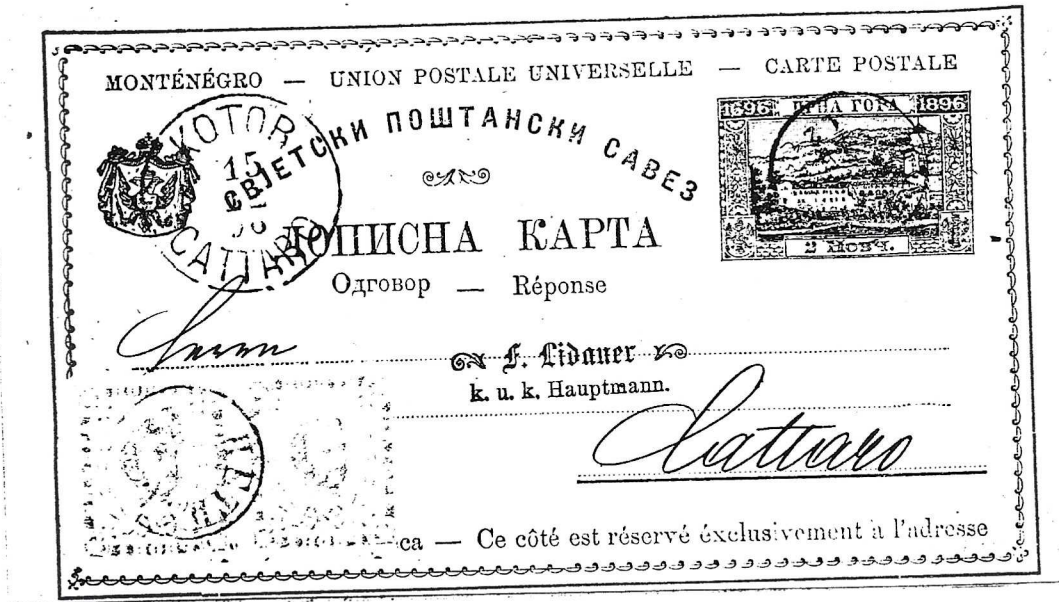


BICENTENNIAL OF PETROVIC DYNASTY
Issue of 1896

Cetinje
15 December 1896
January 1897



Postal cards were also issued with attached reply cards. Examples actually sent through the mails are scarce.

BICENTENNIAL OF PETROVIC DYNASTY
Issue of 1896

Cetinje
30 January 1897

ST.-PETERSBOURG (Russie)

Гороховая ул. Н-го 15

Редакцији

„Руске Бесједе и Благовијести“



Imprinted wrappers were issued in denominations of 2 and 3 novacic for mailing printed matter to domestic and international destinations. Above example sent to Russia is backstamped for receipt in St. Petersburg.

**FIRST DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
Newspaper Wrappers of 1897**

Cetinje
23 May 189_

Wrappers for printed matter were also issued in the first Prince Nicholas design. The 1897 issue was only for international use and came in two varieties: blue green on salmon paper and yellow green on cream paper.



