

CHRISTOPHER PLANTIN AND HIS LEGACY

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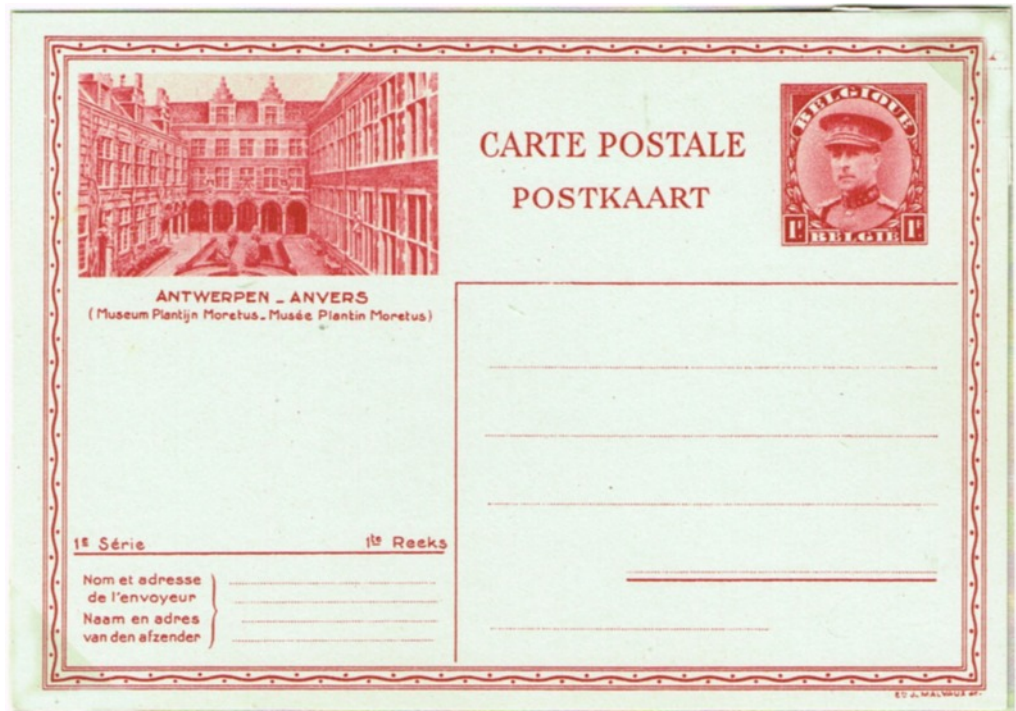


Christopher Plantin, acknowledged as the second most important printer after Gutenberg, established a press in Antwerp in 1555. By 1576 his works had 22 presses at a time when four was regarded as exceptional.



On Plantin's death in 1589 the business was taken over by his son-in-law Jan Moretus
Belgian post office Prior stamps to signify first class, with portrait labels

Jan Moretus' son Balthazar Moretus took over from his father in 1610
Belgian post office Prior stamps to signify first class, with portrait labels



Belgium postal stationery card 1931. Shown at 90%

The company at Antwerp founded by Plantin remained in the family for over 300 years. The last owner, Edward Moretus, sold the elegant town house and its contents, including all its presses and equipment, to the City of Antwerp in 1876, who turned it into the Plantin-Moretus Museum.

Today the building is a UNESCO World Heritage site

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