



U.S. Philatelic Classics Society

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Article: First Day Covers Bearing 3¢ 1851 Stamp (S1)

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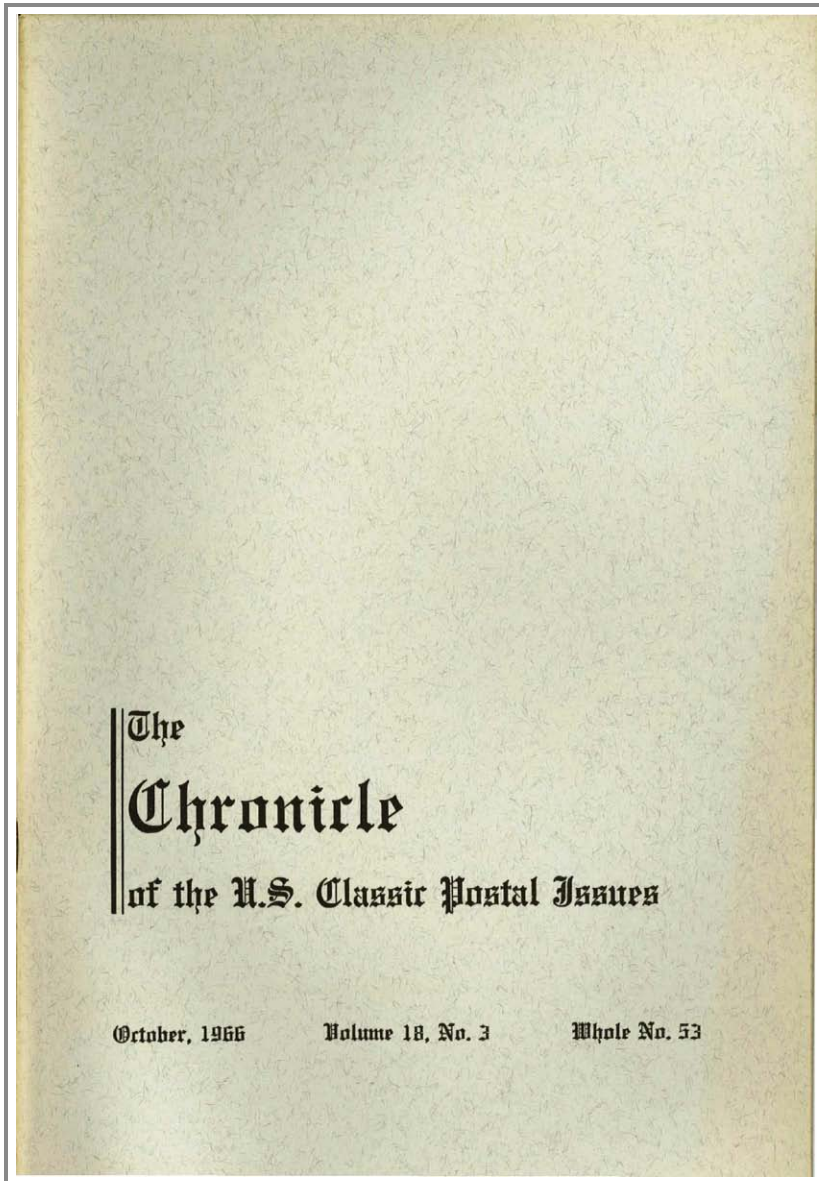


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Stampless "3 Paid" on Cover with Stamps

Many highly fancy PAID markings were used during the stampless period, hence do not often appear in collections of only stamps, nor are they listed in USPM. Occasionally one of these unusual ones appears in association with a stamp because the stamp was added to the stampless letter for forwarding. One such is Figure D, applied at Worcester, Mass. on a letter to Syracuse, New York. The forwarder at Syracuse applied an S2 (1855 shade) which is tied by the Syracuse townmark, prepaying to destination at Columbus, Ohio.

New Earliest Date for S3, Plate 8

Mr. T. J. Alexander reports a cover bearing a pair of S3 (22-23L8), perforated, tied by a New York townmark containing the date of July 28, 1857. The earliest previously known date for plate 8, perforated, was August 3, 1857.

First-Day Covers Bearing 3¢ 1851 Stamp (S1)

Mr. B. E. Engstler recently discovered a first-day S1 cover (a folder letter) postmarked Richmond, Va., addressed to Lynchburg, Va.; the date is authenticated by the written date on the accompanying letter. The stamp is tied by two red grids. However, it cannot be plated as the right edge is cut off into the design, although it is an "A" relief and shows no inner line at left. Much time has elapsed since a new town has been added to the list of those from which first-day 1851 covers with stamps are known. From *Chronicle* issues Nos. 7, 9, 11, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 26, and 27, the list of towns given herewith has been compiled. More than one cover from several of these towns are known.

Baltimore, Md.
Boston, Mass.
Chicago, Ill.
Chillicothe, Ohio
Cincinnati, Ohio
Clappville, Mass.
Cumberland, Md.

Geneva, New York
Hartford, Conn.
Lancaster, Pa.
Louisville & Cincinnati
Mail Line
Lowell, Mass.
Mobile, Ala.

New Bedford, Mass.
New London, Conn.
New London, N.H.
New York, N.Y.
Philadelphia, Pa.
South Wilbraham, Mass.
Richmond, Virginia

The official records indicate that stamps were not supplied to many of these towns in time for July 1, 1851 usage. However, postmasters were instructed to obtain stamps from nearby large postoffices, but still the evidence is strong that the official records of distribution are incorrect, at least as to dates.

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