СКАДАР
Господин Ристо Ђеровић



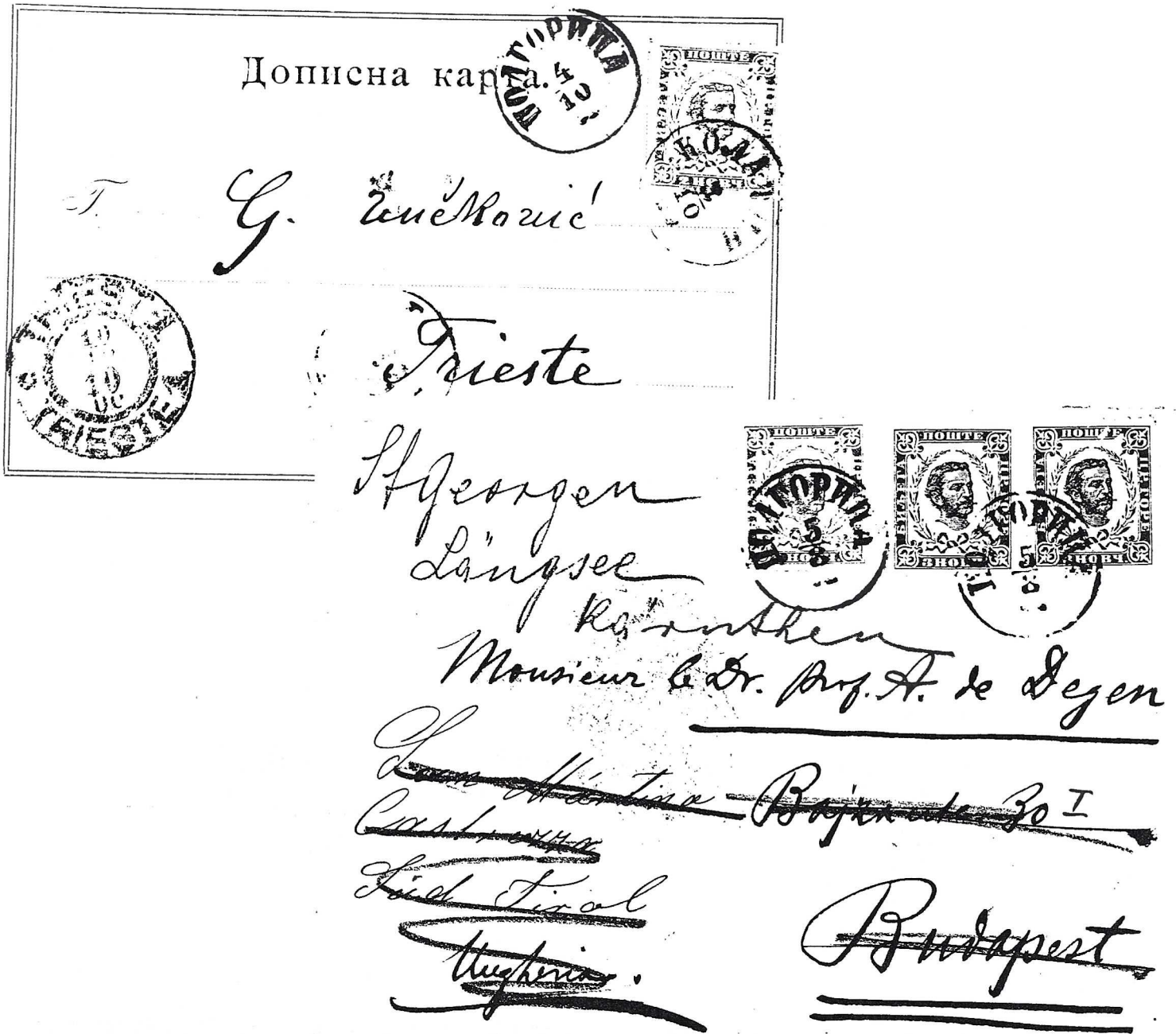
The wrapper addressed to Scutari (in the Ottoman Province of Albania) is most unusual in that it has the marking of the Steamer *Danitza*. This ship was operated by the Anglo-Montenegrin Trading Co. and carried mail across Lake Scutari from Rieka to the city of Scutari for a fee of 5 soldi (a coin used in the Austrian Levant) per piece. Payment was acknowledged by a rubber stamp inscribed with the name of the ship and "Postage 5 soldi."

FIRST DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
New Colors Issued in 1898

Kolasin
3 October 1899

Podgorica
5 August 1900

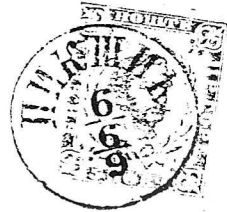
On 1 May 1898, the final version of the first Prince Nicholas definitives appeared when the original seven denominations were reissued in new colors. These stamps were printed on thin, hard paper with the watermark "Zeitungs-Marken" and perforated 10 1/2-11 1/2.



Example of 2 novcica stamp in emerald green used on a picture postcard to Trieste. Two copies of the 3 novcica stamp in carmine (plus a 1 novcica from the 1894 issue) used to pay the concession letter rate to Austria-Hungary. This cover was addressed to Budapest, forwarded to the Tirol and then to Carinthia.

