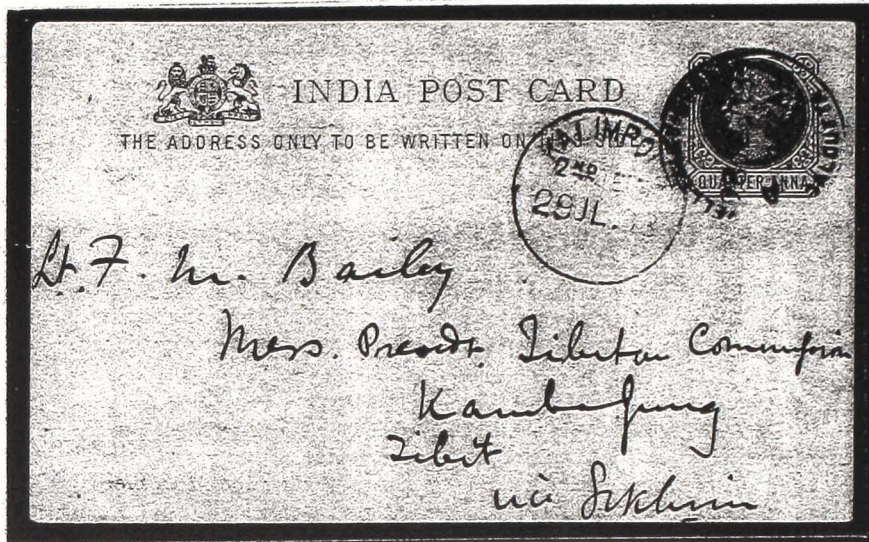
Bailey with his new Gilgit boots

FRONTIER COMMISSION

Khamba Jong, 1903

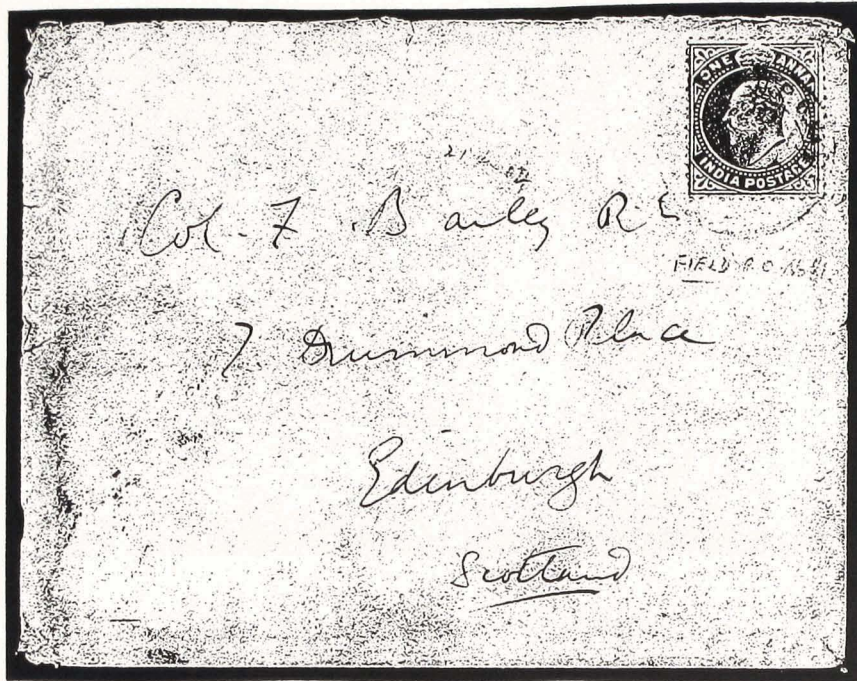
QUARTER ANNA INDIA POST CARD

CALCUTTA to KHAMBA JONG via SIKKIM, to F.M. Bailey, cancelled by WELLESLEY STREET/CALCUTTA cds., 28 JL 03, with a KALIMPONG/2nd DELY, cds. Dated 29 JL 03.

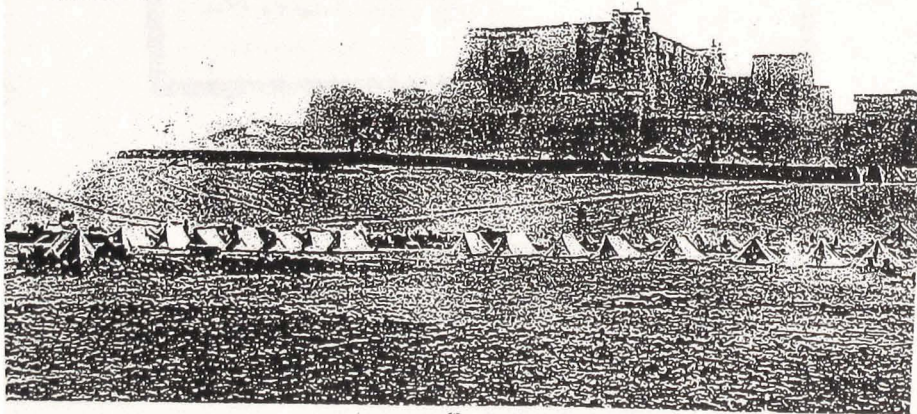


BIBBINS COLLECTION

1904 COVER from FIELD P.O. No. 81 at PHARIJONG
f.w. ONE ANNA INDIA postage, tied by a PHARIJONG cds. dated 3 JA 04,
With the exception of the LHASA cancels, very few Expedition cancels are clear,
most are poor and difficult to read.



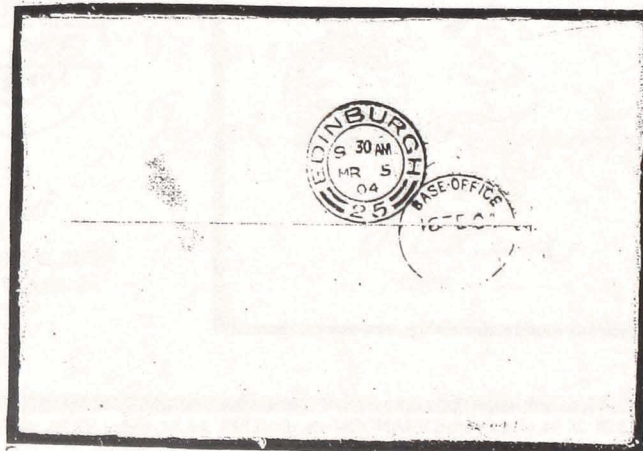
EXPEDITION CAMPED
near the GREAT FORT
at PHARIJONG



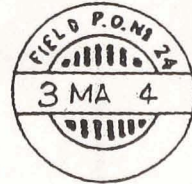
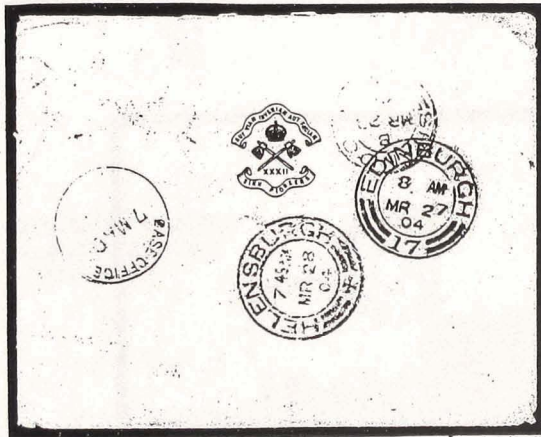
1904

TUNA, TIBET to EDINBURGH

Double Rate Cover cancelled with (3) FIELD P.O. No. 24 cds. dated 13 FE. 04 and back stamped
BASE OFFICE (Siliguri) 16 FE. 04, with EDINBURGH receiving mark dated MR 5 04.
Bailey was in Tuna from the 5th of February to the 9th of March. All cancels during this period are difficult to
read because of the weather conditions. The postal clerk, Lewis, died because of complications from frost bite.



TUNA, TIBET to EDINBURGH forwarded to SHANDON, HELENSBURGH
 f.w. (4) India 1/2 ANNA stamps tied by (4) poorly stuck **FIELD P.O. NO.24** (Double Ring)
 cds. dated **3 MA 4**, the missing 'O' variety type B2. Hellrigl describes this cancel as
 very rare with 5-6 known. Waterfall states that they are poorly struck.



Type B2

FIELD P.O. No.24
 Missing 'O' variety.

On the Back: BASE OFFICE cds. dated **7 MA 04**, EDINBURGH cds. dated **MR 27 04** front and back, and an
 EDINBURGH cds. dated **MR 28 04**, plus a partial SHANDON cds. dated **MR 28 04**, with a XXXII SIKH PIONEERS crest
 in Blue on the back flap..

1904

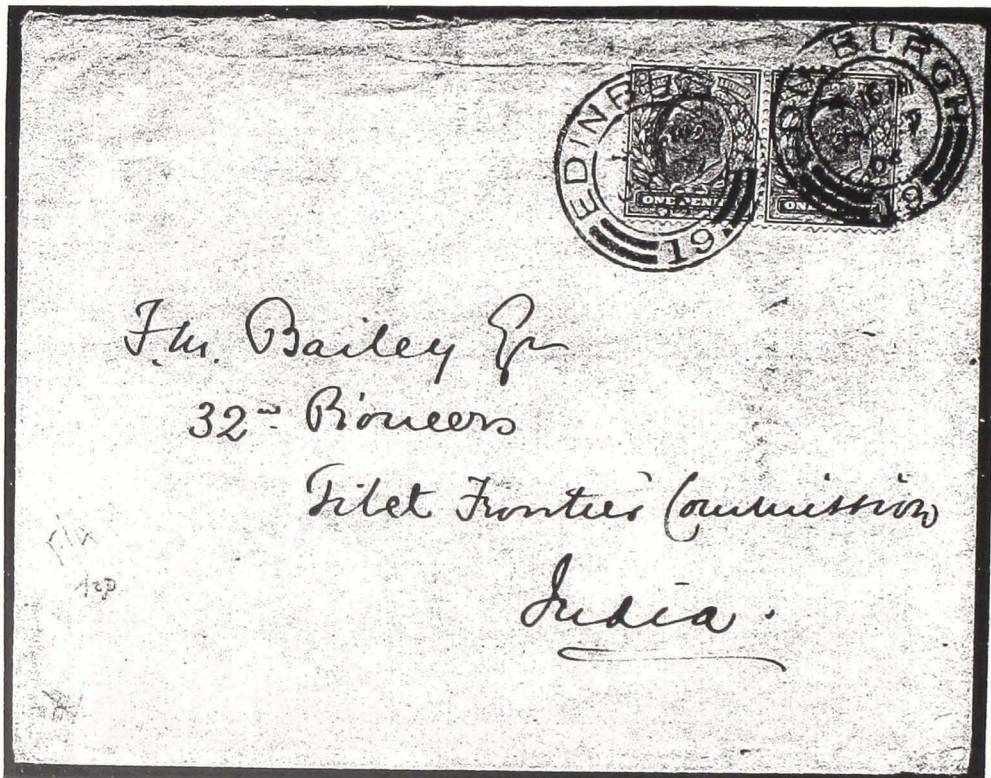
EDINBURGH to INDIA forwarded to TIBET

f.w. a pair of Great Britain, Edward VII 1d stamps, tied by EDINBURGH cds. dated JY 7 04.
Sent to the Frontier Commission in India, then forwarded at BASE OFFICE, Siliguri then to Tibet.

The BASE OFFICE cds. is dated 26 JL. 04 and is a very scarce cancel.

Waterfall states that there is only one date known for this cancel and it is 25 JL. 04.
This is the same type of cancel but the '6' looks some what like a '5'; maybe it was used for two days
or Waterfall mistakenly thought the '6' was a '5'.

By the time this cover reached Bailey he would have been in Lhasa, arriving on the 3rd of August.



BIBBINS COLLECTION

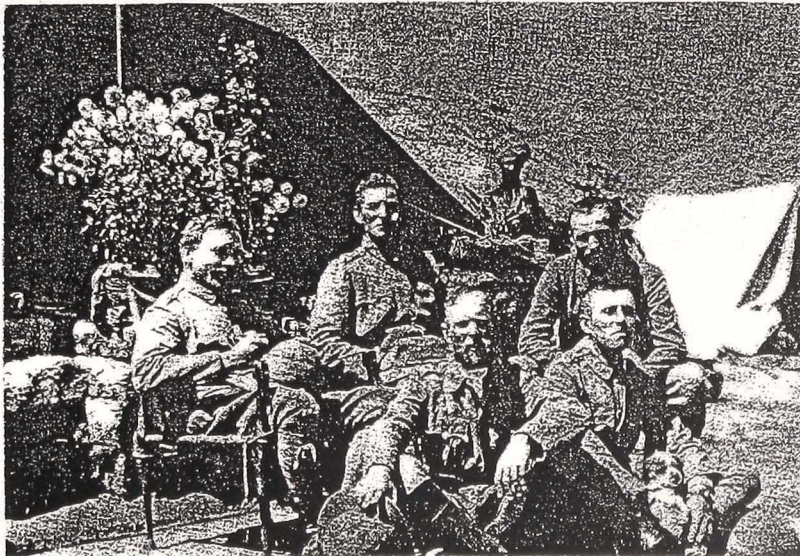
LHASA

On the 3rd of August, 1904, the Mission finally arrived in Lhasa where they would stay for seven weeks. While Younghusband and his politicals of the Mission were negotiating a treaty, the young Bailey was busy with piquet and escort duty. He did manage to get away for some fishing, football, and other events to pass the time. Bailey, on several occasions, was invited to have Tea or dine with Younghusband. On the 6th of September, a treaty was signed and the Mission started back to Gyantse on the 23rd of September. Bailey was part of the Mounted Infantry escorting Col. Younghusband. They arrived in Gyantse the 30th of September, 1904.

Younghusband had planned to have three small expeditions to leave at this time:

1. To have Ernest Wilton, his expert on Chinese affairs, travel from Lhasa to China taking Bailey with him as escort.
2. An expedition to Gartok in Western Tibet to set up a Trade Mart and survey the route, to be lead by Capt. Cecil Rawling.
3. To explore the gorges of the Tsangpo river to find the great falls, to be headed by Capt. Ryder.

Only the Gartok Expedition would be authorized by Younghusband because of news of the Tibetans ambushing a column bringing up equipment and supplies. Hearing this news, Younghusband thought just the Gartok Expedition would go since it was part of the Treaty. The Gartok Expedition consisted of Capt. Rawling, in charge, joined by Capt. Ryder, Capt. Wood, R.E., and Lt. Bailey, who would be helpful as an interpreter.

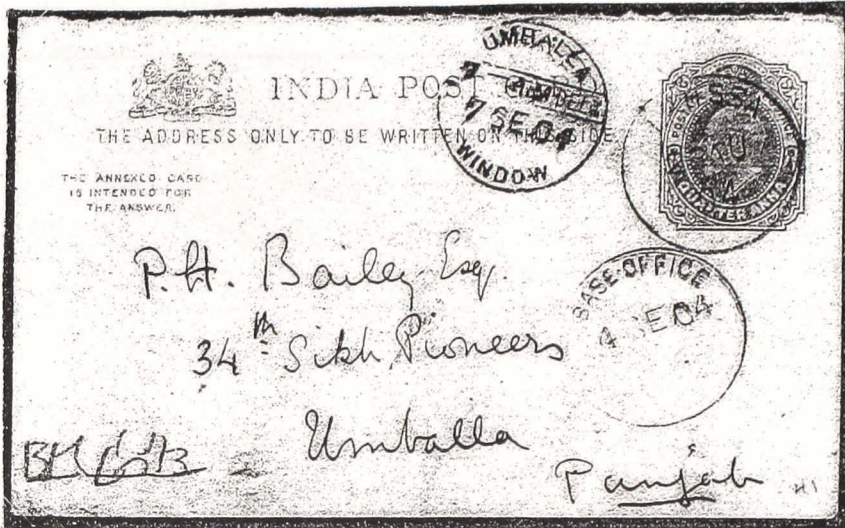


MOUNTED INFANTRY at LHASA
OTTLEY, WALLACE-DUNLOP, RYBOT (sitting), CHANDLER, BAILEY (sitting)

1904

ONE QUARTER ANNA
INDIA POST CARD

Lhasa to Punjab, LAHSSA cds. dated 25 AU 04, Hellrigl type B-42.
E. Bailey (Eric) to his brother P.H. Bailey, 34th Sikh Pioneer, Umballa, Punjab.



Lhasa
23 Aug 1904

Have you received that box yet. If not let me know at once by wire & I will enquire as I have the registration receipt.

Its number is 137 & was posted in Field Post Office No. 24 on 9th July.

I expected an answer before now.

E. Bailey

Message on the reverse has a an interesting note which throws a light on the Postal & Telegraph service for this Expedition. Field P.O. No. 24 at that time was Gyantse.

"Lhasa
23 Aug. 1904

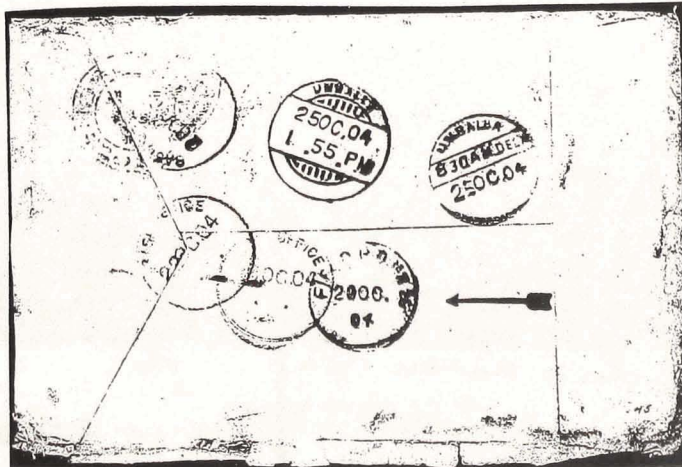
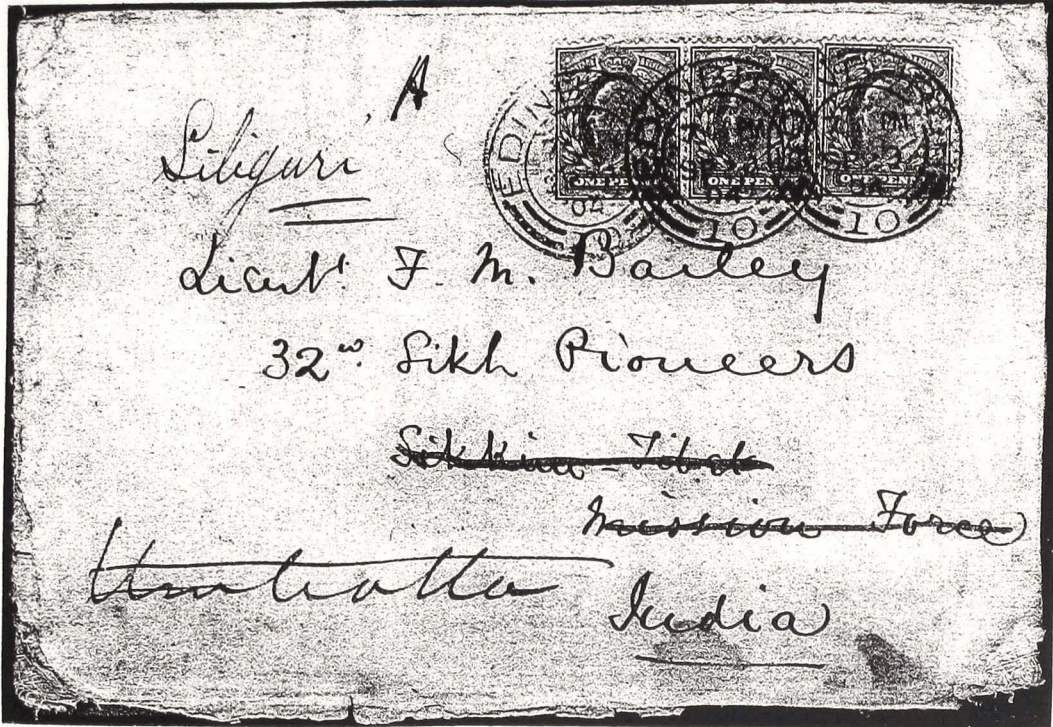
Have you received that box yet. If not let me know at once by wire & I will inquire as I have the registration receipt. Its number is 137 & was posted in Field Post Office No. 24 on 9th July. expected an answer before now.

E. Bailey".

1904

EDINBURGH to INDIA forwarded to TIBET

f.w. (3) 1p British Postage Stamps, tied by (3) EDINBURGH cds. dated SP 10 04, forwarded to BASE OFFICE (Siliguri) 18 OC. 04, FIELD P.O. No. 26 (Chumbi) 20 OC. 04, BASE OFFICE 22 OC. 04, UMBALLA 25 OC. 04, and then back to BASE OFFICE (Siliguri) 28 oc. 04 where it has no further forwarding marks; the last one 'Siliguri' in Red ink is not crossed out. It is believed that it was forwarded to Bailey as they were just leaving Shigatse in the earlier part of the Gartok Mission along with supplies.



GARTOK EXEPEDITION

The Gartok party left Gyantse on the 10th of October, 1904, along with Capt. O'Connor and Mr. Magniac. O'Connor and Magniac would go as far as Shigatse to meet with the Tashi Lama. The expedition would stay in Shigatse from the 13th to the 18th of October. They left for Gartok with the four officers, thirty-five "native" assistants, and 144 pack animals.

Bailey was now having his first experience as an explorer in the high Himalayan Mountains. The party was to find the source of the Tsangpo, survey as much of the area as possible, see if there were any mountains higher than Mt. Everest, and set up a Trade Mart in Gartok. Bailey kept a log on this mission, here is a quote; *'Gartok is known in Tibetan as Gar Yarsa (i.e. the Summer Gar), It is situated in a plain 5 miles broad, through which flows a branch of the Indus, called the Kang Gye Chu. The village consists of about 14 huts, with two large houses in which the Garpons live. There is neither crops or trees. The two Garpons are high lay officials (Trungkhar), sent from Lhasa to govern Ngari Khorsum. They are known in India as Urkus.'* Later in Bailey's report; *'Borax is brought from Tsa Li Ka (or Ma Tsen), two marches east of Chang Tsa Ga, where salt is obtained. It is picked up from the banks of lakes and transported on sheep in the same way as salt. The journey from Tsa Li Ka to Gartok takes about 15 days with sheep. One sheep-load, about 25 lbs., is sold for 8 annas. Borax is little more expensive than salt but the price varies according to the quality, quantity on the market and distance from the frontier at which it is purchased---one load of Borax is exchanged for two loads of barley or one load of rice.'* This is part of Bailey's report which was published in 1905, by the Government Printing Office in Simla. While in Gartok, they set up a Trade Mart and appointed a native agent. (Younghusband wanted to make Bailey the Trade Agent at Gartok, but the Government of India decided to economize by posting an Indian employee there).

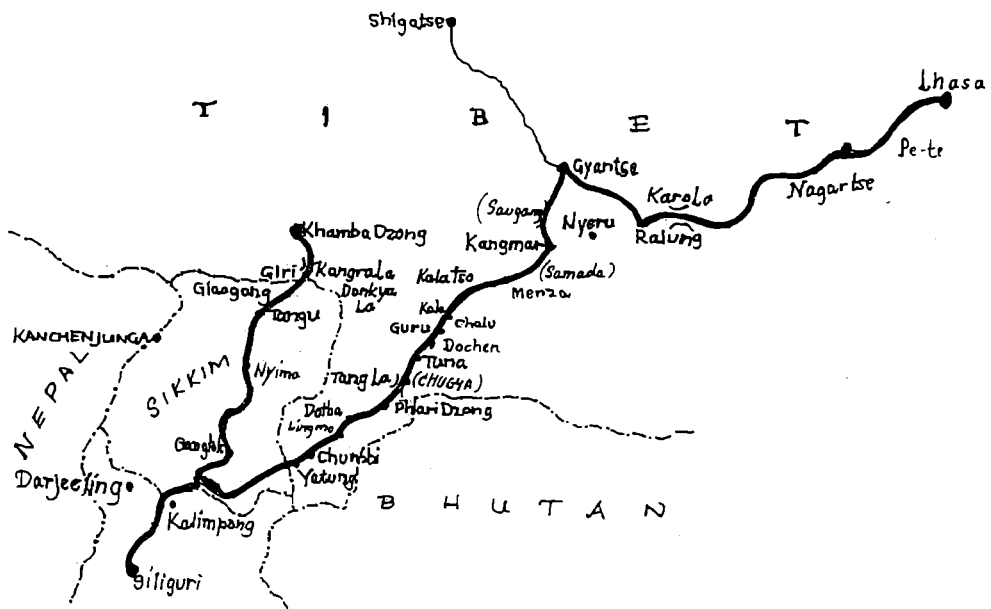
The expedition traveled hundreds of miles at high altitude, living many weeks at heights up to 15,000 ft., and even 18,700 ft. with temperatures at 25 degrees below zero over many treacherous passes. After spending five months in Khanba Jong at 16,00 ft., Bailey was in condition for this expedition. They were only in Gartok one day then had to advance over the extremely difficult passes into India. This was at the end of December just before the passes were closed. The expedition arrived in Simla on the 11th of January, 1905, Bailey's first exploring mission.

Bailey, in later years, said his personal mission was *'to report on the trade and trade routes between India and Ngari Khorsum, the provinces of Tibet in which Gartok is situated'*.

Next : The Political Department.

BAILEY'S MOVEMENTS, 1903-04

Younghusband Expedition, 1903-04



Gartok Expedition, 1904-05



1905

The POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

By the 11th of January, 1905, the Gartok Expedition reached Simla after leaving Gyantse the 9th of October, 1904. Bailey stayed with his regiment at Ambala until he went on leave in September, 1905. During this time, he worked on his report of the Gartok Expedition giving his views as to the trade routes and conditions. The report was published by the Government Printing Office in Simla in 1905. The main report by Capt. Rawling, leader of the Expedition, was far more detailed and also was published in 1905. Bailey was hand-picked by Younghusband to go on this expedition to familiarize him with the hardships of exploring in the Himalayans and to report on trade and trade routes between Tibet and India. The excuse was that he might be useful as an interpreter because of his knowledge of Tibetan.

While in Ambala, Bailey was tiring of the soldiering routines and did some serious thinking about going into the Political Department even though Younghusband warned him of the pitfalls of being a 'Political'. He took the plunge on the 26th of May 1905, and applied for a transfer. In September, after not hearing anything, Bailey went on leave, first to Gangtok then to Phari, the 19th of September, and then to Yatung on the 21st of September, returning to Ambala. I think Bailey's chose to go to Tibet on leave to meet with his friend O'Connor and get acquainted with the duties of Trade Agent so he could take over when O'Connor was away on his home leave. Of course he had not been assigned the post, but it quite certain. I wonder why he didn't go to Gyantse?

When Bailey got back to Ambala, he was called to Darjeeling on the 2nd of December for an interview. Younghusband wrote Bailey's father about the appointment after it was published. Younghusband was guiding the young Bailey's career through his father and the elder Bailey would write to F.M. Bailey with his advice. It was a common practice to write to fellow officers about plans and policies which would get bogged down in the bureaucracy. Younghusband supported Lord Curzon's forward ideas regarding Tibet. O'Connor was loyal to the interests of Younghusband, and acted as patron to his loyal protegé, F.M. Bailey.

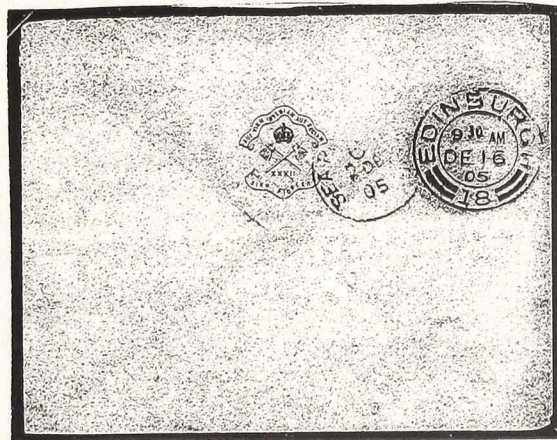
After his successful interview in Darjeeling, Bailey was ready to go to Yatung. He came prepared from Ambala and most likely brought an aide to help with his gear. He sent the aide back to Ambala with a letter addressed to his mother to be posted at Roorkee on the way back; his position was secured. The letter was mailed from Roorkee on the 14th of December 1905, Bailey was in Yatung on the 17th of December.

Bailey had a meeting with Gen. McDonald; the General said that 'Bailey would get Political Rewards for his journey to Gartok but he would not get a place in his dispatches.' Gen. McDonald certainly didn't like this young ambitious officer who was befriended by Younghusband and O'Connor. (Swinson, p.48).

1905

INDIA to SCOTLAND

f.w. one anna India Postage, tied by RAWALPINDI cds. dated 25 NO 05, SEA POST OFFICE C dated 2 DE. 05 and EDINBURGH receiving mark dated DE 16 05. Bailey was back from leave and was waiting for news about being interviewed for replacing O'Connor as Trade Agent at Gyantse.





1905 Cover to Bailey's mother in Scotland.
 Mailed at ROORKEE, 8 DE. 05
 Bailey was on his way to Darjeeling for an interview for Trade Agent.



After Bailey's successful interview he had this letter to his mother mailed at ROORKEE, 14 DE. 05,
 to tell her of his appointment and he was on his way to Yatung.

Bailey arrived at Gyantse on the 23rd of December, 1905, to take over his new duties as Trade Agent. He returned to Siliguri on the 10th of January, 1906, to meet O'Connor, who was looking after the Tashi Lama. Through a mis-communication the Tashi Lama was invited to India by O'Connor to meet the Prince of Wales in the absence of the Dalai Lama (who was in China). The home government was not too happy because they feared complicating events with China over Tibet. This was what Bailey walked into. His job was to see that the Tashi Lama and his entourage were escorted safely back to Gyantse then on to his monastery in Shigatse. On the 3rd of February, they reached Shigatse. Since the Tashi Lama and Bailey were about the same age, they became friends. Bailey, having accomplished his first real challenge, he returned with his escort to Gyantse on the 12th of February.

With O'Connor on leave, Bailey was caught in a potentially tricky situation, but he had good advice from Younghusband and his father. In a letter from Younghusband to Col. Bailey he wrote: *"You must tell him (Bailey) to be sure and do me credit for I am responsible for him and I want anyone I recommend to be a credit to me. He must be all eyes and ears and only as much tongue as is necessary to serve those eyes and ears. He cannot be too careful."*

Bailey had a busy schedule but found time to read almost every book written about Tibet, and to polish his Tibetan. He received a letter dated the 10th of May, 1906, from Younghusband telling him he had made a good impression and his chances of getting into the Political Service were almost certain. *He could make himself useful by getting information about the Tashi Lama, the return of the Dalai Lama to Lhasa, and how this would effect relations with the Tibetans, also how the Chinese would view it.*

Bailey had the support of Younghusband and was prepared for his new position but did run into a minor diplomatic crisis with the Chinese. This caused a deterioration of relationships with the Tibetans because they feared the Chinese. Bailey could not take a strong position with the Chinese for fear the British Government would not back him up. He worked hard making contacts to smooth over the situation without causing a major incident. (Bailey was doing political work as a trade agent).

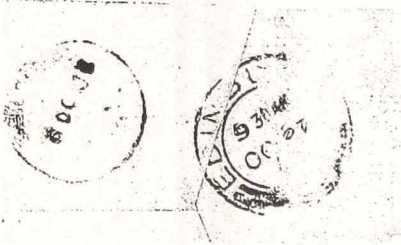
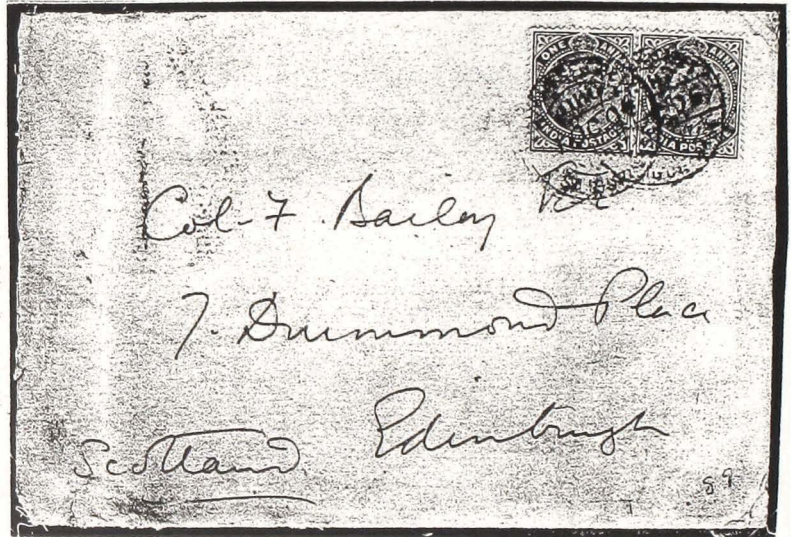
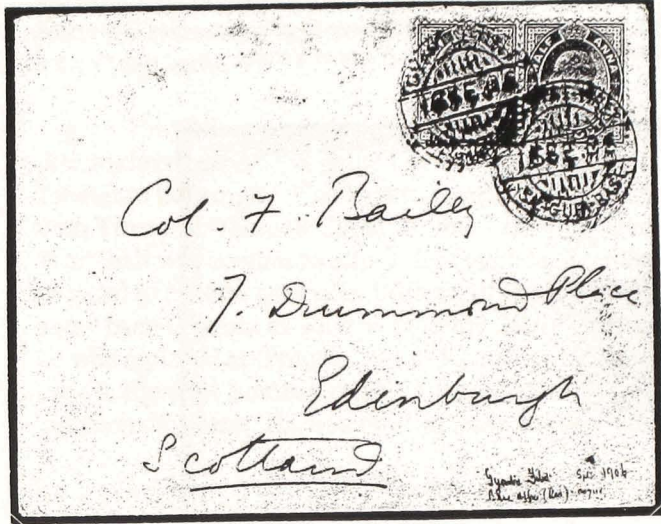
On the 14th of November, 1906, O'Connor returned to Gyantse in grand fashion with two motor cars, the first in Tibet. The story was, as told by O'Connor, that the cars were brought to Gyantse piece by piece, a 6 1/2 hp. Peugeot for himself and a larger car, a Clement, intended for the Tashi Lama. There weren't many roads to drive them so horses still were the best transportation.

Bailey's next assignment was Assistant British Trade Agent at Yatung.

1906

GYANTSE to SCOTLAND

f.w. (2) HALF ANNA INDIA POSTAGE, tied by GYANTSE-TIBET/SILIGURI BASE cds. dated 16 SE. 06
back stamped BASE OFFICE cds. dated 23 SE. 06, transit and EDINBURGH cds. OC 13 06.



GYANTSE to SCOTLAND

f.w. (2) ONE ANNA INDIA Stamps, tied by GYANTSE-TIBET/SILIGURI cds. dated 1 06, back stamped with BASE OFFICE cds. dated 6 06, plus an EDINBURGH receiving mark.

Bailey was acting Trade Agent and was one of the few Europeans living in Tibet; there was very little international mail sent out of Tibet. These are a good example of the British-India postal system in Tibet.

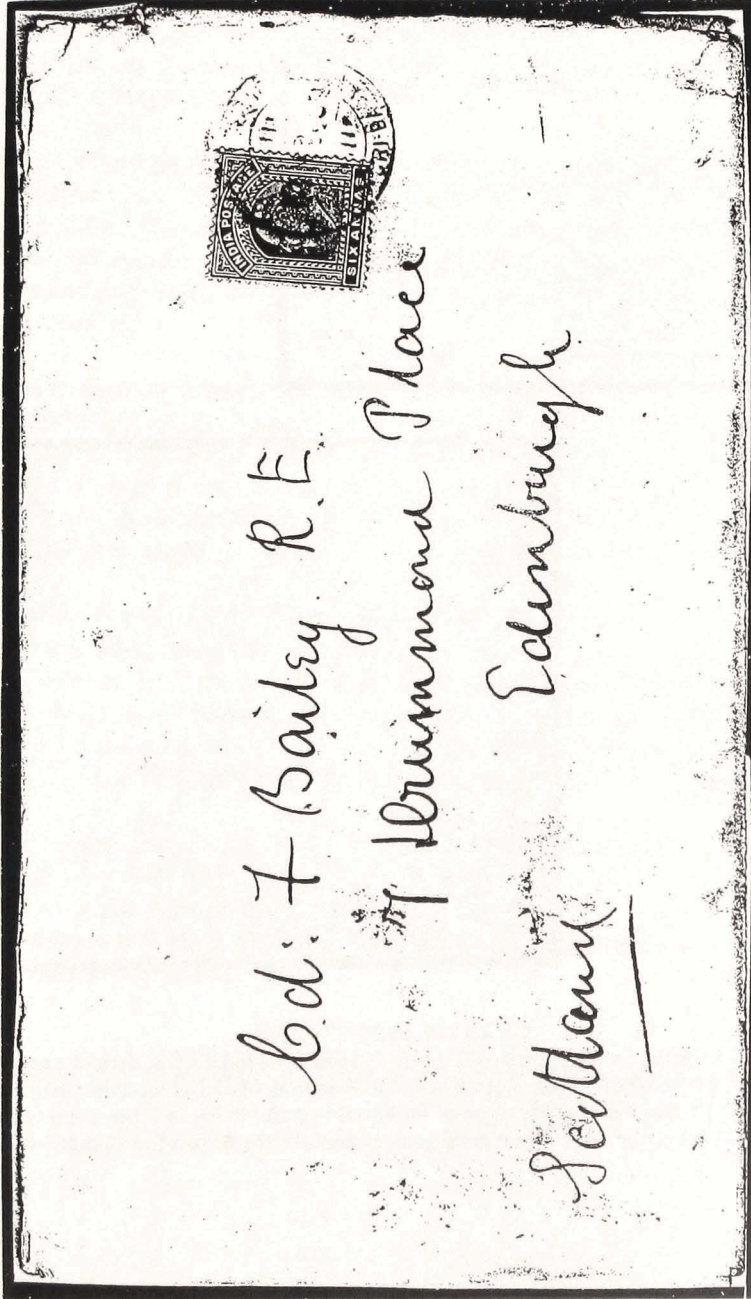
1906

TIBET to SCOTLAND

A 6 anna Rate Hand made cover, cancelled with a GYANTSE-TIBET/SILIGURI cds. dated 10 NOV 06. (BASE OFFICE () NO 06. (5) partial seals and an EDINBURGH cds. dated DE. 8 06 on the back.

At this time, Bailey was finishing up as Trade Agent at Gyantse and communicated with Youngusband through his father. This was an over weight letter and most likely was a report of his activities to his father.

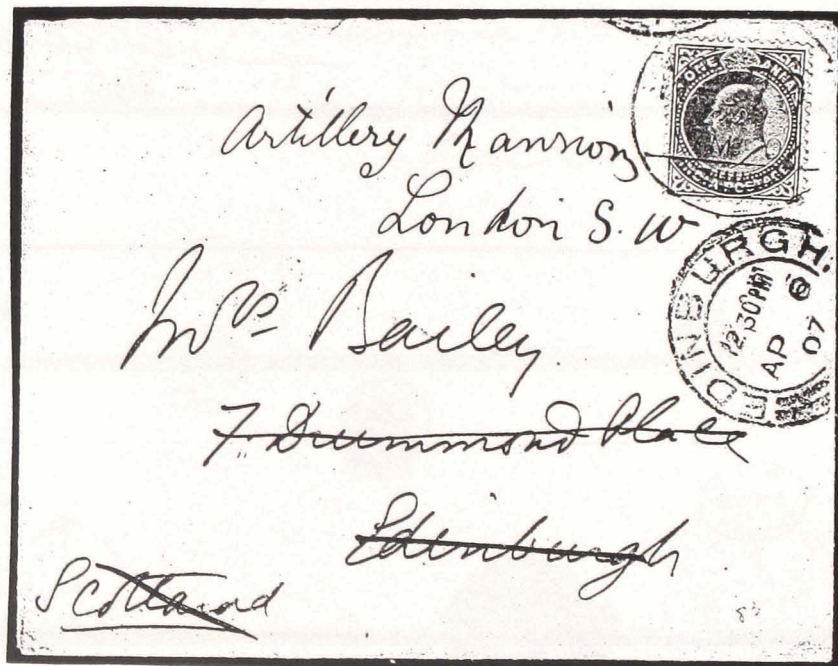
Bailey's next assignment was Assistant Trade Agent at Yatung.



1906-1909

Bailey was now in Yatung to take over his duties as Assistant British Trade Agent at Yatung on the 17th of December, 1906, under Capt. W.L. Campbell. During this time, Bailey traveled to Phari, Yatung, and Gangtok. In July, 1908, he took up the post of British Trade Agent Gyantse and relieved Capt. Campbell as British Trade Agent at Yatung. He traveled between Yatung, Phari, and Gyantse until June, 1909, when he took a two year leave.

The Chinese were successful in undermining British control of affairs in Tibet and dismantling the benefits gained by the Younghusband Expedition. China was slowly bringing Tibet into her empire. The British recognized China's 'suzerainty' over Tibet and agreed to deal with Tibet only through China. Active British presence in Tibet seemed to be coming to an end. Whitehall was content to allow China to take over the country and have the Trade Agents reduced to a token presence. With all of this intrigue going on, O'Connor wrote to Bailey to get away from Gyantse as soon as possible. Bailey got a transfer to Gangtok on the 4th of June, 1909; he was replaced at Gyantse by Lt. Kennedy, the Medical Officer at Gyantse. Bailey was aboard the s.s. Egypt at Bombay on the 31st of August and on his way home, arriving in Edinburgh eighteen days later. He was now on leave for two years.

