

THE CHRONICLE November 2001 (No. 192)

The
Chronicle
of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues

November 2001

Volume 53, No. 4

Whole No. 192

**COMPREHENSIVE STOCK
OF
U.S. CLASSIC ISSUES AVAILABLE**

**Very strong in COVERS and STAMPS, including
ESSAYS and PROOFS**

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?

**SELECTION GLADLY SENT ON APPROVAL
AGAINST SPECIFIC REQUESTS**

MAY WE HEAR FROM YOU?

Satisfaction or Immediate Refund

Installment Payment Terms If Desired — (No Interest or Carrying Charges)

Jack E. Molesworth, Inc.

APS
BIA
UPSS

88 Beacon Street
Boston, Mass. 02108-3319
Phone: 617-523-2522
Fax: 617-523-2265

CSA
USPCS
CCNY

THE CHRONICLE of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues, published quarterly in Feb., May, Aug. and Nov. by the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Inc. at Briarwood, Lisbon, MD 21765. Second class postage paid at Canton, Ohio 44711 and additional mailing office. Subscription price \$24.00. Printed in the U.S.A. POSTMASTER send address changes to Briarwood, Lisbon, MD 21765.

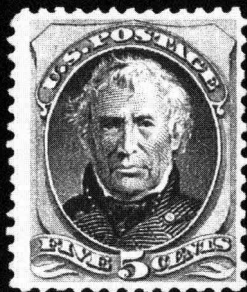
Results as Spectacular as Your Stamps.



Scott #PR101, o.g., PFC
Catalog value: \$ 19,000.00
Realized Price: \$ 52,250.00
A record price for any
Newspaper stamp - sold in
Shreves January 2000 Sale



Scott #5, used, PFC
Catalog value: \$ 35,000.00
Realized Price: \$ 77,000.00
The \$77,000.00 realization in Shreves
January 2000 Sale is the highest price
ever paid for a used #5



Scott #204, unused, PFC
Catalog value: \$ 40,000.00
Realized Price: \$ 96,250.00
Sold in Shreves January 2000 Sale -
the highest price ever paid for any
Special Printing stamp

If you want an auction firm that invests more resources in
the promotion, presentation and successful sale of
your stamps or covers, call Shreves Philatelic Galleries.
Our results speak for themselves.

Expect the Extraordinary.



Accept Nothing Less...

SHREVES PHILATELIC GALLERIES, INC.

1•800•556•STAMP

www.shreves.com

DALLAS & NEW YORK

14131 Midway Road • Suite 1250 • Dallas, Texas 75001-9841 • 972/788-2100 • FAX 972/788-2788
145 West 57th Street • 18th Floor • New York, New York 10019 • 212/262-8400 • FAX 212/262-8484

Auction License: New York • Tracy L. Shreve #914454, #914455

'I strongly urge... use the auctions and services of Spink, and accept no substitute.'

A major vendor



Unused United States \$1.00. 1902 issue.

- Achieve maximum realizations from our growing international client base
- Give your collection or rarer single items the quality color catalogues they deserve
 - Obtain a professional service tailored to your requirements
 - Sell by auction, Private Treaty, or directly to Spink
 - Ask for details of our exceptional past performance

Contact us today to arrange your free verbal estimation, or for details on obtaining a written valuation for sale, insurance or estate planning.

Tel: +1 212 486 3660 Fax: +1 212 980 9825

E-mail: bbleckwenn@spinkandson.com

Website: www.spink-online.com

SPINK

FOUNDED 1666

COINS BANKNOTES MEDALS STAMPS

A MEMBER OF THE CHRISTIE'S GROUP

55 East 59th Street, 15th Floor, New York, New York 10022

Tel: +1 212 486 3660 Fax: +1 212 980 9825 E-mail: spinknewyork@spinkandson.com

69 Southamton Row, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 4ET

Tel: +44 (0)20 7563 4000 Fax: +44 (0)20 7563 4066 E-mail: info@spinkandson.com

The Chronicle

of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues

ISSN 0009-6008

November 2001

Published Quarterly, in
February, May, August and November

Vol. 53, No. 4
Whole No. 192

\$4.50 Members *Official publication of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Inc.* *Annual Dues*
\$6.00 Non-Members (Unit 11, A. P. S.) *\$22.50*