FIRST DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
New Colors Issued in 1898

Niksic
6 June 1899

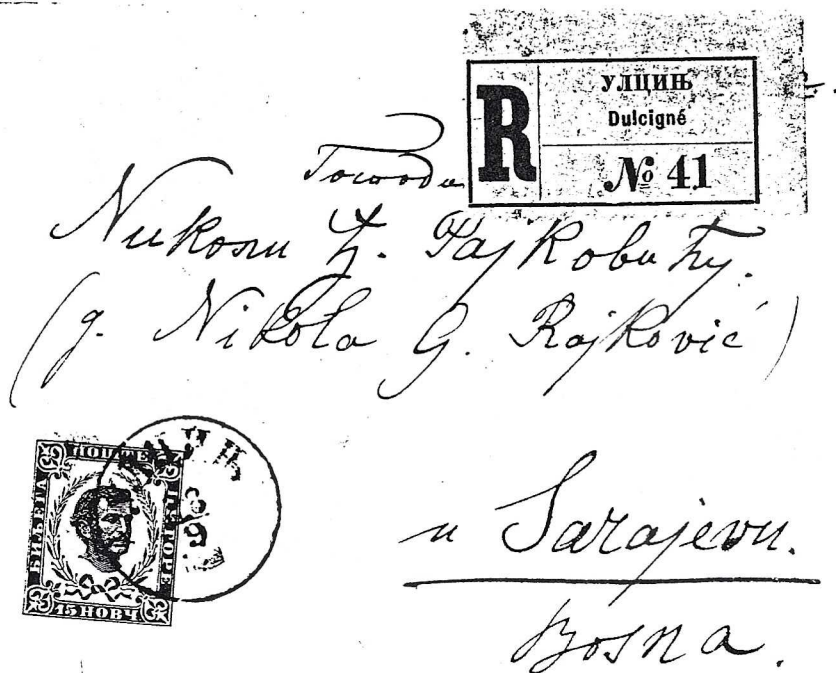


Signor
Gillardi e Bettinca
Deposito cemento
Spalato

Cover franked with 5 novcica orange stamp paying the border rate for a letter to Austria. Backstamped for transit in Podgorica (on 6 June) and Cetinje (on 7 June). Receiving mark at Split is dated 12 June.

FIRST DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
New Colors Issued in 1898

Ulcinj
28 September 1899



The 15 novcica stamp was printed in lilac brown for the 1898 series. It is shown used to pay the Austro-Hungarian border rate plus registration fee on a cover from Ulcinj (Dulcigno) to Sarajevo, Bosnia. Backstamped for receipt on 3 October 1899.

FIRST DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
1894 & 1898 Issues

Cetinje
14 September 1900

This strictly philatelic cover brings to a close the saga of the first Prince Nicholas definitives. It is franked with a complete set from 1 to 50 novcica of the stamps being sold at the Montenegrin post offices at the beginning of the 20th Century, including the AR (return receipt) 10 novcica value. The old kreutzer/gulden currency had already been replaced in Austria with new heller/kronen stamps, coins and banknotes, and new denominations of stamps would soon be required for Montenegro.