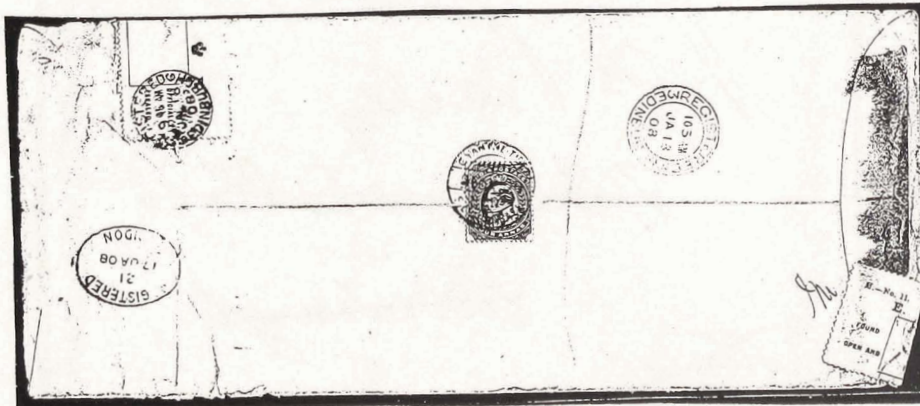
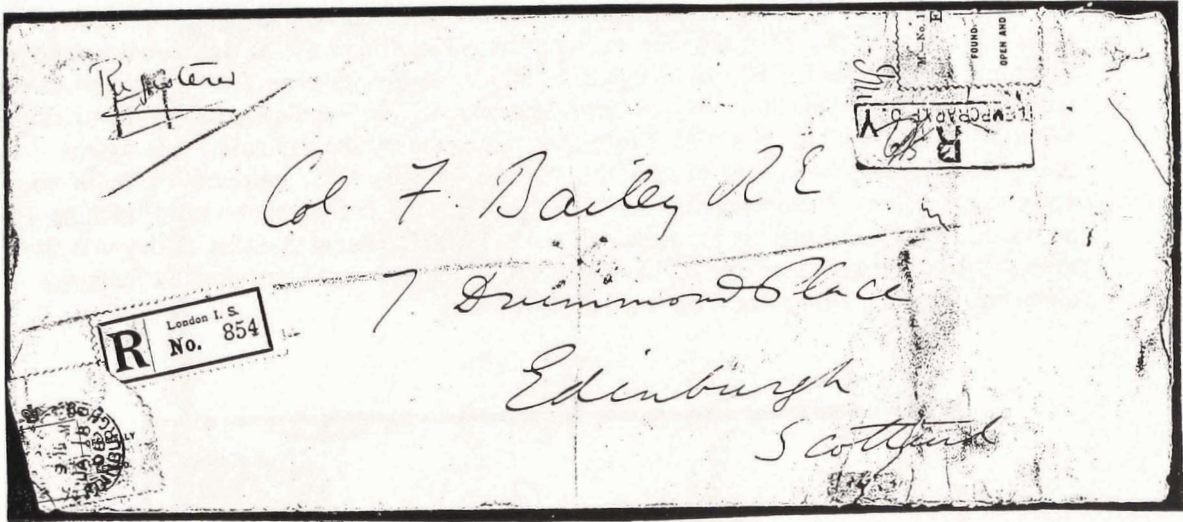


1907 COVER, TIBET to SCOTLAND

From FIELD P.O. No. 70, dated 17 MA 07, FIELD P.O. No. 70 was located at CHUMBI, the name was changed to YATUNG in October of 1907. This is a rare cover, only half a dozen known.

1907-08
REGISTERED COVER to SCOTLAND

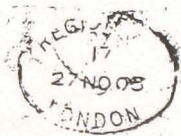
f.w., on the back, INDIA FOUR ANNAS stamp, tied by GYANTSE-TIBET/SILIGURI BASE cds. dated 25 DE. 07 (Hellrigl B14). LONDON Registration oval dated 17 JA 18 08, EDINBURGH REGISTERED cds. dated JA 18 08. On the front the rare TEMPORARY P.O. Y Registration hs. (Hellrigl B63) plus a LONDON Registry Label. This cover had "FOUND OPENED and OFFICIALLY SEALED" labels on the top and end, another example of a large envelope being sent to his father, the front is reduced to 64 % and the back is reduced to 50%.



BIBBINS COLLECTION

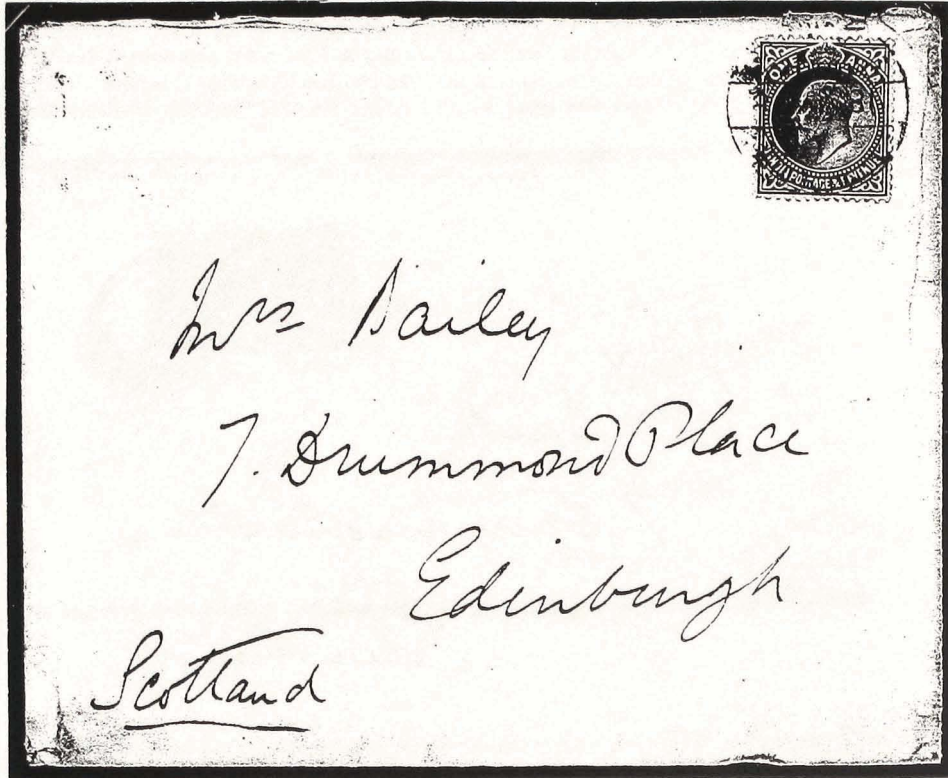
GYANTSE to SCOTLAND

Registered cover to his mother in Edinburgh, f.w. INDIA EDWARD VII 1s. and 4as., tied by two very clear GYANTSE-TIBET/SILIGURI BASE cds. dated 4 NO. 08 and the very rare TEMPORARY P.O. Y hand stamp. Backstamped with LONDON REGISTRATION oval, dated 27 NO 08 A, and a REGISTERED EDINBURGH cds. dated NO 28 08, plus a red wax seal. Bailey was now British Trade Agent at Gyantse and Yatung and had many problems to deal with including the Chinese weakening the gains of the Younghusband Mission. This cover to his mother in Scotland was possibly reported to have been forwarded to Younghusband



1908

1908 Cover from Bailey to his mother in Scotland: f.w. ONE ANNA postage tied by an inverted GYANTSE-TIBET/SILIGURI BASE cds. (typical strike) 18 MA. 08 with a BASE OFFICE transit, dated 25 MY 08, and an EDINBURGH cds. dated JU 14 08.



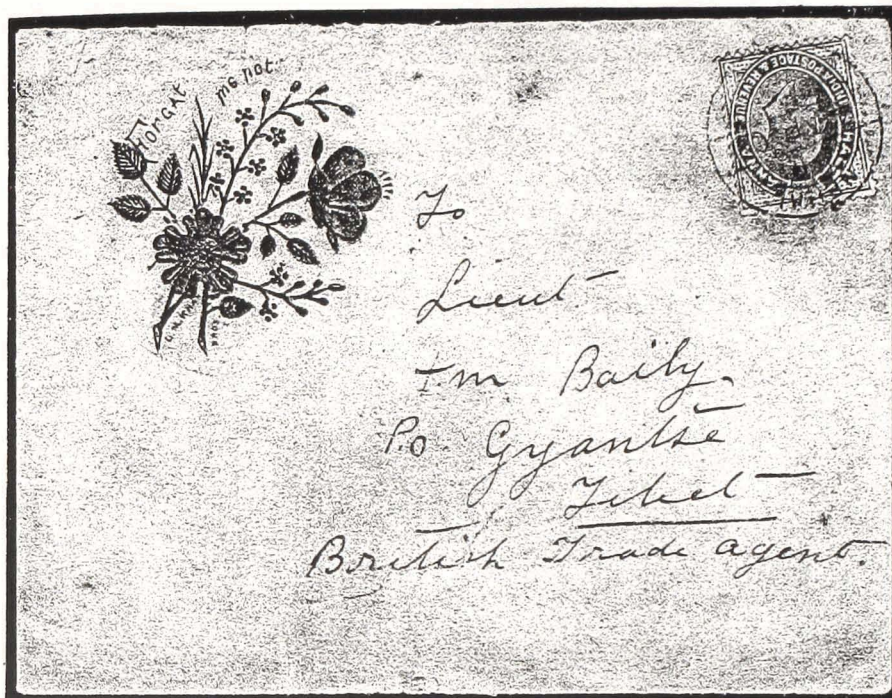
1909

1909 COVER from NEPAL to GYANTSE

"FORGAT ME NOT" Light Green Cachet cover f.w. HALF ANNA INDIA postage,
tied by a BRITISH NEPAL P.O. cds. dated 4 AP 09. Back stamped
BASE OFFICE {Siliguri} cds. dated 8 AP 09.

Bailey was British Trade Agent at Gyantse and Yatung from December 1905 to
June 1909 when he went on a two year leave.

This cover seems to be from a young admirer, Baily, misspelled, and the inverted
stamp and cancel indicating some sort of special meaning.



BIBBINS COLLECTION

1909

1909 COVER: YATUNG to SCOTLAND
+BRITISH TRADE AGENCY+YATUNG, TIBET+ (Red Crest on back flap)

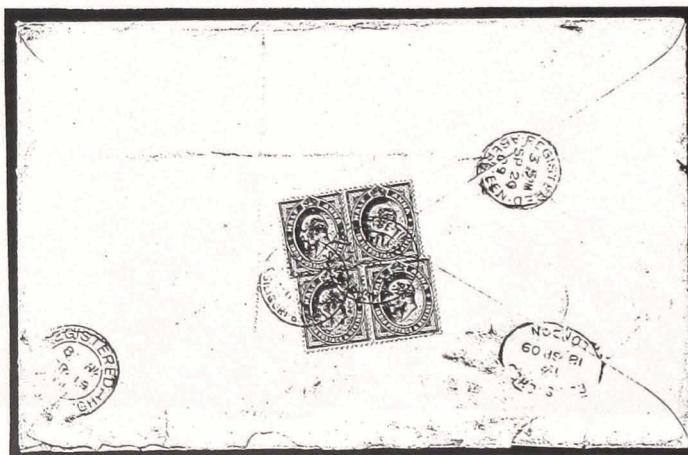
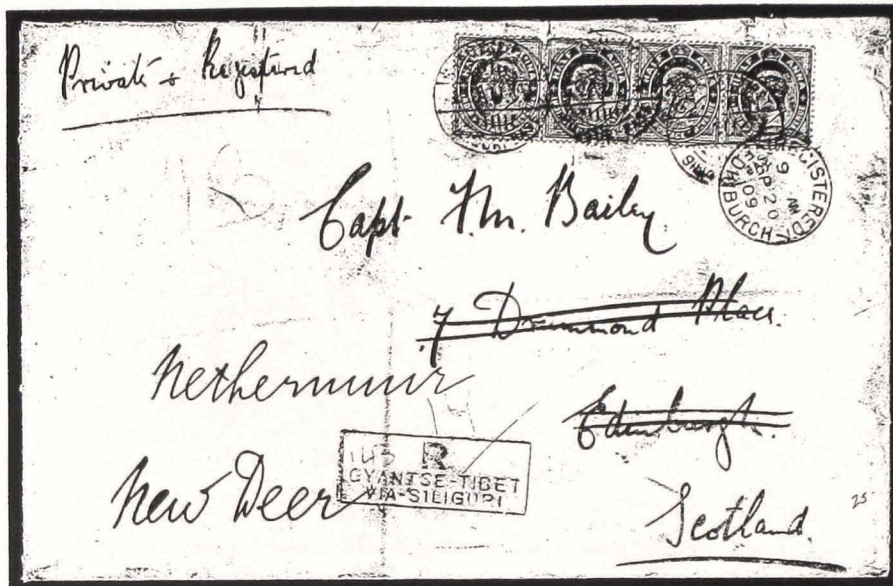
f.w. ONE ANNA INDIA stamp tied by YATUNG.TIBET/VIA SILIGURI cds. dated 20 AP 09.
On the back: BASE OFFICE cds. dated 27 AP 09 with a EDINBURGH cds. dated MY 15 09.
+BRITISH TRADE AGENCY+ YATUNG, TIBET+ Crest in red.
Bailey was still at Yatung and would be going on leave soon, he kept in contact with his parents.



BIBBINS COLLECTION

1909 REGISTERED COVER: GYANTSE to SCOTLAND

f.w. (8) INDIA EDWARD VII stamps (strip of four on the front and two pairs on the back) tied by (5) GYANTSE-TIBET/SILIGURI BASE cds. dated 21 AU 09 with the scarce boxed GYANTSE-TIBET/VIA SILIGURI R registration hs. alongside. Also REGISTERED EDINBURGH cds. dated SP 20 09. On the back two pairs of INDIA EDWARD VII tied by (2) GYANTSE-TIBET/SILIGURI BASE cds. dated 21 AU 09, REGISTERED/ LONDON oval cds. dated 18 SE 09, REGISTERED-EDINBURGH cds. SP 19 09, and a REGISTERED /ABERDEEN cds. dated SP 20 09.



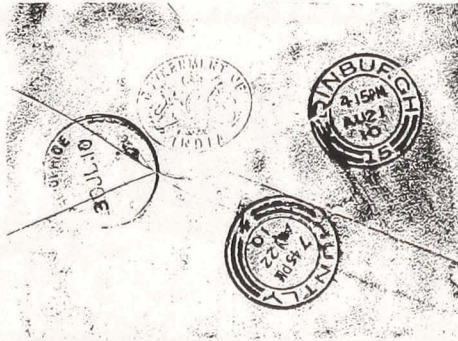
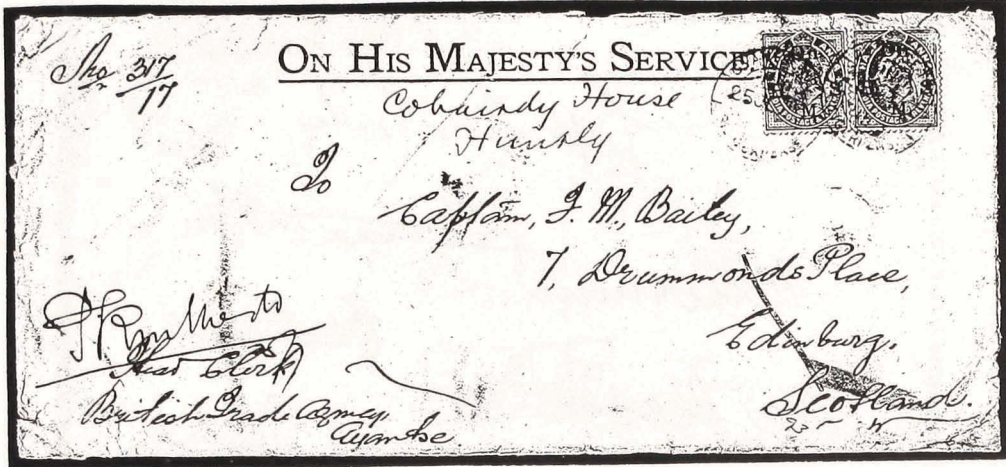
Bailey was now a Captain and was on a two year leave after being in the service for nine years, he would spend half of it in Europe and then explore the Tsangpo via China, Tibet, and Assam. This cover most likely contained private papers Bailey left behind or orders for his expedition, who knows?

Front reduced to 64%, the back reduced to 50%.

1910 REGISTERED ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE COVER: GYANTSE to SCOTLAND

Scarce Official cover sent during the Chinese occupation of Tibet (1909-12) f.w. (2) ON/H/M/S over printed INDIA HALF ANNA stamps tied by (2) GYANTSE -TIBET/SILIGURI BASE cds. dated 25 JL 10. On the back a BASE OFFICE cds. dated 30 JL 10, an EDINBURGH cds. dated AU 22 10 then redirected to HUNTLY, AU 22 10.

All British-India mails during the Chinese Occupation are scarce, Official Mail being rare. This is an official cover and had to contain Bailey's orders. The condition of this cover suggests that Bailey took it with him on his China, Tibet, Assam mission, then to India; Capt. J.L. Weir was Trade Agent at this time.



Cover reduced to 64%.



Bailey was on leave for two years and he had his mail forwarded by Cox & Co., London.

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| CALCUTTA,
05 JULY 1910 | SIMLA,
11-14 JULY 1910 | OSTENDE,
06 AUG. 1910 |
| BASE OFFICE, Siliguri,
08 JULY 1910 | LONDON,
04 AUG. 1910 | HUNTLY,
09 AUG. 1910 |
| | BRUSSELS,
05 AUG. 1910 | |

Bailey was finally home in Scotland after being away since December 1900. True to form, Bailey went on fishing/hunting excursions, dined with friends, went to the theatre, concerts, and other social events including dances. The first half of his leave was to have a good time, the serious part was next-his exploration of the Tsangpo river in Tibet through China. Bailey left for Paris, Brussels, Berlin, St. Petersburg, and Peking on the 29th of January 1911; this was the beginning of his third career.

In his book CHINA-TIBET-ASSAM, a journey 1911, he discussed this adventure in great detail. His mission was to enter Tibet through China and explore the Tsangpo river and its tributaries. The Tsangpo flows at an altitude of 9,000 feet in Tibet and in Assam it flows at 500 feet, only 120 miles away as the bird flies. There had been rumors of great falls and Bailey would try to find them. He thought it would be possible if he came in through China to the eastern corner of Tibet and then back to India through Assam. Bailey would do this with just himself and a Tibetan servant, a 16 year old boy named Putamdu. Bailey had him trained at the Bombay Natural History Society to skin birds and other natural history specimens for this adventure. Bailey cabled Putamdu to meet him in Peking, and with the assistance of Thomas Cook & Sons, he traveled from Tibet to Peking via Calcutta and Shanghai, his first sea voyage. Traveling alone and hiring porters as they progressed would give them a better chance of crossing the frontiers. Bailey's skill with languages was also a big help; then again, who would question an Englishman running all around China collecting butterflies?

Bailey's journey started out in Moscow where he was to board the Trans-Siberian Railway, which he missed and therefore had to wait a week for the next train. It was a very hectic trip because of an outbreak of pneumonic plague and the quarantine that followed, but he did finally arrive at Peking on the 8th of March 1911. In Peking, Bailey was issued a passport permitting him to travel in the provinces of Szechuan and Yunnan, which had to be stamped by local officials. This is when Putamdu arrived and he finalized his plans for this adventure.

On the 23rd of March, 1911, Bailey and Putamdu sailed up the Yangtse river on the Japanese steamer the *Tachimaru*, reaching Hankow, then Ichang where he hired a small steamer to continue the journey through the Yangtse gorges to Shantang. There were several incidents which Bailey colorfully describes in his book. At Wanhsien the river journey ended on the 6th of April where he made arrangements for transportation to continue to Chengtu arriving on the 27th of April, then on to Yachou four days later.

The beginning of May, they left the plains and crossed the Ta-hsiang-ling pass, at 9,367 feet, on the 3rd, then the Fei-yveh-ling pass noting the natural history and, of course, the butterflies. By the 9th of May, then reached the city Tatsien (Kangting). When he approached the Tibetan frontier, he was obligated to take two Chinese soldiers with him for safety (the Tibetans were fighting the Chinese at this time); of course, their job was to see that Bailey did not wander off into restricted areas.

They crossed the Gi La pass at 13,813 ft. Here he was able to collect some rare butterflies including the '*Parnassus acco baileyanus*'; they reached Litang on the 28th of May. At Batang, Bailey bought some ponies so as to eliminate the hiring of local porters. Again he discovered several new species of butterflies, the '*Ypthima baileyi*' and the '*Carterocephalus postnigra*'. On the 6th of June, Bailey left Batung crossing the Cho-cho-shen pass to the Mekong river which forms the border of Tibet. Here, he crossed via a rope bridge near Yenching where he engaged Tibetan porters.

He went over many passes to Menkong where he collected more butterflies, '*Aporia baileyi*' and '*Halpe baileyi*'. Progress towards the Tsangpo was slow with the help of only two servants and two Tibetan porters. By the 18th, he hit a tributary of the Irrawaddy-Brahmaputra at Zhasha La and found more new specimens, '*Erebia baileyi*' and the '*Lethe baileyi*'; this was on the 22nd of June. Bailey was now close to the Tsangpo proper but he was not allowed to continue to Po Me because of fighting between the Tibetans and the Chinese. This was a major disappointment. After traveling so far, Bailey had to change his plans and find a different way into India. He decided to go through Assam via Sadiya and the Mishmi country. Bailey had a difficult time getting help through the Mishmi country, but finally reached the village of Ti-ne. While in the village, a group of Mishmis arrived with the news that the Abors had murdered Noel Williamson and his party. This cleared up the mystery cable Bailey got from his father, 'WARN BAILEY MASSACRE SADIYA'.

Bailey was now worried about returning from his leave on time. With all the delays he would most likely be late. He struggled to get through Mishmi country, finally arriving at Sadiya by canoe early in August. After going through leech-infested jungles, he was a mess, clothes in rags, shoes worn out, and badly in need of a bath. Luckily, he found at the bottom of one of his boxes some decent clothes; now he could present himself to the members of the Political Department. After a few days rest, Bailey traveled by boat and train to Calcutta.

Back in India Bailey would have to face the fact that he overstayed his leave. This was looked on with displeasure by his superiors and he was transferred to the United Provinces for training in the Civil Services at Aligarh. He was required to justify his overstay with a report but he said he was too busy trying petty cases in court. The only free time available was Sunday, but he would do his best. This didn't sit so well and on the 2nd of September, he was called to Simla for an interview with the Deputy Secretary. Bailey was informed that he was in serious trouble for returning late from his leave and was advised to get the report finished within ten days by devoting full time to it. (*Bailey was not worried, he already made a rough draft on his journey from Sadiya to Calcutta*). While in Simla, Bailey heard about plans to launch a Punitive Expedition against the Abors, so he contacted Sir McMahon to see if he could be part of it. McMahon thought he could '*do some quietly useful work*'; Bailey was on active duty again.

This was Bailey's first exploring adventure on his own. He had exploring experience under difficult conditions with the Younghusband Expedition and the Gartok Mission, but on those they had their own surveying teams. Bailey was determined to find the *Great Falls* and explore the Tsangpo river. He came very close to entering Tibet from China but was turned back before reaching Po Me because of the great danger of being killed by the Tibetans and the Chinese who were fighting nearby. Bailey did chart and map much of this uncharted territory as well as documenting many new wild life species. He was awarded the '*Gill Memorial*' by the *Royal Geographical Society* and the '*MacGregor Medal*' by the *Royal United Service Institute of India* for his work on this expedition.

1911

Capt. F.M. Bailey finally reached Peking on the 8th of March 1911.
In Peking he put together supplies for the next part of his adventure.
Through China into Eastern Tibet to trace the course of the Tsangpo,
then to India by way of Assam.

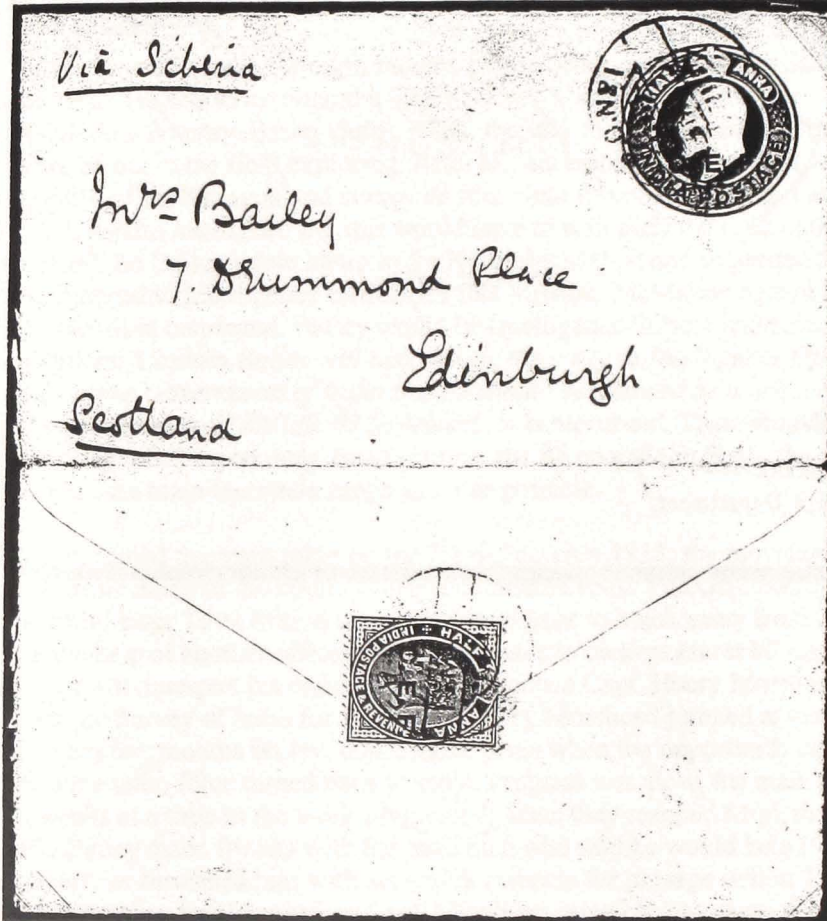
Small *HALF ANNA* Envelope, C.E.F. (*China Expeditionary Force*)

Cancelled with a F.P.O. No. 1 c.d.s. dated, 13 MA. 11.

F.P.O. No. 1 was at Street, Peking.

Addressed to his mother in Scotland *Via Siberia*.

The British negotiated with the Russians in 1903 to send mail
over the much quicker Siberian route.

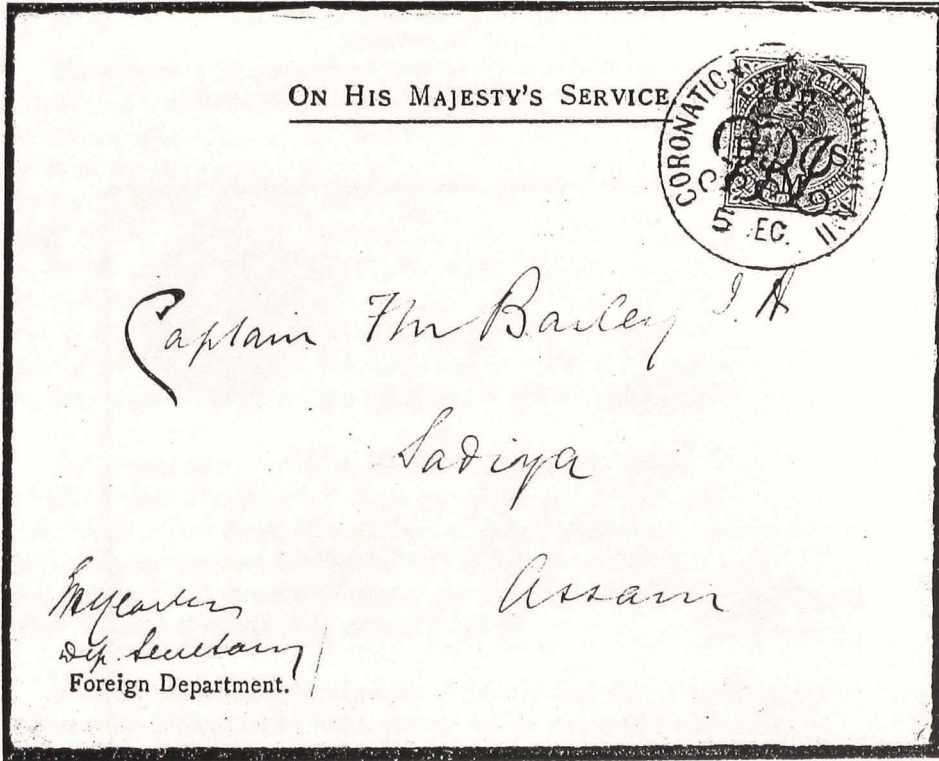


BIBBINS COLLECTION

1911

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE

OFFICIAL COVER to Captain F.M. Bailey I.A. (Indian Army), Sadiya, Assam.
f.w. 1 ANNA OHMS o.p. INDIA postage stamp, tied by CORINATION, DUNBAR, 1911, 5 DEC. cds.
from the Dept. Secretary, Foreign Department.



On the back is a SADIYA, (1)0 DE. 11, receiving mark and was sealed with a large Red Regimental Seal which was removed. *Red meant Anger to the Abors.*

At this time Bailey was to be an Intelligence Officer to find out if the Chulikatta/Mishmis were also going to rebel. This cover most likely contained his special orders for this mission.

The Indian Government organized a Punitive Expedition against the Abors from Assam, not Simla. With General Bower and his staff in charge they set up H.Q.'s at Kobo on the 7th of October, 1911. Bailey was back at Sadiya on the 9th of October 1911 to *'do some quietly useful work'* for Sir Henry McMahon who recognized his experience and knowledge of this area. When Bailey arrived at Kobo, they thought of him as *'that damn fellow from Simla'* and sent him to Chulikatta/Mishmi country to see if they were going to also rebel. Bailey was assigned a detail of 25 Military Police and 90 Naga hill people to act as porters, Bailey was not to go anywhere without them. This made it very difficult to do any exploring, as this was basically an intelligence mission for Bailey. He didn't find any rebellion, the Chulikatta had no intention of uprising, so Bailey reported back to Kobo; then he returned to Simla. McMahon was disappointed that he hadn't traveled further into Chulikatta country but after he read Bailey's orders from Gen. Bower he understood. Bailey was sent back to resume his duties.

Bailey stayed in India for eight months before being called back to Sadiya in November 1912. He was to command a larger Survey Mission deep into Chulikatta/Mishmi country. Bailey didn't relish the idea of being an administrator, he would rather be out in the field exploring. After all, his ambition at this time was to find the 'Great Falls' of the Tsangpo and survey its route into Assam. He saw this as a chance to go through Assam into Tibet, but this would have to wait until the right opportunity presented itself. So Bailey wrote again to Sir Henry McMahon and requested that his position be changed to Intelligence Officer for this Mission. McMahon agreed and put Capt. G.A. Nevill in command. Bailey would be Intelligence Officer and received the following orders: *'Captain Bailey will accompany the party as Intelligence Officer, and it is the desire of the Government of India that he should be allowed as much scope as possible for the exercise of his talents as regards to exploration'*. There would be two parties to survey the Abor country, one to survey the Siyon and the Sigon rivers, and the other to survey the main mountain range as far as possible.

Bailey joined the main force on the 7th of February 1913; the movement was slow but after crossing much of the country they encountered some Tibetans. Bailey was now certain he could enter Tibet from Assam. He would have to break away from the main force with the help of another officer; this would have to be kept secret because he was not sure of how to interpret his orders. Bailey approached Capt. Henry Morshead, R.E., who was on the Survey of India for the last six years. Morshead jumped at the idea, so during the next few months Bailey, could make plans when the opportunity came, most likely when the main force turned back to India. Progress was slow, the main force would camp for weeks at a time as the work progressed; when they reached Mipi, they stayed one month. Bailey made friends with the head man who said he would help Bailey entering Tibet; he furnished him with several documents for passage within Tibet. Bailey arranged for supplies for the mission. Capt. Morshead came back to camp at Mipi on the 13th of May 1913, with his surveying party; he also had a packet of film for Bailey's camera and mail from home. In a letter from Bailey's mother was news of his father's death. This was a great shock but Bailey was determined to complete his mission.

Capt. Nevill received a telegram saying that Bailey could not go '*without futher orders*'. Since Bailey had discussed the venture with him earlier, he was sympathetic and said he would say that Bailey left before the telegram arrived. As the main force was heading back to Sadiya, Bailey and Morshead were leaving Mipi on the 15th of May, 1913. Bailey didn't know what the repercussions would be, but he was now on his way. From the 15th of May to the 14th of November, 1913, when they returned to India, Bailey and Morshead explored, surveyed, and mapped hundreds of square miles of unmapped country, traced 380 miles of the Tsangpo, found and documented the falls including the biggest, a mere thirty feet high, no Great Falls, only many rapids. They walked hundreds of miles, climbed, up and down gorges and mountains almost to Lhasa. For this feat Bailey was awarded *the Gold Medal by the Royal Geographical Society*.

Bailey and Morshead did not do this completely on their own; they had to have porters (bearers), some were Gurkhas and others were hired en-route. It was necessary to carry supplies and stash some food for the return trip. The porters also had to carry all the specimens that Bailey collected on the way plus equipment. They made arrangements with each village for procurement of food, almost a different village every day. The fact that Bailey wrote and spoke Tibetan was essential. The head man at Mipi, Gyamtso could not join Bailey but did give him documents, in Tibetan, of introduction for safe passage. It would appear that Bailey and Morshead broke away from the main force without authority, there had to be an understanding between them and McMahon as to what could be done since there were two officers and several Gurkhas away from their military duties; and they would be away for over six months. In any case, it was a monumental undertaking with Bailey and Morshead back in India the 14th of November 1913, then on to Calcutta.

Bailey was called back to Simla by McMahon who was working on negotiations between Great Britain, China, and Tibet. Bailey and Morshead had just surveyed the area where the disputed borders were; there were delays which gave Morshead plenty of time to prepare his maps. After six months of discussions, the Simla Convention of 1914, was installed which divided Tibet into two zones, Outer Tibet and Inner Tibet. Chinese suzerainty was recognized over all of Tibet and China would not convert Tibet into a Chinese province. The British would not annex any part of Tibet and China would not interfere with the administration of Tibet, which rested with the Tibetans. They would not send in military troops, with the exception of escort for the Chinese Amban in Lhasa. The British trade Agent at Gyantse could go to Lhasa and so on. This is just a summary of the Simla Convention which bogged down when the Chinese Government refused to put complete signatures on the documents and went back to their old ways. If W.W. I had not broken out, the continuation of the Simla Convention might have changed the future of Tibet.

While at Simla, Bailey thought that the Sikkimese servant, Kintup, might be alive. He was an agent for the Survey of India in 1880, mapped part of the Tsangpo and was a legend because he found the Great Falls. Bailey traced him to Darjeeling working as a tailor and had him sent to Simla. Kintup and Bailey talked for hours about their similar experiences with Tsangpo. Bailey asked him about the falls, Kintup said there were no Great Falls.

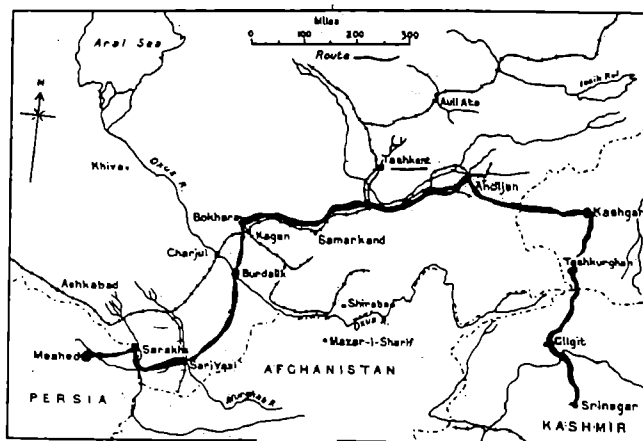
Since Kintup could not read or write, when he returned from his survey, his findings were translated and taken down by a secretary. The interpreter and the secretary didn't bother to read it back to Kintup. He had said that there was a thirty foot falls and 150 foot rapids, so when Bailey asked him, Kintup said there were no Great Falls. So for over 30 years everybody thought that there were falls that surpassed Niagara. Now Bailey would have to convince the nay sayers in London who were putting Bailey's efforts down,

Bailey was now back in England in June, 1914, and would read his paper before the Royal Geographical Society to explain the journey, how it came about and how he interviewed Kintup saying there were no falls because of misinterpretation of the translation. Bailey was able to prove his findings and stop the non-believers. His observations of the habitat of wild life and the specimens he brought back were staggering for such a small expedition-such a wealth of information.

Home in Edinburgh when W.W.I broke out, Bailey joined the 6th Reserve Regiment of the 12th Lancers in Dublin the 31st of August, 1914. He stayed with them until the 13th of January, 1915, when he went to London to receive the C.I.E. (Companion of the Indian Empire) bestowed on him by King George V.

Bailey made two trips to France in March 1915. In April, he volunteered to be transferred to the I.E.F. (India Expeditionary Force) and was assigned to the 34th Sikh Pioneers of Lahore, his brother's unit. This was his third trip to France and it was an horrendous experience, he was wounded in the shoulder by a fragment and later shot in the arm; this was the 26th of April. Bailey was sent back to England and was fit for service on the 30th of June. In July, he was again in the I.E.F. and sailing for Alexandria to join the 1st/5th Gurkhas in the Gallipoli campaign. In August, he was wounded in both legs above the knees. He was back in a London hospital in September, and, in November, Bailey was called to the India Office. They realized that because of his Tibetan language skills he would be more important in the Political Department; so in January, 1916, he was with the N.W.F.F. as Political Officer in Kohat then Charsadda {1916-17}; and in 1918, at Shushtar. Bailey received a telegram in March, 1918, from Delhi asking if he was physically fit for a long, arduous journey. Then he received an order to go to Kashgar in Chinese Turkistan, he would get detailed orders in India on the way.

Next: Mission to Tashkent.

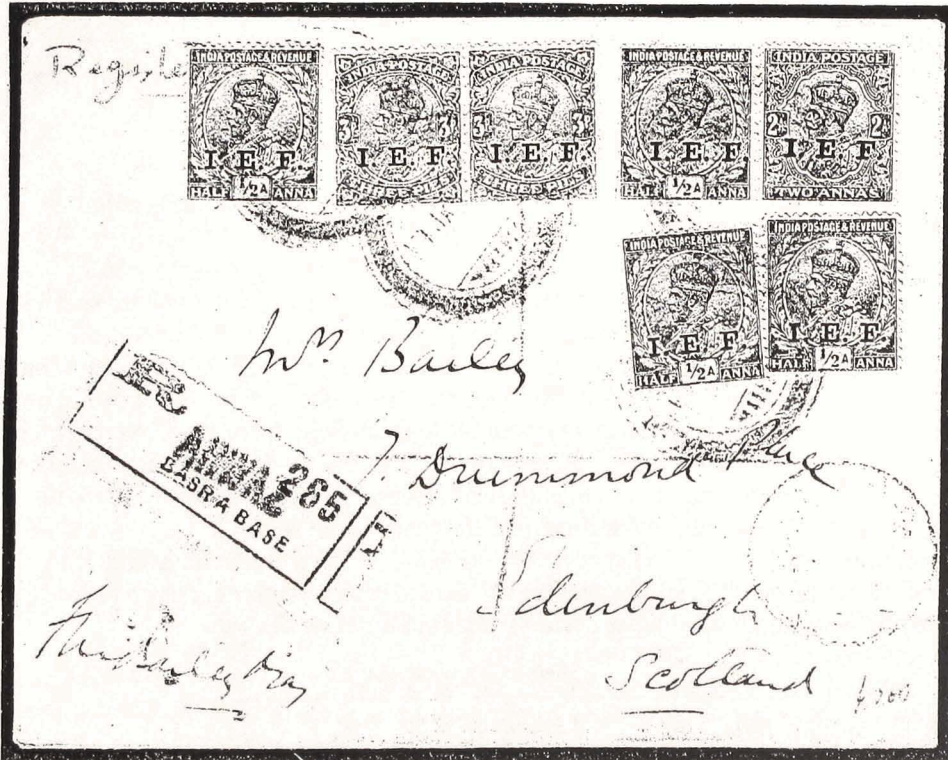


1918

1918 REGISTERED COVER; PERSIA to SCOTLAND

f.w. I.E.F. o/p INDIA POSTAGE, (2) THREE PIES, (4) HALF PIES and (1) TWO ANNAS, tied by (4) AHWAZ cds. dated 17 JAN. 18, a TEMPORARY REGISTRY LABEL of BASRA BASE with AHWAZ o/p, an indistinguishable red cds. and a red ink Registered. Back: REGISTERED/LONDON oval cds. dated 16 MA 18.

Bailey was Political Officer in Mesopotamia and Persia, 1917-18. In March 1918 he was sent to Kashgar in Chinese Turkistan via Simla, India where he received detailed orders to lead an Expedition from Srinagar to Kashgar which took six weeks. Again, we have an overweight registered letter to his mother. This was the beginning of his greatest adventure.



BIBBINS COLLECTION

Having his orders, Bailey was to lead a mission to Kashgar in Chinese Turkestan and was given a temporary rank of Lt. Colonel. At Kashgar, he was to proceed to Tashkent, with Sir George Macartney to follow; they would meet with the Commissar to persuade the Bolsheviks to stay in the war against Germany. Whitehall also wanted to know if the German and Austrian P.O.W.s newly released by the Red Army would be going into Afghanistan or India against the British, and if the Germans were getting the cotton from that territory to make TNT.