SOCIETY OFFICERS

PATRICIA STILWELL WALKER*President*
Briarwood, Lisbon, MD 21765-0099 walke96@attglobal.net

WILSON HULME*Vice-President*
12 Manette Road, Morristown NJ 07960-6344 wilson_hulme@msn.com

MARK D. ROGERS*Secretary*
P.O. Box 80708, Austin, TX 78708-0708 mrogers23@austin.rr.com

DWAYNE O. LITTAUER*Treasurer*
P.O. Box 750368, New Orleans, LA 70175-0368 DL@kullmanlaw.com

RICHARD M. WRONA*Advertising Manager*
P.O. Box 7631, McLean, VA 22106-7631

KENT WILSON*Membership Chairman*
P.O. Box 50127, Billings MT 59105-0127 turgon96@aol.com

WALTER DEMMERLE*Publication Sales Chairman*
821 Winthorpe Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23452-3939 demmerle@home.com

DALE R. PULVER*Editor of Chairman's Chatter*
7725 Beaver Creek Dr., Mentor, OH 44060-7121

JEFFREY C. BOHN*Exhibition Photocopy Chairman*
P.O. Box 2301, Columbia, MD 21045-2301 bohnj@nichols.com

DIRECTORS: JAMES CATE '03; JOE H. CROSBY '04; WALTER DEMMERLE '02; WILSON HULME II '02; DWAYNE O. LITTAUER '04; MICHAEL J. MORRISSEY '04; CHARLES J. PETERSON '03; MARK D. ROGERS '03; ROBERT ROSE '02; WADE SAADI '04; PATRICIA STILWELL WALKER '02; KENT WILSON '03, *ex officio*: THOMAS J. ALEXANDER, THOMAS F. ALLEN, VAN KOPPERSMITH, RICHARD F. WINTER.

EDITORIAL BOARD

CHARLES J. PETERSON*Editor-in-Chief*
P.O. Box 5559, Laurel, MD 20726-5559 cjp7777@aol.com

JAMES W. MILGRAM, M.D.*Photo Editor*
Water Tower Place Suite 922E, 845 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611-2213 j-milgram@nwu.edu

FRANK MANDEL*Prestamp & Stampless Period*
P.O. Box 157, New York, NY 10014-0157

JAMES W. MILGRAM, M.D., *Assistant* j-milgram@nwu.edu

STEVEN M. ROTH*U.S. Carriers & Independent Mails*
P.O. Box 57160, Washington, DC 20037-2343 smroth@wizard.net

THOMAS E. STANTON, *Assistant*

WADE E. SAADI*1847 Period*
93 80th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11209-3511 wade@pencom.com

HUBERT C. SKINNER*1851-61 Period*
P.O. Box 4097, New Orleans, LA 70178-4097

MICHAEL C. McCLUNG*1861-69 Period*
4809-D Kingshill Dr., Columbus, OH 43229-7215 MMcc767166@aol.com

SCOTT R. TREPEL*1869 Period*
% Robert A. Siegel Auctions, 60 East 56th St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10022-3204

JEFFREY FORSTER, *Assistant* jforstr@pacbell.net

JOE H. CROSBY*Bank Note Period*
5009 Barnsteeple Court, Oklahoma City, OK 73142-5405 joecrosby@home.com

ALAN CAMPBELL*Officials et al.*
2746 29th Street, San Diego, CA 92105 alancamp@aol.com

LESTER C. LANPHEAR III, *Assistant* llanphear@earthlink.net

RICHARD F. WINTER*The Foreign Mails*
31 Flagship Cove, Greensboro, NC 27455 rfwinter@worldnet.att.net

JEFFREY C. BOHN, *Assistant* bohnj@nichols.com

RAYMOND W. CARLIN*The Cover Corner*
9068 Fontainebleau Terrace, Cincinnati, OH 45231-4808 rwrarin@aol.com

GREG SUTHERLAND, *Assistant* gregfree@coax.net

Address changes should be sent to Secretary, back issue orders to Publication Sales Chairman, other correspondence to Editor-in Chief. Reports of new items or articles should be submitted to appropriate Section Editor or Editor-in-Chief. Do not send stamps or covers unless requested. Any items sent will be carefully guarded but no liability attaches to an editor.