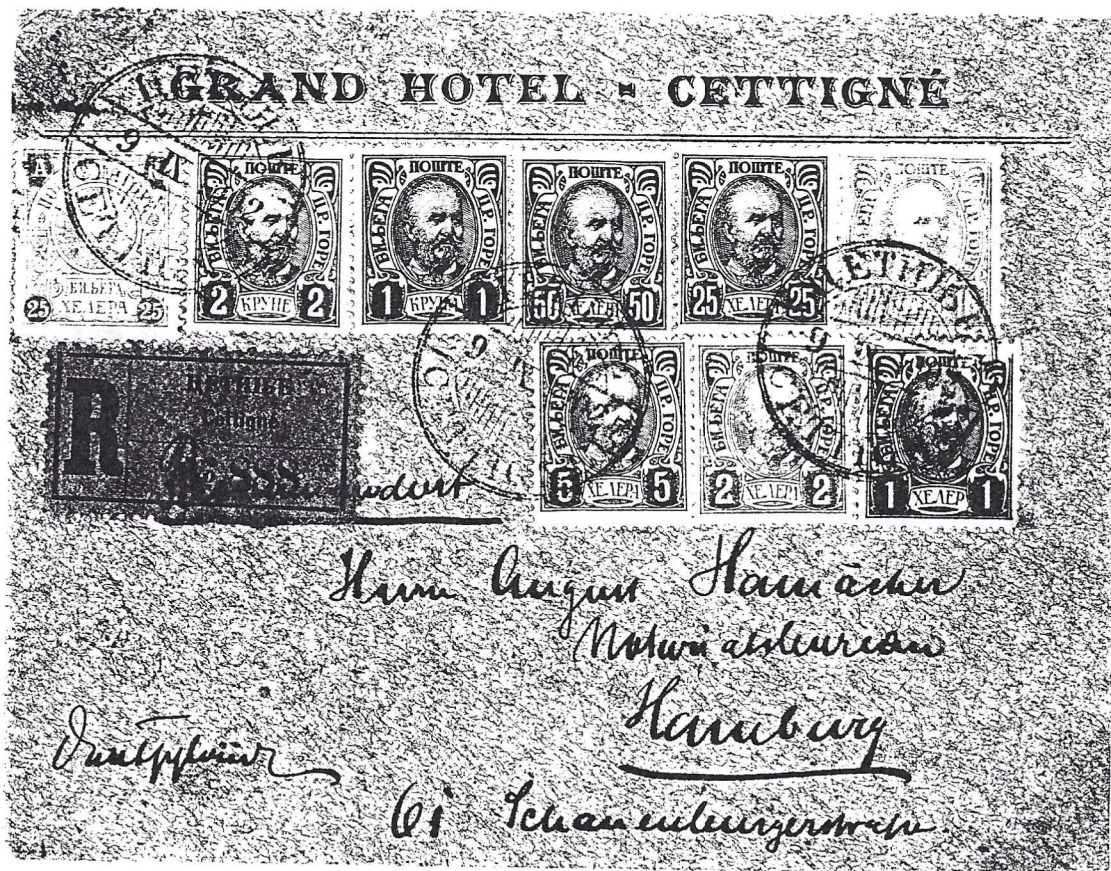
This cover was backstamped for receipt in Berlin on 20 September 1900.

SECOND DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS

This philatelic cover brings Montenegro into the 20th Century and opens the story of the second Prince Nicholas definitives. It is franked with a set denominated in the new currency from 1 heler up to 2 krune, including the AR (return receipt) 25 helera value.

New Currency Issue of 1902

Cetinje
9 September 1902



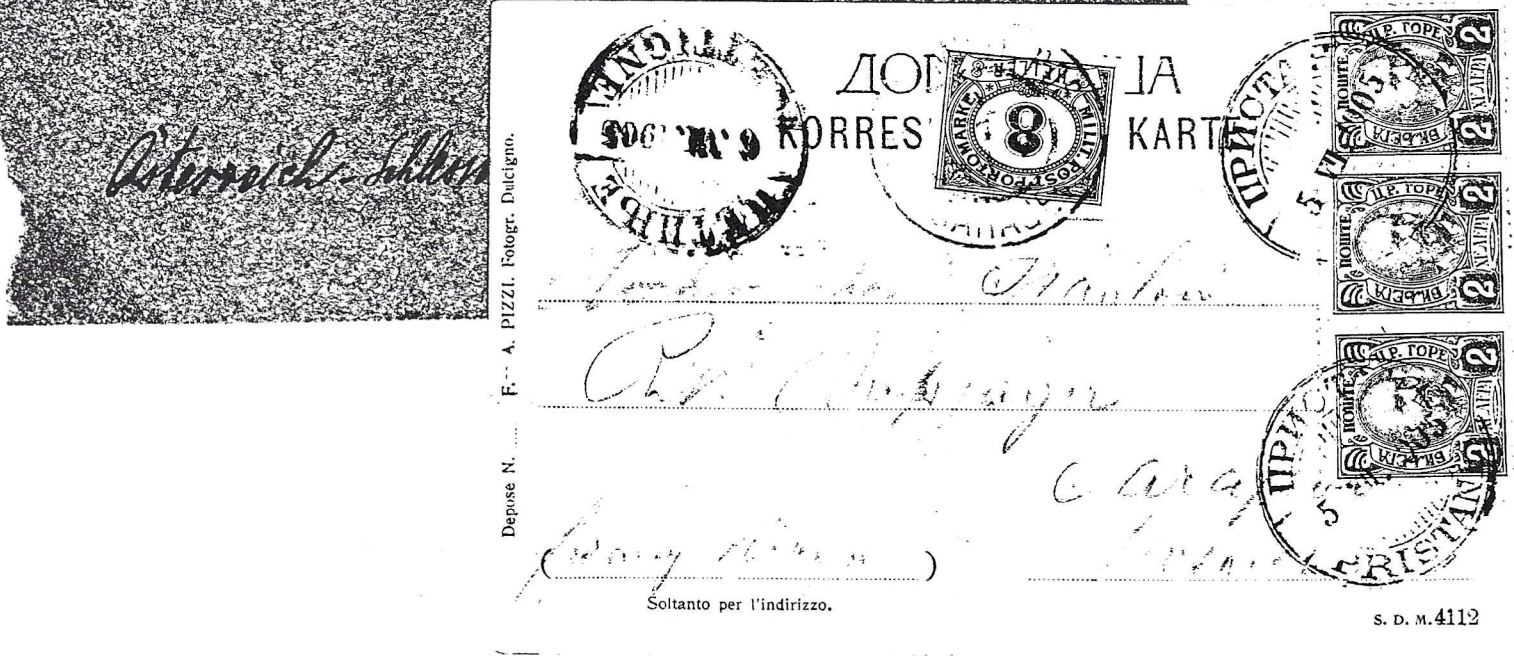
This cover was backstamped for receipt in Hamburg on 13 September 1902.