The journey from Srinagar started on the 7th of June, 1918, with Major A.T. Etherton, Major L.V.S. Blacker, a detachment of guides, a small administrative staff, and 160 local baggage carriers. The journey to Kashgar over the Pamirs took six weeks. Bailey as the nature scientist and amateur photographer, with his 4A Kodak camera, was always on the look out for butterflies and he collected around 2000 specimens of about 200 varieties on this mission. In Kashgar, they had meetings with the Kashgar War Lord then proceeded to Tashkent with Blacker; this was to be a peaceful, accredited mission

In Tashkent, they met with the Bolshevik Commissar who had answers to their questions; they had no intention of helping the British defeat the Germans. They would sell the cotton to any buyer, but it was all going to the Soviet Union. The P.O.W.s would be enlisted in the Soviet Army, if not, sent home, plus if this is a peaceful mission why did the British Army land at *Archangel? This was information that Bailey and Macartney knew nothing about, they had not been told. With this news the mission had no more meaning, the Bolsheviks considered it an act of war. Macartney and Blacker got visas to return to Kashgar with Bailey staying on, his mission had changed. It is not known why he stayed and for what reason but it is clear that he must have had special orders, certainly not from the civil servants at Whitehall who disapproved of his earlier exploits.

Bailey rented a flat and fit into the chaotic social life of Tashkent where living was tenuous under the Bolshevik regime. He was followed and spied on all the time and finally had to go underground. There were very few people he could trust and at one point in time he was recruited by the regime to find the spy Bailey. After many months of very dramatic episodes, Bailey was able to organize an escape through the desert with other refugees to N.E. Persia, arriving on the 14th of January 1920.

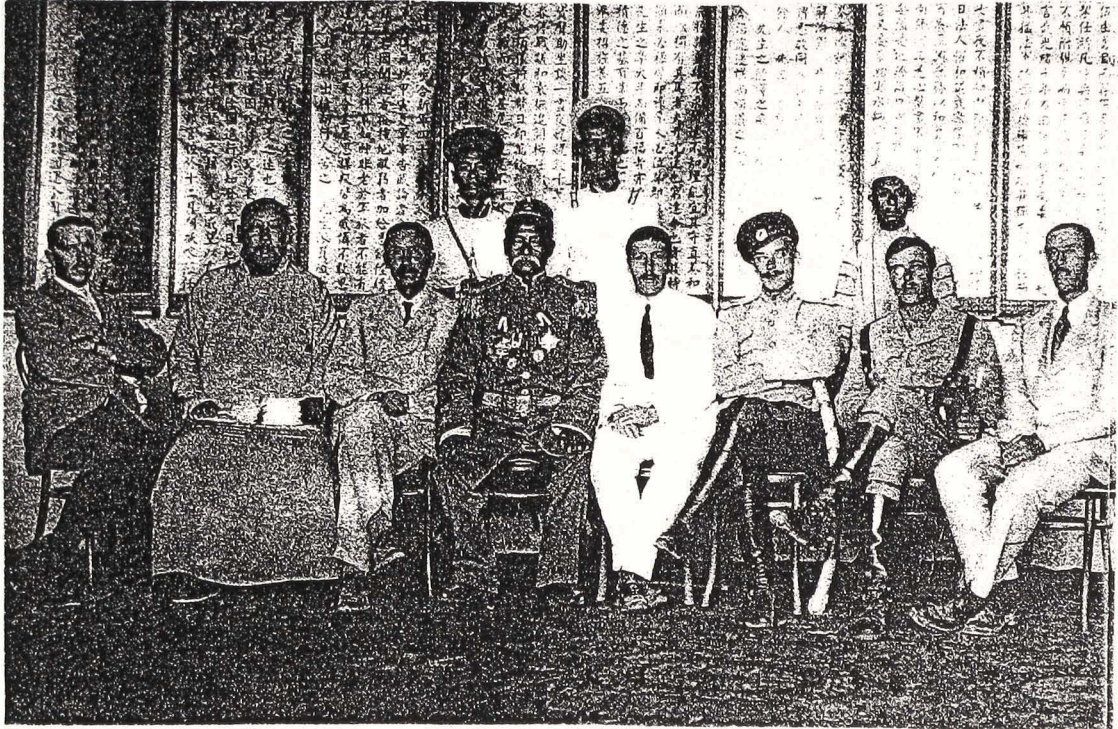
Bailey was in Delhi on the 9th of February and was received by the Viceroy a few days later. In July he was back in London and on the 22nd of August had an audience with King George V. In 1921 Bailey married the Honorable Irma Cozens-Hardy, daughter of Lord Cozens-Hardy while in England, he was also appointed Political Officer at Gangtok, Sikkim, replacing Sir Charles Bell. This was going to be an adventure for the Hon. Mrs. Bailey, she had never been in Himalayan area before.

Next: Political Officer at Gangtok, Sikkim.

*Archangel is in Northern Russia. The British had landed earlier with troops and tanks; this was unknown to both Bailey and Macartney. General Malleson had clashed with the Bolsheviks at Ashkabad earlier. It appeared the British and the Russians were no longer Allies; the Bolsheviks considered these acts of war.

MISSION to KASHGAR, 1918

Bailey, after arriving at Kashghar, had meetings with Sir George Macartney, the Chinese War Lord, and the Russian consul, Major Blacker and Major Etherton along with a Chinese Civil Official, and a Cossack. Sir George Macartney was the British Consul-General at Kashgar who was retiring to be replaced by Major Etherton; they were waiting for final orders to move into Tashkent. Whitehall and Delhi were not sure what a Bolshevik was and how this diplomatic mission would play out with the way that W.W. I and the Russian Revolution were going.



Kashgar War Lord in the center with Sir George Macartney, the British Consul to his right, to his right is a Chinese Civil Official, and Major A.T. Etherton. To his left is the Russian Consul, Upensky, a Cossack named Chernoff, Major L.V.S. Blacker and to the far right of the picture is Lt. Col. F.M. Bailey.



1921

1921 REGISTERED COVER: IRAQ to SCOTLAND
f.w. (2) OTTOMANES (TURKEY) 1914 stamps over-printed **IRAQ/IN BRITISH/**

OCCUPATION/3An. tied by an indistinct cds. dated () **JAN 21** also an unclear
IRAQ Registry Label. On the back is an oval **RESTISTRY/LONDON** dated **17 FE 21.**

Address to: Hon. Bailey. Lieut. Colonel, 7 Drummond Place, Edinburgh, Scotland.

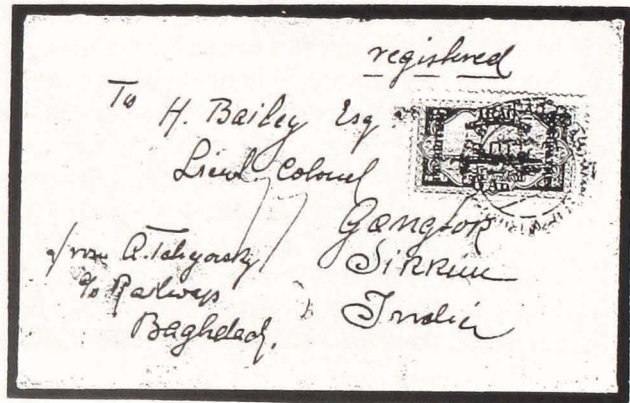
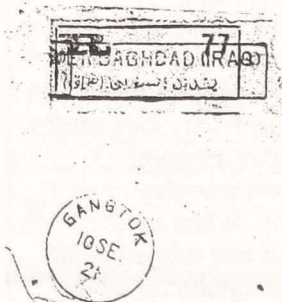
The only time Bailey was a Lt. Col. was when he led the Mission into Tashkent, so this letter
was from someone who knew him during this time. When he was in Tashkent and being hunted,
Bailey found refuge in the home of an engineer named Mashmeer where he remained safe while
taking on many disguises. This cover would have to be from the same Mashmeer. He would only
know Bailey's Scotland address since was not a Political Officer yet and was still at home on leave.



1921

1921 REGISTERED COVER: IRAQ to GANGTOK, SIKKIM

f.w. OTTOMANES stamp over-printed **IRAQ/IN BRITISH/OCCUPATION/6An.** tied by LOWER
BAGHDAD cds. dated **22 AUG, 21.** On the back is LOWER BAGHDAD Registry Label and a
GANGTOK cds. dated **10 SE. 21.** This is another cover from someone who knew Bailey in the Tashkent
Mission since it is addressed to H.(sic) Bailey Esq. Lieut. Colonel, Gangtok, Sikkim. Two very important
covers, they have been reduced to 64%.



41

POLITICAL OFFICER at GANGTOK

Bailey was now married and was going to take over as Political Officer at Gartok replacing Sir Charles Bell; he would start his duties on the 18th of June, 1921. He was now ready to settle down after many years of adventure after adventure, but as fate will have it, his new job would have its own type of challenges testing Bailey's talents and abilities. But, he was always up to the job. Bailey knew before he arrived at Gangtok of the planned reconnaissance of Mt. Everest, although permission was turned down before W.W. I because of negotiations with Russia in an attempt to end the Great Game; they didn't want rumours of suspicious movements around Tibet reaching Moscow. In 1919, Capt. J.E. Noel brought the matter to the Royal Geographic Society and got some movement. India was favorable, but Nepal did not want any expedition passing through Nepal. Sir Charles Bell was in Lhasa at this time and was able to convince the Dalai Lama to give permission, on the 9th of December, 1920 he gave written consent. The reconnaissance expedition included George Mallory and Capt. Henry Morshead who, with Bailey, mapped a portion of the Tsangpo in 1913. The expedition started off on the 18th of May, 1921, and lasted until September; it was decided to make a full scale attempt in 1922. On the 28th of December, 1921 the Prime Minister of Tibet, Lanchen Shokang, wrote to Bell that the local Tibetan officials had reported that members of the Everest reconnaissance team "*have dug and carried away turquoises from the Lachi frontier, and Rubies from Rong-fu and She-chung,*" i.e. mining. This was very serious because the local people believed that they had released demons from the soil and epidemics would break out. He continued that the climbers should be prevented from "*wandering about the mountains*". As in 1906, Bailey walked onto another very sensitive situation, this time everybody got into the act; the Everest Committee, the Viceroy etc. Bailey's Tibetan skills came into play. Sir Charles Bell as well as Bailey, could speak and write fluent Tibetan and could communicate with the Dalai Lama without an interpreter. During 1922, Bailey assured the Dalai Lama that no mining took place and efforts would be made to comply with the Tibetans in every respect. Permission was, again, given for the 1922 expedition. The Tibetan Commander in Chief, Tsarong Shape, became part of this discussion, (Tsarong Shape was also head of the Mint responsible for the printing of stamps, paper money, and the minting of coins).

The 1922 full scale attempt was unsuccessful and preliminary plans were made to get permission for another expedition. Bailey advised them that chances were very slim; it seems that Explorer Films Ltd., who filmed the attempt, brought a group of Tibetan Monks from Gyantse to London for the showing of the film. This was arranged by Capt. Noel and they performed various rituals, (Capt. Noel did the filming and was one of the promoters of the expedition). When news of this reached Lhasa, their concern was voiced to the Everest Committee and Bailey was asked if this was true, what robes, masks and dances were performed. Explorer Films wrote that no religious dances were performed, and no masks taken to England. The Tibetan Government was also concerned about the circumstances of how the Monks left the country. When another request for permission for the 1924 assault was forwarded to Lhasa it was refused point blank. Bailey then got a terse letter from the Everest Committee blaming him for all the problems, so he assured the Tibetans that these problems would be solved.

Bailey, after many diplomatic assurances, got permission for the 1924 attempt on Everest. We all know the story of the 1924 attempt on Everest which was not successful; further attempts were not allowed by the Dalai Lama until 1932. The Everest Committee tried to undermine Bailey over the Everest affair, when it was the unauthorized visits to Rangshar and Lhatse by the climbers as well as other events that upset the Tibetans. The committee had to blame someone and Bailey was it; in the end, Bailey was vindicated. London didn't have a clue as to the difficulty of negotiating with the Tibetans, but Bailey knew the sensibilities and customs of the people and knew how to deal with them, as did Sir Charles Bell. The affair of the traveling Monks was unfortunate; it seems that Capt. Noel made his decision on unreliable second hand information.

During July-August of 1924, while the attempt was in progress, Bailey was in Lhasa having talks with the Dalai Lama and the Prime Minister about the Everest Expedition affair, the Tashi Lama fleeing to China and the Bolshevik intrigues. While in Lhasa, he visited the Mint and the Lhasa post office where he saw stamps being printed, purchased stamps and posted some letters. He also got permission to travel from Lhasa to Tsetang, the highest point that he and Morshead reached in 1913. He finally fulfilled his ambition of exploring the Tsangpo from the source to where it flowed into Assam. He was criticized by Whitehall for not taking the regular route back to Gyantse. On many of these tours into Bhutan and Tibet, he was accompanied by his wife, the Hon. Mrs. Bailey and her mother, Constance, The Right Honorable Lady Cozens-Hardy.

PHILHARMONIC HALL
GREAT PORTLAND STREET

**Remarkable
Kinematograph Films**

of

CLIMBING MOUNT EVEREST

Described by
Capt. J. B. L. NOEL and Mr. T. HOWARD SOMERVELL.

Tibetan Music.

The Times says:—"Captain Noel has performed his part so well that a very fine film has been produced."



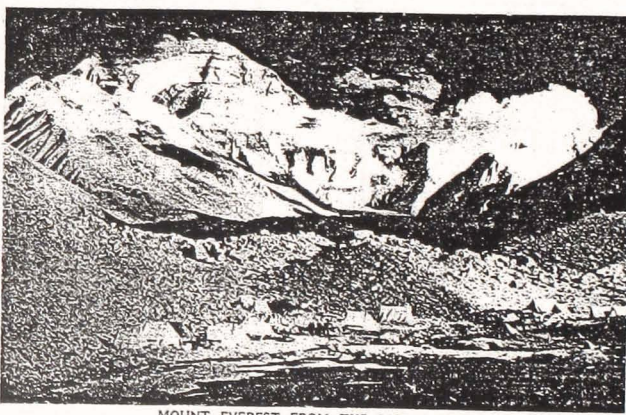
The Morning Post says:—"It may be said without fear of contradiction that the film is the finest travel film yet produced. The scenes on the Peak itself are extremely fine."

The Daily Telegraph says:—"The film is one of the very best and most interesting of the many records of travel the cinema has recently given to the world. It should meet with unqualified success."

The Evening Standard says:—"This must be one of the most beautiful films yet produced. To miss it is to neglect the advantages of being twentieth century."

The Westminster Gazette says:—"A film which for interest, excitement and thrills outdoes anything ever conceived in the studios."

PRINTED PAPER RATE

PHILHARMONIC HALL
Kinematograph Films.
CLIMBING MOUNT EVEREST.

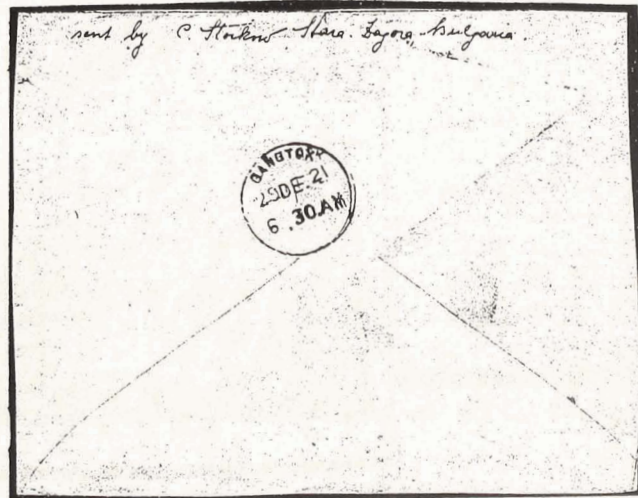
Each Weekday 3 & 8.30
Sat., J. B. L. Noel and

MOUNT EVEREST FROM THE BASE CAMP.
This Camp is 1,000 feet higher than the summit of Mont Blanc.

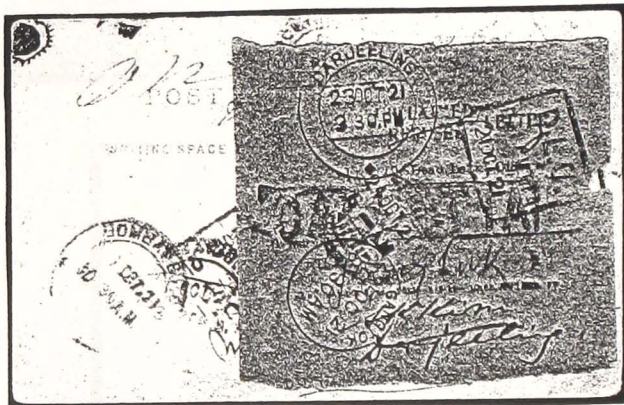
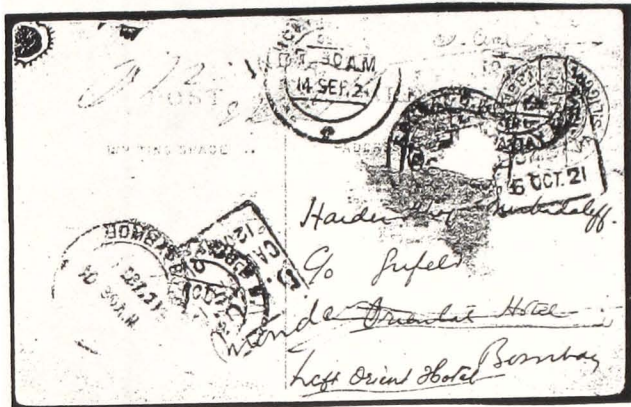
1922 Everest Picture Post Card promoting the films of the climb.

BULGARIA to GANGTOK, SIKKIM

f.w. pairs of TSAR BORIS III 30s and 50s stamps, tied by poorly struck Bulgarian cds. dated 28 NО 21. GANGTOK receiving mark on the back dated 29 DEC. 21. Bailey took over his duties as POLITICAL OFFICER at SIKKIM on 18th Of June 1921, this is an unusual routing into Sikkim for a commercial cover.



1/4a INDIA GEORGE V POST CARD sent from Yatung, Tibet to Bombay, cancelled by a YATUNG.TIBET/VIA SILIGURI cds. dated () AU 21, and was sent to BOMBAY, (2) BOMBAY B.P.O. cds. with indistinct dates, September and October, 1921 as well as an additional mark dated 14 SEP. 21. The post card is addressed to: H. Mirhadaloff, c/o Sufeld, Oriental Hotel, Bombay. A manuscript *Left Oriental Hotel*, then to the Bombay Dead Letter Office, D.L.O. dated 6 OCT. 21. Unable to deliver, the card was sent back to the Calcutta Dead Letter Office, a boxed D.L.O. dated 12 OCT. 21 where a UNCLAIMED/REFUSED slip was attached having a large CALCUTTA D.L.O. boxed cancel dated 21 OCT. 21. The card was then sent to Darjeeling (later crossed out) and bears a DARJEELING DELX cds. dated 23 OC. 21, the card left Darjeeling and was sent to GANGTOK, SIKKIM cds. dated 25 OC. 21, and returned to Bailey 72 days after sending it.



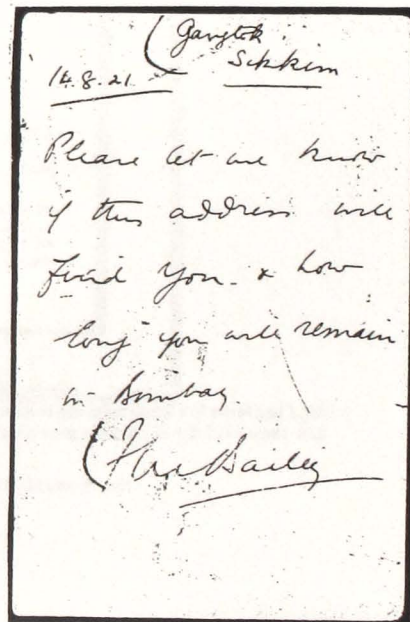
Gangtok Sikkim

14.8.21

Please let me know if
if this address will
find you & how
long you will remain
in Bombay

F.M. Bailey

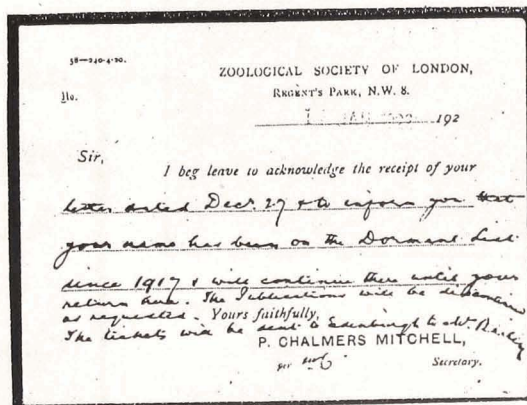
This must be another Tashkent acquaintance, a cryptic message and a doodle in the upper left hand corner, is this part of a code? We will never know.



1922

LONDON to SIKKIM

BRITISH ONE PENNY POST CARD f.w. 1/2 p stamp tied by LONDON cds. dated 18 JA. 22.
Forwarded to TISTA-BRIDGE (Tibet) cds. dated 6 FEB. 22, then to Hotel Cecil, Agra (central India).



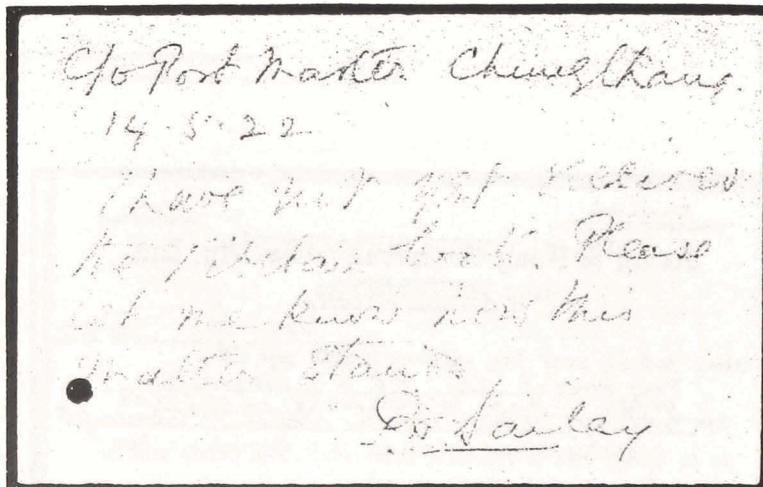
From: ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 18 JAN 1922

Sir, I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated Dec. 27 & to inform you that your name has been on the Dormant List since 1917 & will continue there until your return home. The publications will be discontinued as requested. The ticket will be sent to Edinburgh to old Bailey (address).

1922

CHUNGTANG to GANGTOK, SIKKIM

QUARTER ANNA INDIA Post card o.p. 1/2 ANNA cancelled with CHUNGTANG /SIKKIM cds. dated 19 MAY 22 with a GANGTOK cds. dated 21 MAY 22 From F.M. Bailey to The Head Clerk, Political Office, Gangtok. The hole in the lower right corner was used to file letters on a hook in the office.



Interesting message from Bailey:
c/o Post Master Chungtang, 14.5.22,
I have not yet received the Tibetan book. Please let me know how this Matter Stands.
F.M. Bailey

INDIA POST CARD: CALCUTTA to GANGTOK forwarded to YATUNG

1922 QUARTER ANNA POST CARD over printed 1/2as., cancelled with a CALCUTTA cds. dated 10 JUL 22, addressed to The Residency, Gangtok, Sikkim and forwarded to Yatung with no forwarding marks. The name "Bailey" on this occasion was all that was required to have it delivered to Yatung.

YATUNG.TIBET/VIA SILIGURI cds. dated 13 JUL 22. The Hon. Mrs. Bailey would have accompanied him on this visit to Tibet, her mother would also come along. Bailey would always be at the head of his cavalcade so as to not disturb the butterflies, if there was something of interest he would leave a slip of paper on the trail saying where to look.



Telegraphic Address: "ARMISTICE, CALCUTTA."
Telephone No. 4314 (2 lines).

Army & Navy Co-operative Society, Ltd.
(Incorporated in England.)
41, Chowringhee, CALCUTTA.

10-7-1922

Your order of the 28th June
for getting Silver Butter Dishes w/dinner
is to hand, and is receiving attention. The goods will be
despatched at the earliest possible opportunity.

Yours faithfully
For Manager, Calcutta Branch,
Army & Navy Co-operative Society, Ltd.

1922

1922 INDIA POST CARD: CALCUTTA to TIBET

1/2 as over printed on a QUARTER ANNA INDIA POST CARD cancelled at Calcutta on the 1 AUG. 22, KALIMPONG cds. 2 AUG. 22, then to YAYUNG TIBET/VIA SILIGURI cds. dated 3 AUG. 22, then forwarded to Camp via Gyantse, GYANTSE/TIBET cds. dated 5 (A)UG. 22. We know that Bailey visited Gyantse and Talung in August 1922 but the exact location of Bailey's camp is not known, but British-India mail sent to locations other than major towns is seldom seen. Bailey and his wife were avid photographers, the photographic record he started in 1903 within Tibet contributed to the history of modern Tibet. This card is confirmation of films he sent to the Photographic Society for processing.



PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF INDIA.
40, CHOWRINGHEE ROAD.

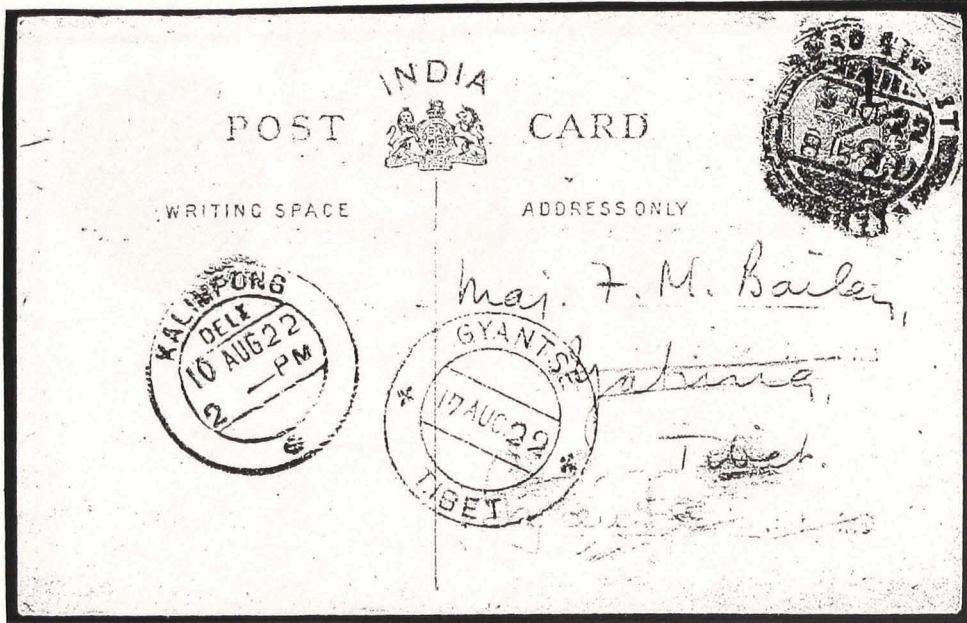
We beg to acknowledge and have booked under
No. A 8602 your order of the 17th ult
and will despatch it at the earliest possible moment.

J. G. Lewis
Calcutta, 1-8 1922. HON. SECRETARY.

1922

1922 INDIA POST CARD: CALCUTTA to TIBET

1/2as. over printed on a QUARTER ANNA INDIA POST CARD, cancelled at CALCUTTA cds. dated 9 AUG. 22, a KALIMPONG transit dated 10 AUG. 22 and a GYANTSE/TIBET cds. dated 17 AUG. 22. We know that Bailey was a collector of butterflies, bird, animal, and plant specimens and wrote scholarly articles on these subjects; he also was an avid photographer. The Himalayan Blue Poppy *Meconopsis betonicifolia baileyi* was discovered and named after him. This post card found Bailey at his camp and confirmed that the films were to be developed and not printed.



PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF INDIA.

40, CHOWRINGHEE ROAD.

We beg to acknowledge and have booked under
No. A 8618 your order of the 24th July
and will despatch it at the earliest possible moment.
*development of films only. No prints
have been ordered.*

Calcutta, 8-8-1922. *S. S. Sen*
HON. SECRETARY.

1922

YATUNG to SCOTLAND

Large cover to his mother in Scotland forwarded within Scotland f.w. (5) INDIA over printed *NINE PIES* stamps tied by (3) YATUNG.TIBET/VIA SILIGURI cds. dated 11 AUG. 22.

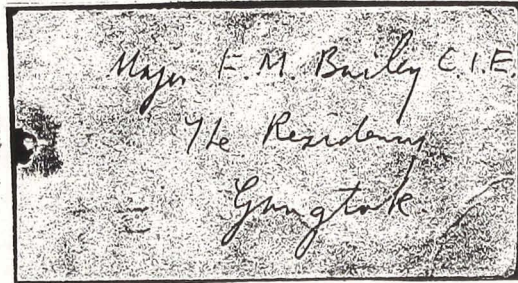
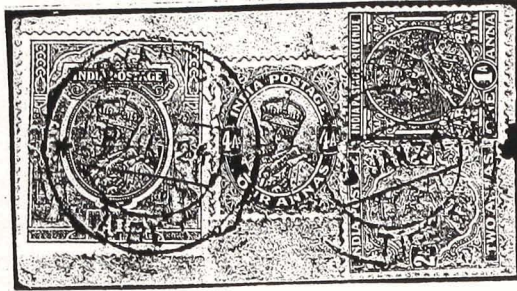


Bailey always kept his parents informed of his adventures and activities, even after his fathers death, almost 10 years before, he continued to write his mother. At this time he is involved in the Mt. Everest affair and must convince the Dalai Lama that the problems with the 1921 Reconnaissance Expedition would not be repeated, and every effort would be made to comply with the wishes of the Tibetans in every respect. The Dalai Lama granted permission for the 1922 attempt. Bailey, besides sending information to his mother must have sent souvenirs or pictures, (Bailey was quite a good photographer).

1924 ADDRESS TAG: GYANTSE to GANGTOK, SIKKIM

1924 Address Tag, which has been cut down, is addressed to: *Major F.M. Bailey C.I.E., The Residency, Gangtok.* f.w. GEORGE V 1as, 2as, 4as, & 1 Rupee stamps tied by (2) GYANTSE/TIBET cds. dated 8 JAN. 24. the 4as and the 1 Rupee values are quite scarce used in Tibet.

We know that Bailey collected examples of wild life and butterflies, see below.



Arnold C. Waterfall states in his book, *THE POSTAL HISTORY OF TIBET* on page 29, regarding the Gyantse post office:
"Some of the large Registry Labels with the last type of Gyantse hand-stamps are to be found on small pieces of card, with holes in them. These luggage labels that were tied on to the legs of wild fowl, which were then posted to Sikkim—hence the inscription 'Not to be delayed on route'".

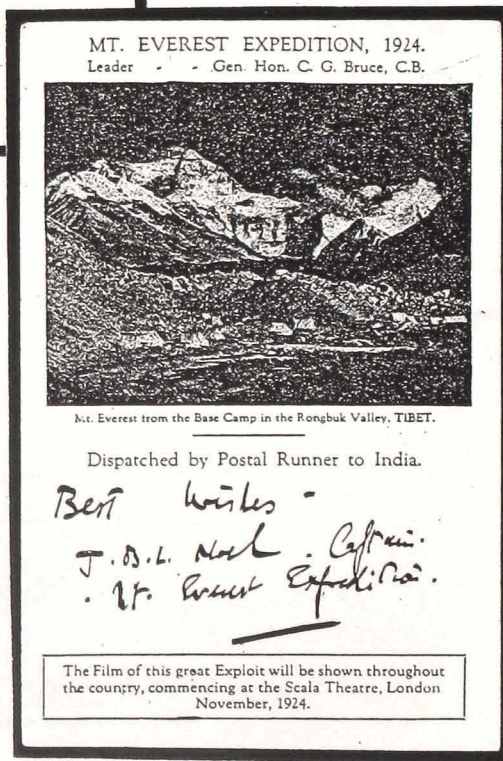
Bailey must have had some rare example of fowl sent as fast as possible for the Taxidermist.

1924 MOUNT EVEREST SOUVENIR CARD and STAMP

1924 Mt. Everest Expedition Card with the MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION label or stamp which was designed by Francis Helps using Capt. Noel's photograph as a model. The photograph on the back of the card is the same as the 1922 card used to promote the film of the 1922 attempt. Noel had these printed up and claimed to have sent out 40,000 of these cards to boys and girls all over the world. Most are cancelled in Calcutta at a later date and some were cancelled in Darjeeling. The 1924 Expedition had a postal system set up as well as a way of dispatching the films to PATHE PICTORIAL NEWS. These was carried by a rider traveling 50 miles a day on relay ponies to Darjeeling to be developed, prepared, and edited for news releases distributed by Pathe Pictorial News. These films of the expedition's progress were shown in motion picture theaters all over the world.



Type I: A single circle 33mm. cancel with the inscription "MOUNT EVEREST TRACTOR PARTY" around the edge and "TIBET 1924" in the center, printed in violet. The Tractor Party was abandoned in Sikkim. A very scarce cancel.



YATUNG, TIBET to PHARIJONG, TIBET

QUARTER ANNA INDIA POST CARD plus a THREE PIES INDIA stamp tied by
 +YATUNG TIBET+VIA SILIGURI cds. dated 25 JUN 24, plus a PHARIJONG cds.
 dated 26 JUN 24 receiving mark, also a MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION label tied by
 a Type Iib + MT. EVEREST EXPEDITION + 1924 CANCEL.



Bailey was on his way to Lhasa to meet with the Dalai Lama. On many of his trips he was accompanied by The Hon. Mrs. F.M. Bailey and her mother Constance, The Right Honble Lady Cozens-Hardy, with Bailey leading the cavalcade on the look out for butterflies and other interesting wild life. This post card is blank on the reverse and was sent to himself as a per favor, certainly his cavalcade would not have made it to Pharijong as fast as the post card. The business with the Dalai Lama was a serious affair regarding the Everest climb and the Tashi Lama who had fled to China. Bailey did get permission from the Dalai Lama to explore the part of the Tsangpo he and Morshead missed. On the return trip from Lhasa Bailey had accomplished his dream of exploring the length of the Tsangpo from the source high in the Himalayan mountains to where it flows into Assam. The Civil Servants were unhappy with him for not taking the regular route back to Gyantse.



Type Iib: Same design as Type Iia except the center has two parallel lines with "TIBET" between them. This is a scarce cancel and is in black only.

1924

1924 EXPEDITION COVER: BASE CAMP to GYANTSE via PHARIJONG.


Sent from Base Camp near the Rongbuk Glacier to Major Bailey at Gyantse.
f.w. INDIA George V stamps (SG #155 pair, #163 & #195 pair) tied by
(2) "PHARIJONG" cds. Type B-4 (Hellrigl B17) dated 28 JUN. 24 and
backstamped with "GYANTSE/TIBET" cds. Type B-3 (Hellrigl B48 die 1)
dated 3 JUL. 24. The cover also bears a margin copy of the MOUNT EVEREST
label in deep blue tied by the scarce MT. EVEREST EXPEDITION *1924* cancel,
Waterfall Type IIb in black. Bailey was in Lhasa from 6th of July to
16th of August 1924.




1924 TELEGRAM from Capt. J.R.L. NOEL to BAILEY in LHASA

Telegram to Maj. F.M. Bailey in Lhasa from Capt. J.B.L. Noel of the 1924 Everest Expedition, sent from Rangpo, dated 11-8 (24). Lhasa receiving cancel, LHASA P.O., Type VI (Hellrigl T14). The telegraph office was right next to the post office in Lhasa. Bailey was in Lhasa meeting with the Dalai Lama about the Mt. Everest Expedition and related problems.

TO: Bailey Lhasa via Gyantse
 Thank you very much for
 loan of car using it
 middle camp to tista fourteenth
 for wife who is unwell
 darjeeling cars refused
 to come = Noel =

C. D. H. POSTS  TELEGRAPHS.

NOTICE.
 The form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

Charges to pay.		
Rs.	As.	
Handed in at (Office of Origin)		Service Instructions.
Rangpo	Date: 11 8	0
	Hour: -	
	Minute: -	
TO	Recd. here at	
Bailey Lhasa via Gyantse	13	38 M.

Thank you very much for loan of car using it middle camp to tista fourteenth for wife who is unwell darjeeling cars refused to come = Noel =

N.B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, is written after the text.
 Lal Chand & Sons—3617—27-2-22—200,000 Bks.

Reduced to 78%

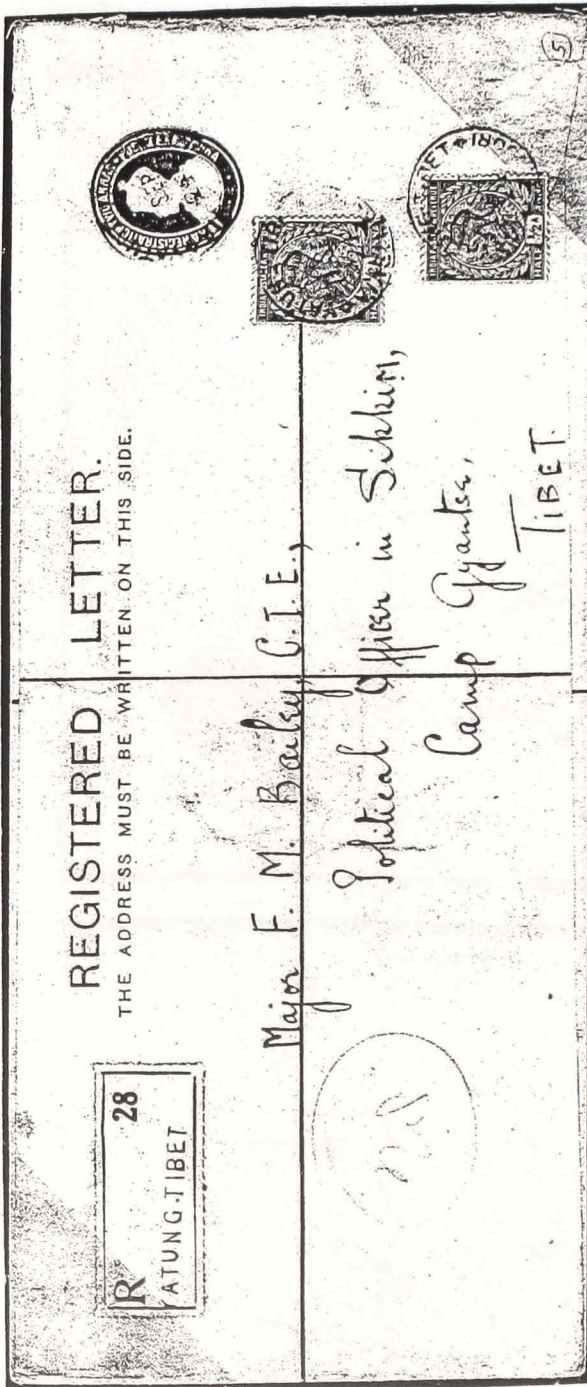
1924 PRESENTATION COVER to MAJOR BAILEY

1924 Presentation Cover f.w. a 4 Trangka, Deep Blue, pos. 5, and 8 Trangka, Deep Red, pos. 5, of the second series 1914, plus a block of four from the first series 1912, of the 2/3 Trangka which includes two "POTSAGE" errors, pos. 6,7 plus pos. 10,11. These are tied by (2) "LHASSA P.O." cancels, Type VII (Hellrigl T14) with "GYANTSE" Type I (Hellrigl T3) cancels alongside. This is one of the covers related to Bailey's visit to Lhasa, 6 July to 16 August 1924, where besides meeting with the Dalai Lama and Tsarong Shapé he visited the Mint where he saw stamps being printed.



