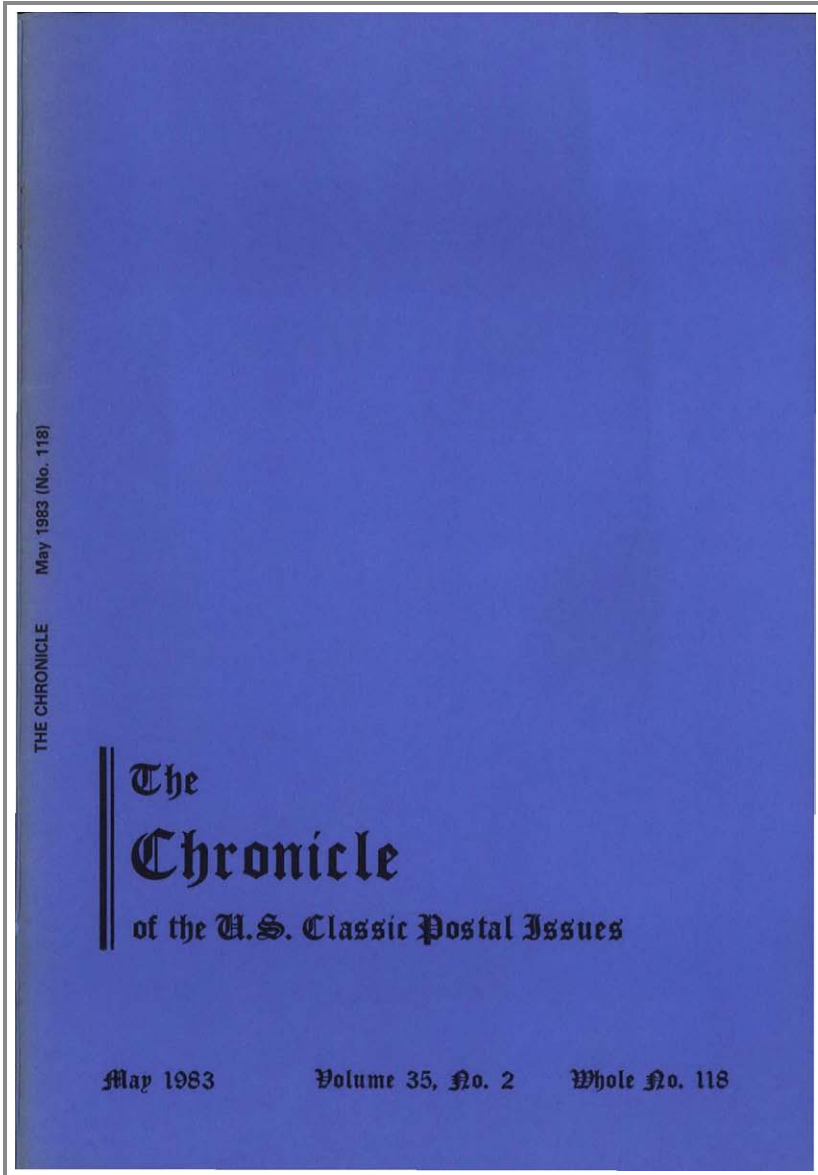




# U.S. Philatelic Classics Society

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Advertiser: Andrew Levitt, Inc.



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least one more cover. This might be the Tows cover, shown as Figure 1, which, as noted, once had a first-issue D.W.I. stamp fraudulently added to it. Examples of this combination should indeed survive, because such franking was not uncommon. More than 30 covers are recorded showing first-issue D.W.I. stamps (#1 or #2) in combination with the 10c green Washington stamp of the 1861 series.<sup>17</sup>

At the Brazil line ports in Brazil itself, covers seem seldom (if ever) to have been franked with U.S. stamps. Of the inbound Brazil line covers in my record, only four seem to have boarded the steamer at ports other than St. Thomas. These covers all originated on board a U.S. naval vessel, the Flagship *Lancaster*, cruising off the east coast of South America. Many of these *Lancaster* covers, as well as the ship itself and its ornamental purser's cachet, were illustrated and discussed by Richard Graham in *Chronicle* 94.

### CONCLUSION

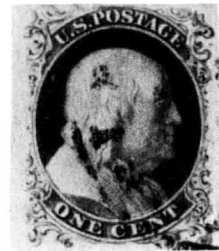
Using the 10c 1869 covers as a data base, we have discussed and illustrated the different types of prepaid covers that were carried by the Brazil line steamers during the 1869 era. The outbound covers, we have discovered, are both scarcer and more varied in the uses that they show. Inbound covers are considerably more common and the great majority of them boarded the ship at St. Thomas.

I hope that the information presented here will enable collectors to better appreciate their Brazil line covers. At least a passing familiarity with the steamer lines is necessary to fully appreciate the covers that they carried. Surviving covers do not stand as mute objects to be classified by rate, origin or destination. Rather, they are all artifacts from an evolving international communications network whose complexities and interrelationships are evidenced by the markings that they bear.

17. *Ibid.*, Chapter 2, 21; Chapter 4, 30.

*"Stamps are most valued where  
best they are known."—Anonymous*

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