Our *Passion* for Philately is equalled only by our
Compassion for both the Buyer and Seller alike.



The One Cent Magenta

The epitome of Classic Stamps.
Owned by one of our clients.

We will build your
Great Collection as well.

Victor B. Krievins
Professional Philatelist

P.O. Box 373

Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-0373

Tel/Fax (215) 886-6290

E-Mail: VBKpostamp@aol.com

IN THIS ISSUE

U.S. CARRIERS & INDEPENDENT MAILS

- Mail Quantities Carried by the Independent Mail Companies,
by *Calvet M. Hahn*243

THE 1851 TO 1861 PERIOD

- Pictorial Cancels of Canton, Mississippi: Part II,
by *Hubert C. Skinner*253

CONFEDERATE STATES

- The 10¢ Typographed Altered Plate of the Confederate States of America,
by *Leonard H. Hartmann*259

REVIEWS

- Confederate States of America Philatelic Subject Index and Bibliography
1862-1999, Volume II*, by Richard H. Byne
(reviewed by Charles J. Peterson)274
- United States Post Offices: Volume IV—The Northeast*, compiled by
Richard W. Helbock (reviewed by Charles J. Peterson)275
- The Forwarding of Mail by the U.S. Post Office Department, 1792-2001*,
by Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz (reviewed by Charles J. Peterson)311
- Vermont Postal History: The Branches, Stations, & CPOs of the Green
Mountain State*, by Paul G. Abajian and Jason M. Granger (Reviewed
by Richard J. Marek)312

OFFICIALS ET AL.

- Off-Cover Usage of Official Stamps in Washington, D.C., 1873-1874,
by *Alan C. Campbell*278

THE FOREIGN MAILS

- The Cents Accountancy Markings of the Anglo-U.S. Conventions, 1849-1875,
by *Colin Tabcart* (continued from *Chronicle* 191:224).....289

THE COVER CORNER

- Additional Answer to Problem Cover in Issue 189300
- Additional Answer to Problem Cover in Issue 188301
- Answer to Problem Covers in Issue 190301
- No Answer to Problem Covers in Issue 191303
- Problem Covers for This Issue.....306

An Exhibition Collection Sale

William McCarren

Michael D. Rubin

What do the philatelists cited here have in common? These gentlemen had a vision, so when it came time for them to consign their stamps and postal history to auction, they trusted the philatelists at Matthew Bennett Auctions to translate that vision into their own individual "Exhibition Collection Sale" catalog.

John Hill, Jr.

To properly show off your collection, our unique "Exhibition Collection Sales" series is the perfect vehicle, allowing collectors to appreciate your efforts and achievements, undiluted by competing items. When you believe you have completed your work on a collection or a specialized area, let us create the catalog you deserve.

Dr. Eugene Joyce



MATTHEW BENNETT, INC.

601 Washington Avenue The Penthouse, Suite 401 Baltimore, Maryland 21204
(410) 823.3714 (800) 638.4223 FAX: (410) 321.5747 www.bennettstamps.com
Professional Philatelists Licensed Auctioneers Member: ASDA, APS

MAIL QUANTITIES CARRIED BY THE INDEPENDENT MAIL COMPANIES

©2001 CALVET M. HAHN

The February 2001 edition of *Chronicle* contains a piece on the above subject from one of the various drafts of the Perry/Hall manuscript. It is probably not from the final draft and probably would be repudiated by Elliott Perry today for it has at least four conceptual errors, some of which would have been known to Perry during his lifetime and would have led him to abandon this draft as not in accord with known facts. The first error is the population growth rate assumption.

On page 8, in a table on the expected number of letters to be carried by the postoffice, it is stated that the number of letters would grow at 5% annually. It is further stated as an assumption that “the 5% also represented the average increase in population.” This is just not true, as Michael Gutman pointed out; it also is not valid in terms of the economic conditions of the time, which today we measure by Gross National Product Growth (GNP), which Mr. Gutman could not find for the period in question, although there are potential substitutes.