*"To Sikkim where resides the all
wise most excellent Great Minister
Major Bailey Sahib"*





1924

1924 REGISTERED COVER:
YATUNG, TIBET to CAMP
GYANTSE

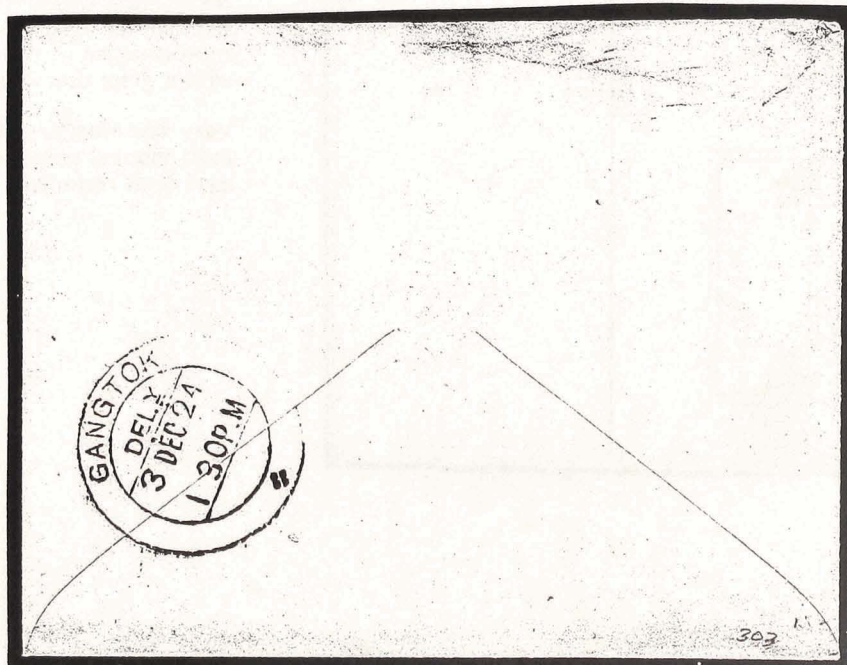
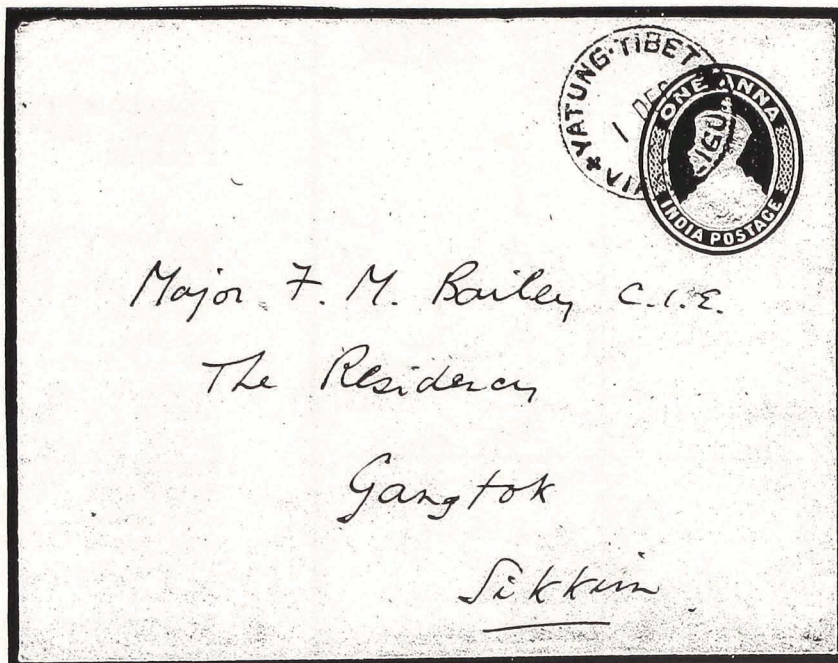
Registered cover to "Major F.M. Bailey, C.I.E., Political Officer in Sikkim, Camp Gyantse, Tibet". This George V 2as Envelope bears two additional 1/2as stamps (SG 155) tied by "YATUNG-TIBET +VIA SILIGURI+" cds., Type B-1, (Hellrigl B47) dated 11 SEP.24, also a "YATUNG-TIBET" Registry Label (Type 23...YF/BR7) Hellrigl B90), This cover is Back-stamped with "GYANTSE-TIBET" cds. Type B-3 (Hellrigl B48 die 1) dated 14 SEP 24.

"Camp Gyantse" would have been the location of the Political Officers Camp near Gyantse, Tibet. (When the Political Officer travelled Officially in Tibet he did so as a representative of the Crown and with a great deal of pomp.)

Very few examples of British-India internal usage within Tibet have been recorded.

ONE ANNA INDIA POSTAL ENVELOPE: YATUNG to GANGTOK

India ONE ANNA postal Envelope cancelled by a YATUNG TIBET/VIA SILIGURI cds. dated 1 DEC. 24, and is addressed to Major F.M. Bailey, C.I.E., The Residency, Gangtok, Sikkim. Backstamped GANGTOK cds. dated 3 DEC. 24. The Mt. Everest Expedition is over and Bailey is left with several matters to clear up including getting permission for the next attempt.



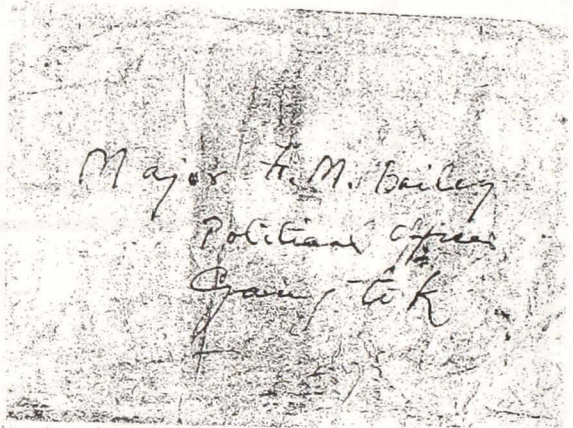
1925

1925 LONG NATIVE PAPER COVER
LHASA to GANGTOK, SIKKIM

Addressed in English on the front to Major *F.M. Bailey*, *Political Officer*, *Gangtok*. On the back: Addressed in Tibetan and f.w. first series, 1912, 2/3 Trangka, pos. 4 and tied with a LHASA P.O. cancel Type VI, (Hellrigl T14). Also on the back is a GANGTOK cds. dated 14 APR 25. This cover is sealed with a black wax seal, most likely from the Prime Minister.

This cover was either carried by a private courier into Sikkim or it went through the British-Indian system without additional Indian stamps from Gyantse.

Bailey, as Political Officer had to deal with many problems involving Tibet, and since the 1924 Mt. Everest Expedition is over, Bailey can work on other issues which he had to put aside during the Mt. Everest Expedition. The Dalai Lama did not give permission for another climb until 1932.



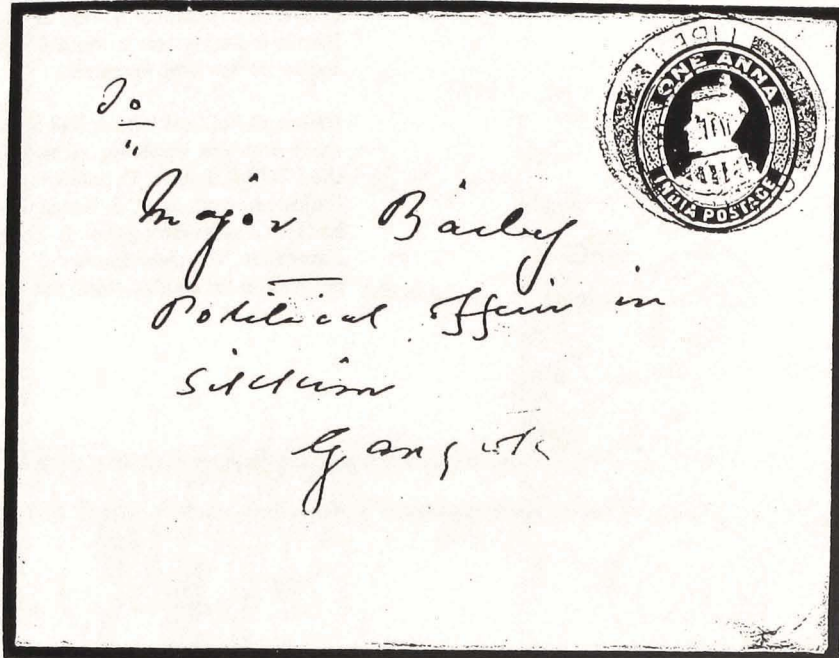
Cover reduced to 70%

1925

1925 ONE ANNA INDIA POSTAL ENVELOPE: GYANTSE to GANGTOK

ONE ANNA India Postal Envelope cancelled by a "GYANTSE/TIBET" cds., Type B-4 (Hellrigl B16) dated 31 JUL. 25. It is very interesting that the cancel is inverted as are many on covers to Bailey during this period.

Since Bailey was a super spy in Tashkent it has been suggested that this might be of some significance.

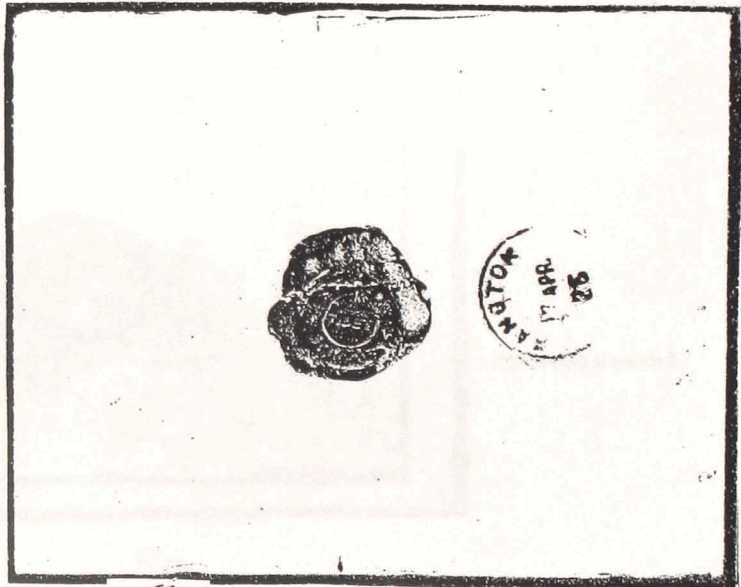
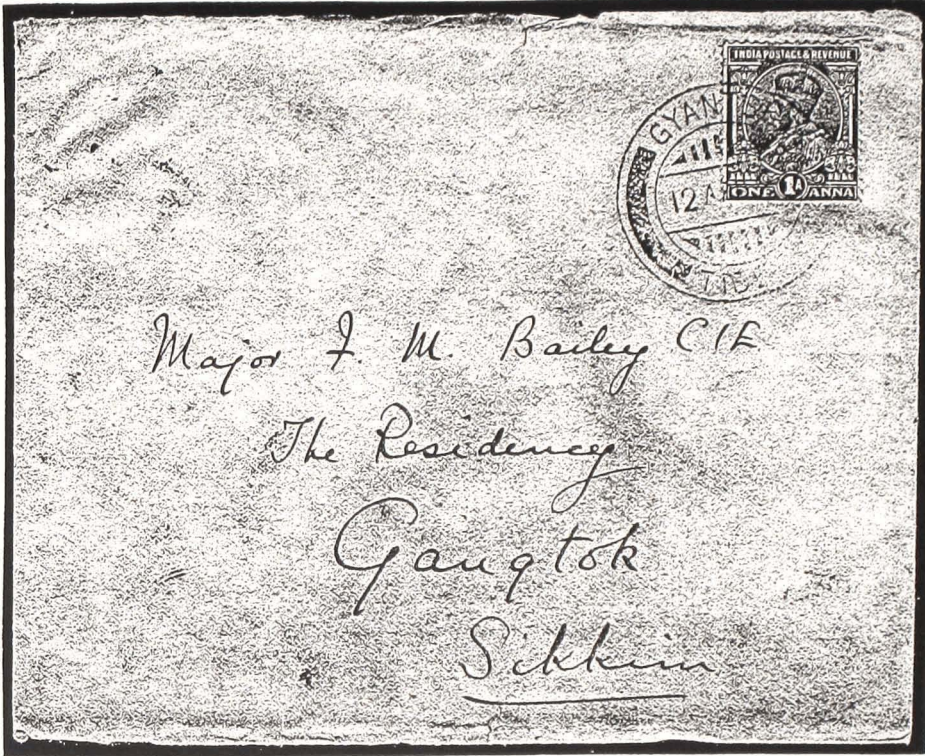


All reports and policy making of the Political Officer had to go through the different levels of bureaucracy or the chain of command through India to England. Since many of the individuals knew each other personally, information was often passed on in private correspondence thus eliminating alteration or invasion of sensitive information or policies.

1925

1925 COVER from GYANTSE TIBET SCHOOL to GANGTOK

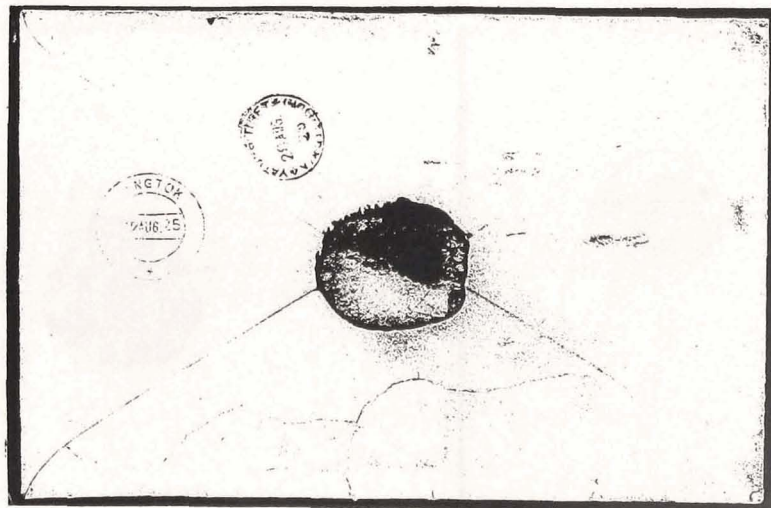
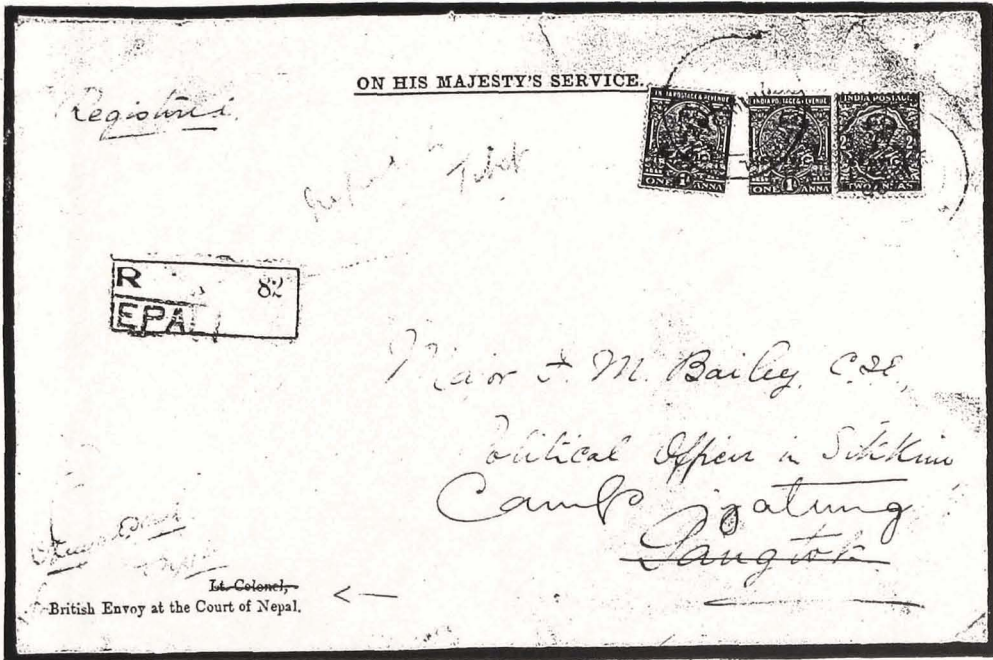
f.w. INDIA 1A stamp and tied by "GYANTSE/TIBET" cds. Type B-4 (Hellrigl B16) dated 12 APR. 25. On the back a "GANGTOK" cds. dated 17 APR. 25 arrival, also a dark green wax seal of the "TIBET * SCHOOL*" run by Frank Ludlow of the Indian Education Department. Ludlow arrived in Gyantse in October of 1923 with a three year contract with the Tibetan Government, the school was closed in 1926.



1925 REGISTERED COVER ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE. ENVELOPE: NEPAL to GANGTOK

f.w. (2) ONE ANNA and (1) TWO ANNAS o.p. SERVICE stamps tied by (2) NEPAL cds. dated 21 AUG. 25 plus a NEPAL Registry Label. On the back is a GANGTOK cds. dated 27 AUG. 25, and a YATUNG TIBET/VIA SILIGURI cds. dated 28 AUG. 25 plus a large Red Seal.

This is from the *British Envoy at the Court of Nepal* and is addressed to *Major F.M. Bailey, C.I.E. in Sikkim, Gangtok*, then it was forwarded to *Camp Yatung*. Bailey was away from Gangtok quite a bit during 1924 and 1925; this was an official letter for Bailey and would have been important to the meetings he was conducting at this time. It is quite possible that the Hon. Mrs. Bailey and her mother were also there since these were carried out with a great deal of splendor as they were representatives of the Crown.

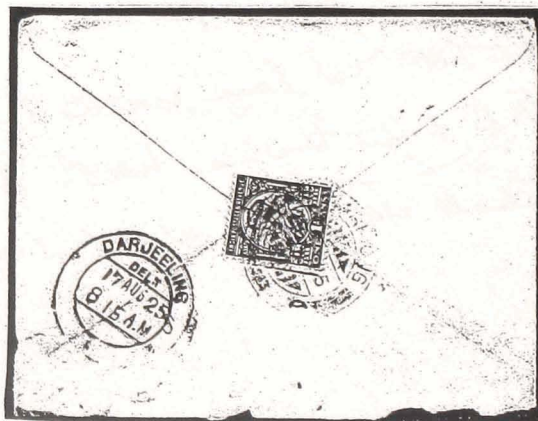
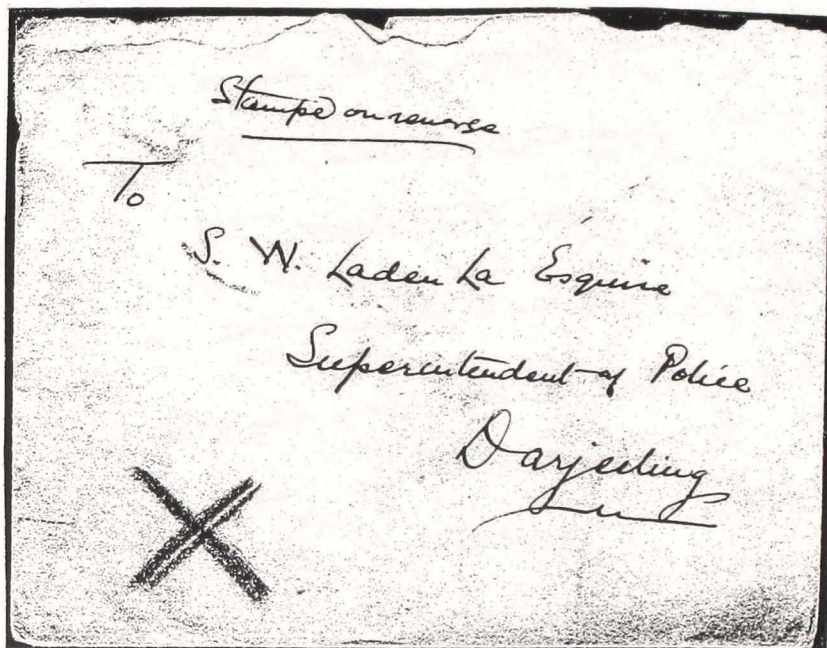


Reduced to 64% & 50%.

1925 COVER with LETTER: CAMP TUNA to DARJEELING

f.w. on the back, with India ONE ANNA Postage, tied by PHARIJONG cds. dated 14 AUG 25
plus a DARJEELING receiving mark dated 17 AUG 25.

The cover and the enclosed letter are from Norbu Dhondup who was Bailey's Assistant in Yatung, and is to Laden La in Darjeeling. Laden La was a Sikkim Police Officer who organized and trained the Lhasa Police in the early 1920's. Mail from small towns in Tibet are rare, this one is of importance because it mentions Bailey's gift of the Shetland Ponies to the Dalai Lama and the mention of "Futamdu" (Putamdu) who was Bailey's interpreter on his 1911 Mission through China, Tibet, and Assam. Bailey is still trying to get permission from the Dalai Lama for future attempts on Mt. Everest which the Dalai Lama refused until 1932. "Ha" on the second page of the letter means "Sikkim".



Very private

Camp Lhasa
the 12th August 25

My dear Mr. Ladu La,

Since my departure from Lhasa, I was anxiously awaiting your list of things but so far nothing heard, please do so now & lose no time. I shall by the 14th and perhaps Putandu or myself may go to offer the Shalpa ponies to H. H. the Dalai Lama as a present from Major. Whom may go shall reach Lhasa about the 21st and shall stay there about one week so please send the list immediate. If you have a copy left in Lhasa then wire to Lhasa to hand over to me or Putandu or else please do not lose time to send the list. I have arrived here today by myself. P. O. & the Hon. Mrs. Bailey are in Yatsu & shall stay there about 3 weeks

and after that to Ha. Perhaps you may have
heard that Hastabhadra dead & Mr. Tashi
is going there as H. C. & latter place has been
filled up by Setram Tobden Kayi. I hope
you are all keeping quite well & so I am.
I understand that so far no puuchayat has been
held about my sister Fupudama & her maid servant
& also for Shumingma who really deserves a good
present. All the reasons have been informed to you
& I hope you will kindly move this without
any further delay. Dak is about to leave so
I run close with my respects to you all.

P.S.
Please address to me
Gyantse, ~~and~~

Yours sincerely
Mokhen Shondok

1926 REGISTERED COVER:
LHASA to GANGTOK, SIKKIM

f.w. 1912 2/3 Trangka (pos. 7) shiny printing, tied by "LHASSA P.O." cds., Type VI (Hellrigl T14) for postage to Gyantse, (2/3 Trangka was the registered rate within Tibet). For postage from Gyantse to Gangtok (3) British-India stamps were added, 1A, 2A, and a 4A, and are tied by (3) "GYANTSE/TIBET" cancels Type B-3 (Hellrigl B48) dated 22 FEB. 26 plus a Registry Label, Type BR7 with a Type GE hs., (Hellrigl B77). It is also signed and dated at the Gyantse post office.

On the back is a "NANGARTSE" transit mark Type I (Hellrigl T5) which is dated in Tibetan. It is addressed "To Political Officer, Sikkim, Gangtok" in English and also in Tibetan, this was to Bailey.

It is from Tsarong who was at the time trying to modernize Tibet but was getting much resistance from the conservative leaders including his friend the Dalai Lama.



NANGARTSE cds. Type I Transit Mark
(Dating is on the bottom of the Inner circle)

Reduced to 78%

Full sized color picture on next page.

Registered.

D.H.M.S.

To Political Officer, Sikkim
Dang, S.M.

Phonetic
22-20

Mr. Registrar, Sikkim - 1000



Just received
1000

Mr. Registrar, Sikkim - 1000
Dang, S.M.

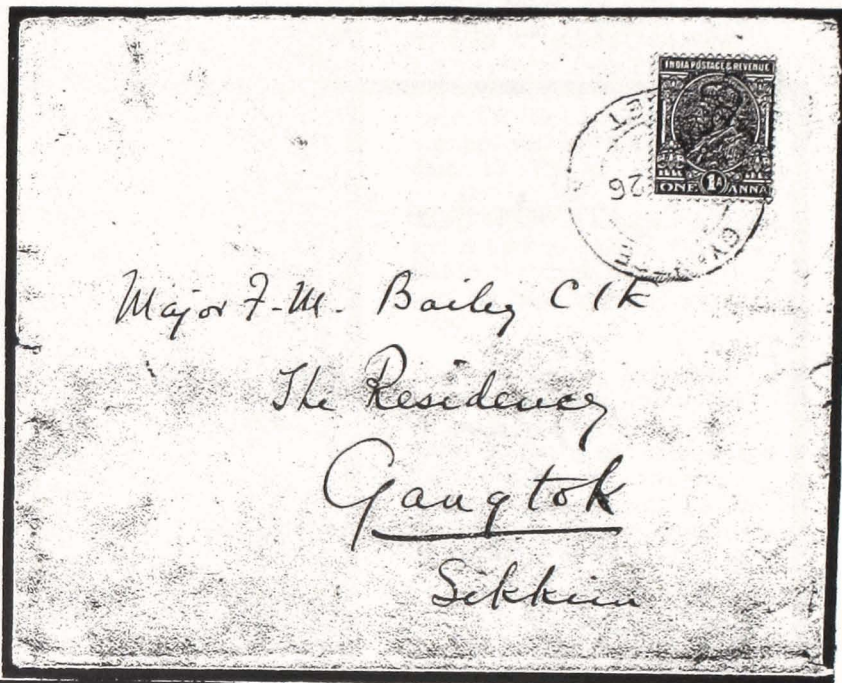
1926

1926 COVER: GYANTSE to GANGTOK, SIKKIM

f.w. 1A India stamp tied by an inverted "GYANTSE/TIBET" cds., Type B-3 (Hellrigl B48) dated ?? 26. On the back is a "GANGTOK" receiving mark dated 27 MAR. 26 and a "smudgy" dark green wax seal of the "TIBET *SCHOOL*" in Gyantse, Frank Ludlow's school.

This cover is addressed to "Major F. M. Bailey C.I.F., The Residency, Gangtok, Sikkim". Bailey as Political Officer dealt with many problems including "The Everest Affair, Tsarong Shape and Luden La (falling out of grace for their 'Modern' views), and Frank Ludlow's school teaching English and Western ways to Tibetan boys".

Ludlow had a contract with the Tibetan Government to teach Tibetan boys who would be future administrators in this Western style school from 1923 to 1926. As early as 1924, Ludlow heard rumors that the school would be closed. On the 28th of August, 1926, he was officially informed of its closure.

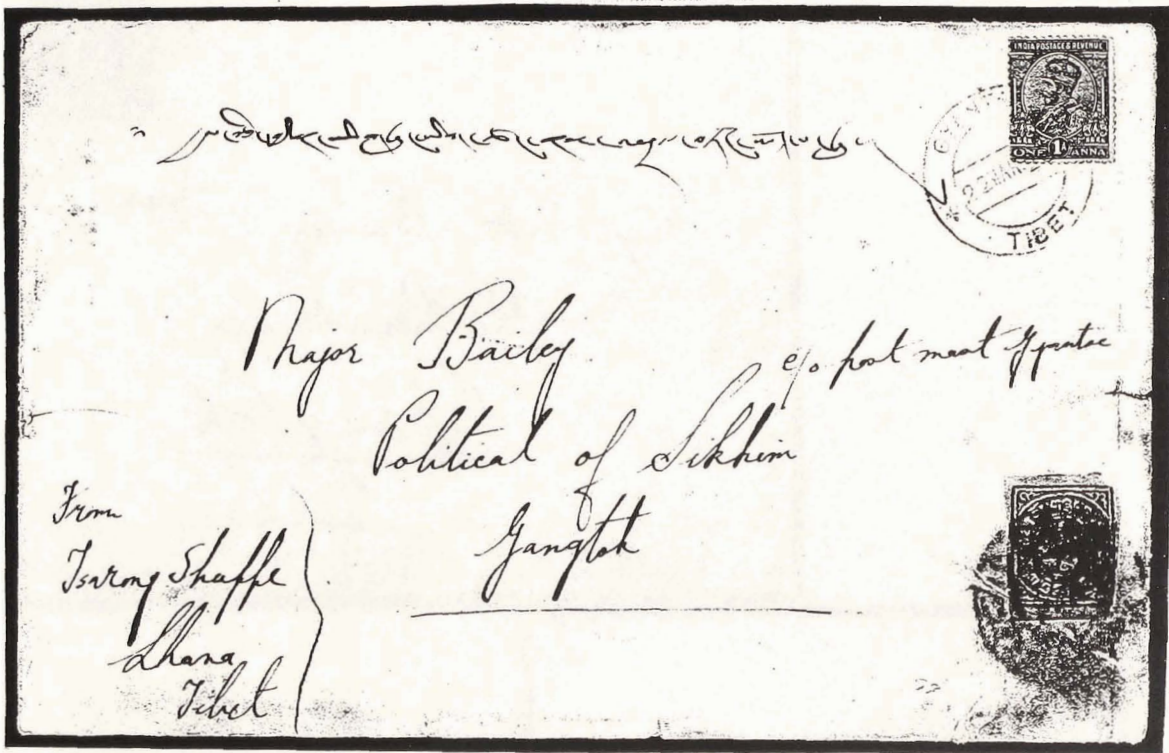


1926 COVER: LHASA to GANGTOK via GYANTSE

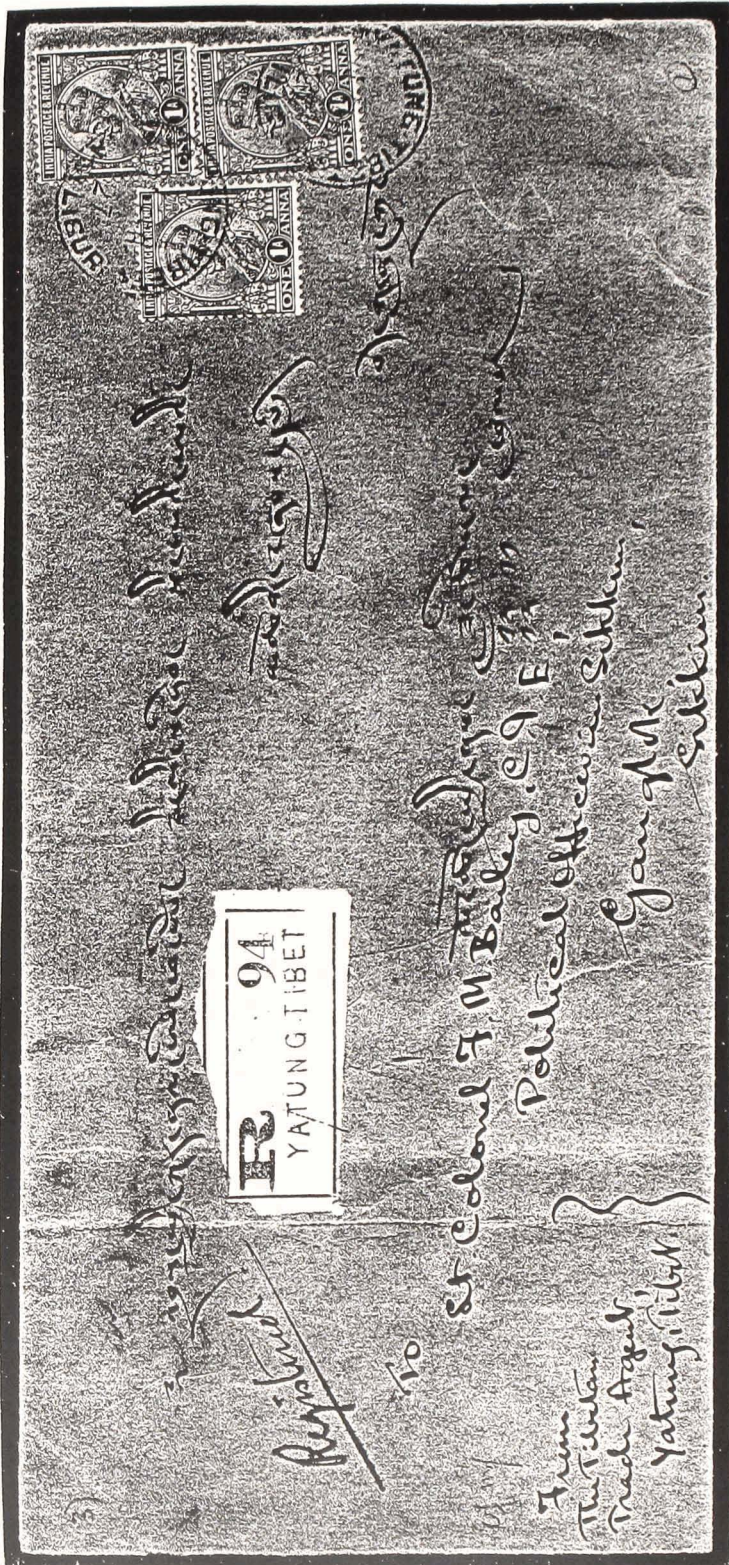
f.w. 1912 1/6 Trangka, pos. 10. tied by a very smudgy "LHASSA P.O." cds., Type VII (Hellrigl T15) for postage to Gyantse. India 1A stamp was added and tied by a "GYANTSE/TIBET" cds., Type B-3 (Hellrigl B48) dated 22 MAR. 26 for postage within the British-India postal system.

This cover is addressed to "Major Bailey, Political of Sikkim, Gangtok c/o post mast Gyantse" and is from "Tsarong Shappe, Lhasa Tibet". The address is in both English and Tibetan. On the back is a "GANGTOK" receiving mark dated 27 MAR. 26 a wax seal and the "TSARONG" Crest, Type I, this Crest is hand coloured. For more information on this Crest see *POSTAL-HIMAL* No. 84.

Tsarong Shapé was a very important man in Tibet and as head of the Mint he was responsible for the printing of postage stamps. Tsarong is a family name and Shapé is the title of a member of the Kashag the senior government body of four officials to whom all government business was referred.



Cover reduced to 78%, Crest is full size.



1927

1927 REGISTERED COVER:
YATUNG to GANGTOK.

f.w. (3) Indian stamp, tied by (2) "YATUNG-TIBET+VIA SILIGURI+" cds. Type B-1 (Hellrigl B47) dated 11 FEB. 27 plus a "YATUNG" registry label Type BR3 with a "YATUNG-TIBET" registration hs. Type YF (Hellrigl B89) back-stamped with a "GANGTOK" cds. dated 13 FEB. 27.

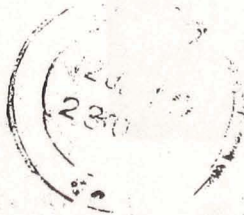
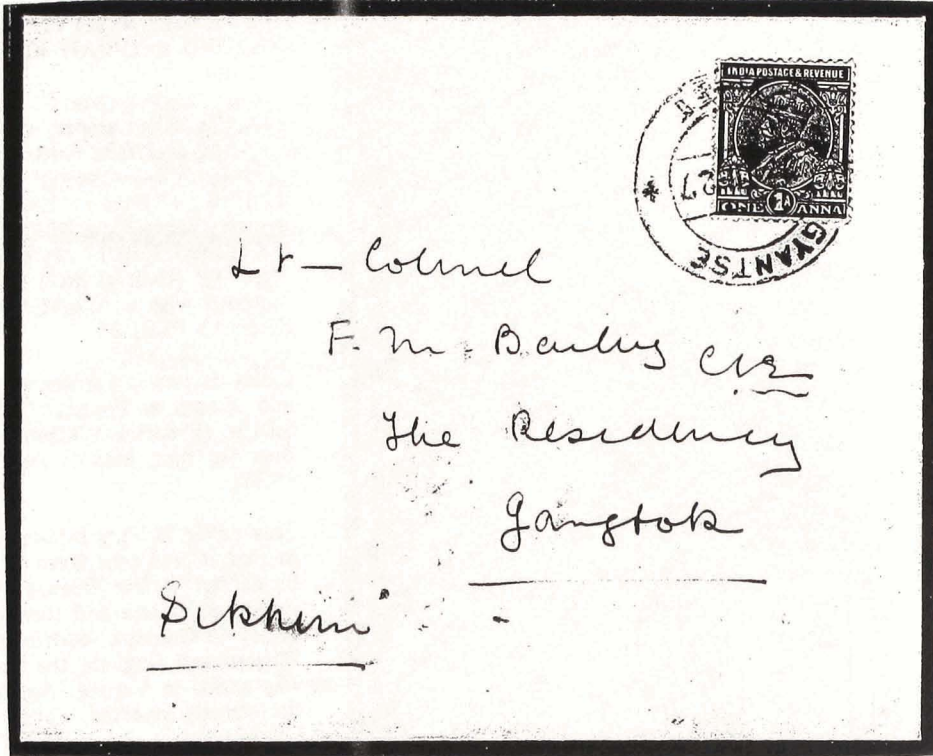
Bailey is now a Lieutenant Colonel and is back as Political Officer in Sikkim (Fredrick Williamson took over for him, May to December 1926).

This cover is very interesting in that it was sent from Lhasa by carrier to the Tibetan Trade Agent in Yatung and then sent to Bailey in Gangtok, addressed in Tibetan and English, the English was added in Yatung. Again we see the cancels inverted.

1927

1927 COVER: GYANTSE to GANGTOK

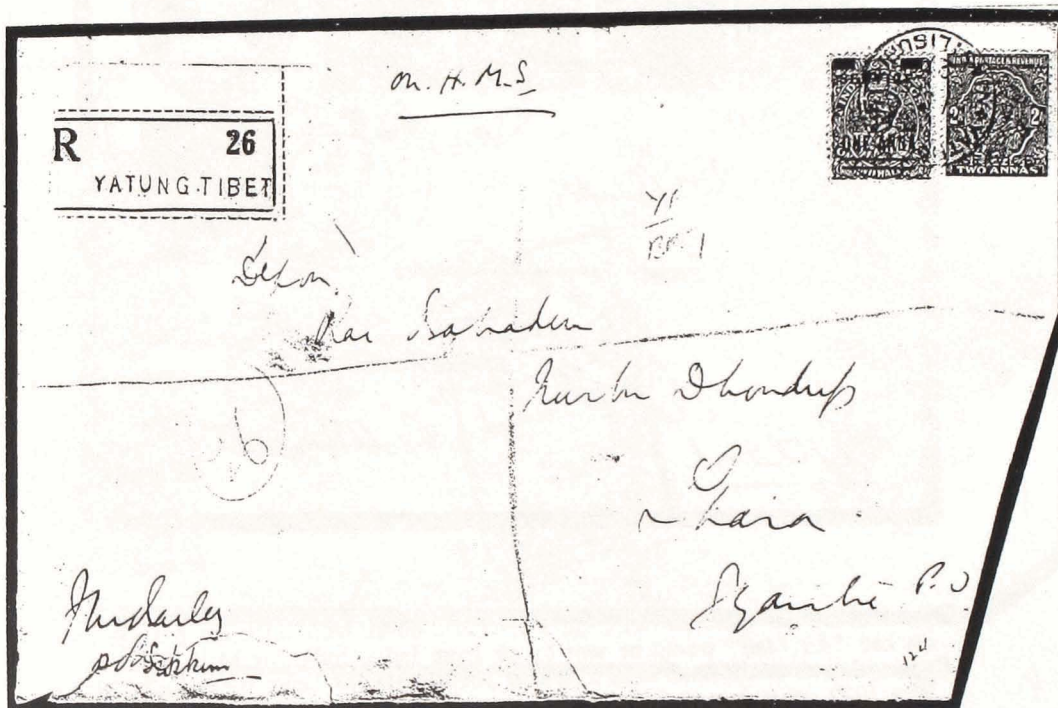
f.w. a 1A Indian stamp and tied by an inverted "GYANTSE+TIBET+" cds., Type B-3 (Hellrigl B48) dated 7 JUL. 27. On the back are (2) "GANGTOK DELY" dated 12 JUL. 27, one strike is very faint. Bailey now has the rank of Lieutenant Colonel which he will have for the rest of his career. Another example of the cancel being inverted on personal correspondence.



1927 OHMS REGISTERED COVER: YATUNG to LHASA via GYANTSE.

OHMS (ms.) cover f.w. Indian Official postage over printed "SERVICE ONE ANNA and SERVICE 2As" tied by "YATUNG-TIBET+VIA SILIGURI+" cds. Type B-1 (Hellrigl B47) dated 11 SEP. 27 plus a Type BR-7 Registry label with "YATUNG-TIBET" hs. Type YF (Hellrigl B89). On the back is a "GYANTSE+TIBET+" cds. Type B-3 (Hellrigl B48) dated 14 SEP. 27 and a large red wax seal with Bailey's crest. The cancel this time is inverted on an Official cover

This cover is from F.M. Bailey, Political Officer, Sikkim and is to "Depon Rai Bahadur Norbu Dhondup, Lhasa, Gyantse P.O." Norbu was Bailey's assistant and was educated at the Government High School in Darjeeling, the son of a Tibetan trader born in India, he was of great importance in Tibetan affairs. His title was Depon which means "Army Commander". This cover went through the British-India postal system from Yatung to Gyantse and by carrier from Gyantse to Lhasa.



Reduced to 78%

1927 AIR MAIL COVER: YATUNG, TIBET to SCOTLAND

1927 India ONE ANNA postal stationary envelope with additional postage of; (2) 3Ps, 1/2A, 1A, and 2As tied by (3) "YATUNG. TIBET+VIA SILIGURI+" cds., Type B-1 (Hellrigl B47) dated 29 AUG. 27. Manuscript "Air Mail Bassa-Cairo". Addressed to Mrs. Bailey, Bailey's mother, in Alyth, Perthshire, Scotland and forwarded to Edinburgh, "ALYTH/PERTHSHIRE" cds. dated 19 SP 27.

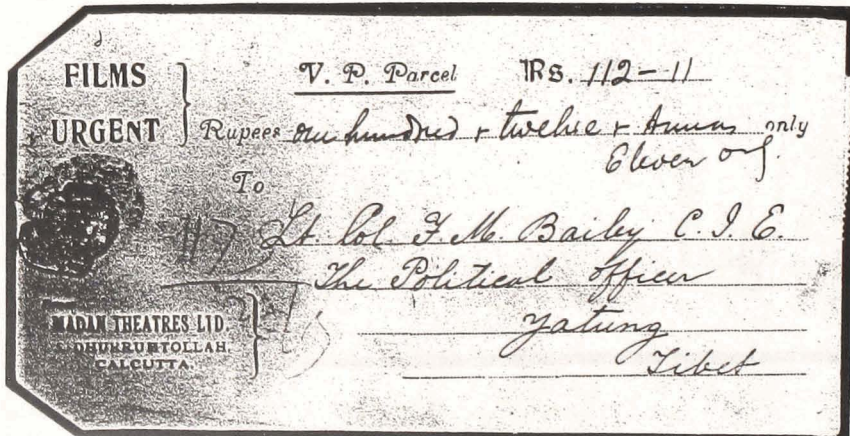


There was no Air Mail service from Tibet but a cover with sufficient postage and marked "Air Mail" would be sent by air from India. India Air Mail flights to England began in the mid 1920's (special postage stamps being issued in 1929), this 1927 cover is possibly the earliest cover from Tibet to be sent by air, 21 days from Tibet to Scotland.