SECOND DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
New Currency Issue of 1902

Cetinje
 4 May 1905

Pristane
 5 July 1905

On 12 July 1902, the long awaited second Prince Nicholas definitives were issued. They were produced at the State Printing Works in Vienna and denominated in the new currency. There were nine values from 1 heler up to 5 krana. The quantities printed were not reported but must have been large as this issue was subsequently overprinted for a commemorative set in 1905.



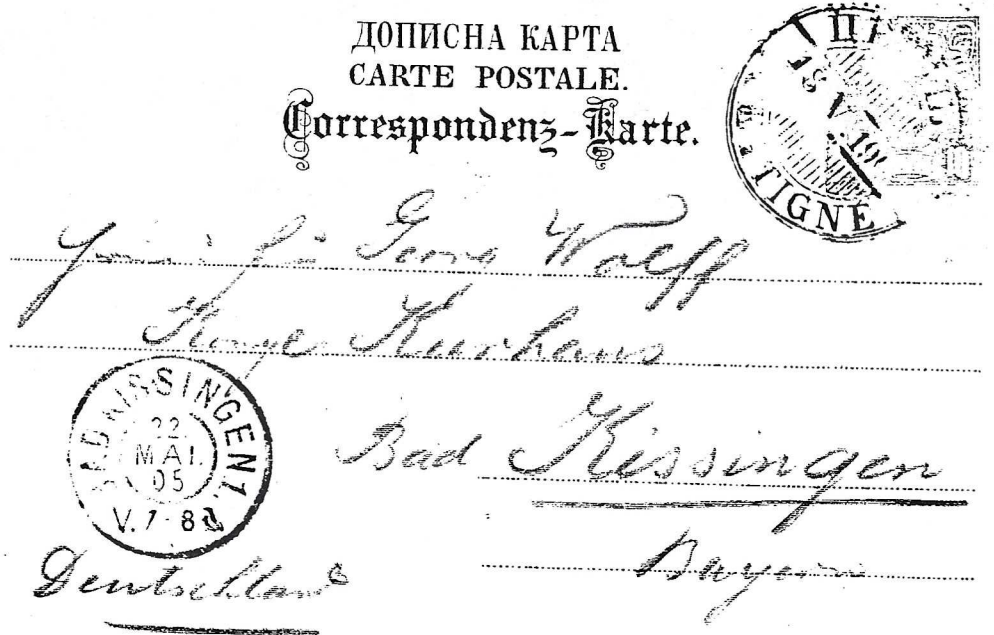
Cover and postcard with multiples of the 1 heler and 2 helera denominations. However, in the latter case the card was still short paid by 4 helera and was charged at the double deficiency rate, with an 8 heller Bosnian postage due being applied in Sarajevo.

