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Advertiser: Brad Sheff

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hand-colored, it is typical of the black designs that were so modified before being sold. Since Chaplin was not promoted to colonel until August 1862, this is an example of a later printing after the early flood of covers.

Before Magnus became the dominant company in printing this type of illustrated stationery, another New York printer, Frederick Kimmel, also produced stationery of even higher quality. Both firms produced city views in the 1850s on large sheets. At the beginning of the Civil War in 1861 Kimmel manufactured 36 different varieties of patriotic designs which were handpainted with a variety of inks or sold in black without coloring. My favorite amongst these is the 7th Regiment National Guard design shown in Figure 2. This cover ranks as one of the finest patriotic covers known because of its beautiful design with multiple stamp foreign usage. It is from the famous Angell correspondence of patriotic covers with foreign usage and was sold at the Katherine Mathies sale in 1971.

A Washington printer, L.H. Rosenthal, sent an artist to the camps of soldiers stationed around Washington early in the war. He produced large envelopes with matching letter stationery of individual regiments, all very rare because of the small number originally printed. In Figure 3 is a detail from the center of an envelope of the encampment of the 76th Regiment of New York State Volunteers, Colonel Abner Doubleday commanding. The soldiers are playing a new game, baseball, which became quite popular in later years!

I remember some years ago at AMERIPEX, the famous show in Chicago, going to the booth of Robert A. Siegel and seeing on display there the envelope shown in Figure 4. Not only is it extremely artistic, but it was being sold as three copies of pink stamps so the price was quite high. It is typical of the unusual and often unique patriotic designs that are depicted in this auction catalog.

Finally there is the cover shown in Figures 5A and B. This is a design printed after the war was over, the only one of this type of design I have ever seen. It was sent from Fort Scott, Kansas in July 1865. The reverse shows the series of engagements of the Michigan Cavalry Brigade under General G.A. [George Armstrong] Custer of Indian War fame. The very last is "Five Forks and Surrender of Gen. Robt. E. Lee and Army." □

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