1927 V.P. PARCEL TAG, CALCUTTA to YATUNG, TIBET

f.w. (2) 1 Rupee and (1) 3 As. India postage tied by an indistinct "CALCUTTA" cds. dated 27 (SEP. 2)7 with a smudgy "YATUNG-TIBET+ VIA SILIGURI+" cds. dated 30 SEP. 27 Type B-1 (Hellrigl B47) alongside. There is also a "V.P." (VALUE PAYABLE) Label in Light Green, Type P-17 from "DHAWAMTALA CALCUTTA, VP 1179". On the front of the Parcel Tag is the amount to be collected, (Rs. 112-11, one hundred-twelve and eleven annas only) and is addressed to "Col. F.M. Bailey C.I.E./The Political Officer/ Yatung/Tibet" from "MADAN THEATRES LTD./5 DHURRUMTOLLAH, CALCUTTA." with "FILMS URGENT" printed on the Tag. The Red Wax Seal was to secure the Tag to the twine attached to the parcel. Bailey was at Camp Yatung most likely to take care of pressing matters involving Tibet and India and ordered the films as entertainment for his important guests. One of the problems Bailey had to deal with was the problem of the Panchen Lama's official, Tsa Serkhang, wanting to meet with Bailey regarding the return of the Panchen Lama to Tibet (the Panchen Lama fled to Mongolia on the 26th December 1923) Bailey only advised since he could not interfere in Tibet's internal affairs.

Bailey left Sikkim on the 16th of October 1928 never to return.



1927

1927 REGISTERED COVER: GYANTSE to SIKKIM



f.w. India George V 4as stamp tied by a "GYANTSE+TIBET+" cds. Type B-3 dated 15 DEC. 27 and a Registry label Type BR-2 and a hs. "GYANTSE/TIBET" Type GE (Hellrigl B77). There are (2) Trader's wax seals on the back plus a "GANGTOK" cds. dated 20 DEC. 27.

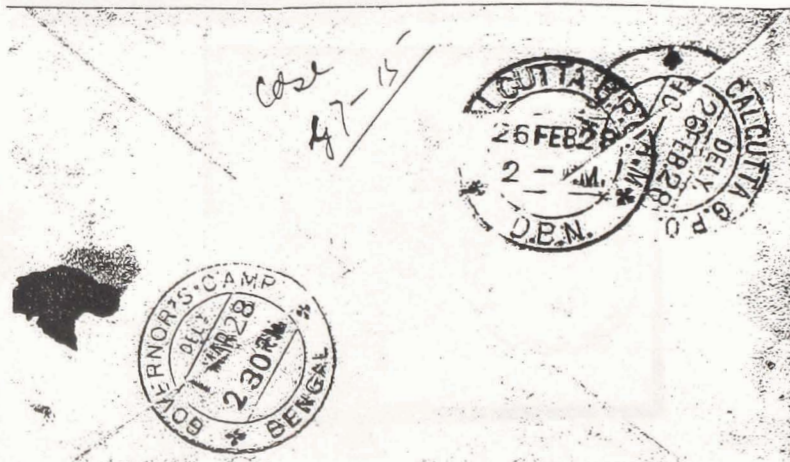
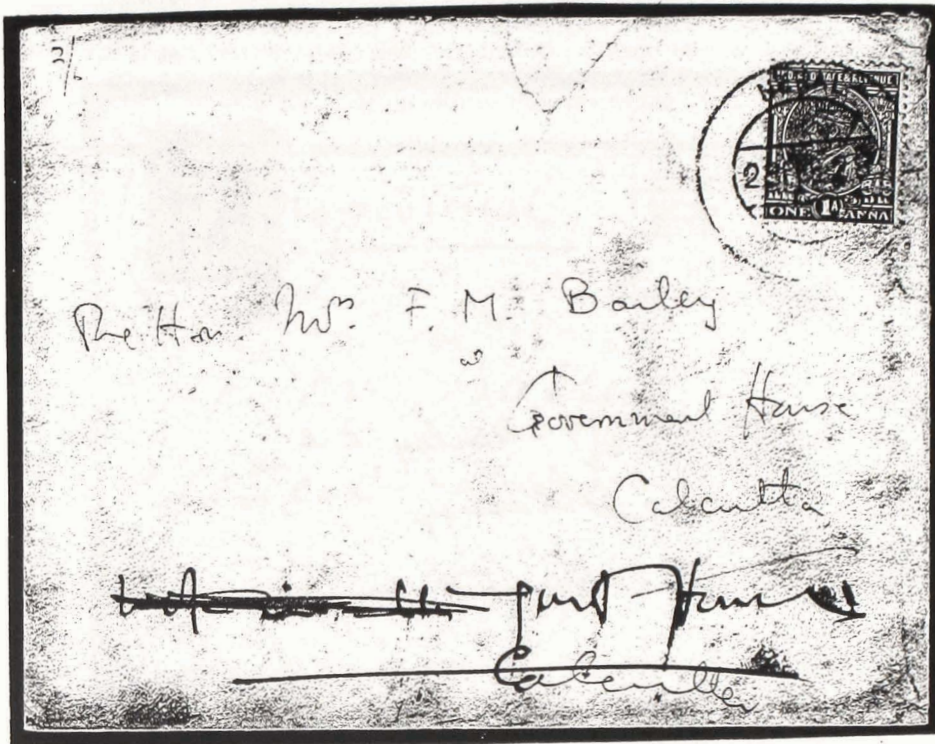
It is interesting that the misspelling of Colonel "Curnel" and "ICE" for C.I.E. were corrected before leaving Gyantse, but they forgot to correct the other misspelling "Baily".



1928

1928 COVER: NEPAL to CALCUTTA

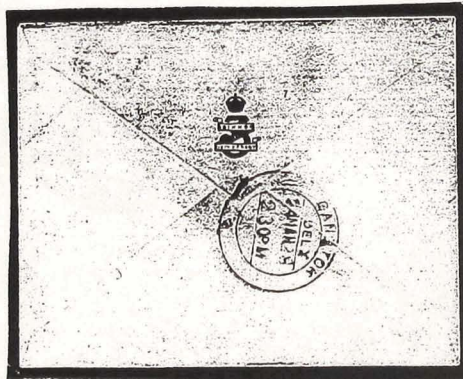
f.w. India 1A stamp and tied by "NEPAL" cds. dated 23 FEB 28.
Sent to "The Hon. Mrs. F.M. Bailey at Government House, Calcutta"
and forwarded to Bengal, "CACUTTA G.P.O.+DEN+" dated 26 FEB. 28
plus "GOVERNOR'S-CAMP+BENGAL+" dated 1 MAR 28 and several
red ink markings. The Hon. Mrs. Bailey did much travelling.



1928

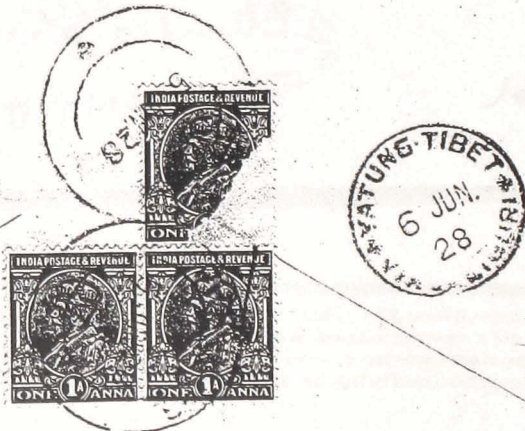
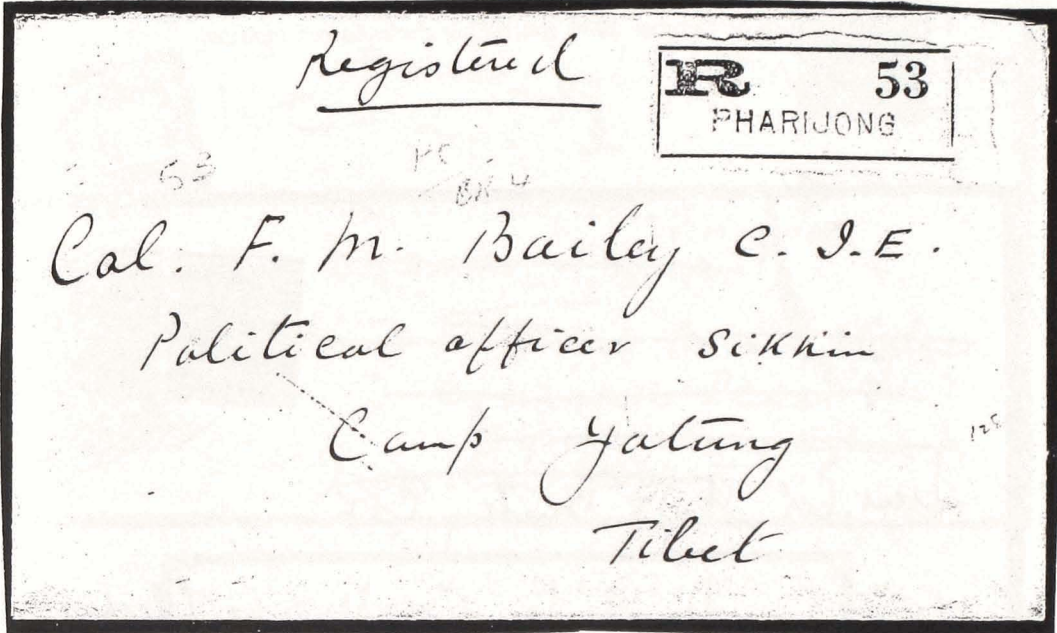
1928 SMALL COVER: GYANTSE to GANGTOK

f.w. 1A India postage, tied by "GYANTSE+TIBET+" cds. Type B-3 (Hellrigl B48) dated 19 MAR 28. On the back is a "GANGTOK" receiving mark dated 24 MAR 28, also on the back flap is the crest of the "3rd SIKHS, 12th F.F. REGT.". This is addressed to Bailey who on the 16th of October 1928 was to leave Sikkim for good.



1928 REGISTERED COVER: PHARIJONG to CAMP YATUNG, TIBET.

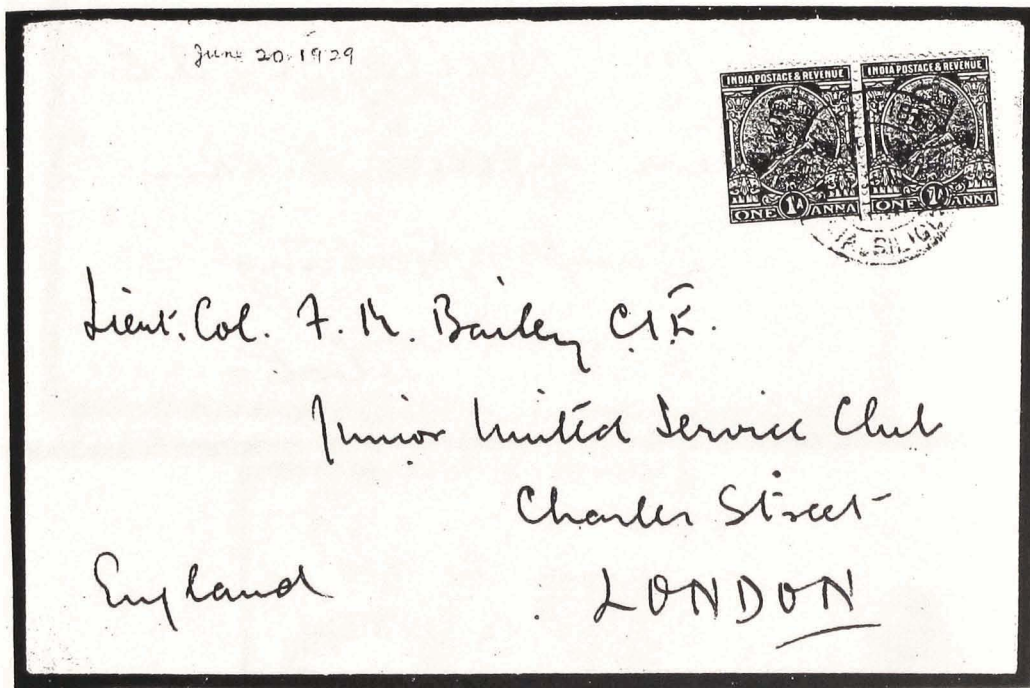
f.w. (on the back) (3) 1A India postage stamps (one has a corner missing) tied by "PHARIJONG" cds. Type B-3 (Hellrigl B50) dated 5 JUN. 28 plus a "YATUNG-TIBET+VIA+SILIGURI+" backstamp Type B-1 (Hellrigl B47) dated 6 JUN. 28, one day from Pharijong to Yatung. On the front is a Type BR-4 Registration Label with a "PHARIJONG" hs. Type PC (Hellrigl B88). Addressed to "Col. F.M. Bailey C.I.E./Political officer/Sikkim/Camp Yatung/Tibet". Very few examples of Tibet "internal" mail are known carried by the British-India P.O.. "Camp" mail is very scarce and was only afforded to the Political Officer or to British Missions while travelling on Official Business within Tibet.



1929

1929 COVER: YATUNG, TIBET to LONDON, ENGLAND

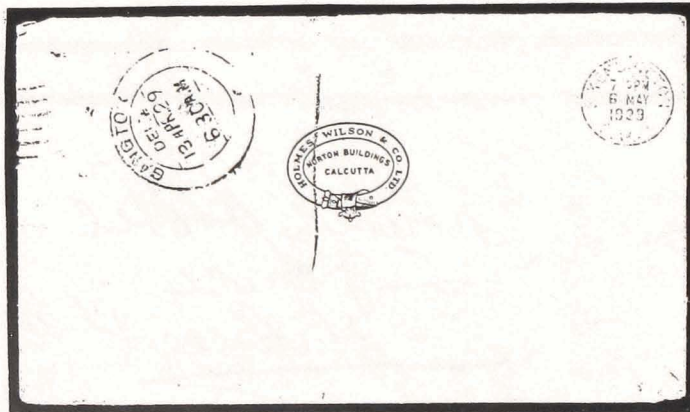
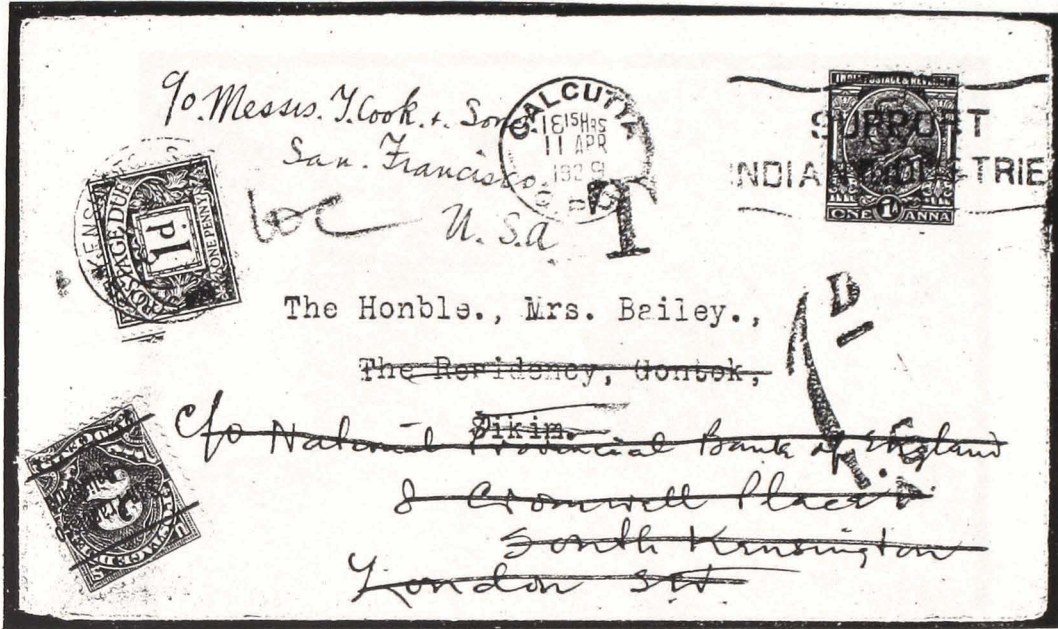
f.w. a pair of 1A India postage, tied by "YATUNG-TIBET+VIA=SILIGURI+" cds. Type B-2 (Hellrigl B15) dated 20 JUN. 29. Addressed to Bailey who is on leave in England. He and his wife had planned a ten month around-the-world tour but as fate would have it there was trouble in Peshawar and Bailey was asked to return as Political Officer in Baghelkhand, in central India, starting on the 20th of October 1930 and lasting about fifteen months.



1929

CALCUTTA to SIKKIM forwarded to LONDON then to SAN FRANCISCO

f.w. INDIA ONE ANNA Postage stamp tied by CALCUTTA slogan cds. dated 11 APR 1929, GANGTOK cds. dated 13 APR. 29, and a S KENSINGTON cds. dated 6 MAY 1929 on the back. Also on the front a 1d hs. and a POSTAGE DUE stamp tied by a SOUTH KENSINGTON cds. dated 6 (MA)Y 29. It was then forwarded to San Francisco, "T" and Postage Due o.p. stamp c/o Messis. T. Cook.& Sons/San Francisco.

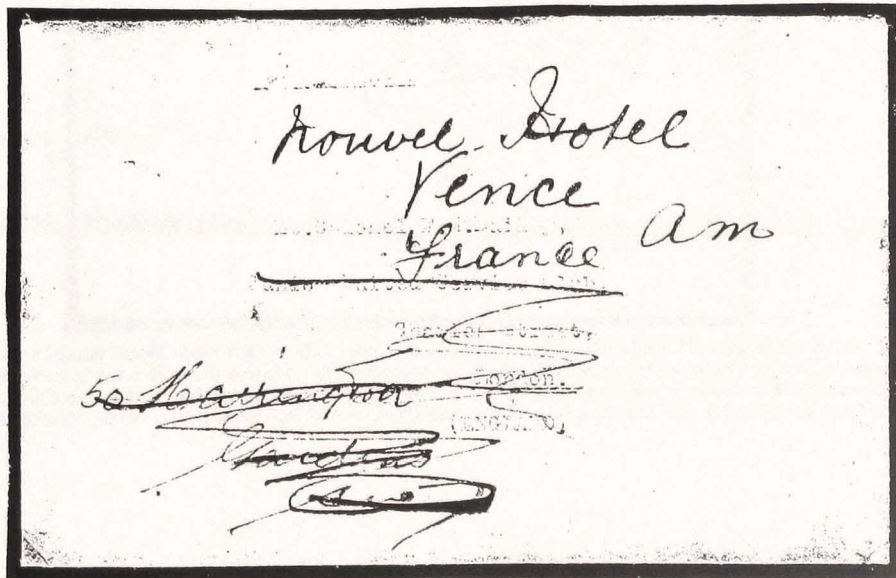
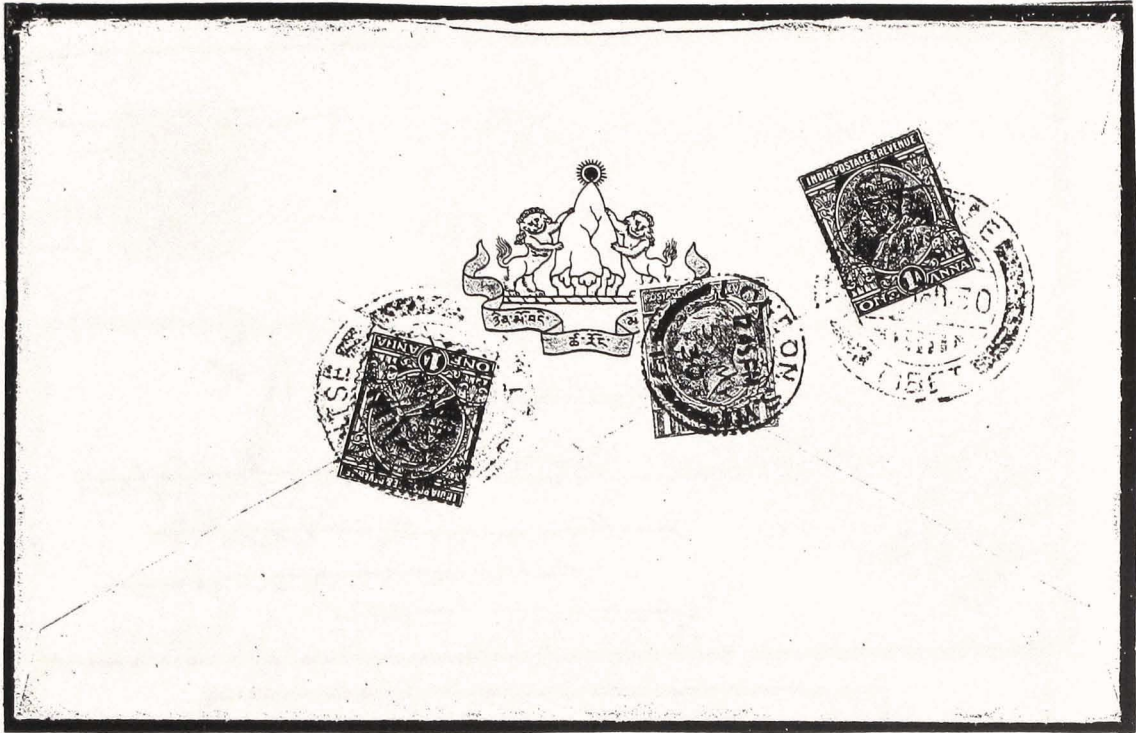


Bailey left Sikkim and Tibet for the last time on the 16th of October, 1928, never to return. He had planned a world tour with The Hon. Mrs. Bailey while on a two years leave. This cover shows that they were in San Francisco in the summer of 1929. It is not clear what the Bailey's were doing during this time but there are several covers documenting their travels. Bailey's leave was cut short in 1930 and he was called back into service at Baghelkhand (central India) commencing on the 20th of October, 1930.

1930

1930 COVER: GYANTSE, TIBET to LONDON forwarded to FRANCE.

Envelope with "Tsarong" family crest, Type I, on the back flap is f.w. (2) 1A Indian postage and tied by (2) "GYANTSE/TIBET" cds. Type B-4 (Hellrigl B16) dated 8 APR. 30 also a British ONE PENNY was added and tied by a "LONDON" cds. dated 5 MY 30 for postage to France, all on the back. This cover was forwarded within England before being sent on to France. Bailey was still on leave. Although this cover was sent through the British-Indian postal system from Gyantse it most likely originated in Lhasa and was sent by private carrier to Gyantse.

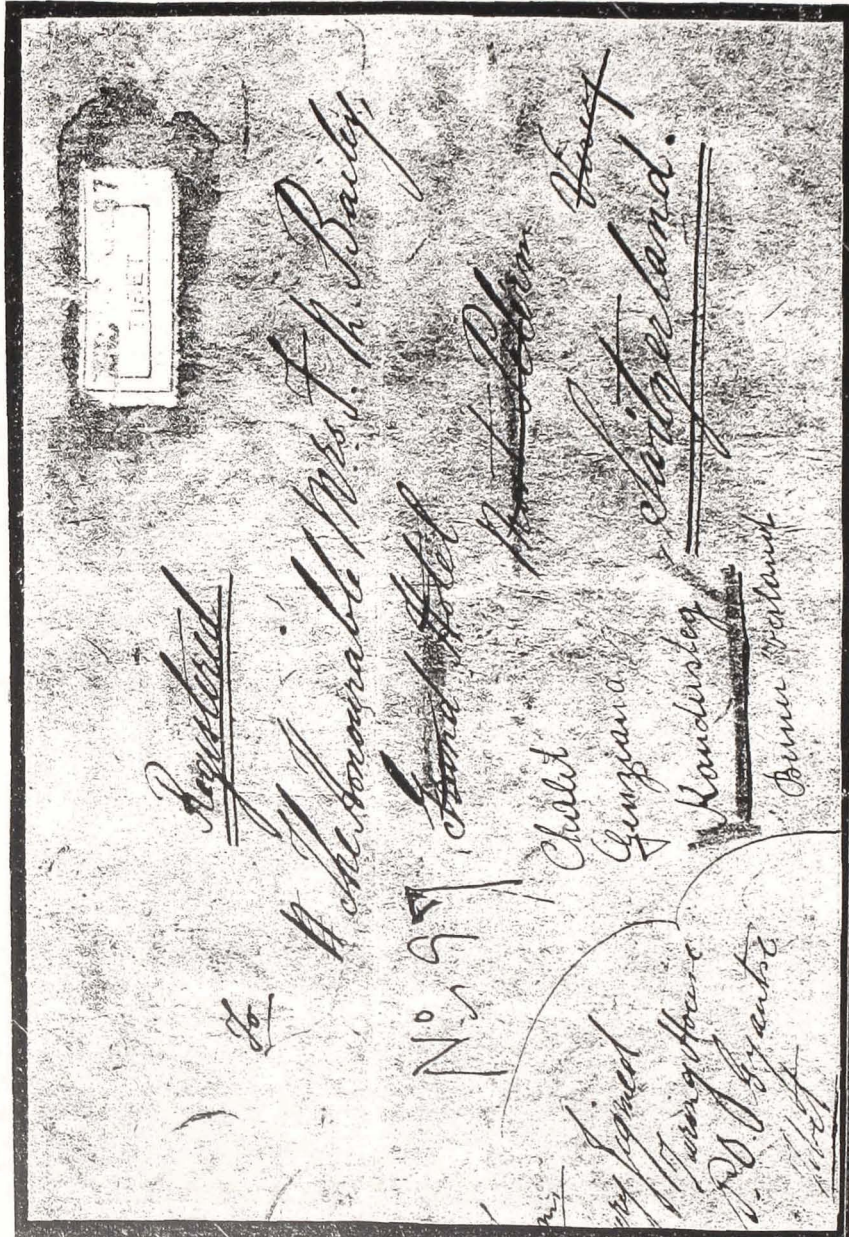


1930 LARGE REGISTERED COVER FRONT: GYANTSE to SWITZERLAND.

f.w. 1/2A, (5) 1As, and an 8As India postage, tied by (4) "GYANTSE+TIBET+" cds. Type B-3 (Hellrigl B48) dated 7 AUG 30 with a transit mark dated 30 VIII 30 alongside.

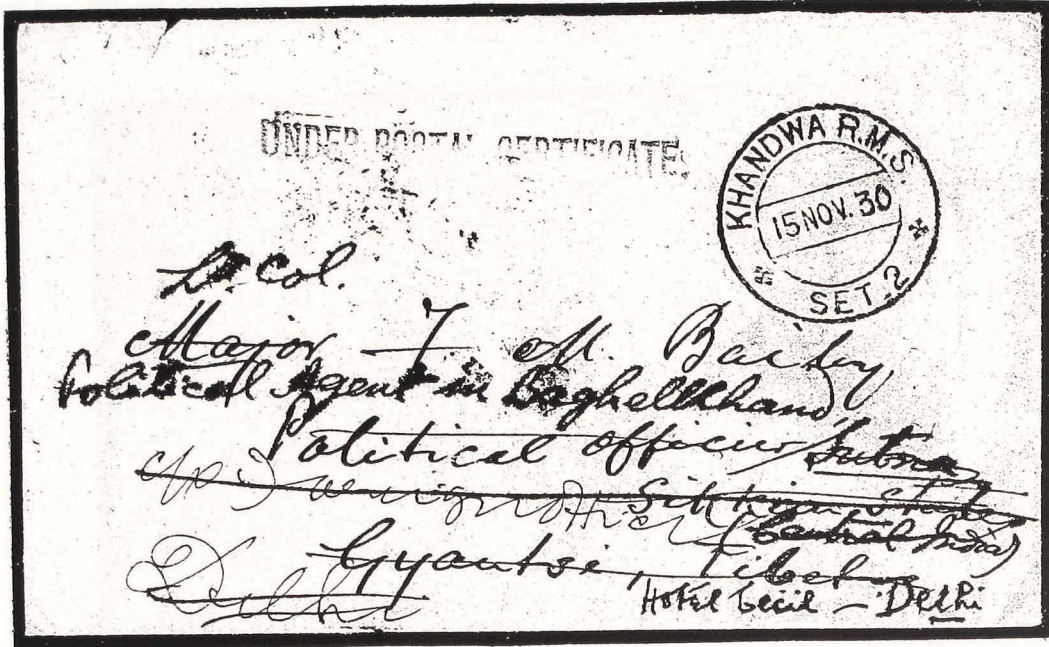
There is also a Registration label, Type BR-2 with a boxed "GYANTSE/TIBET" hs.

Type GE (Hellrigl B77). This is addressed to "The Honourable Mrs. F.M. Bailey" at the Grand Hotel in Switzerland then forwarded to Chalet Genziana. The cover is from Mary and Jigme Taring, very important people in the history of Tibet (see the book "Daughter of Tibet" by Richen Dolma Taring (Mary Taring) for more information on the Tsarong and Taring families in Tibet). The Baileys were now in Switzerland before having to report for duty as Political Officer in central India on the 20th of October 1930.



CALCUTTA to GYANTSE forwarded to SATNA then to DELHI

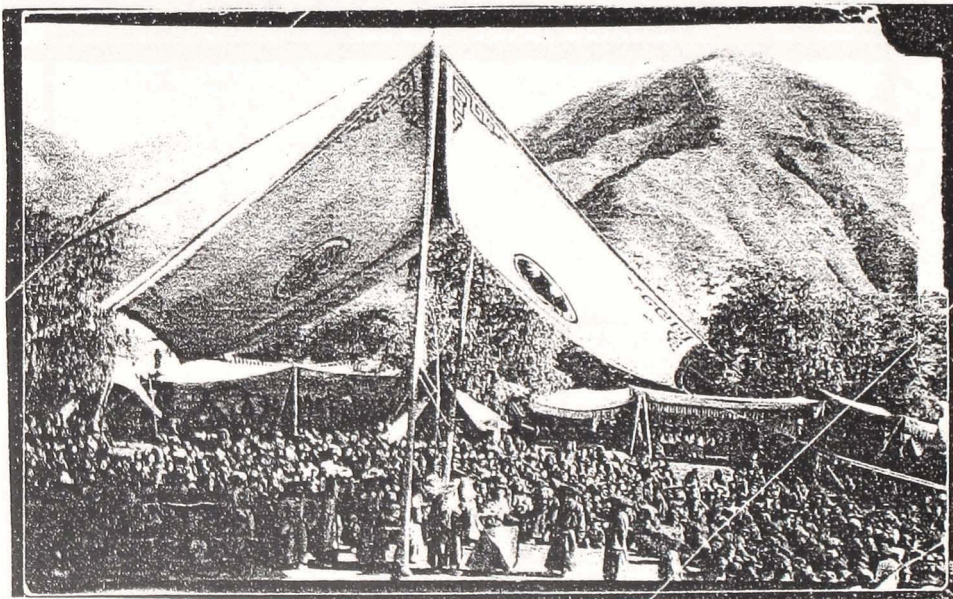
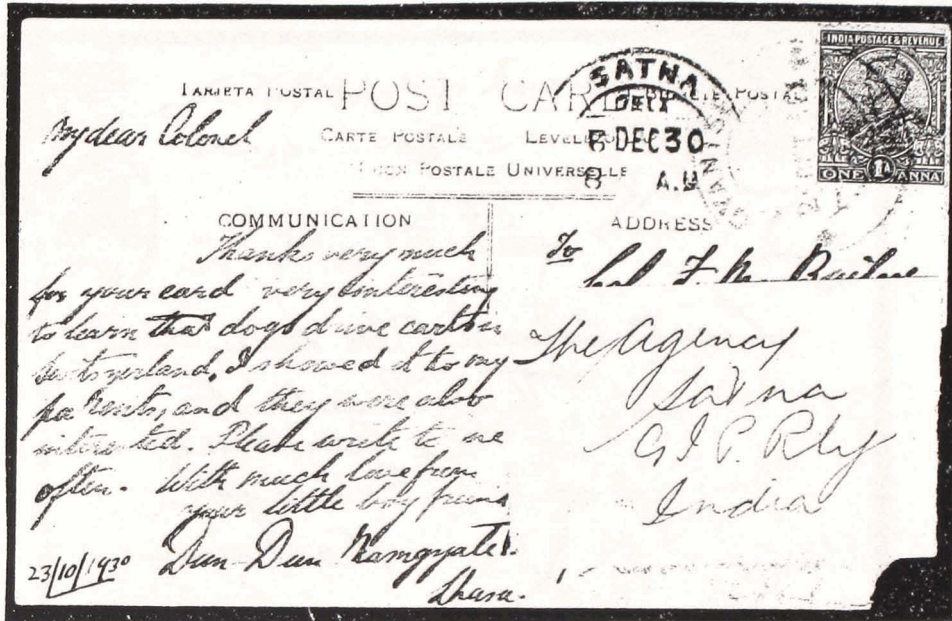
ONE ANNA INDIA stamp tied by CALCUTTA cds. dated 8 NOV. 30, then a GANGTOK cds. dated 10 NOV. 30, a DELHI G.P.O. cds. dated 14 NOV. 30, a KHANDWA/R.M.S. cds. dated 15 NOV. 30, SATNA cds. dated 17 NOV. 30, and finally to the *Hotel Cecil in Delhi*



This cover was addressed to Bailey at Gyantse Tibet on the 8th of November 1930, he had left Tibet and Sikkim on the 16th of October 1928. It seems strange that this letter was sent *UNDER POSTAL CERTIFICATE* so it had to be important information, or possibly new uniforms. Bailey could have told them that it would be forwarded to him if sent to his old address since he didn't know his exact address having travelled from London to France and Switzerland on the way to India and staying at the Hotel Cecil in Delhi until his new post was ready for him, Bailey was now a Lt. Colonel.

1930 PICTURE POST CARD: GYANTSE to LONDON forwarded to INDIA.

f.w. 1A India postage, tied by "GYANTSE+TIBET+" cds. Type B-3 (Hellrigl B48) dated 24 OCT. 30 plus a transit mark "SATNA DELY" dated 6 DEC. 30 alongside. Addressed to Col. F.M. Bailey in London and forwarded to India (pasted over label). This card is from a young Tibetan boy in Lhasa thanking Bailey for the card he sent to him from Switzerland. Bailey has now taken up his new post as Political Officer in Baghelkhand in central India.



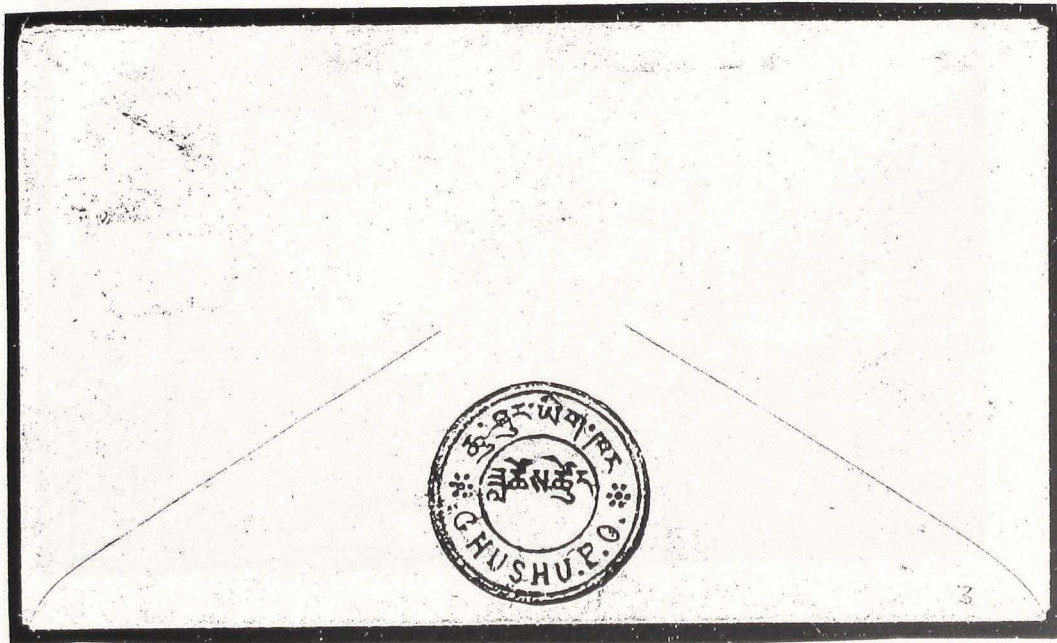
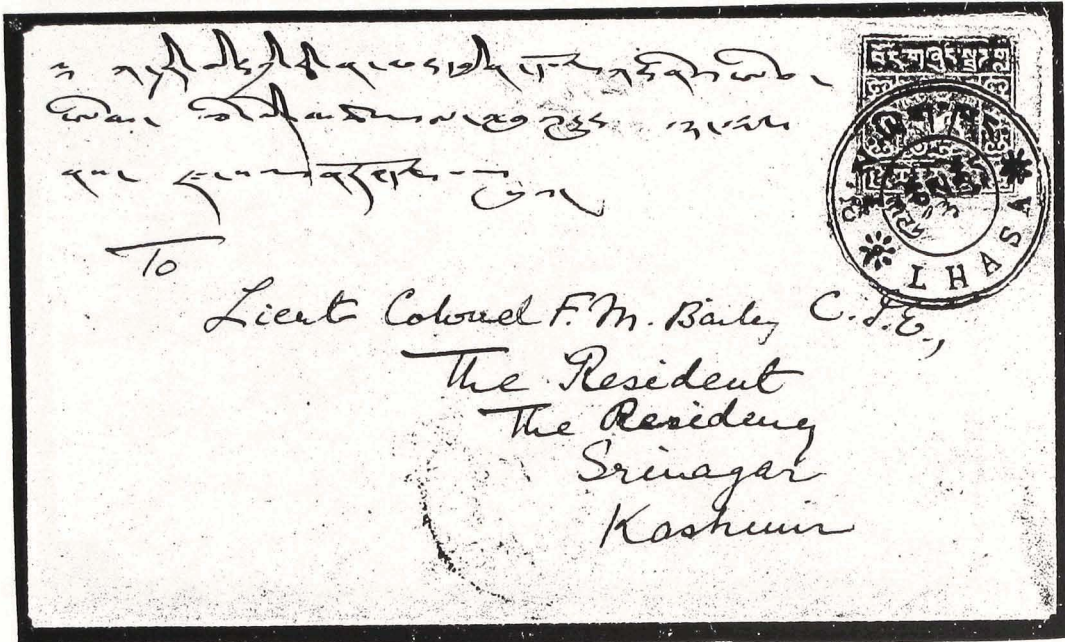
1933

1933 (ca.) COVER: LHASA, TIBET to KASHMIR.

f.w. Tibet 1933 (Third Series) 1/2 Trangka stamp, perforated, setting Ia clichè 3, tied by a "LHASA" double ring cancel Type VIII (Hellrigl T42) with a "CHUSHU P.O." transit on the back, Type VIII (Hellrigl T40).

Tibetan postage was only good within Tibet.

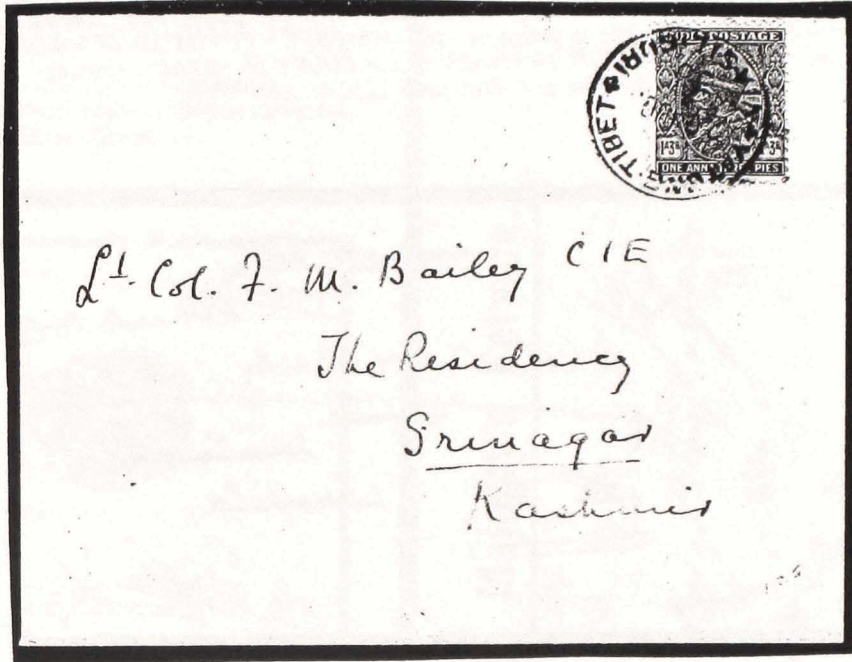
This cover is addressed both in Tibetan and English to:
"Lieut. Colonel F.M. Bailey C.I.E., The Resident, The Residency, Srinagar, Kashmir" he was in Kashmir 1932-33 going to Nepal in 1935.



1933

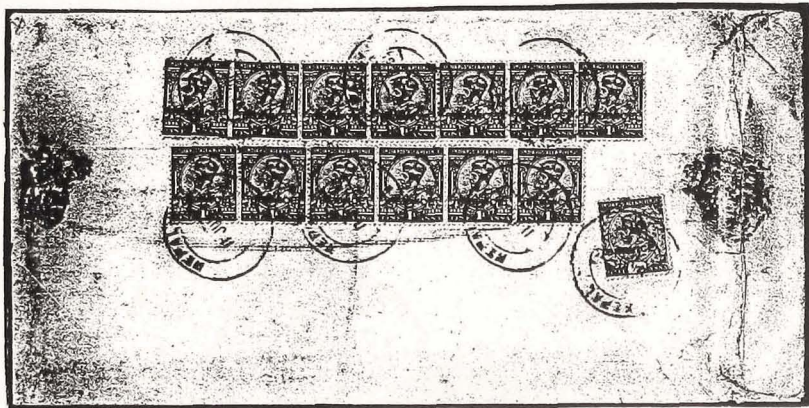
1933 COVER; YATUNG, TIBET to SRINAGAR, KASHMIR.

f.w. India 1as 3ps postage tied by a very clear "YATUNG, TIBET+VIA.SILIGURI+" cds.
Type B-1 (Hellrigl B47) dated 27 AUG. 33 backstamped "SRINAGAR DELY" cds.
dated 3 SEP. 33. Bailey is now "The Resident" in Kashmir, 1932-33.