At the time Elliott Perry was still working on the manuscript there was available from the Commerce Department a “statistical abstract supplement” called *Historical Statistics of the United States Colonial Times to 1957*, prepared by the Bureau of the Census. Various editions have appeared over the years, but the pre-1850 data has not basically changed. Using the 1957 volume, Table I shows total population, immigrants and domestic population year by year from 1835 through to 1851 as well as the calculated rate of increase of domestic population year by year—the assumption being that the mail volume which would concern both the independent mails and the postoffice would be domestic, as most immigrants would only write back once or twice to their homelands and not have internal U.S. mail during the early years after their arrival.

As can be seen, the domestic population only increased at an annual rate of 3% or more in only five of the years: 1841, 1843, 1844, 1845 and 1851. Thus the assumption of a 5% growth rate is a wildly optimistic conceptual error. If one takes the actual domestic population increase and applies it to the actual number of estimated letters (29,360,992) reported for 1836,¹ the figure for 1842 was 34,686,000 compared with the government’s estimate of 24,507,994² actually handled, or 10 million higher.

Chronicle #189 reports the actual government figure for 1843 is 24,004,000 or 24,267,552 letters in 1844 against a projected 41-43 million under the incorrect 5% assumption, or a gap of about 20 million letters, which is then assumed to represent the amount carried by the independent mails. It is twice the differential under a correct population increase assumption.

Actually, for the year ending July 1, 1847, we have a government estimate of the number of letters actually carried as found in the Annual Report of that year.³ It shows a total of 57,606, 280+ letters, made up of about 36 million single rate letters, 12.8 million double rated letters and 1,890,612 drop and circular letters and 427,800+ ship or steamboat letters to which an additional 5 million franked letters should be added. This is about 17 million higher than a correct population increase adjustment would indicate.

¹*Annual Report by the Postmaster General*, December 4, 1837, Document #3, p. 860.

²Document D of January 5, 1843, signed by Wickliffe and sent to President of the Senate.

³*Annual Report of the Postmaster General*, December 6, 1847, pp. 1312-1213.

Table I

Year	Population	Immigrants	Domestic Population	Increase % Rate	Population Adjusted Letters
1835	15,003,000	45,374	14,958,000	---	
1836	15,423,000	76,343	15,387,000	2.6%	29,360,992*
1837	15,843,000	79,340	15,766,000	2.7	30,154,000
1838	16,264,000	38,914	16,225,000	2.9	31,028,000
1839	16,684,000	68,069	16,616,000	2.4	31,773,000
1840	17,120,000	34,066	17,088,000	2.8	32,663,000
1841	17,733,000	80,289	17,653,000	3.3	33,741,000
1842	18,345,000	194,565	18,150,000	2.8	34,686,000
1843	18,857,000	52,496	18,804,000	3.6	35,935,000
1844	19,563,000	78,615	19,484,000	3.6	37,229,000
1845	20,182,000	114,371	20,068,000	3.0	38,345,000
1846	20,794,000	154,416	20,640,000	2.85	39,419,000
1847	21,406,000	234,968	21,171,000	2.6	40,444,000
1848	22,018,000	206,527	21,791,000	2.9	41,617,000
1849	22,632,000	297,024	22,335,000	2.5	42,657,000
1850	23,261,000	369,980	22,897,000	2.5	43,723,000
1851	24,086,000	379,466	23,707,000	3.5	44,743,000
1852	24,911,000	371,603	24,539,000	3.5	46,309,000

*Actual. These figures are for the fiscal year ending July 1.

Source: U.S. Government Bureau of Census

The *Chronicle* editors do indicate some students question the economic analysis used by the postoffice to justify the banning of the independents as lacking an appreciation of economic history. Failure of the government's analysis to take economic history into account is the second conceptual error. These students would be those who, like myself, have some economic background. I have referred to this problem several times but have not expanded upon the weakness of the government's reasoning, which I felt was blindingly obvious. Mr. Gutman hinted at the same economic problem when he sought GNP data (as developed by Kendricks and Kuznets), which he only found back to 1929; however, the Kuznets' extensions in *Historic Statistics* go back to 1869, while other rough proxies for GNP can be found for earlier years.