SECOND DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
New Currency Issue of 1902

Pristane
17 September 1904

Cetinje
18 May 1905

At the same time, attractive new double-circle "bridge" postmarks were introduced at the Montenegrin post offices. These were bilingual, with Cyrillic letters on top and Latin on the bottom. These postmarks were often applied with purple ink.



Examples of the 5 and 10 helera values of the second Prince Nicholas stamps, with the former paying the concession rate to Austria-Hungary and the latter the standard international rate to Bavaria.

SECOND DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
New Currency Issue of 1902

Cetinje
10 June 1904

N^o



M^{ur} Toledo Stamp Co

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Postage Stamps

Cettigoni

R. No. 497

Officiel

2017
~~2017~~
Toledo Ohio

45-46 St Clair Building

(II. T. N-ro 122)

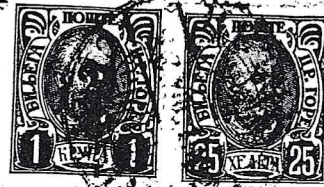
Official envelope franked with the 50 helera value of the second Prince Nicholas issue, likely containing an order of stamps. On the reverse is the seal of the Ministry of Posts & Telegraphs, transit mark of New York (dated 22 June) and receiving mark of Toledo (23 June 1904).

SECOND DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
New Currency Issue of 1902
Return Receipt Stamp of 1902

Cetinje
20 August 1902

avis de reception

Број 3350 *најзад.*



Monsieur

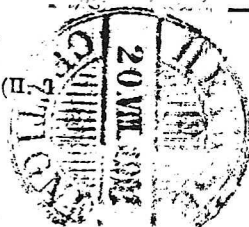
August Kalz 1592

Bingerstrasse 82

109i

Wilmsdorf bei

Berlin



Westerland 12

Registered cover to Germany franked with 25 helera and 1 kruna higher values of the second Prince Nicholas issue, as well as the appropriate 25 helera stamp paying the return receipt fee. Backstamped in Berlin on 23 August and forwarded to Westerland, where it was received on 24 August 1902.

SECOND DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
Letter Cards of 1902

Njegusi
23 July 1904

As with the prior issue, letter cards were prepared with imprinted stamps of the second Prince Nicholas issue, with denominations of 10 helera for domestic use and 25 helera for international.

Затворена дописна карта
Carte lettre



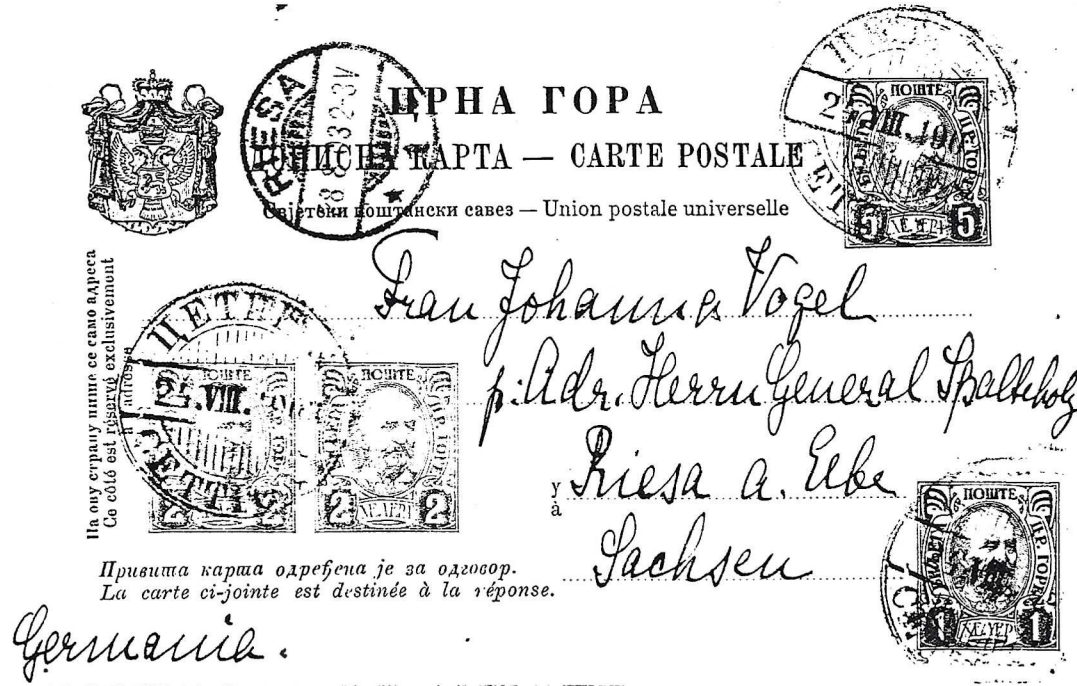
Baron J. J. J.
Ernst Kutschner
Ermanin Kreslav