1934 REGISTERED "ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE" ENVELOPE:
NEPAL to NORFOLK, ENGLAND forwarded to OXFORD.

f.w., on the back (next page), (13) 1A and (1) ½A INDIA "SERVICE" stamps tied by (7) "NEPAL" cds. dated 11 JUN. 34. On the front is a "NEPAL REGISTRY" label in blue and addressed to Bailey in Norfolk (where he was to retire in 1938) then forwarded to Oxford. This cover is from the "BRITISH LEGATION, NEPAL". Bailey would finish his career in Nepal as "HIS MAJESTY'S ENVOY EXTRAORDINARY and MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY at the COURT of NEPAL" starting 15th of February 1935 until 23rd of April 1938.

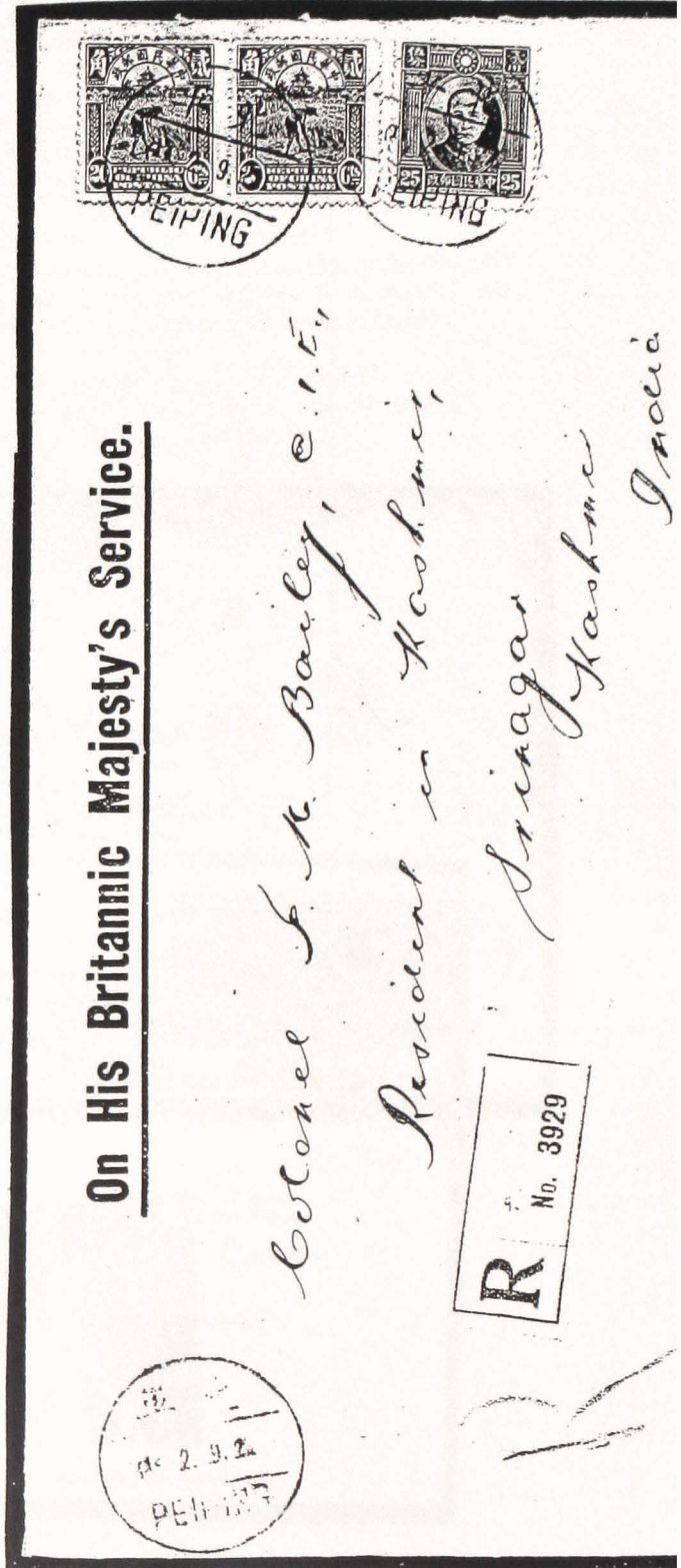
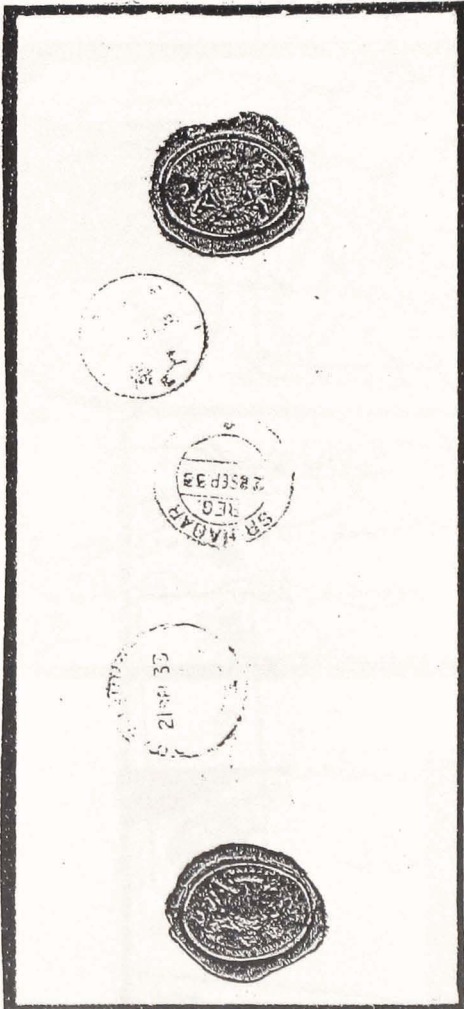


ON HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SERVICE

REGISTERED COVER : CHINA to INDIA

PEIPING cds. dated 2. 9. 33, SHANGHAI cds. dated 4. 9. 33, an unclear transit cds. dated 21 SE(P) 33, and a SRINAGAR cds. arrival dated 28 SEP. 33. On the back are two large red BRITISH DELIGATION seals.

Bailey is now in a Class II Residence in Srinagar, Kashmir where in 1918 he started his Kashgar-Tashkent Mission.



1934 (ca.)

1934 (ca.) COVER: LHASA to GYANTSE.

From the Telegraph Secretary in Lhasa to "Dzasa Rai Bahadur Norbhu Dhondup, Fort Gyantse" c/o Mechant. Norbhu was Bailey's assistant when he was Political Officer in Sikkim and for many years represented British interests in Tibet.

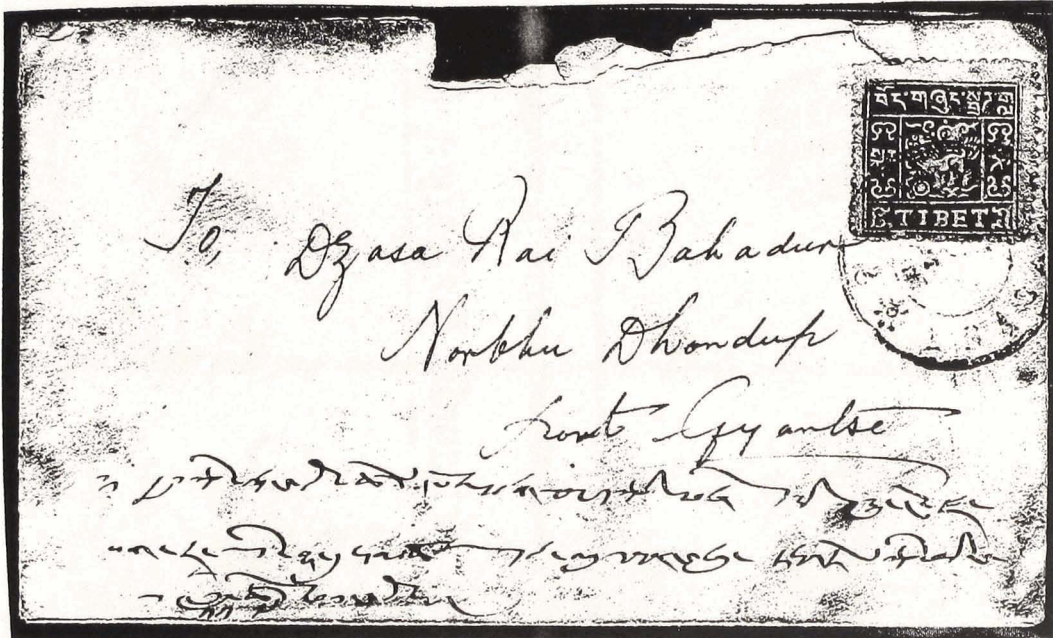
He had the Rank of Honor of "Dzasa" in the Tibetan Government but did not have much power. His importance and activities are described in Melvyn

Goldstein's book "The History of Modern Tibet."

The condition of this cover and cancel are typical of all mail travelling through the Tibetan mail system since it was carried by runners. Most cancels of the Younghusband Expedition are quite poor except those done in Lhasa.

f.w. a Tibetan 1/2 Trangka stamp, Orange, perforated, from Setting Ia, cliché 10 and is tied by a "LHASA" cds. Type VIII (Hellrigl T42).

On the back are five wax seals and an ink seal.



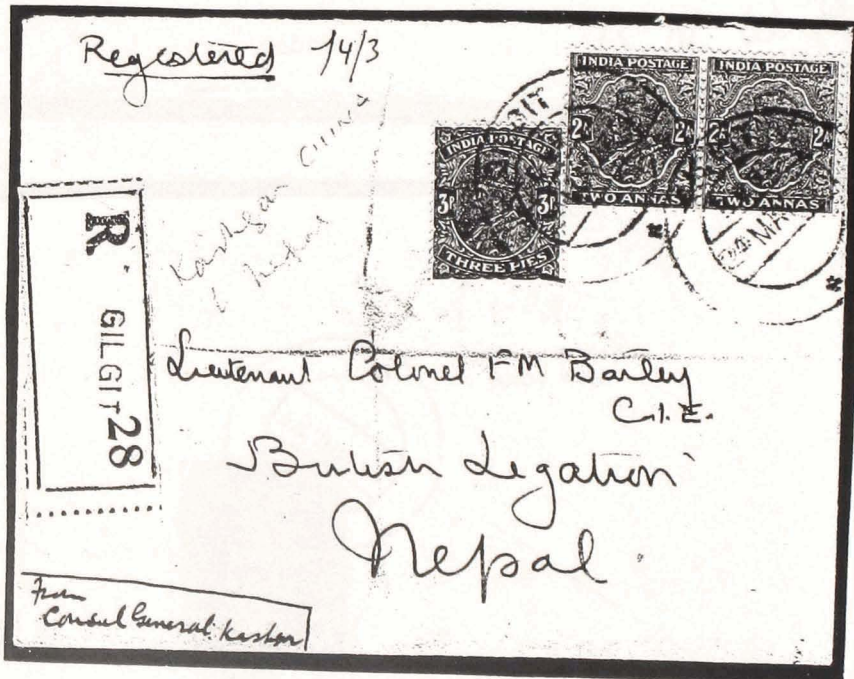
Dzasa Rai Bahadur Norbhu Dhondup



1935

1935 REGISTERED COVER: KASHGAR, CHINA to NEPAL via GILGIT, KASHMIR.

f.w. (2) 2A, and (1) 1P India postage, tied by (2) "GILGIT REG." cds. dated 24 MAY 35 with a "GILGIT" Registry label alongside. On the back is a "NEPAL" cds. arrival dated 4 JUN 35 plus (3) Red wax seals. This cover is from the "Consul General, Kashgar" and is to Bailey in Nepal. The route taken from Kashgar is by road to Yarkand, by track up the Valley of the Yarkand and Danea Rivers, across the Kilik Pass, down the Valley of Hunza River via track to Gilgit, and then into the British-India postal system to Nepal. This is a similar route taken by Bailey in 1918 going to Kashgar from Simla for the beginning of the Tashkent adventure.



1935

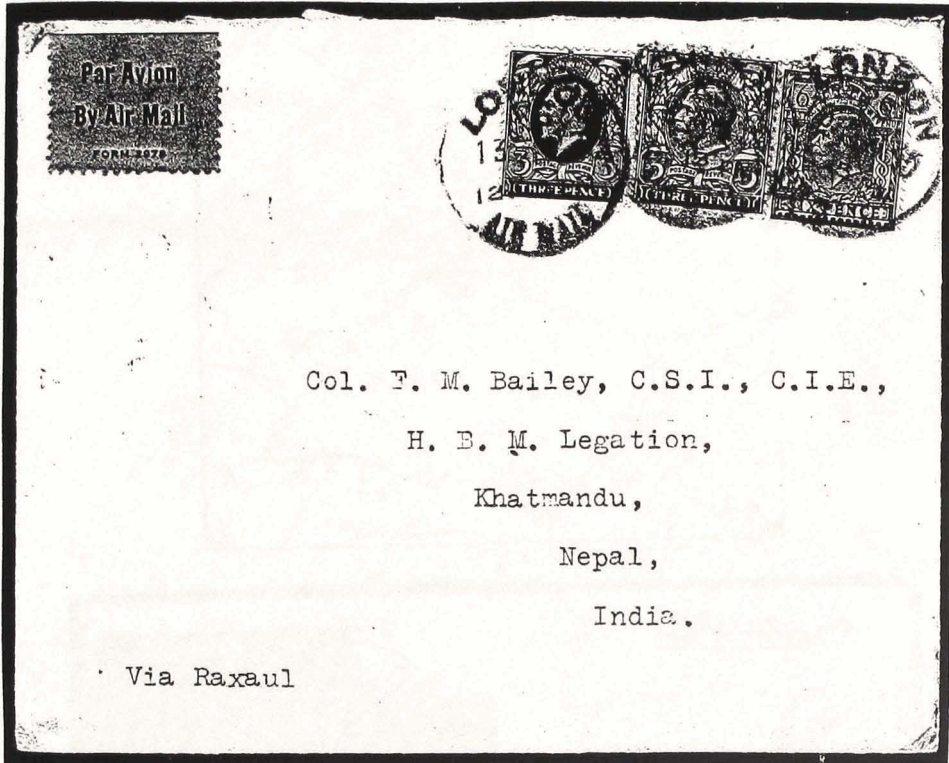
1935 AIR MAIL COVER; LONDON to KATMANDU, NEPAL via RAXAUL, INDIA.

f.w a SIX PENCE and (2) THREE PENCE British stamps and tied by

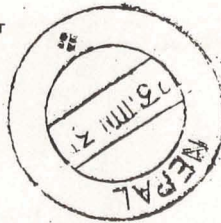
(3) "LONDON, AIR MAIL" cds. dated 13 (JN.) 35 plus a
"Par Avion By Air Mail, FORM 2978" Blue label.

On the back is a "NEPAL" cds. dated 23 JUN. 35.

Also on the back flap is printed "19 EAST 54th STREET, NEW YORK".
Bailey is now "ENVOY EXTRAORDINARY and MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY
at the COURT of NEPAL" from 1935 to 1938.



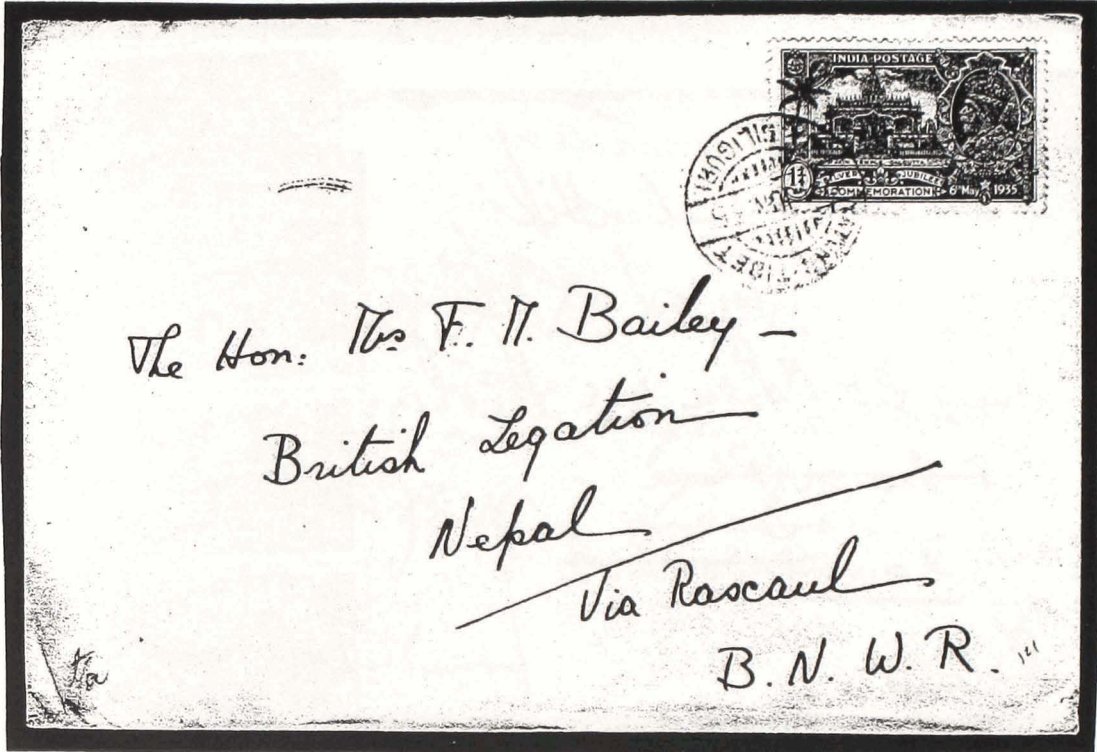
19 EAST 54th STREET
NEW YORK



1935

1935 COVER: YATUNG, TIBET to NEPAL via RAXAUL.

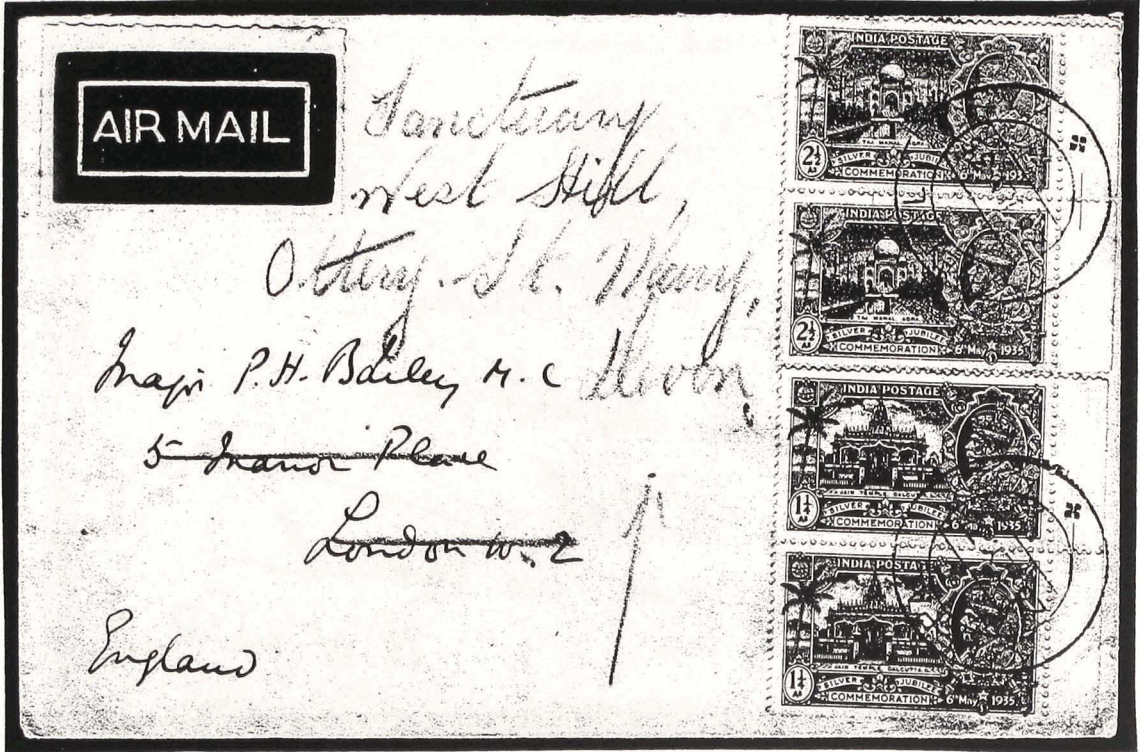
f.w. a 1¼AS India SILVER JUBILEE stamp and tied by a "YATUNG TIBET/
VIA SILIGURI" cds. Type B-2 (Hellrigl B15) dated 24 JUN. 35 and was
directed via Rascaul (sic.) B.N.W.R. and is addressed to "The Hon. Mrs.
F.M. Bailey--British Legation, NEPAL" this is Bailey's wife. On the back
is a ½AS SILVER JUBILEE FUND label and a "NEPAL" cds. dated 30 JUN. 35.



1935

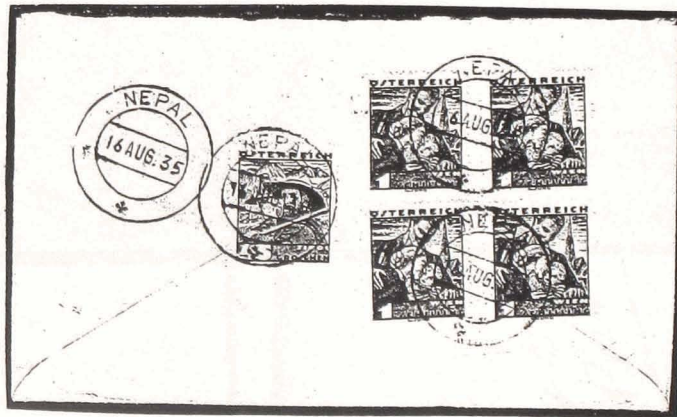
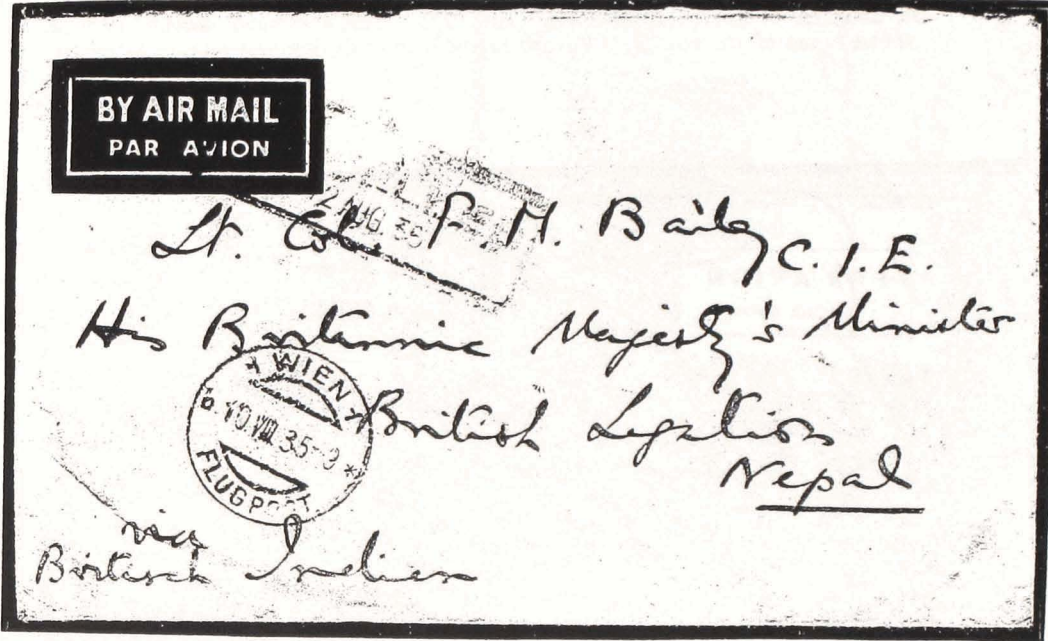
1935 AIR MAIL COVER: NEPAL to LONDON, ENGLAND.

f.w. (2) 1¼AS and (2) 2½AS India 1935 SILVER JUBILEE stamps tied by (2) "NEPAL" cds. dated 26 JLY. 35 plus a Blue "AIR MAIL" label. On the back is Bailey's crest. This cover is from Bailey to his brother in London and then forwarded to Devon.



1935 AIR MAIL COVER: VIENNA to NEPAL

1935 "BY AIR MAIL" Envelope addressed to Lt. Col. F.M. Bailey C.I.E. His Britannic Majesty's Minister, British Legation, Nepal via British India. Also on the front is a WIEN * FLUGPOST" cds. dated 10 VIII 35 and a boxed hs. "CANCELLED" dated 12 AUG. 35. This cover is franked on the back with (4) 1 SCHILLING and (1) 45 GROSHEN Austrian stamps cancelled in Nepal with "NEPAL" cds. arrival dated 16 AUG. 35. Bailey's wife The Hon. Mrs. F.M. Bailey was travelling in Europe at this time as she did during his tenure as His Majesty's Minister in Nepal.

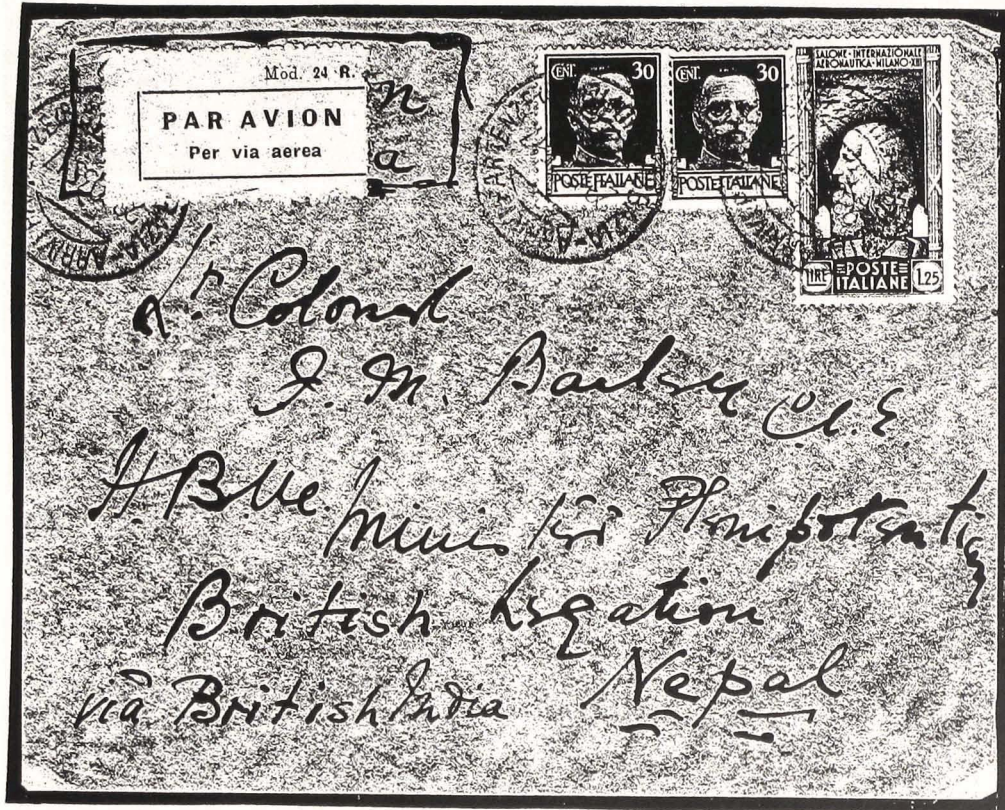


1935

1935 AIRMAIL COVER: ITALY to NEPAL

f.w. (2) 30 CENT. and (1) 1.25 LIRE Italian stamps and cancelled by (2) unclear cancels dated 29 10 35, there is also a "PAR AVION" label and another cancel. On the back is a "NEPAL" cds. dated 11 NOV. 35 arrival plus a "ROMA" transit mark.

This cover is addressed to Bailey in Nepal and is very interesting because it is from "Constance, The Right Honble Lady Cozens-Hardy" Bailey's mother-in-law. In 1921 Bailey married The Hon. Irma Cozens-Hardy the daughter of Lord Cozens-Hardy. The 1935 "Well Travelled" cover shows some of the routes in Europe his wife took during this time.



On His Britannic Majesty's Service.

Registered cover: China to Nepal via India

PEIKING cds. dated 5. 9. 18 (35)

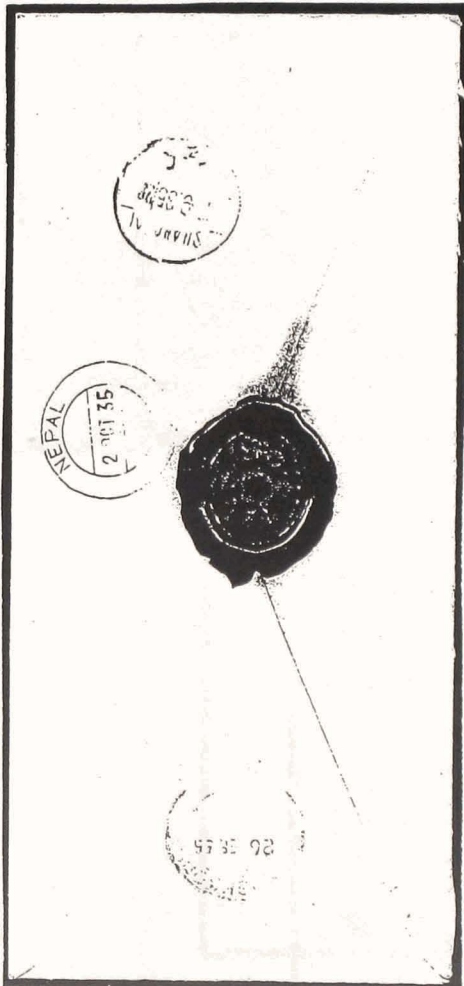
SHAGHAI cds. dated 7. 9. 35

GHANUSHIKOU cds. dated 26 SEP. 35

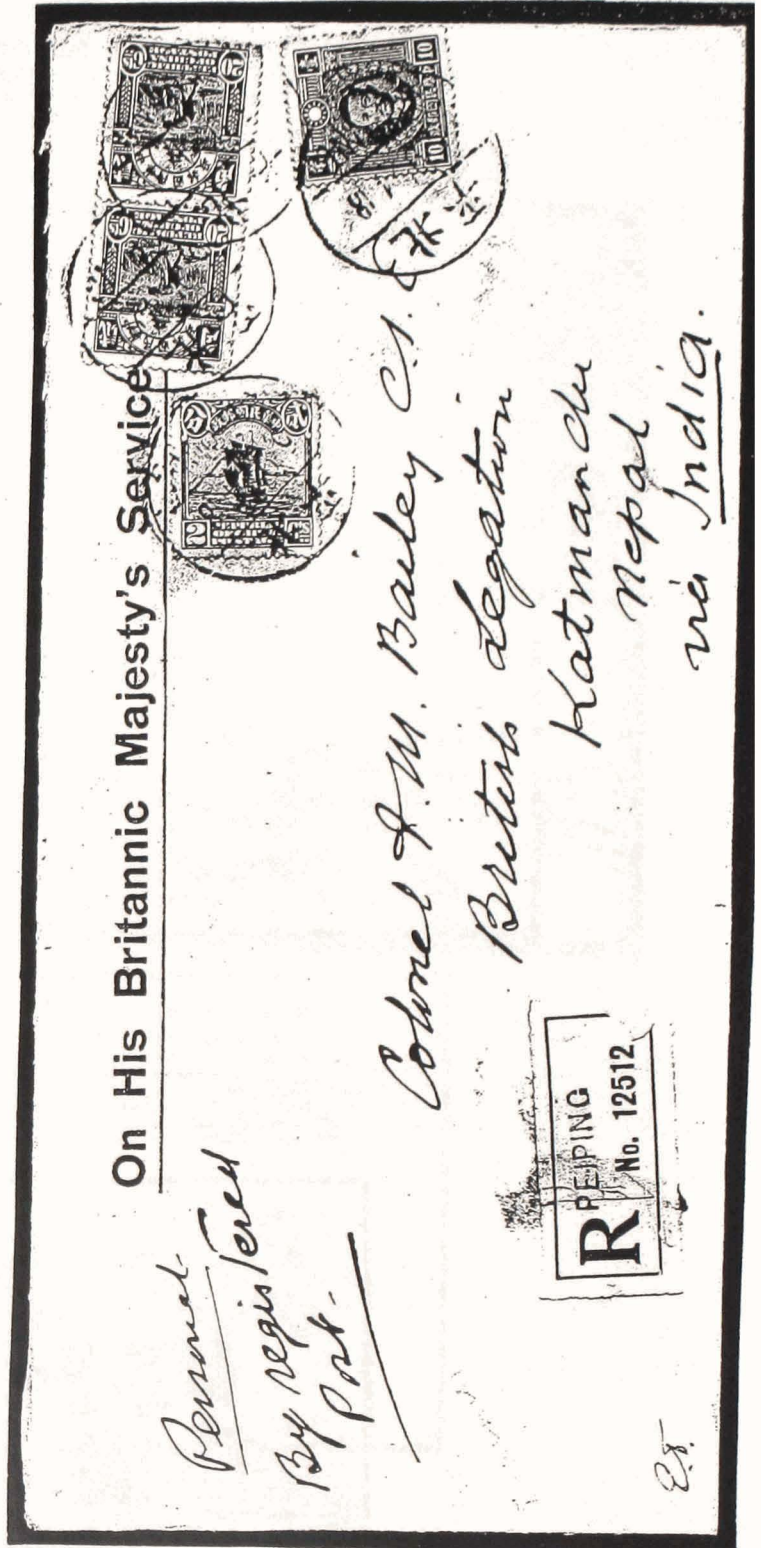
NEPAL cds. dated 2 OCT. 35.

Ms. Personal By Registered Post and **E.T.**

This cover is from Eric Teichman who is going to start an epic journey from Peking to Turkistan on a special mission. He tells his story in a book, *Journet to Turkistan* by Sir Eric Teichman, K.C.M.G., C.I.E. He will end up in Srinagar, Bailey's old stomping grounds.



Reduced to 64 %.



1935

1935 WELL TRAVELLED AIR MAIL COVER: NEPAL to VIENNA.
FORWARDED BACK to NEPAL via FIUME, NAPOLI, and RAXAUL.
FROM F.M. BAILEY to HIS WIFE TRAVELLING in EUROPE.

f.w., on the front, (3) 3½AS and (2) ½A SILVER JUBILEE India postage, plus, on the back, (2) 3½AS SILVER JUBILEE and a 1A stamp equalling 19½ ANNAS postage for air mail to Vienna from Nepal. The stamps are tied by (7) "NEPAL" cds. dated 22 OCT. 35 plus a Blue "BY AIR MAIL" sticker.

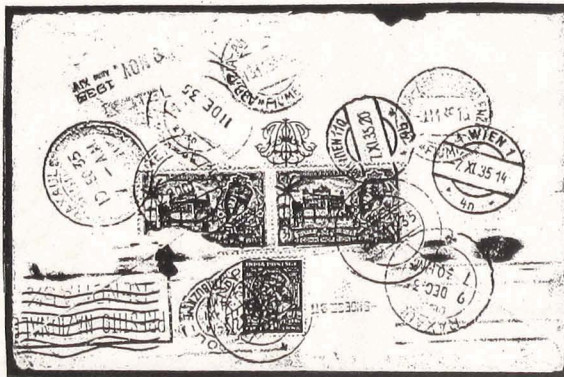
From Bailey to his wife, The Hon. Mrs. F.M. Bailey, who was in Vienna at the time. This cover followed her to Italy and back to Nepal ending up at Bagaha (India?).



ROUTE of this COVER:

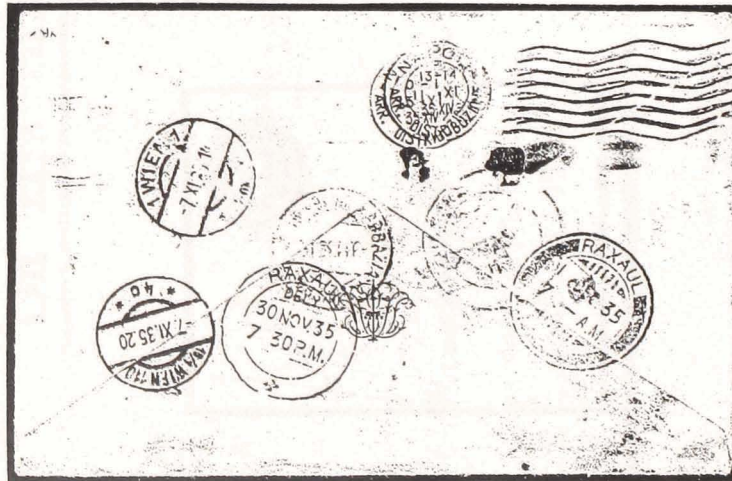
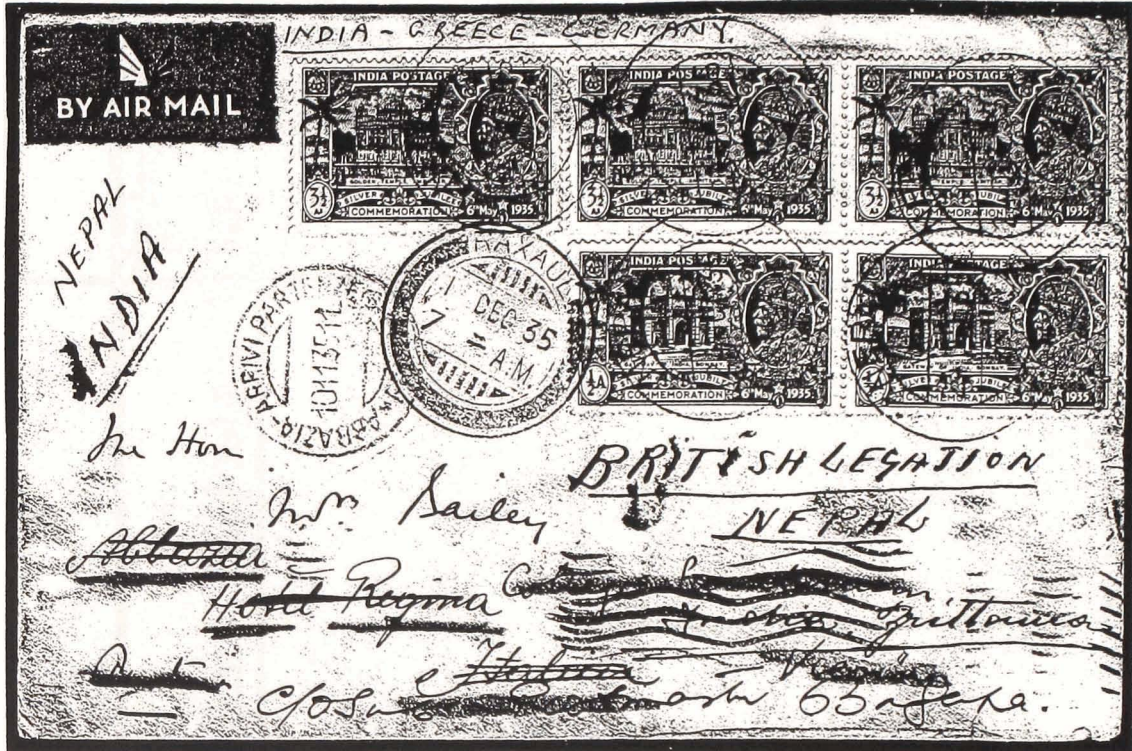
India Greece Germany ms. front of cover

Nepal, 22nd October
Vienna, 5th November
Vienna, 7th November, forwarded to "Abbazio Hotel Regina Italia"
Fiume, now Rijeka, Yugaslovia, 9th November, transit mark
Napoli, 13th-14th November, forwarded to BRITISH LEGATION Nepal
Raxaul, India, 10th December
Bagaha, 11th December 1935.



AIR MAIL COVER from NEPAL to VIENNA forwarded to ITALY

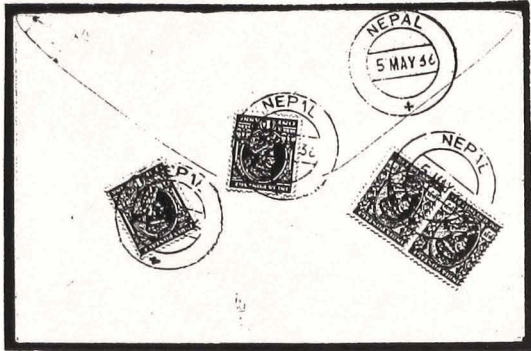
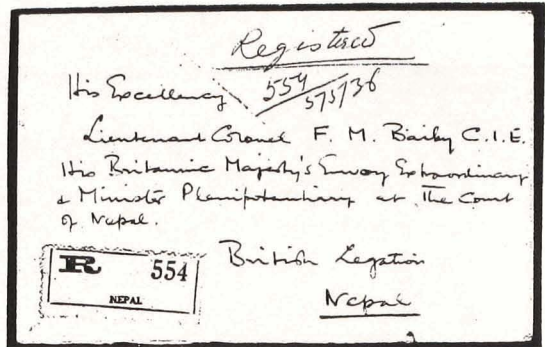
INDIA POSTAGE tied by (5) NEPAL cds. dated 24 OCT. 35, WEIN cds. dated 7 XI 35, ABRAZIA cds. dated 1 DEC. 35. NAPOLI cds. dated 13. XI 35, (2) RAXAUL cds. dated 30 NOV. 35 and 1 DEC. 35. Also a ms. in red ink, c/o Sub Postmaster Basera(?), then BRITISH LEGATION NEPAL in bold ink, this letter did not find the Hon. Mrs. Bailey.



