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First Official Airmail



On February 18, 1911, Henri Pequet flew the first official mail ever carried in a heavier-than-air craft. The flight was all of five miles, over the Jamuna River, from Allahabad to Naini, in a Humber Sommer biplane with early De Havilland Engine.

Almost all mail had a large circular cachet, used as a canceling device, applied in a pinkish color. A few pieces had the cachet applied in black. This cover is unique in that it has three applications of the black cachet (only) and is registered to England. It is an exceptional showpiece.

