Michael Rogers Online, a Division of Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC Sale - 3003 Lot 3 May 16, 2020



[R.M.S. Titanic] "TITANIC", straightline handstamp on a cover from France to Washington D.C. franked with a 25c blue Sower (168) tied by one of two strikes of a "Gare des Saintes" c.d.s., March 3, 1912; addressed to patent medicine manufacturers, The M.A. Winter Co. with a manuscript "Dossier No. 5446" (in the hand of the sender), a handstamped blue control number and handstamped purple "Received/ Mar 19 1917", the last apparently applied by the addressee; backstamped Paris (Mar 4) and Washington D.C. (Mar 18); minor opening tear at the top, Very Fine, Price: \$5,000. One of just 20 such covers, this one previously unrecorded (see Tom Fortunato's online census atwww.titaniccovers.com),

The "TITANIC" handstamp is believed to have been applied in Paris in transit to the port of Cherbourg, where the mail was to have been put aboard Titanic.

However, due to complications with completing Titanic's finishing touches, the date of her maiden voyage was rescheduled from March 20 to April 10. When the French Post Office became aware of this schedule change, the mail, having already received the "TITANIC" handstamp, was placed on the next available ship to America.

This is one of just 20 recorded covers intended for the original March 10 sailing of Titanic and marked with a "TITANIC" handstamp. 18 of the covers originated in France, the other two originated in Denmark and in Spain. All but one were sent to M.A. Winter in Washington D.C.; the Danish cover went to Seattle. Also, the Danish and Spanish covers bear a slightly different TITANIC handstamp. (Image)

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