Reduced to 64%

1936

LOCAL REGISTERED COVER to BAILEY
NEPAL cds. dated 5 MAY 36

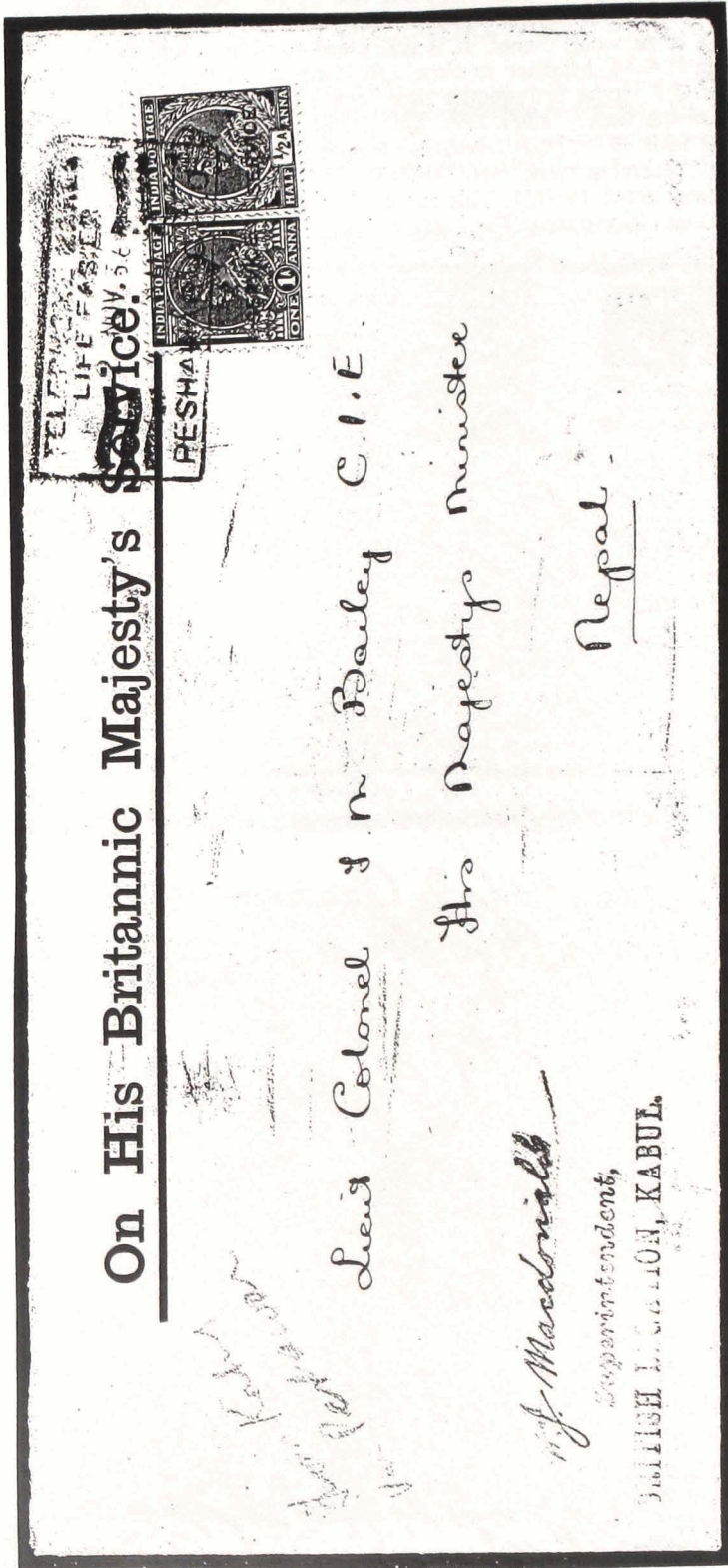


1937

FRENCH INDIA to NEPAL
PONDICHERRY cds. dated 12 MAR 37, NEPAL cds. dated 17 mar. 37.



Reduced to 50 %



On His Britannic Majesty's Service.

Lieut Colonel F.M. Bailey C.I.E.
His Majesty's Minister
Nepal

W.J. Macdonald
Superintendent,
BRITISH LEGATION, KABUL.

1936 OFFICIAL COVER:
KABUL to NEPAL via
PESHAWAR.

On His Britannic Majesty's
Service. Envelope f.w.
India ONE ANNA and a
HALF ANNA o.p. SERVICE
stamps and tied by
"TELEPHONE MAKES
LIFE FASTER-
PESHAWAR C.P.O."
slogan cancel dated
2 NOV. 36 with a
"RAXAUL" cds.
transit dated 5 NOV. 36
on the back.

This Official cover is
from "W.J. Macdonald
Superintendent, BRITISH
LEGATION, KABUL."
and is to "Lieut. Colonel
F.M. Bailey, C.I.E.
His Majesty's Minister
Nepal".

1937 AIR MAIL COVER: GREECE to INDIA forwarded to NEPAL.

f.w. (6) Greek postage stamps (two missing) and tied by (4) "KEPKYPA" cds. dated 9 FEB. 37. "PAR AVION" Blue label on front plus ms. "Air France" via Karachi and a large violet cachet. It is addressed to: The Honble Mrs. F.M. Bailey c/o H.B.M. Minister to Nepal c/o Postmaster, Puranpur Pillibhit District U.P. India Britanniques then forwarded to Dudhwagha then to Nepal. On the back: "KEPKYPA" cds. 4 FEB. 37; "PURANPUR" transit dated 12 FEB. 37; "DUDHWAGHA" transit dated 20 FEB. 37; and a "NEPAL" receiving mark dated 24 FEB. 37. Also on the back are ms. directions dated 19/2/37. This cover is from The Hon. Mrs. F.M. Bailey's mother "Constance, The Right Honble Lady Cozens-Hardy".



1937

AFGHANISTAN to NEPAL

50p & 30p AFGHANISTAN POSTAGE STAMPS tied by GHURYIN native cancel in violet, Type P.M.-2 a rare marking, also tied by KABOUL cds. transit with a MAZAR E SHARIF dated 6 may 37 alongside.

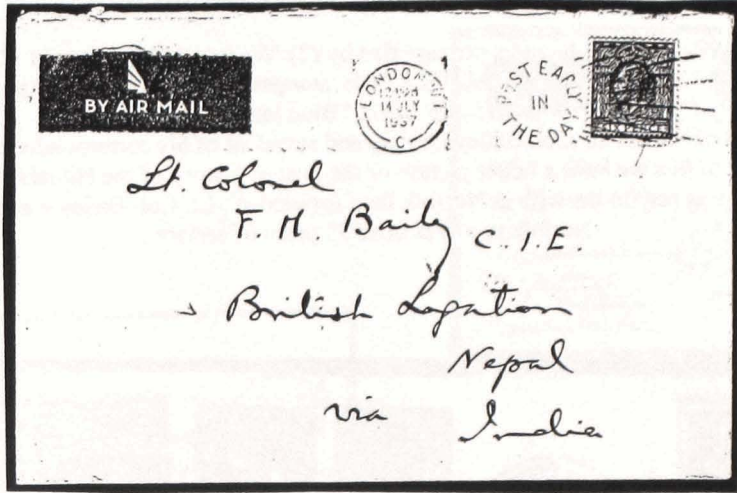
Back stamped with a KABOUL cds., a LANDI KOTAL (on the India side of the Kyber Pass), and a NEPAL cds. dated 19 JUN. 37.



1937

LONDON to NEPAL

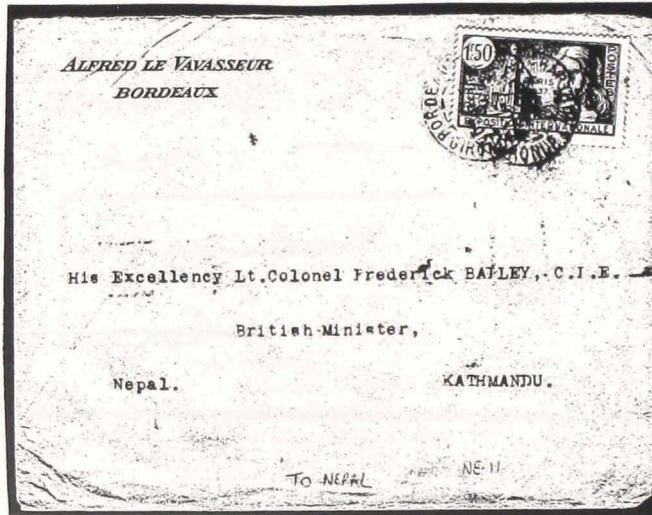
Air Mail cover f.w. SIX PENCE BRITISH stamp with a slogan cancel dated 11 JULY 1937.
On the back is a NEPAL cds. dated 22 JLY 37.



1937

FRANCE to NEPAL

BORDEAUX cds. with an un-clear cancel. On the back a NEPAL cds. dated 18 JLY 37.



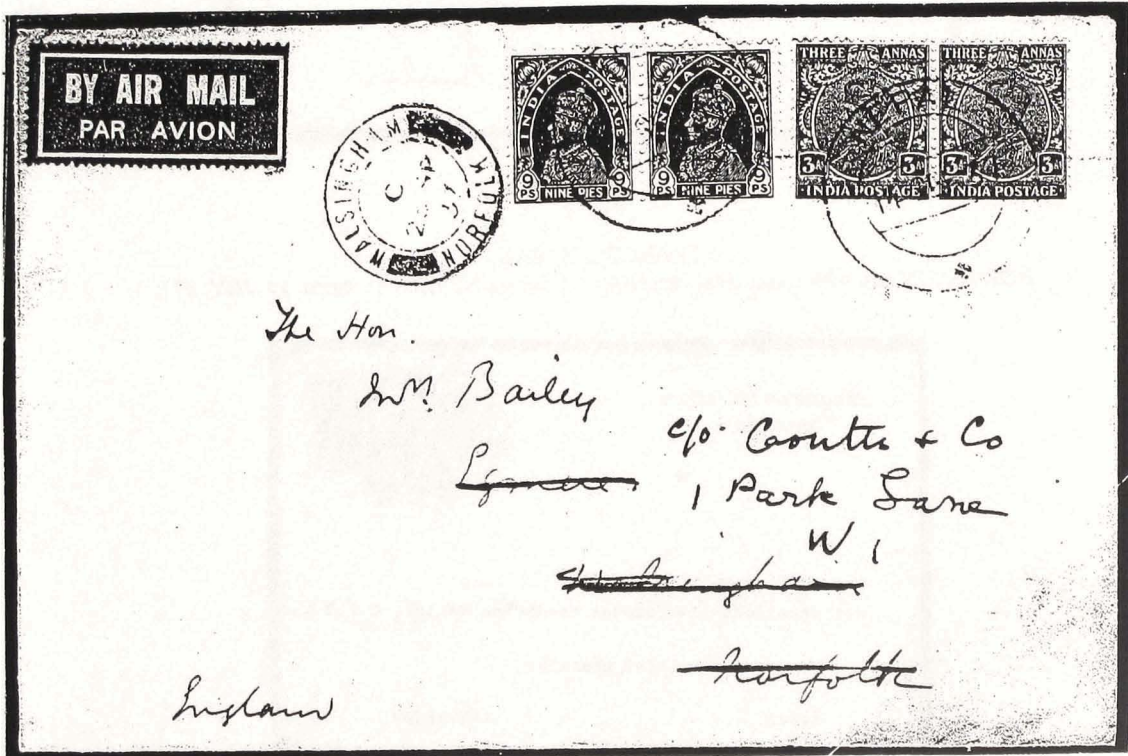
Reduced to 64%

1937

1937 AIR MAIL COVER: NEPAL to ENGLAND

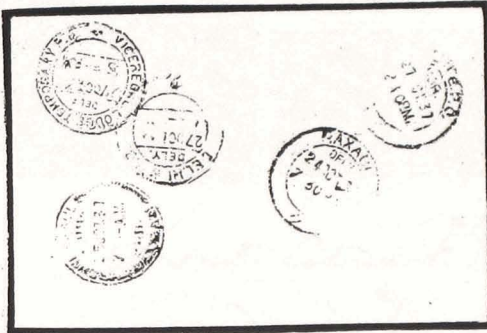
f.w. (2) 9Ps and (2) 3As India postage tied by (2) "NEPAL" cds. dated 14 SEP 37, also a "WALSINGHAM/NORFOLK" cds. alongside dated 23 SEP. 37 plus a "BY AIR MAIL." Blue label.

All of his life Lt. Col. Bailey kept up and saved all of his correspondence. Because of this we have a better picture of the postal history of the Himalayan area. This cover was sent to his wife in Norfolk then forwarded. Lt. Col. Bailey was to retire in Norfolk in a year after 35 years of service.



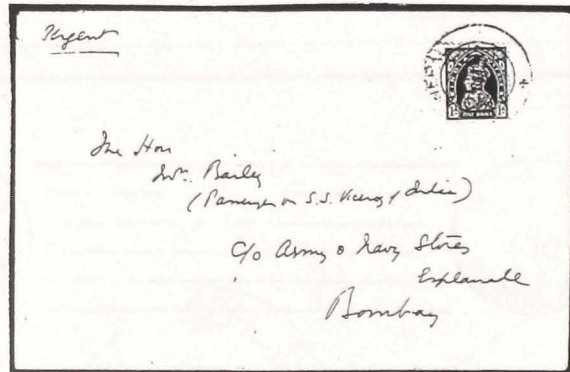
1937

ENGLAND to NEPAL
BRITISH POSTAGE STAMPS tied by WOKING/SURREY cds. dated 15 OCT. 1937,
RAXAUL cds. dated 24 - 25 OCT 37, DELHI G.P.O. cds. dated 27 OT. 37,
and a VICEREGAL LODGE TEMPORARY P.O. dated 27 OCT. 37.



1937

NEPAL to BOMBAY
To The Hon. Mrs. Bailey (Passenger on S.S. Viceroy of India) c/o Army & Navy Stores, Esplanade,
Bombay. On the back is a NEPAL cds. dated 25 OCT. 37.

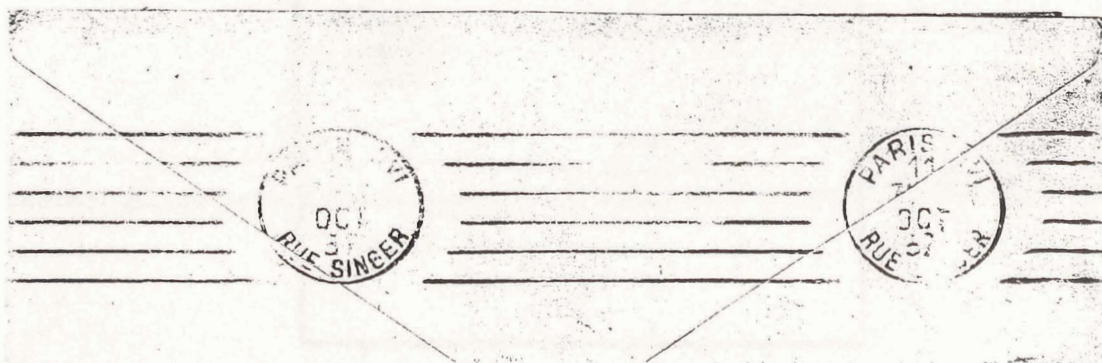
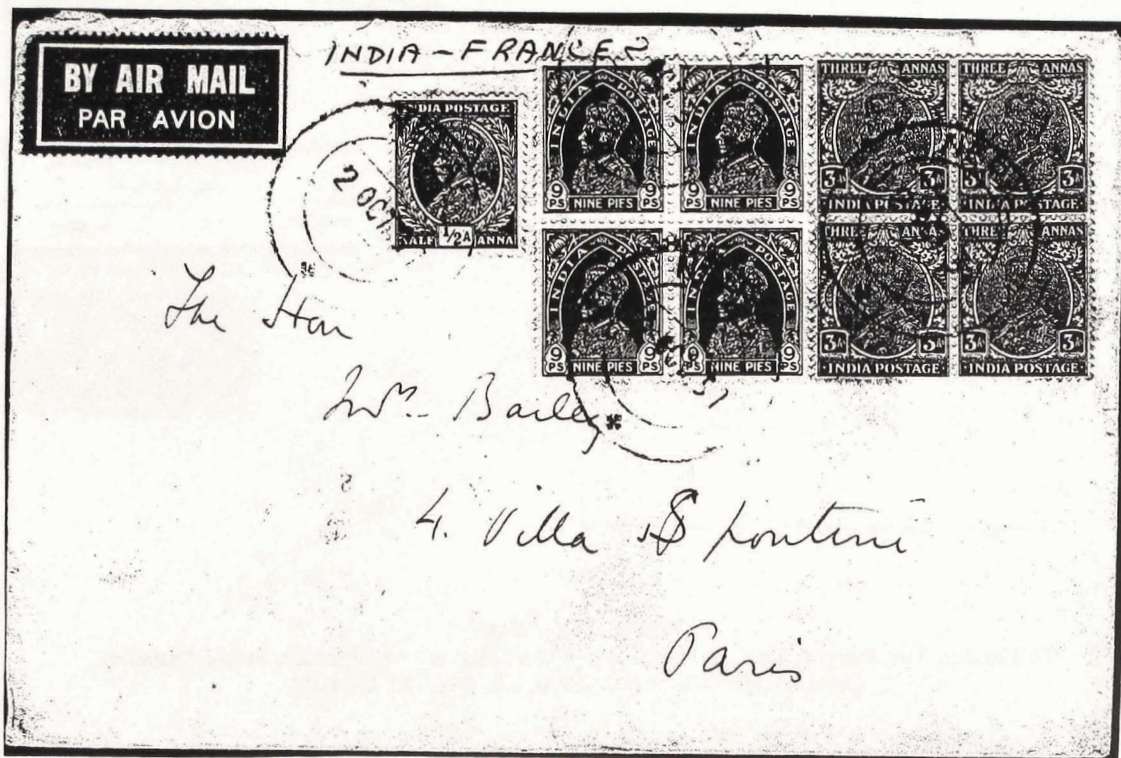


Reduced to 50%

1937

1937 AIR MAIL COVER: NEPAL to PARIS.

Air Mail cover from Bailey to his wife who is now in Paris.
f.w. THREE ANNAS, a block of four, NINE PIES, a block of four,
and a HALF ANNA single of India postage, tied by (4) "NEPAL" cds.
dated 2 Oct. 37 plus a "BY AIR MAIL" Blue label and a ms. "INDIA-FRANCE".
On the back is a "PARIS XVII--RUE SINGER" six bar killer cancel
dated 11 OCT.37.



1937

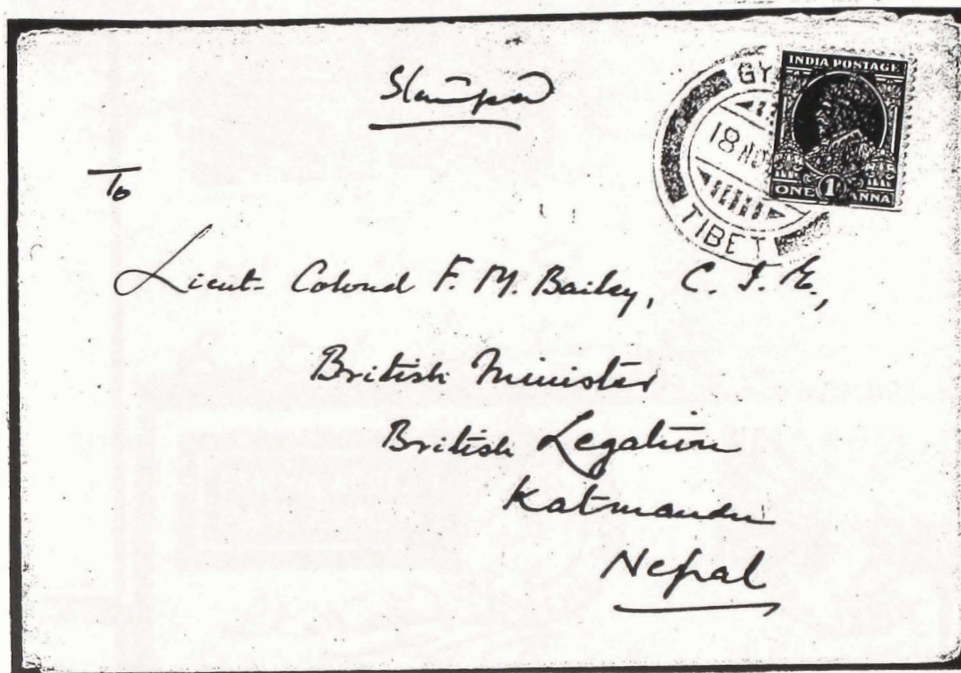
1937 COVER: GYANTSE to NEPAL

f.w. an India ONE ANNA postage stamp tied by "GYANTSE/TIBET" cds.
Type B-2 (Hellrigl B16) dated 18 NOV. 37 with a ms. "Stamped" alongside.

On the back is a "NEPAL" receiving mark dated 24 NOV. 37.

Although Bailey left Sikkim and Tibet on the 16th of October 1928 never to
return he kept up his correspondence with his friends there.

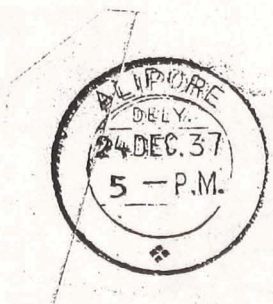
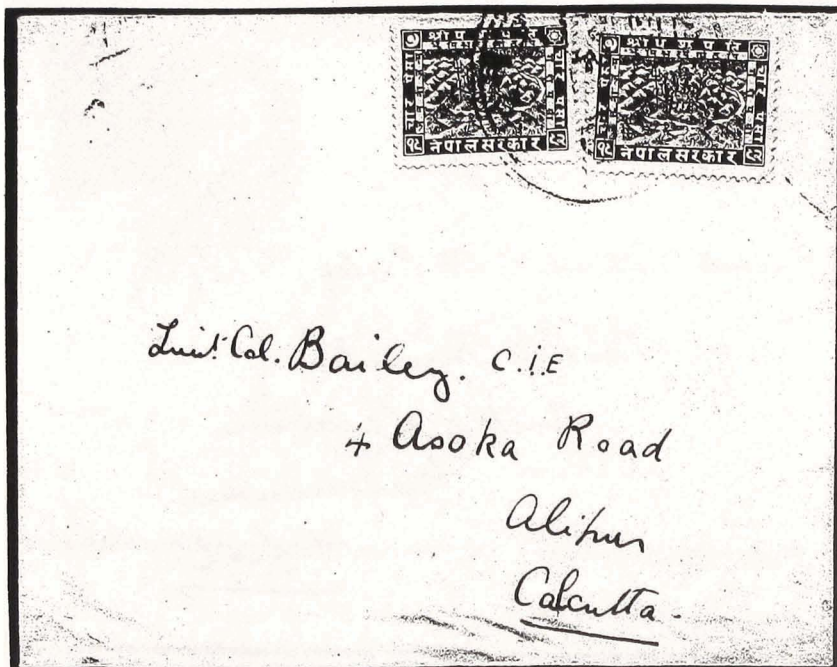
In about five months, the 23rd of April 1938, Bailey would be retiring
to Norfolk, England.



1937

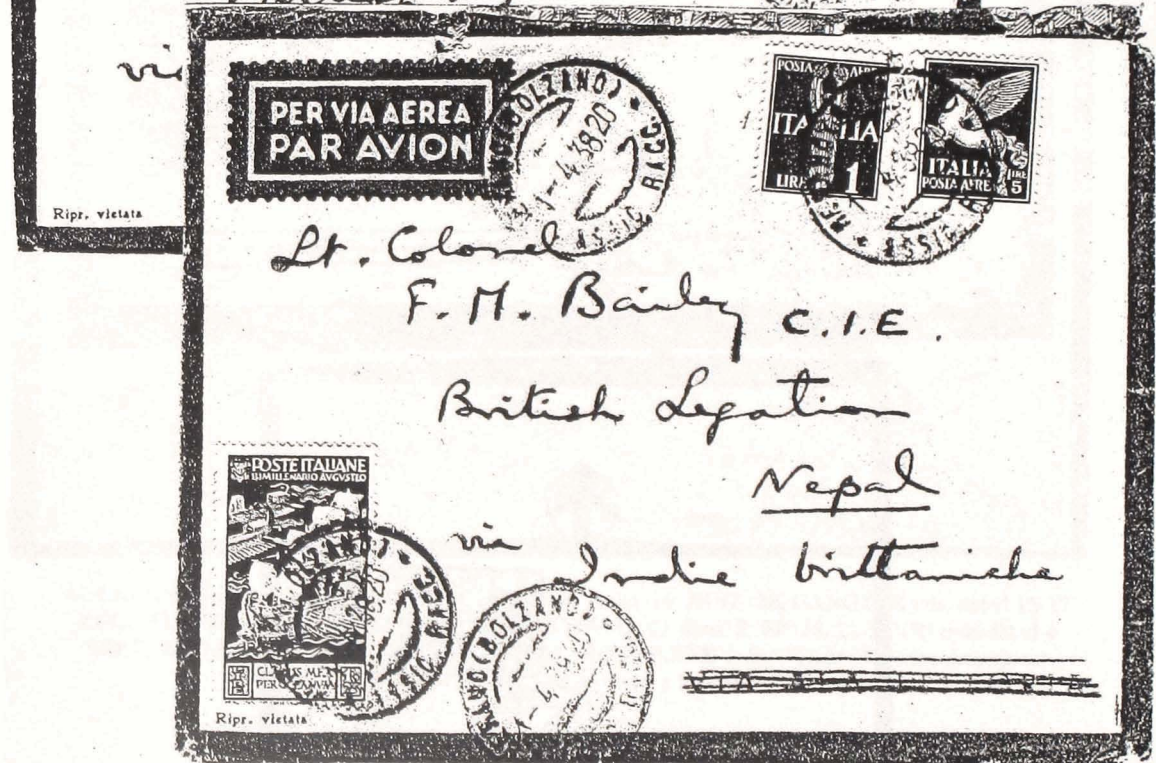
1937 COVER: NEPAL to CALCUTTA

f.w. (2) Nepal stamps and tied by an indistinct Nepal cancel.
On the back is a "ALIPORE" DELY cds. dated 24 DEC. 37.
Addressed to *Lieut. Col Bailey, 4 Asoka, Alipur, Calcutta.*
It is known that Bailey spent Christmas in Calcutta in 1937.
Bailey would be leaving Nepal on the 23rd of April 1938 to retire
in England. The Hon. Mrs. Bailey did much travelling during his
tenure in Nepal.



(2) 1938 AIR MAIL COVERS: ITALY to NEPAL

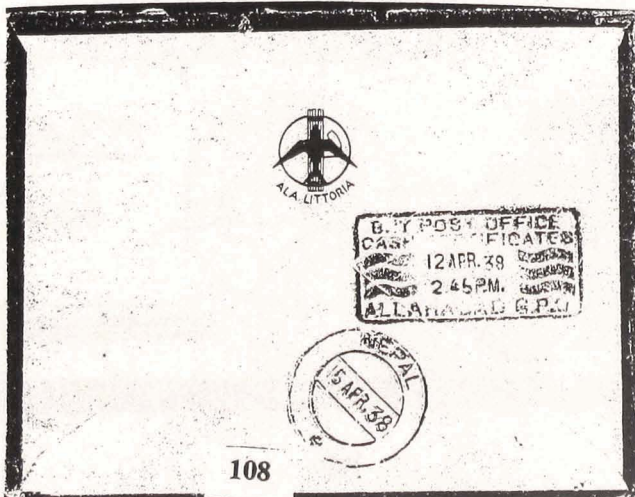
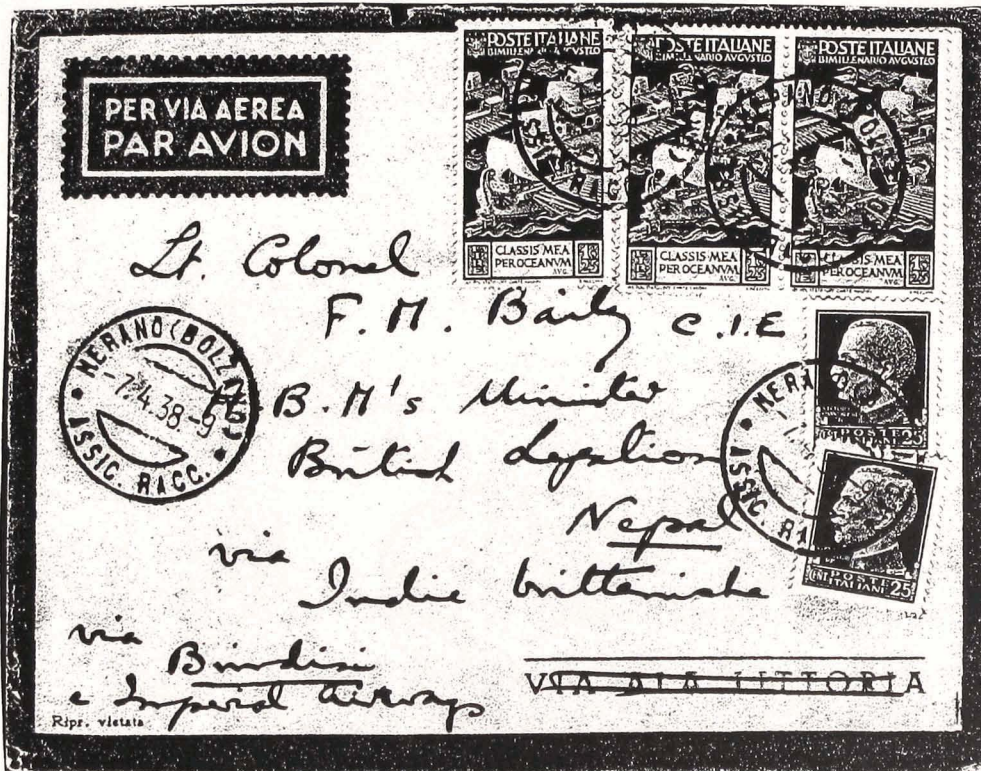
Two Air Mail covers to Lt. Col. F.M. Bailey, C.I.E. at the British Legation in Nepal from The Hon. Mrs. Bailey who was in Italy. These covers are dated 1-4 38 and 2- 4 38 and are backstamped with a NEPAL cds. dated 11 APR 38. The Bailey's were making final arrangements for their move to England when he retires on the 23rd of April, 1938. The Hon. Mrs. Bailey had already been to England where she purchased a house in Norfolk for their retirement.



1938

1938 AIR MAIL ENVELOPE: MERINO, ITALY to NEPAL

f.w.(3) 1.25 Lire and (2) 25 Cent Italian postage stamps, tied by (3) "MERANO (BOLZANO)" cds. dated 7.4.38 with an additional cds. alongside. Addressed to "Lt. Colonel F.M. Bailey C.I.E., H.B.M's Minister, British Legation, Nepal, via India britanniche, via Brindisi e Imperial Airways" this is from Bailey's wife in Italy. On the back is a "NEPAL" cds. dated 15 APR. 38 and a boxed slogan cancel "BUY POSTOFFICE CASH CERTIFICATES" dated 12 APR. 38. There was much correspondence between Bailey in Nepal and his wife in Italy just before he was to leave Nepal for retirement. Bailey was to join his wife in Italy then return to England.



AIR MAIL REGISTERED COVER : NEW ZEALAND to SIKKIM forwarded to SCOTLAND



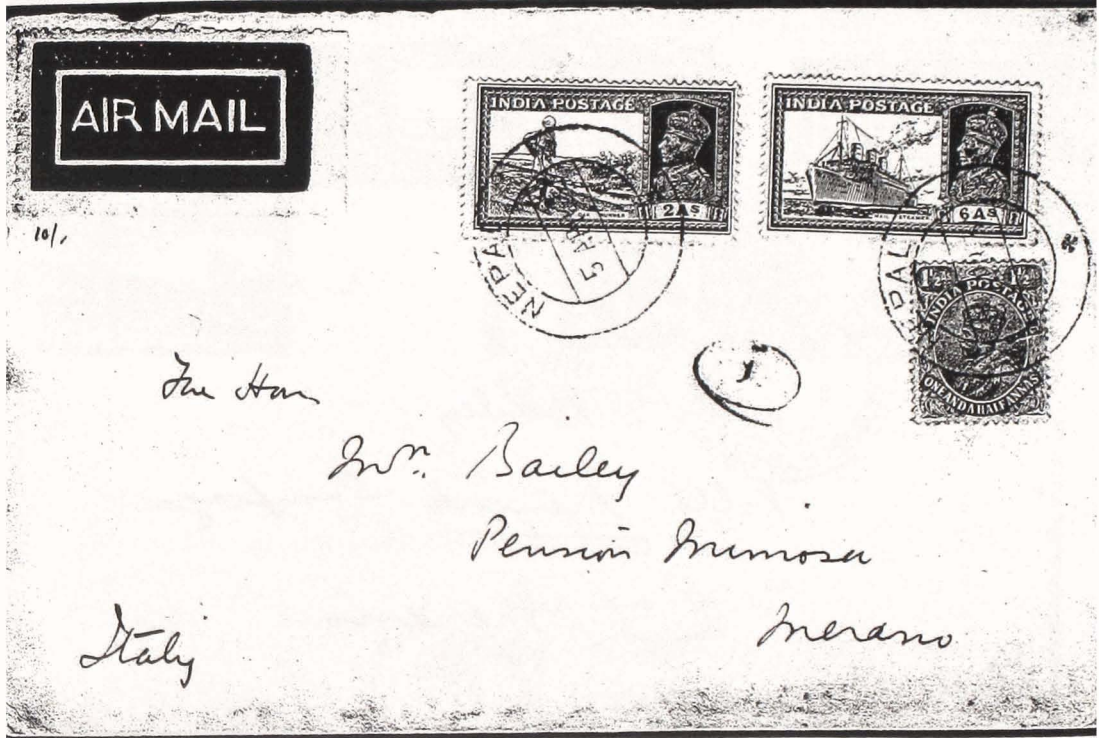
AUCKLAND cds. dated 2 AU. 38, CALCUTTA cds. dated 14 AUG. 38, GANGTOK cds. dated 15-17 AUG. 38, NEPAL cds. dated 22 AUG. 38, KIRKWALL cds. dated 2 SP 38, LONDON oval dated 4 SEPT. 38. Ms. Forwarded to ORKNEY LODGE , HOY ORKNEY, SCOTLAND. Many directional marks on this cover, Bailey was away on a fishing trip.

1938

1938 AIR MAIL COVER: NEPAL to MERINO, ITALY

f.w. 1½ AS, 2 As, and 6 As India postage tied by (2) NEPAL cds., dated 5 APR. 38 plus a blue AIR MAIL label. On the back is a MERANO transit mark dated 14 4 38 16. There is also a postage due mark on the front.

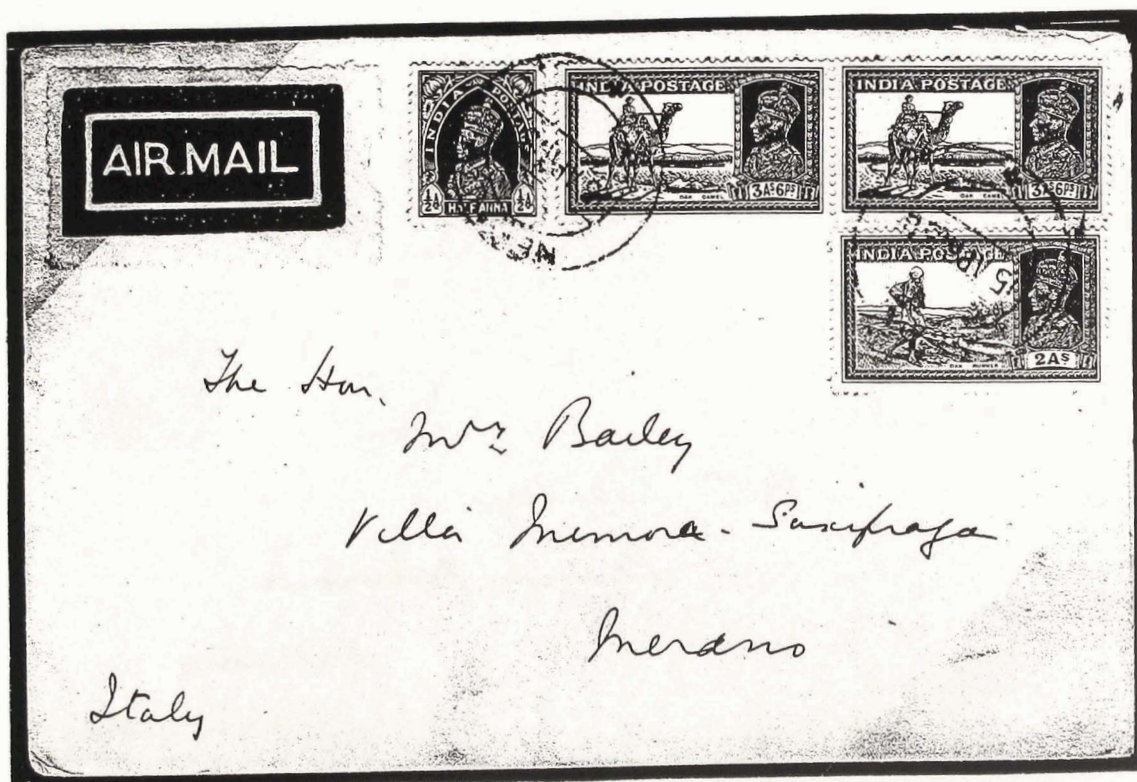
This cover is from Lt. Col. F.M. Bailey, C.I.E. to his wife, the Hon. Mrs. Bailey, who is in Italy. Bailey was the Envoy at the Court of Nepal from the 15th of February 1935 to the 23rd of April 1938 when he retired. During the years Bailey was in Nepal his wife spent a great deal of time travelling around Europe.



1938

1938 AIR MAIL COVER: NEPAL to ITALY

f.w. (2) 3As 6Ps, (1) 2As, and (1) 1/2A India postage tied by
(2) "NEPAL" cds. dated 15 APR. 38. On the back is a transit mark
dated 23.4.38 the very day Bailey left Nepal for retirement. This was
the last letter to his wife from Nepal and he would join Mrs. Bailey in
Italy before returning to England.



1938

1938 COVER: GYANTSE, TIBET to LONDON

f.w. India postage of a HALF ANNA single and a ONE ANNA pair tied by (2) inverted "GYANTSE-TIBET" cds. Type B-4 (Hellrigl B16) dated 8 OCT. 38 plus a short ms. message in Tibetan. This cover is addressed to *Col. F.M. Bailey, Travellers Club, London, S.W. 1* then forwarded to *Mayfair Court, Stratton Street W 1*. Again we see the inverted cancels and the message in Tibetan on personal correspondence, although Bailey is retired he kept in touch with his friends in Tibet.

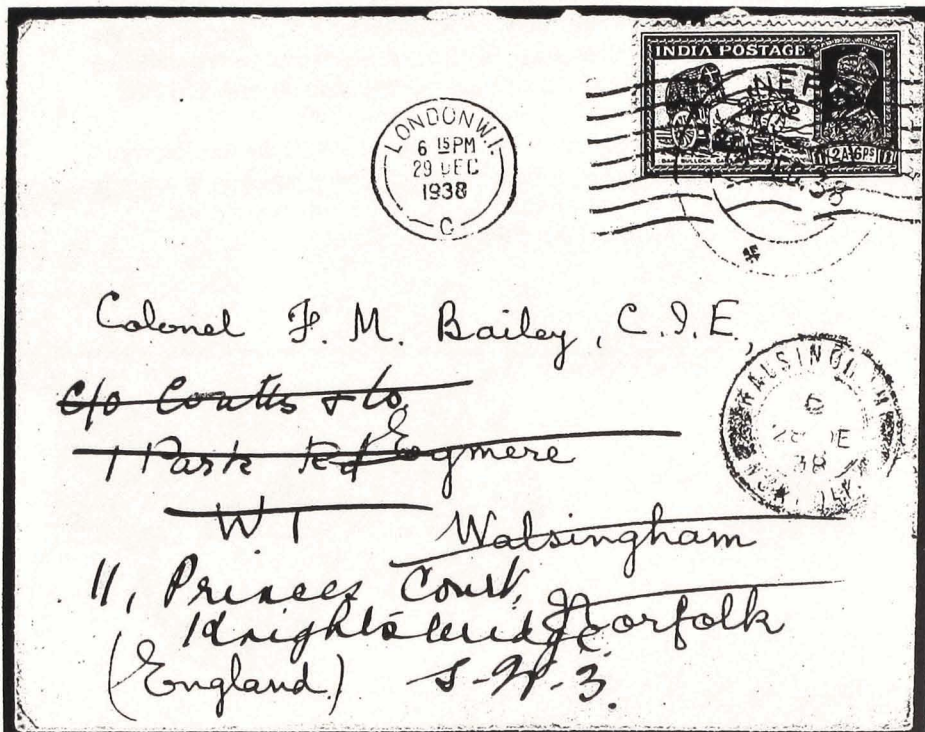
During W.W.I when Bailey was in Tashkent, 1918-20, he was known to have sent secret messages and take on many disguises while on this mission. Although he was now retired he would be active on the home front during W.W. II.



1938

1938 COVER: NEPAL to NORFOLK, ENGLAND

f.w. a 2As 6Ps India stamp tied by a "NEPAL" cds. dated 14 DEC. 38.
Sent to Colonel F.M. Bailey, C.I.E. Norfolk, England, "WALSINGHAM-
NORFOLK" cds. dated 28 DE 38 plus a "NORTH WALSHAM-NORFOLK"
cds. on the back dated 28 DE 38 then forwarded to London W 1,
"LONDON W.1." duplex dated 29 DEC 1938 on the front.
It is then forwarded again to London S.W. 3., in his retirement
Bailey and his wife continued to travel.

