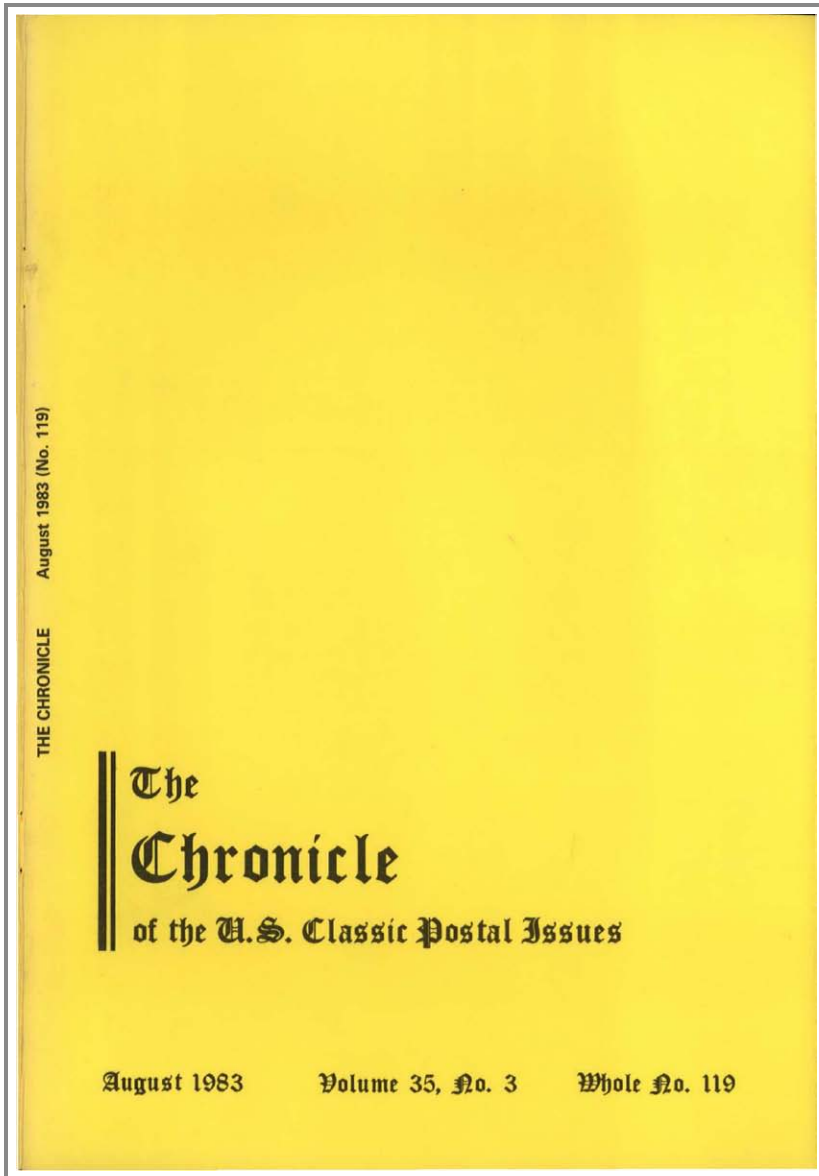




# U.S. Philatelic Classics Society

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Author(s): Richard B. Graham



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## GUEST PRIVILEGE

### HAWAII: ITS STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY — MEYER-HARRIS REVISION

The Meyer-Harris handbook on the stamps and postal history of Hawaii is now in process of being updated. The existing handbook, sponsored by the Philatelic Foundation and based mainly upon the collection of Admiral Frederic R. Harris, with research and material culled from other sources, was put together by the late Henry A. Meyer during the World War II years and published in 1948.

The book was an excellent pioneering work, especially considering that Henry Meyer didn't have available the research tools we have today such as *U.S. Mail & Post Office Assistant*, complete runs of the *U.S. Postal Laws and Regulations* in the "official" area, and catalogs of postal markings such as *Simpson's U.S.P.M.*

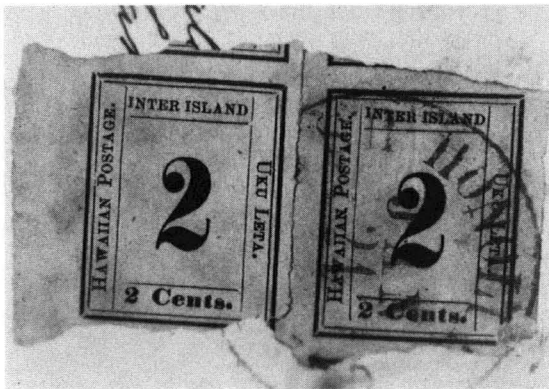
Meyer developed the concept of the rating "Periods" for the Hawaiian-U.S. mails, based upon rate changes or revisions in handling of the mails of both countries. Also used in the original book was a numbering system for both stamps and postmarks, based upon the Dewey decimal system, as applied by William J. Davey. Although this has been much criticized, it will be continued (with supplementary data supplied) in the revised edition since most collectors of Hawaiian material use the basic system.

