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 \* COCHIN - THE CERTIFICATES OF POSTING \*  
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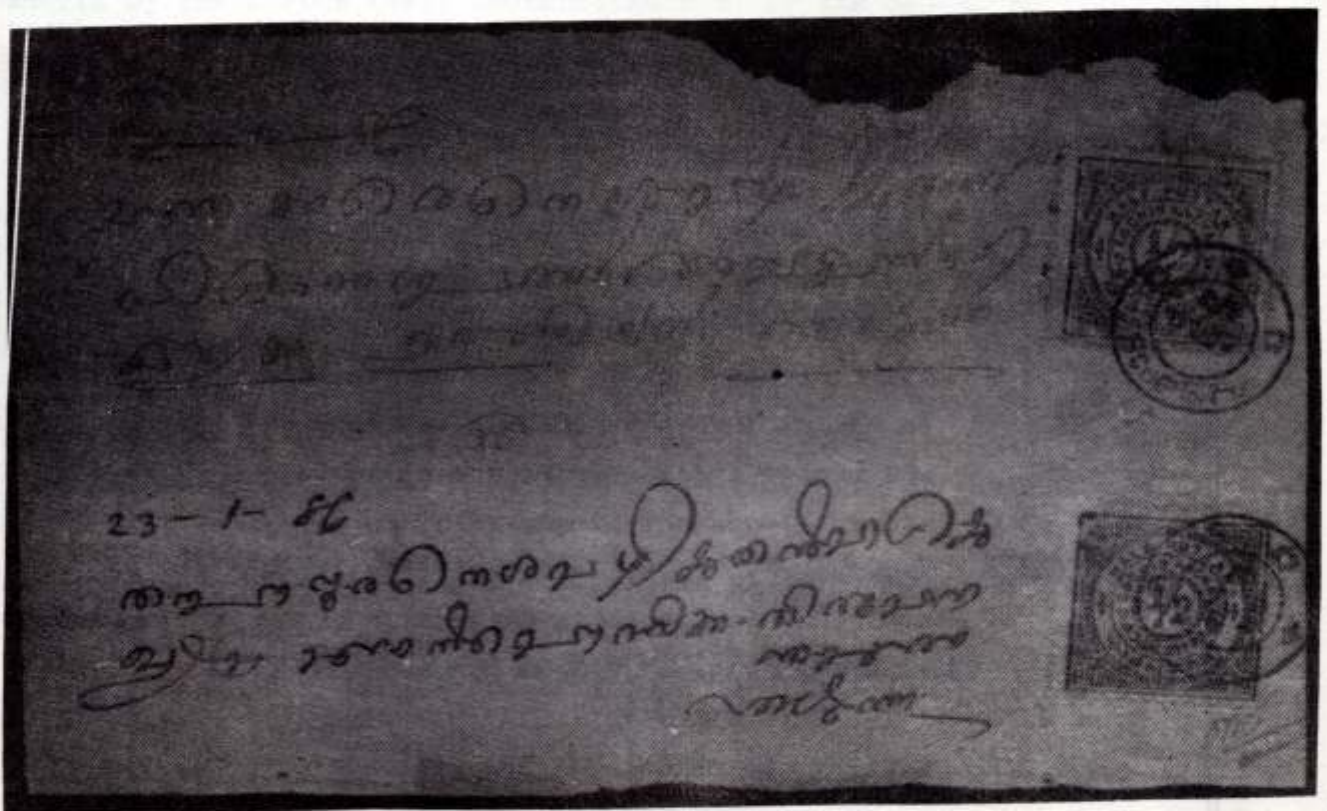
by D. B. GRIFFIN.

This little article is written with the hope that it will elicit comments and additional information concerning the Certificates of Posting from other collectors of Cochin postal history material.

The "Certificate of Posting" was a service of the Cochin Anchal whereby the person mailing an unregistered letter, card, book packet or parcel was provided with an acknowledgment that the article, identified as to addressee, had been properly posted. The Certificate did not provide any special or expedited treatment, nor did it infer compensation or tracing if the certified item was damaged, delayed or lost.

When this type of service was initiated is not known as yet. A study of a file of the Cochin Government Gazette (if anyone has access to one) should clarify the date that this type of Anchal service was first introduced. Lacking the Government Gazette (or a copy of the Anchal Operating Manual) the rates for this service can only be deduced from the Certificates themselves.

The first Certificates were hand written on, apparently, whatever paper was available in the anchal office. Next, a small printed form was made available. This form, unlike subsequent ones, did not include the print order data. Beginning with the forms provided in 1089ME, all forms printed included the print order data. This data included the number of forms ordered and the date of the print order.



(Fig.1)