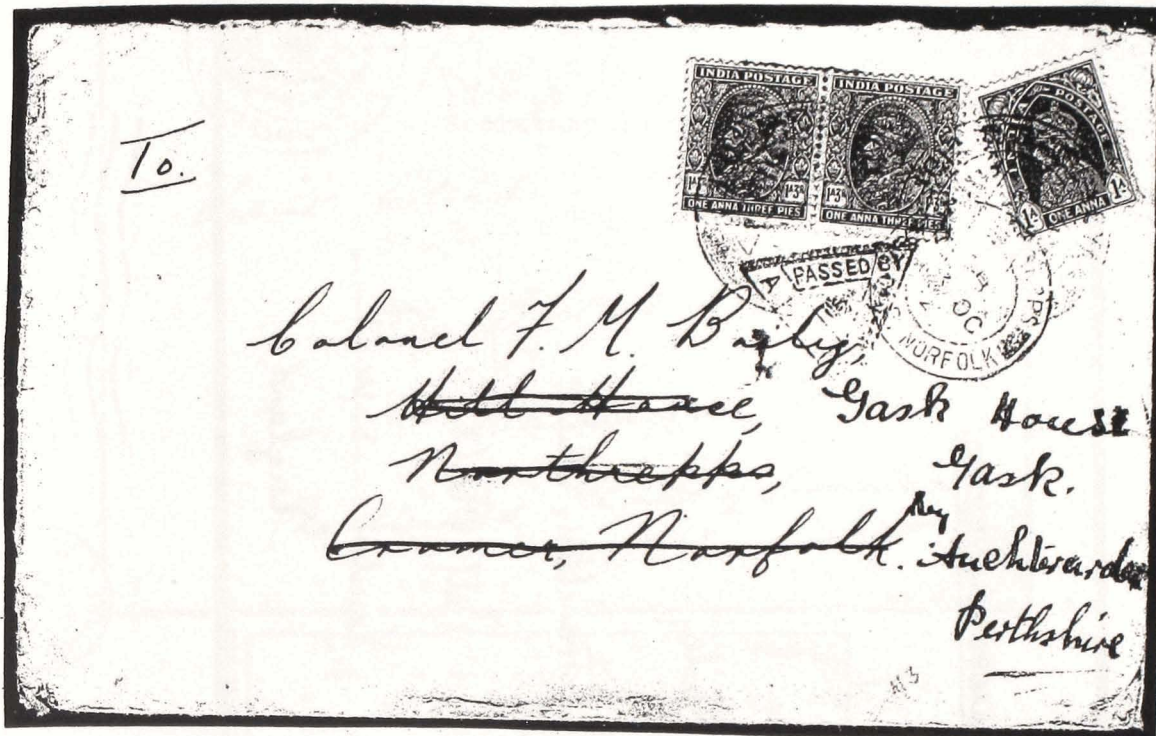


1941 CENSORED COVER: GYANTSE to ENGLAND

f.w. ONE ANNA and a ONE ANNA-THREE PIES India postage, tied by (2) faint "GYANTSE-TIBET" cds. Type B-4 (Hellrigl B16) dated 18 JUN. 41. There is also a triangular "PASSED BY CENSOR" hs. and a "NORTHREPPS-NORFOLK" transit mark dated 3 OC 41 all on the front of the cover.

Addressed to "Colonel F.M. Bailey, Hill House, Northrepps, Cromer, Norfolk." and then forwarded to "Gask House, Perthshire" and is from Tsarong (Tsarong family crest Type IIb on the back flap).

War II covers from Tibet are quite scarce.

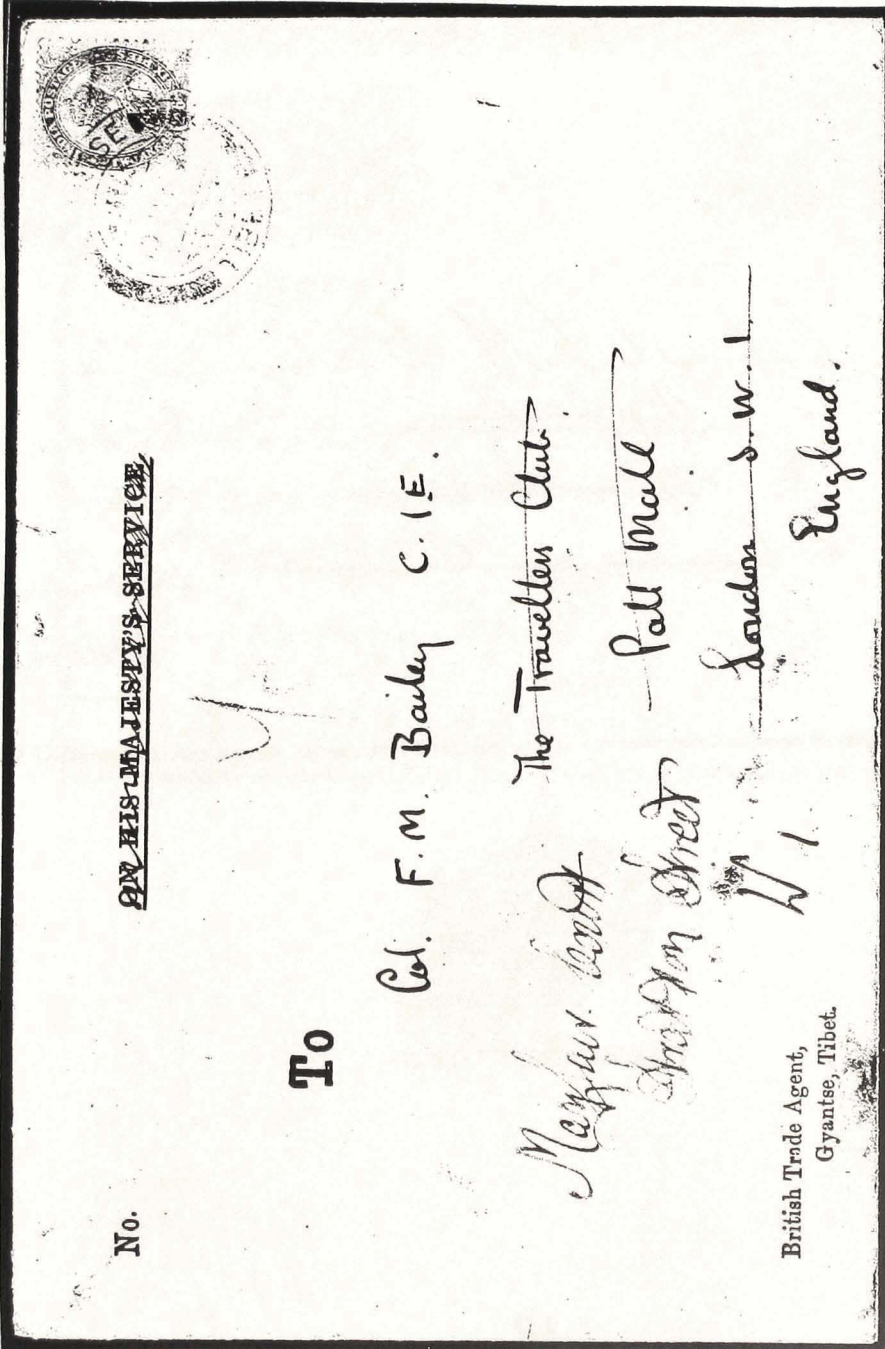


TSARONG CREST TYPE IIb

1939 COVER: GYANTSE to LONDON

f.w. a TWO ANNAS-SIX PIES India stamp and tied by a "GYANTSE-TIBET" cds. Type B-4 (Hellrigl B16) dated 10 MY 39 on a "ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE." envelope. On the back is a Red "BRITISH TRADE AGENCY. GYANTSE. TIBET." crest and a "LONDON S.W. 1" transit mark dated 23 MAY 1939.

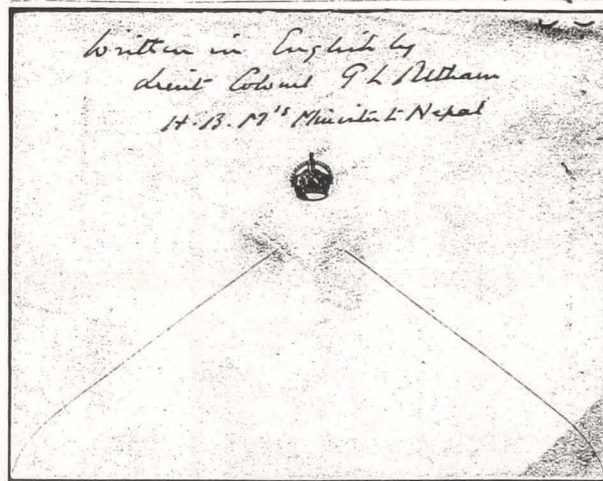
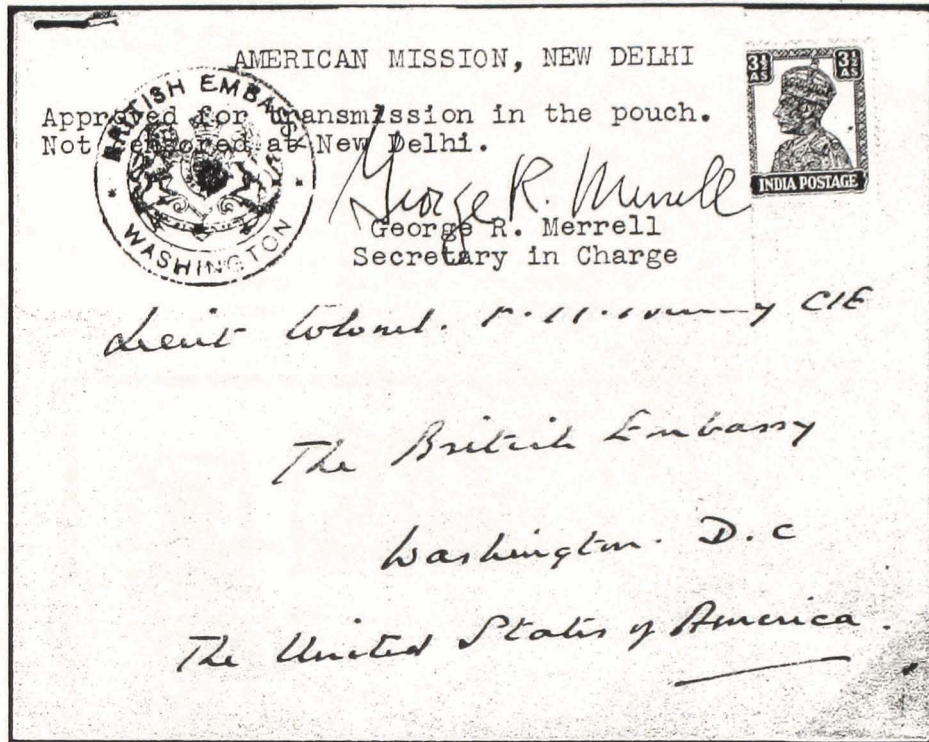
This is from "British Trade Agent, Gyantse, Tibet." who was at this time H.E. Richardson, O.B.E. C.I.E. and is to Col. F.M. Bailey C.I.E. in London then forwarded. This was not an "official" cover because the OHMS is crossed out. Bailey is now retired and living near Cromer, Norfolk.



ca. 1942

DIPLOMATIC COVER : NEPAL to WASHINGTON D.C.

Sent from H.B.M.'s Minister to Nepal to Washington D.C., sent by U.S. diplomatic pouch from American Mission, New Delhi. White label AMERICAN MISSION, NEW DELHI, Approved for transmission in the pouch. Not censored in New Delhi. George R. Merrell, Secretary in Charge. On the back :
Written in English by Lieut. Colonel G.L. Betham, H.B.M.'s Minister to Nepal.



Back is reduced to 64%

Bailey was a King's Messenger based in Washington D.C. and Miami flying around central and south America delivering dispatches. Bailey is doing some quietly useful work.

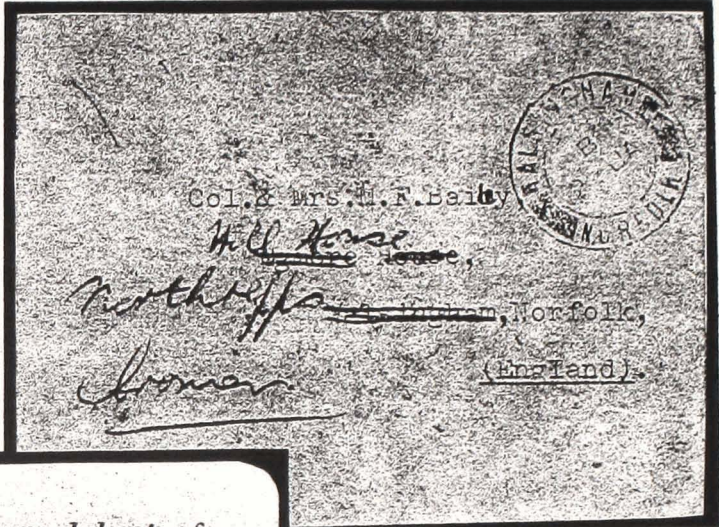
1943 W.W.II COVER: YATUNG, TIBET to NORFOLK, ENGLAND.

f.w. a pair of 3Ps. and a pair of 1½As. India postage, tied by (2) "YATUNG-TIBET/VIA SILIGURI" cds. Type B-2 (Hellrigl B15) dated (30) MY. 43 also a "WALSINGHAM-NORFOLK" receiving mark dated 14 SP 43. It is addressed to "Lieut Colonel F.M. Bailey CIE. Egmar, Walsingham, Norfolk, England" forwarded to "Hill House, Northrepps, Cromer". During W.W. II Bailey served with the Home Guard in 1940 and became involved in the formation of one of the guerilla formations, referred to by Winston Churchill as 'Auxiliary Units'. In 1942 he enrolled as a King's Messenger for two years and was based in Miami and Washington. He flew around Central and South America delivering dispatches. Bailey was home again in 1943 and started work on his three books and his autobiography (which was never finished). Covers from Tibet during W.W. II are quite scarce.



SMALL GREETING CARD: NEPAL to ENGLAND

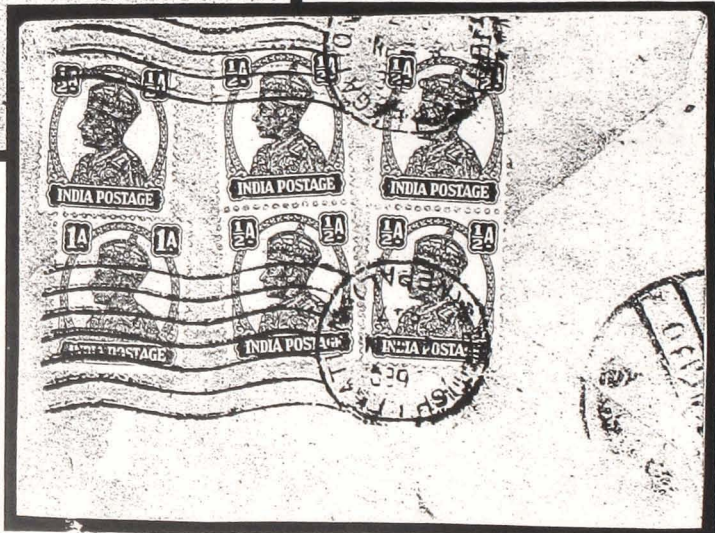
Small envelope f.w., on the back, with (5) 1/2A and 1A INDIA POSTAGE stamps, tied by (2) BRITISH LEGATION (NEPAL) cds. dated () 5 DEC. 1947 plus a partial Native NEPAL cds. dated 12.13.47. On the front: WALSINGHAM/NORFOLK receiving mark dated 22 JA (48). Addressed to *Col. & Mrs. M.F. Bailey, Mgmore House, Walsingham, Norfolk, England*. Forwarded to *Hill House, Northrepps, Cromer*. This is where Bailey retired. The card is from Shanker Shumsher who at this time was Director of Police and the son of Prime Minister of Nepal, Padma Shumsher.



Hearty greetings and best of wishes for 1948

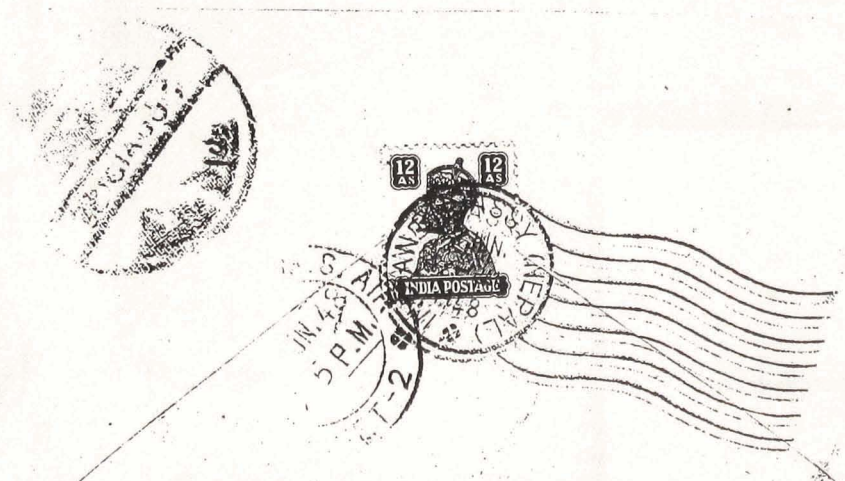
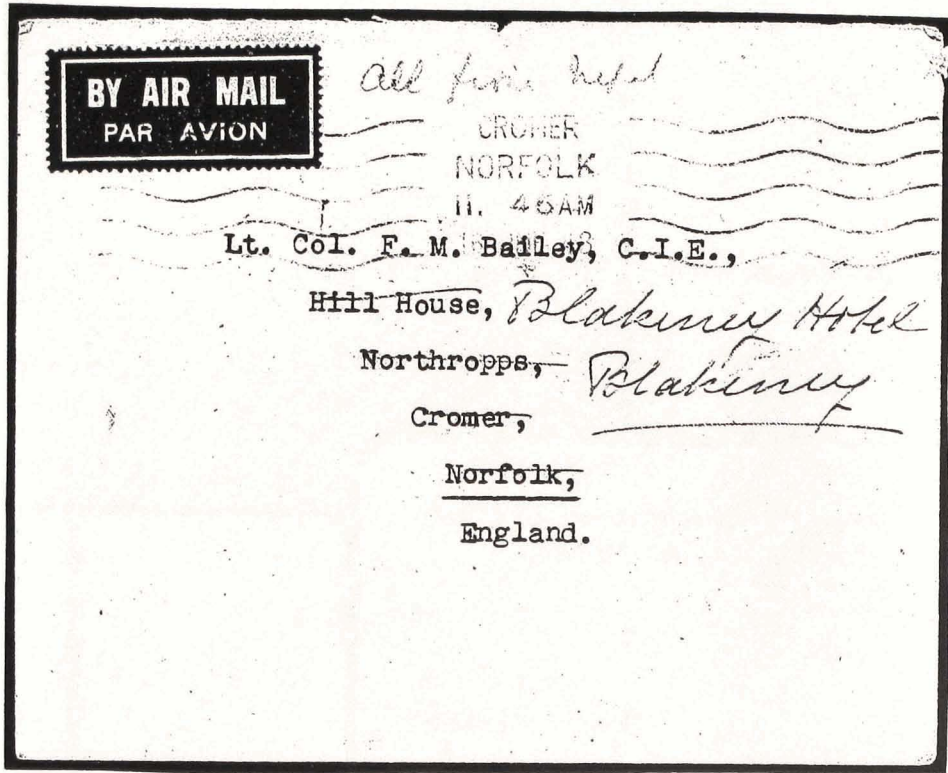
Shanker Shumsher

*Harihar Bhavan
Katmandu
NEPAL.*



1948 AIR MAIL COVER: NEPAL to ENGLAND

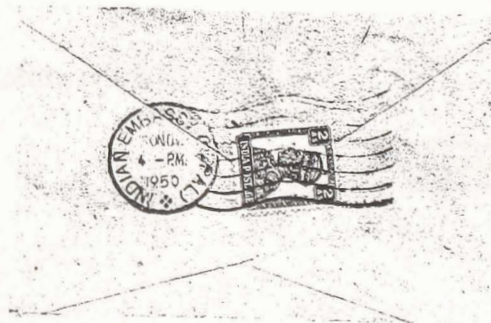
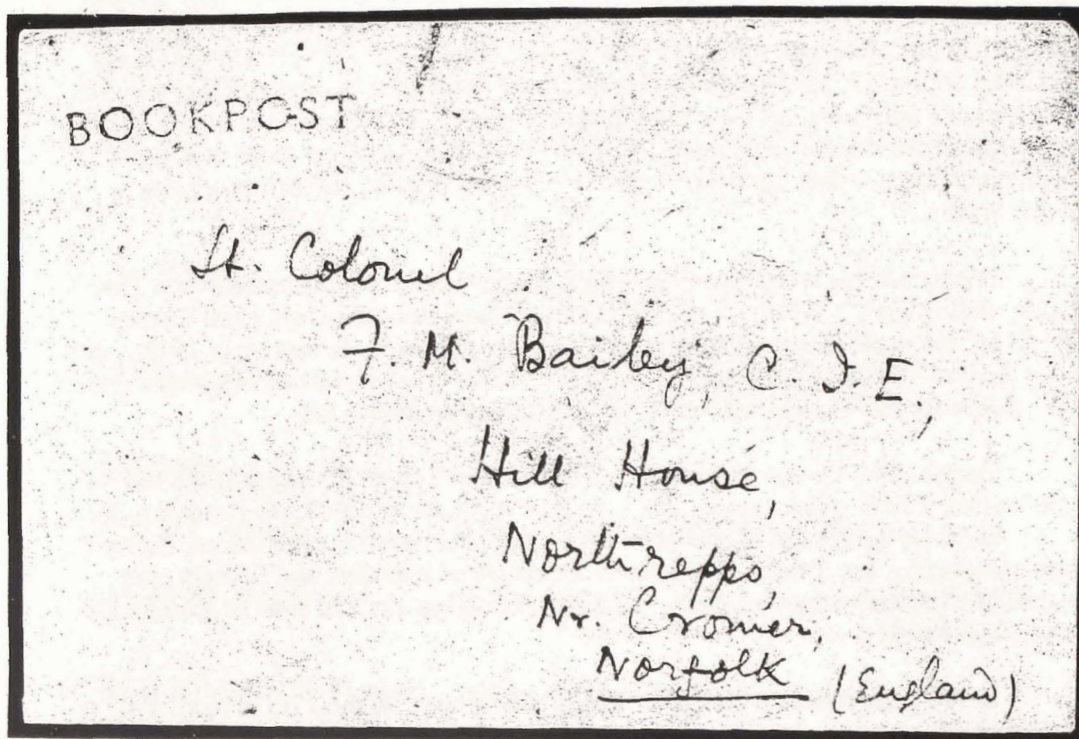
f.w., on the back, a 12As India postage tied by a "INDIAN EMBASSY (NEPAL)" duplex dated 8 JUN. 48, a "NEPAL" cancel plus a partial "T.P.O." postmark dated (?) JN. 48. On the front is a "CROMER/NORFOLK" five line cancel dated 16 JUN, 48. Addressed to "Lt. F.M. Bailey, C.I.E., Hill House, Northropps, Cromer, Norfolk, England" forwarded to "Blackiney Hotel, Blackiney". Bailey and his wife still travelled a great deal, to the Continent for holidays and to Finland to visit old friends. He was also a very popular after dinner speaker telling of his experiences. Many attempts were made to broadcast or record his story but the microphone robbed him of his eloquence.



1950 BOOKPOST COVER: NEPAL to NORFOLK, ENGLAND

f.w., on the back, with a 2As India postage stamp and tied by an "INDIA EMBASSY (NEPAL)" duplex dated 30 NOV. 1950. On the front is a "BOOKPOST" hs. in violet. The "BOOKPOST" rate was one half the normal rate for a letter provided the flap was not sealed. It is addressed to "Lt. F.M. Bailey, C.I.E., Hill House, Northrepps, Nr. Cromer, Norfolk (England)."

Bailey was still living at "Hill House" but in 1952 he moved to *Stiffkey*, a small isolated village near Norfolk; here he acquired a rambling house dated from the Regency period and large enough to house his butterfly collection (this collection would later find its way to the Metropolitan Museum in New York; a 'types' collection was given to the British Museum a few years before he died). Bailey was a very complex man: soldier, explorer, naturalist, diplomat, intelligence officer, and linguist, excelling in all capacities, but he will most likely be remembered for the discovery of the Tibetan Blue Poppy named after him, '*Meconopsis betonicifolia baileyi*'.



CODA

We come to the end of this story. I hope that it was interesting to the reader and that it will stimulate one to read some of the literature listed in the Bibliography. Frederrick Marshman Bailey (Eric) to his friends and relatives, known as Lt. Col. F.M. Bailey, C.I.E. was one of the most interesting man of his time and I hope to find more covers from his correspondence to fill in some of the gaps in this little opus.

I will add just a few more thoughts. When Bailey was in Lhasa in 1924, he also met with Tsarong Shapé who wanted Bailey to see if Tibet could join the UPU, the Universal Postal Union. Tsarong was trying to modernize Tibet. Geoffery Flack did some research on this and wrote a wonderful essay for the *POSTAL HIMAL*, #79, 3rd Quarter, 1994. We also know that Bailey visited the Mint/Post Office and bought some stamps and mailed letters, some of which are in this opus. He told H.R. Holmes in the *Philatelic Journal*, April-June 1942, that the stamps were printed from metal blocks and that cans of English enamel were used instead of printing ink. This is a common mistake when looking at wooden Tibetan printing blocks. They do look like metal after being used many times, in fact, they were wood. The enamel printings of this time are now highly prized.

Bailey and his wife settled in Norfolk, England and travelled extensively. Their house, 'Hill House', was large enough to house his large Butterfly Collection. During WWII he was in the Home Guard and finally became a King's Messenger in 1942; this is when he met Robson Lowe*. For the next year, he was based in Miami and Washington D.C. flying around Central and South America delivering dispatches.

Back at 'Hill House' in Norfolk he started to write about his experiences and wrote three books; *China, Tibet, Assam, 1945*; *Mission to Tashkent, 1946*; *No Passport to Tibet, 1957*. These books are full of background for all of the events he experienced. Bailey did start a biography, but it was never finished. He remained a modest and friendly man inspite of all of his accomplishments and fame. We philatelists will ever be grateful for his '*saving things*'.

In 1961, his health began to fail and he passed away on the 17th of April 1967 at the age of 85.

Thank you Eric.

* The late Robson Lowe was London's premiere Stamp Dealer Auctioneer, and Philatelist who catalogued and auctioned the Bailey correspondence giving the Philatelic community a detailed view of the postal history of Tibet.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

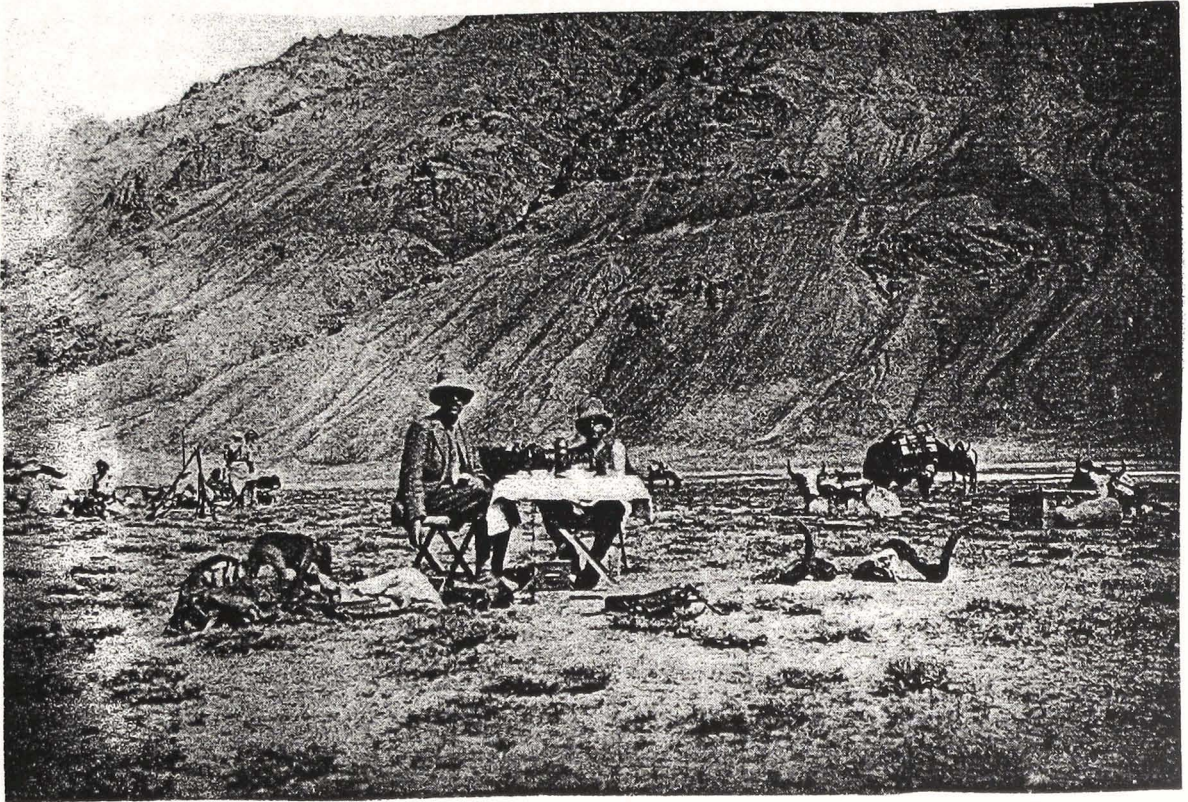
(works consulted)

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------|--|
| BAILEY, Lt. Col. F.M. | 1945 | <i>CHINA-TIBET-ASSAM 1911</i> |
| | 1946 | <i>MISSION to TASHKENT</i> |
| | 1957 | <i>NO PASSPORT to TIBET</i> |
| FLEMING, Peter | 1961 | <i>BAYONETS to LHASA</i> |
| HOPKIRK, Peter | 1984 | <i>SETTING the EAST ABLAZE</i> |
| McKAY, Alex | 1997 | <i>TIBET and the BRITISH RAJ 1904-1947</i> |
| PHILATELIC JOURNAL | 1942 | <i>April-June (H.R. Holmes)</i> |
| POSTAL HIMAL | 1994 | <i>#79 (Geoffery Flack)</i> |
| | 1995 | <i>#84 (Frealon Bibbins)</i> |
| SWINSON, Arthur | 1971 | <i>BEYOND the FRONTIERS, The Biography of Colonel F.M. Bailey, Explorer and Secret Agent</i> |
| TARING, Mary | 1970 | <i>Daughter of Tibet</i> |
| WATERFALL, Arnold | 1965 | <i>POSTAL HISTORY of TIBET</i> |
| WILLIAMSON, Margaret D. | 1987 | <i>MEMOIRS of a POLITICAL OFFICER'S WIFE in TIBET, SIKKIM, and BHUTAN</i> |
| YOUNGHUSBAND, Sir Francis | 1910 | <i>INDIA and TIBET</i> |

NO PASSPORT TO TIBET, 1913

When Bailey and Morshead returned from over six months in Assam and Tibet mapping the Tsangpo their carefree style of living came to an end when they reached India, to quote from Bailey's book: "We can't travel first class, damn it." Morshead said. "Not with you looking the way you do, Bailey."

'I had never travelled second class in India, nor even speculated what it was like. *First class travel was not merely the officers prerogative. It was his duty to the British Raj.*'



BREAKFAST on the PAMIRS, 1918

FIRST CLASS TRAVEL FOR THE BRITISH RAJ.

BAILEY'S MOVEMENTS

COMPILED by ROBSON LOWE from BAILEY'S CORRESPONDENCE with Additions.

1900	October	Joined the Middlesex Regiment at Wellington , Durham Light Infantry, Madras Army.
1901-02		17th Regiment of the Bengal Cavalry, Rawalpindi.
1903		Transferred to the 32nd Sikh Pioneers, Jhelum, Punjab.
	13th March	On the way to Sikkim.
	20th March	Reached Sikkim.
	24th March	Pang Po (Sikkim) built road to Gangtok.
	21st June	In Gangtok under Capt. Bethune, part of 200 man escort for the Frontier Mission under Younghusband.
	24th June	Camped at Chung Tong (Nyima).
	26th June	Tangu.
	4th July	Camped at Giagong.
	7th July	Khamba Jong via Kangra LA (pass) where he spent five months.
	19th August	India P.O. in Khamba Jong.
	11th December	Chung Tong (Nyima).
	19th December	Chung Tong.
	24-27th December	Gangtok.
1904	1st January	Back into Tibet, Chumbi Valley, New Chumbi (Yatung).
	4th January	Lungmo Tang (Lingmo), the march to Lhasa begins.
	5th January	Dotha Tang.
	6th January	Phari Jong.
	7th January	Chugya.
	8th January	Tuna.
	10th January	Chugya.
	11-28th January	Phari Jong.
	27th January	Major Tulloch arrived in Phari, (head of the P.O.).
	28th January	Tuna.
	30th January	Phari.
	1-4th February	Phari.
	5-29th February	Tuna.
	1-9th March	Tuna.
	10-39th March	Phari.
	26th March	Telegraph line to Tuna.
	31st March	March to Gyantse with P.O., engaged with Tibetans.
	5th April	Chalu.
	6th April	Kala Tso.
	7th April	Mendza.
	8th April	Near Kangmar.
	9th April	Kangmar.
	10th April	Saugang.
	11th April	Gyantse.
	19th April	Started return to Saugang.
	20th April	Kangmar.
	21st April	Mendza.
	22nd April	Kala.
	23rd April	Dochen.
	24th April	Tuna.
	25th April	Phari.
	26th April	Gausta (Dotha).
	27-30th April	Lingmo Tang (near Yatung where letters were posted).
	1-27th May	Lingmo Tang.
	8th May	Rumors that Capt. Bethune and Sgt. Packman were killed in severe fighting at Gyantse.
	28th May	Gausta (Dotha).
	30th May	En-route to Tuna.
	31st May	Tuna.

BAILEY'S MOVEMENTS

1904	1-18th	June	Tuna, Main Force arrives with H.Q. P.O..	
	19th	June	Dochon.	
	20th	June	Kala.	
	21st	June	Samada.	
	22nd	June	Kangmar.	
	23rd	June	Niru (Nyeru) with Flying Column.	
	24th	June	Kangmar.	
	25th	June	Saugang.	
	26th	June	Gyantse, fighting en route and at Gyantse.	
	1-9th	July	Gyantse, <i>FIELD P.O. No. 24</i> , used at Gyantse.	
	10th	July	Kangmar.	
	12th	July	Gyantse.	
	14th	July	The Expedition advanced from Gyantse towards Lhasa.	
	16th	July	Ralung.	
	19th	July	Nangartse.	
	22nd	July	Pe-te.	
	3rd	August	Lhasa.	
	23rd	September	Younghusband left Lhasa with a personal escort of Mounted Infantry.	
	26th	September	Pe-te.	
	28th	September	Ralung.	
	30th	September	Gyantse.	
	10th	October	Bailey left for Shigatse with Capt. Rawling, Capt. Rider, and Capt. Wood for exploration of Western Tibet to Gartok, with 35 native assistants and 144 pack animals. They were to set up a Trade Mart in Gartok, survey as much of the country as possible, find if there was a mountain higher than Mt. Everest, and trace the source of the Tsangpo.	
	23rd	December	Shipki.	
	24th	December	India.	
	25th	December	Poo.	
	1905	11th	January	Simla, Bailey arrives with the Gartok Mission, rejoins his Regiment at Umballa (Ambala).
		26th	May	Umballa, tired of the everyday military routine Bailey decides to apply for a transfer to the Political Department.
19th		September	Not hearing about the transfer, Bailey goes on leave to Gartok and Phari.	
21st		September	Yatung.	
2nd		December	Back from leave at Umballa (Ambala), is called up for interview at Darjeeling.	
13th		December	Leaves Darjeeling after being appointed British Trade Agent at Gyantse replacing O'Connor who is going on leave.	
17th		December	Yatung.	
19th		December	Phari.	
20th		December	Tuna	
21st		December	Kala.	
22nd	December	Kangmar.		
23rd	December	Gyantse, to take over as British Trade Agent at Gyantse.		
1906	2nd	January	Started return journey to Siliguri to meet O'Connor.	
	10th	January	Siliguri, to meet the Tashi Lama and O'Connor.	
	3rd	February	Gyantse, with the Tashi Lama and his entourage, Bailey must escort them safely to Shigatse.	
	9th	February	Shigatse, Bailey's first task as Trade Agent was a success.	
	12th	February	Gyantse.	
	10th	June	Phari.	
	1st	July	Yatung.	
	3rd	July	Phari.	

BAILEY'S MOVEMENTS

1906	12th	July	Gyantse.
	8th	December	Phari.
	9th	December	Yatung.
	13th	December	Gangtok.
	17-31st	December	Yatung.
1907	1st	January	Yatung, took over the duties of Assistant Political Officer at Yatung, under Campbell.
	2nd	January	Phari.
	31st	January	Yatung.
	2nd	February	Gangtok and into India.
	23rd	February	Gangtok.
	4th	March	Yatung.
	5th	April	Phari.
	6th	April	Yatung.
	13th	April	Gangtok.
	13-26th	April	Visited several monasteries.
1908-09	July		Darjeeling, Yatung, Phari, and Gyantse.
1909	4th	June	Left for leave in Great Britain.
1911	29th	January	Bailey left for India via St. Petersburg.
	3-15th	February	St. Petersburg
	26th	February	Shan Hai Kwan until the 5th of March.
	8-16th	March	Peking.
	18-23	March	Hankow.
	26-29th	March	Ichang.
	2nd	April	Ship wrecked while running the rapids.
	6-9th	April	Wan Hsien, stayed with the post master who was an Italian named Ortolani.
	22-27th	April	Chengtu (capital of Sichuan Province).
	30th	April	Ya Chou.
	9-19th	May	Ta Chienlu.
	23rd	May	Nagchuka.
	28th	May	Litang.
	2nd	June	Batang.
	7th	August	Arrived at Sadiya, Assam.
	10th	October	Kobo, Abor Punitive Expedition as Intelligence Officer, until the 29th of February 1912 when he returned to India.
1912	29th	February	Aligarh, India to resume his duties for eight months.
	2nd	November	Called up to Sadiya as Intelligence Officer on surveying mission.
1913		May	Crossed the Mishmi Hills with Capt. Morshead, R.E. after the Survey Mission started back to Sadiya. They would explore the Tsangpo (Brahmaputra) to map the territory in Tibet and find the Great Falls.
	16th	November	Returned to India from Tibet.

BAILEY'S MOVEMENTS

1914		June	Returned to London.
	4th	August	Bailey is on leave in Scotland, W.W. I breaks out.
	31st	August	6th Reserve Regiment of the 12th Lancers in Dublin.
1915		January	London, receives C.I.E. from King George V.
		March	Two trips to France.
		April	Third trip to France with the I.E.F. wounded at Flanders.
	30th	June	Fit for service, Gallipoli, Wounded through both legs.
		July	Bailey is transferred to the Political Department.
1916-17			Political Officer in Mesopotamia and Persia, letters posted at Indian P.O. in Nasiriyah, Ahwaz, Shustar.
1918-20			Secret Mission to Tashkent.
1918	7th	June	Kashkar until 24th of July.
	9-18th	August	Andijan, end of Russian R.R.
	14th	August	Tashkent until he returns to India on 14th of January 1920 after an exciting and dangerous mission. He escaped through Meshed in N.E. Persia to India. Bailey later received the Livingstone Gold Medal by the Royal Scottish Geographical Society.
1921-28			18th of June 1921 to 16th of October 1928 Bailey was Political Officer at Gangtok. Spent much time in Tibet; Yatung, Phari, and Gyantse.
1922		August	Talung.
1924	14th	July/August August	Lhasa, Nangartse, Pe-Te, Chushu, Samye, Ralung. Bailey relates in his diary that he saw stamps being printed at Tsuk-Latung (Lhasa).
1922, 1924, 1925, 1927			Occasional journeys to India, Bhutan, and Nepal in 1922, 1923, and 1927.
1928	16th	October	Bailey left Sikkim and Tibet, never to return.
1930-32			Political Agent (Central Asia) and Resident at Baroda.
1932-33			Resident at Kashmir.
1935	15th	February	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Nepal.
1938	23rd	April	Bailey retires.
1942-43			King's Messenger in Central and South America, working out of Washington D.C..

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A detailed collage featuring various butterflies of different species and colors, including monarchs and others with intricate wing patterns. Interspersed among the butterflies are several postage stamps, some depicting landscapes and others with circular designs. A central portrait of a man in a military uniform is also present. The text 'Lt. Col. F.M. Bailey' and 'C.I.E.' is prominently displayed in the upper middle section.

Lt. Col. F.M. Bailey
C.I.E.

based on the author's collection of epiphanies
from Bailey's correspondence, 1903-1930

A postage stamp with handwritten text in ink. The text includes 'Registered', 'Khangar, China', '6/10/28', 'Lieutenant Colonel F.M. Bailey', 'C.I.E.', 'Saulian Legation', and 'Nepal'. There is also a small box with 'From Central Bureau London' and a circular postmark.

Registered
Khangar, China
6/10/28
Lieutenant Colonel F.M. Bailey
C.I.E.
Saulian Legation
Nepal.
From Central Bureau London