This writer is serving as overall editor of the revised book, with a working committee being formed from the specialists and collectors having major holdings in the field. Nearly all the material included in the first edition will be included in this edition, except where it needs correction or has been superseded by newer information or research.

There are several areas where research and data are needed. With the kind permission of the USPCS, this writer will conduct a section (or whatever seems appropriate to the editors) in the *Chronicle* to help develop the data or encourage the research.

As is well known, the postal history of the Kingdom and Republic of Hawaii from the beginning has been tightly interwoven with U.S. postal history. Many classic covers bear both Hawaiian and U.S. stamps and a very high percentage of early Hawaiian covers directed to locations outside the Islands passed through the U.S. postal system.

However, some of the problems to be dealt with concern the Interisland mails. Figures 1 and 2 display two aspects associated with the "Numeral" issues, which stamps were largely used on the local or "Interisland" mails, 1859-65.



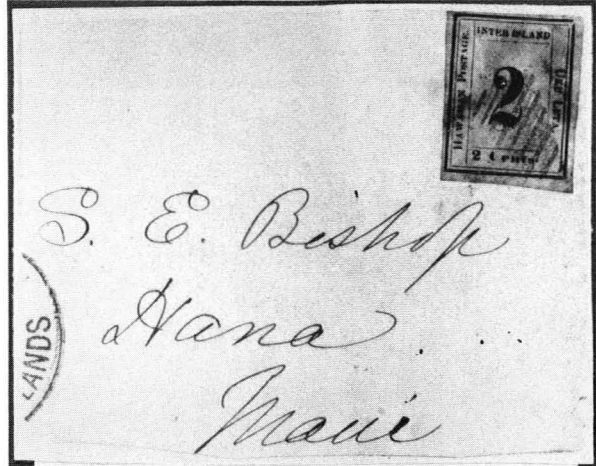
**Figure 1. A reunited pair of Hawaii No. 16. (A third stamp adjacent to the right hand stamp at the bottom is shown with these two in the Westerberg book).**

Figure 1 shows a reunited pair of Scott No. 16; in the late Fred Westerberg's *Plating the Hawaiian Numerals* (Mission Press, Honolulu, 1968), his plating or really arrangement of the columns of the individual settings, contradicted that of Henry J. Crocker, done in 1909. Now, several collectors of this issue are not so sure that the data were interpreted correctly, although Westerberg's work was still a giant step in the right direction. However, the key

element in plating is multiples; and reports of multiples, in photocopy or photographic form, are solicited for the use of the committee.

Coupled with this is a question aroused by the copy of No. 17 shown on a piece of cover in Figure 2. While the catalogs show pricing for this stamp on cover, many of the collectors in this field state they do not believe this stamp exists on a full cover, but that several examples of partial covers bearing it, all from the Rev. Sereno E. Bishop correspondence, exist. So, does any USPCS member own a full cover with #17, as a full front or completely intact?

**Figure 2. Hawaii No. 17 on a piece of front. Do any examples of this stamp exist on a full cover?**



The Westerberg book contained forms in the back, based upon the Westerberg platings, titled a "Checklist of Hawaiian Numeral Stamps," which he requested be filled out and sent to a common source so that a survey could be made. Several collectors with major holdings responded to his request, and the survey was significant. Whether the accumulated information has ever been published is not presently known to this writer. If it has not or even if it has, the summary may be of interest to readers of the *Chronicle*, and possibly arrangements can be made for its publication. Just the same, the survey was made 15 years ago and undoubtedly, additional material has surfaced in the meantime.

Another factor is that interests have changed — not that there is less interest in the stamps, but their existence on cover deserves to be recorded. Therefore, it is proposed to repeat the survey, but including in the "used" section, whether the stamp is on a piece of front, a full front, or a full cover. Multiples, of course, are also of great interest, and some means may be used to record such aside from the form, and based upon photocopies submitted.

Forms are being "worked up" and may be secured from the writer at the address given in the front of the *Chronicle*.

All data mentioned above, as well as material to be described in future issues, may be sent to this writer and will be distributed to those working on the various phases of this book. Also, if the senders so request, this writer will gladly keep confidential the ownership or source of any material submitted.

Richard B. Graham

## **THE ANNAPOLIS POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL ENVELOPES**

**PHILIP T. WALL**

Very little is known about the provisional envelopes issued by Martin F. Revell, Postmaster at Annapolis during the 1845-1847 period. Only two such envelopes are known to still exist, and the whereabouts of one for the past 70 years is unknown to this writer.

No information is known as to the number of envelopes embossed, number sold or date of issue. The two known envelopes are postmarked "20 Mar" and "Apr 8" which would indicate they were postmarked either in 1846 or 1847. As will be discussed later, two