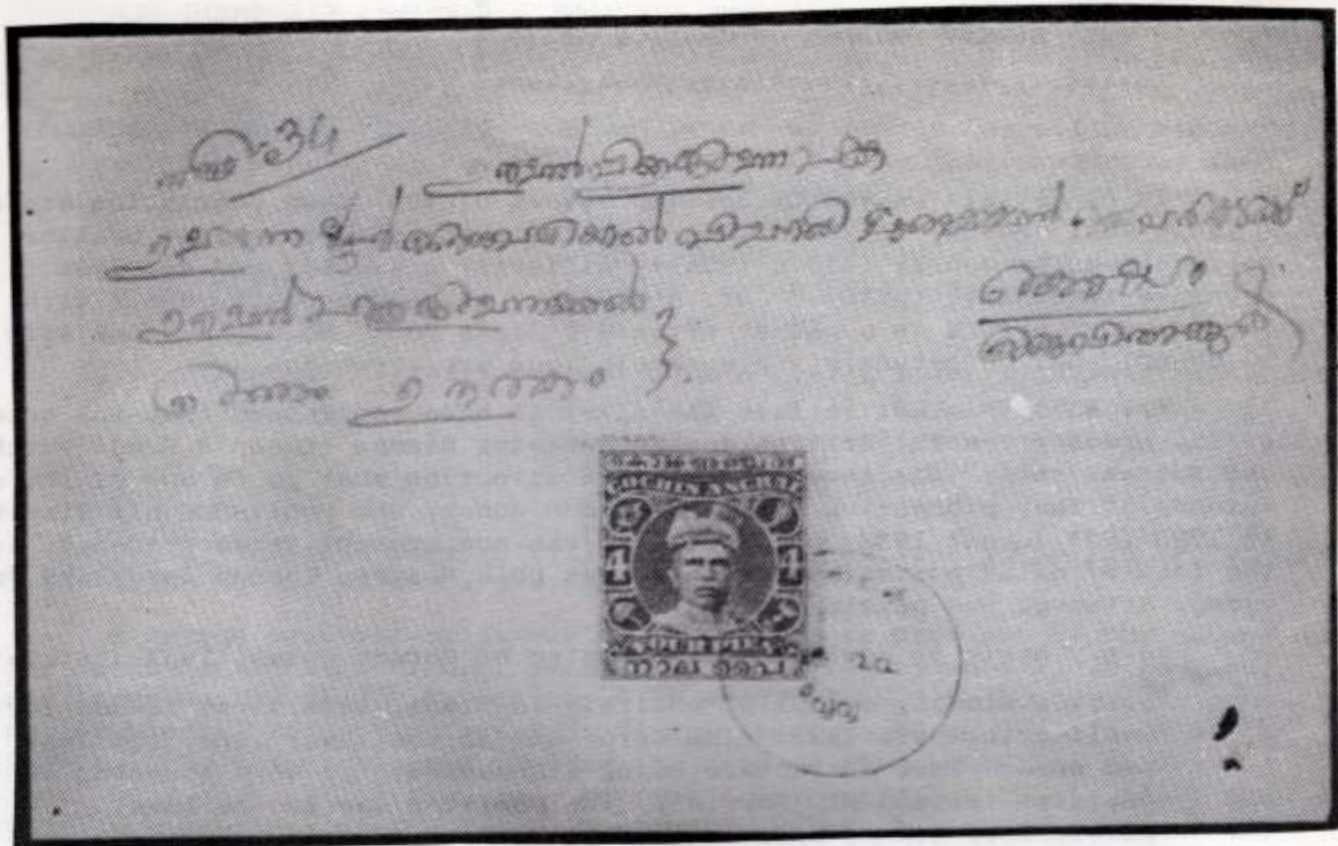




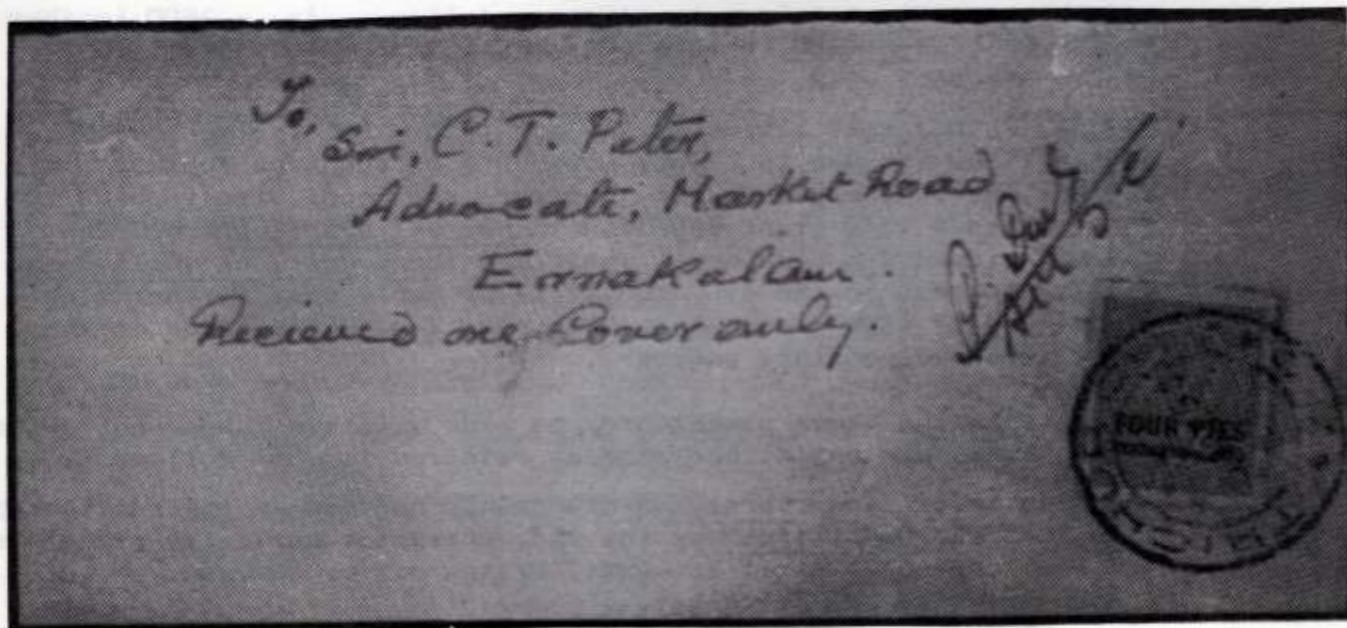








(Fig.4)



(Fig.5)

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