

MAIL DELIVERY

SWEDEN

This cover is an example of an 'Offspring' highlighting a practice among several Northern European countries of affixing feathers to covers to signal a need for Speedy service – several feathers indicated especially urgent mail, as shown below.



• 'Offspring'
Sweden -- 1986

CANCELS

CUBA A series of Cuban 'Offspring' stamps (1973-74) highlight several uncommon cancels. Three such covers are shown:



FRANCE - 1870

In the siege of Paris during the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71, Paris was forced to rely primarily on balloon mail (Ballon Monte) to maintain access to the outside world. Balloon service was surprisingly successful, involving 67 balloon flights over a five-month period. Shown is a cover from an unnamed balloon (#3) on Nov. 7, 1870, plus a bloc of four of the 10 centimes stamps of 1867 often used to pay the most frequently used 20 centimes Ballon Monte rate.



• 'Offspring'
Jersey -- 1973



• 'Mother'
France -- 1867

OFFICIALS



• 'Offspring'
Mexico -- 1968



• Mexico - 1884

POSTAGE DUE



• 'Offspring'
Suriname -- 1985



• 'Mother'
Monaco - 1953