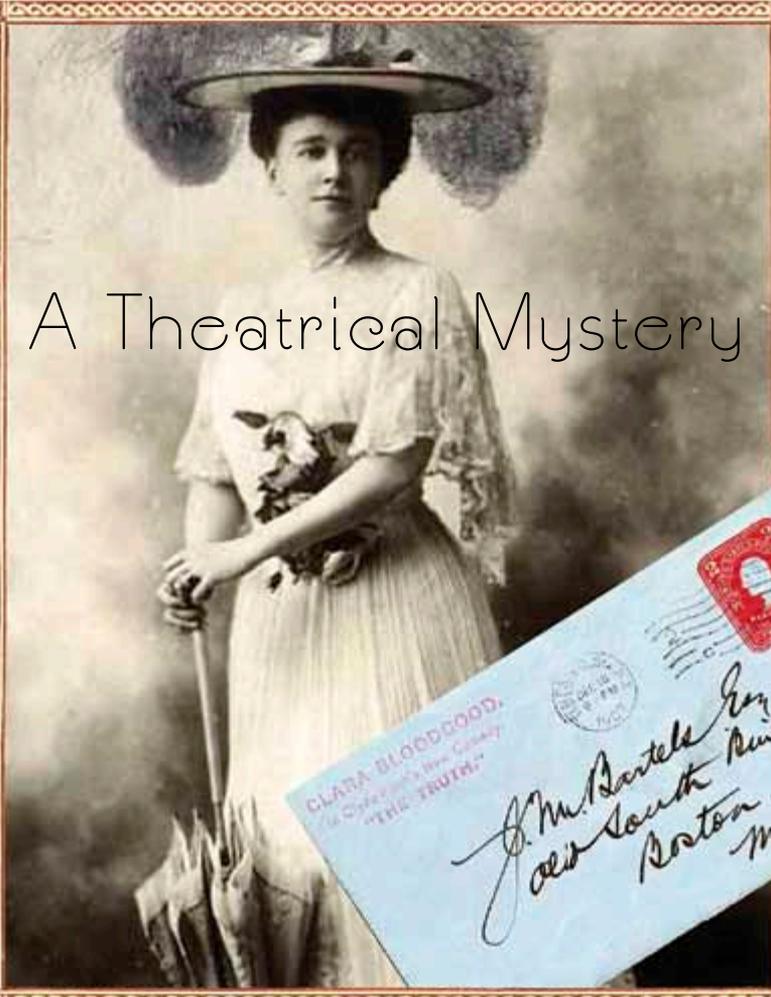


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SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2010



A Theatrical Mystery



CLARA BLOODGOOD,
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Boston,
Mass.

A Titanic Cover of a Different Hue

By Thomas M. Fortunato

Much has happened since my original article about covers bearing a *Titanic* marking was published in the September–October 2008 *Stamp Insider*. A follow-up article by D. Jennings-Bramly of Great Britain in the March–April 2009 issue, posited his theory that the markings were fake, since all reported covers at that time were sent to the same business and all *Titanic* markings were identical.

Since then the number of covers reported has swelled to 12. A collector in New Jersey purchased two covers between 2007 and 2010 that resemble the previous covers — the sans serif *Titanic* markings in brown and purple, the dossier docketing marks, light blue registration-type marking, and the M. A. Winter Company receiving marks.

However, of more significance is the latest cover to come to light. Unlike the others this one was sent from Spain rather than France. The top third of the envelope has an all-text return address of the harness making business of Joaquin Bussalleu. It was mailed on March 7, 1912 from Vich, a suburb of Barcelona, and also addressed to the Winter Company in Washington, D.C. It bears the same markings as all the other covers except one. The word *Titanic* is in red and in a totally different font, this one being italic with serifs. My original cover is illustrated for comparison.

Research continues to determine the ship this envelope was carried on when it finally crossed the Atlantic. But, the existence of a totally different *Titanic* marking leads me to believe that these markings were legitimate and used in different locales. Additional finds may produce better clues to put the pieces of this puzzle together, especially if they are on covers sent to an address other than that of the M. A. Winter Company.

An updated chart of known *Titanic* covers can be found online at www.NYSTAMPCLUBS.ORG/CNY_DOWNLOADS.HTML. ■

