

MESSRS ALLATINA BROS

The CORRESPONDENCE SERIES is an investigation into the background of recipients of British pre-stamped postal stationery. The "collection" was purchased in South Africa in 1999 as a job lot, the which took me six months to sort and mount, creating a collection spanning 140 years. I have no idea of the provenance.

The Reference work is British Postal Stationery, A K Huggins.1970. The first date with catalogue number refers to the year when the pre-stamped envelope was first issued; the second, the year when the envelope was actually used.

Philatelic Description of the item of Postal Stationery:

1889 (WP16a)_Messrs Allatina Bros, 4 St. Mary's Axe, London E.C. (actually used JY 14 90)

Comment:

Lazzaro Allatina was President of the Italian Chamber in London, Arturo Serena the Vice-President, T Boston Bruce the Secretary and Pietro Micali the Treasurer.

Footnotes:

Arturo Serena (circa 1855-1922) was a shipping magnate operating out of a company Fratelli S. & E. Accame of Genoa.

He was a significant benefactor, endowing a number of university chairs in the United Kingdom and Italy. "Many seats of learning, both in this country (United Kingdom) and in Italy, have reason to be grateful to the memory of Arturo Serena, who devoted the whole of his fortune to fostering improved cultural relations between the two countries. He was not a professing Jew, but his parents, exiled from Italy for his father's strenuous support of Daniel Manin, were the first couple married in the Great Synagogue of Venice" [40]

He represented Republic of San Marino in ratifying certain international treaties with United States of America in 1913 [1].

T Boston Bruce is celebrated for having translated into English an Italian book on economics [Pantaleoni, M. 1889. *Principii di Economia Pure*, Firnze: Barbara_ to appear in English as T. Boston Bruce *Pure Economics*, London: Macmillian . 1898] and for having commented favourably on the landmark (Giuseppe) Zanardelli Criminal Code of 30 June 1889 [T. Boston Bruce, quoted in New Italian Criminal Code, vol. 5, 1889, in Law Quart. Rev., p. 287 ff.]

Reference:

1. Treaties, conventions, international acts, protocols, and agreements between the United States of America and other powers. Supplement, 1913, to Senate document no. 357, Sixty-first Congress, second session.
2. Our History Italian @ Manchester. <http://www.llc.manchester.ac.uk>
3. The Sunderland Site etc. <http://ca.geocities.com/ventures0@rogers.com/sunderland041.html>
4. Anglo-Jewry as seen through Foreign Eyes. (1730-1830) J. Rumney. A Paper read before the Jewish Historical Society of England. 17th November, 1930 <http://www.jhse.org>