19/6

SECOND DEFINITIVES OF PRINCE NICHOLAS
Postal Cards of 1902

Cetinje
24 August 1903

In addition, postal cards were prepared with imprinted second Prince Nicholas stamps of 5 helera domestic and 10 helera international denominations. These were issued as single cards and double cards with attached reply.



Double card to Saxony has receiving mark dated 28 August 1903.

PROCLAMATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

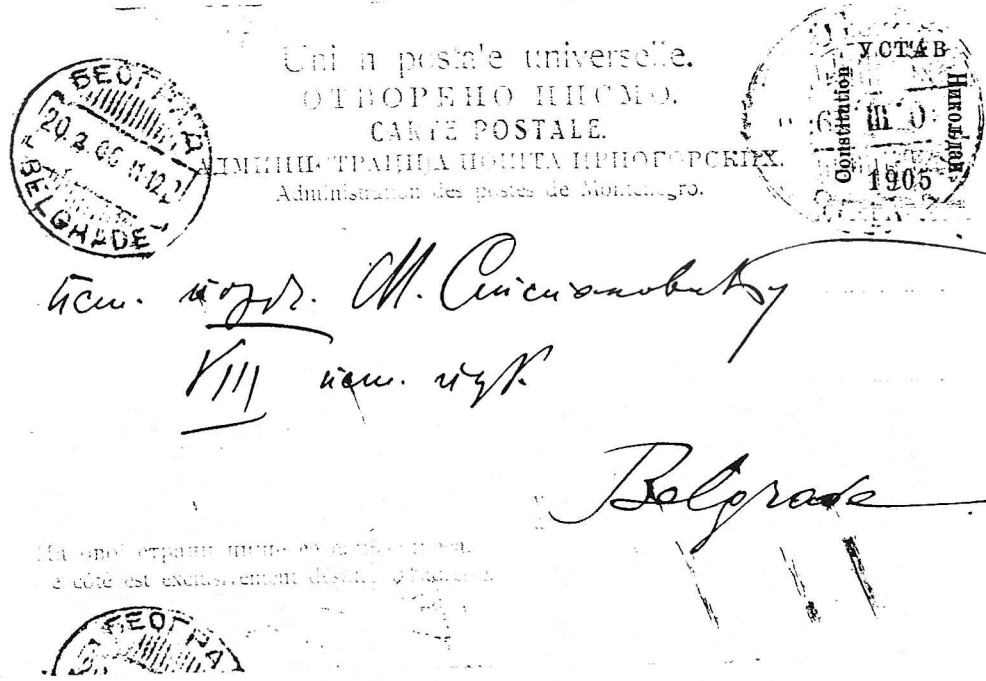
On 5 December 1905, the 9 values of the second Prince Nicholas definitives were overprinted to commemorate the proclamation of Montenegro as a constitutional principality. The overprint was prepared at the State Printing Works in Cetinje and reads "Ustav/Constitution/Nikoljjan/1905."

Issue of 1905

Chavnik
18 May 1907



Strip of 5 of the 1 heler and block of 10 of the 2 helera values making up the proper 25 helera rate for an international letter to California. Receiving mark of Angels Camp dated 6 June 1907. Sent from Chavnik (Savnik), a very small post office opened in 1898.



Examples of 5 and 10 helera values used to pay the postal rates on domestic and international postal cards.