A basic problem leading to this conceptual error is ignorance of the economic climate between 1836 and 1845 among collectors, which the editors and the manuscript do not address. It is a fact that there was in this period something known as the Panic of 1837, which, with its follow up, dominated the era. It was the 19th century version of the 20th century Great Depression as recognized by economic historians. C.W. Wright's *Economic History of the United States*,⁴ published in 1941, was available when Perry was working on the independent mail documents. On pages 474-476 Wright describes the economic climate:

When the bubble finally burst in 1837 and the inevitable day of reckoning came, it produced one of the four most severe and prolonged crises in the country's history, the others occurred in 1873, 1893 and 1929. . . The price of cotton then began to fall in the English market and this soon caused trouble among the cotton brokers and planters in the United States who were unable to meet payments coming due. Domestic difficulties were further increased by crop failures in 1835 and again in 1837 and 1838, which tended to decrease the farmers' purchasing power, to delay payment of their debts, and to necessitate the importation of wheat. . . difficulties came to a head in May, 1837 when the banks in New York were forced to suspend; their example was at once followed by most of the banks in the rest of the country. . . By the early part of 1839 specie payments had been generally resumed by the banks; but another reaction soon set in. . . Banks failed by the hundreds, unemployment spread through the industrial centers, and commodities rapidly fell in value till the price level reached one of the lowest points in the century. In New York City rents had fallen between 30 and 50 per cent by 1840. At the same time it was stated that in Mississippi land and slaves had lost half of their value. The usual crop of relief laws followed, chiefly in the states from Pennsylvania to the south and west. Many states were unable to meet the payments due on their excessive bond issues and some fell back on repudiation. . . By 1842 the process of liquidation had fairly run its course and the country was in the midst of the dull period of depression that follows such a reaction. . . After about 1845 business conditions began to improve more rapidly. . . There followed nearly a decade of great prosperity, one of the most prosperous in the country's history and sometimes referred to as the "Golden Age."

Writing a quarter century later, economics Nobel laureate Douglass C. North, in his *Economic Growth of the United States 1790-1860*,⁵ presents a more nuanced picture of the period of the Panic and the subsequent depression. He writes about the Panic,

The Panic of 1837 was an interruption and not an end to the underlying expansive forces in the economy. The sharp drop in cotton prices reflected the readjustment in the American price level rather than any larger increase in supply as the result of new lands being put into cultivation. By the spring of 1838, cotton prices were again rising, the low point having been reached in early summer of 1837, and economic expansion was visible on all sides. . . The difference between 1837 and 1839 was that the former

⁴Chester W. Wright, *Economic History of the United States* (New York & London: McGraw-Hill Book Co. Inc., 1941).

⁵Douglass Cecil North, *Economic Growth of the United States 1790-1860* (New York: W.W. Norton, [1966]).

panic had centered around temporary maladjustments in internal monetary affairs and external influences, while these monetary and external influences in the latter period were combined with the real effects of a decade of uninhibited expansion of productive capacity, which necessarily entailed a long period of readjustment.

He goes on to discuss the depression that followed, noting on page 190, "There is also abundant evidence that the depression from 1839 to 1843 was one of the most severe in our history," then on pages 202-03 he states,

The period from the fall of 1839 to 1843 resembles a similar era just ninety years later (the Great Depression) in that both were severe and prolonged drops in economic activity. There was a precipitous decline in domestic and export prices, a cessation of capital imports, and the return of securities to the United States as Pennsylvania, Maryland and other states defaulted on their interest payments. Both domestic and foreign trade declined sharply, with the West and South hardest hit. The cessation of capital imports halted the vast program of internal improvements and accompanying investment in the economic opportunities associated with a new region. The stoppage of the flow of capital into the West from the Northeast operated on the West in much the same way it operated between the United States and England. During the period of capital inflow, western prices rose relative to those of the Northeast, but when this inflow ceased the readjustment in western price levels meant a more drastic decline than for the economy as a whole. The same pattern held for the South, except that the fall in cotton prices was even more severe. Cotton planters had little incentive to expand production, and as the price continued to drop the advantage of becoming more self-sufficient by putting available acreage into corn and hogs became evident. While the depression did not spare the Northeast and was perhaps harder on states such as Pennsylvania, with large commitments in internal improvement, the decline in manufacturing prices was relatively less than that of agricultural products, and flexible money wages modified the employment effects.

The precipitous price decline of 1839 leveled off, and prices actually rose slightly in late 1840 and 1841. Then the decline resumed, continuing until the beginning of 1843. By 1843, the depression had run its course, foreign and domestic price levels were in line, and a new era of expansion was slowly getting under way, but cotton was no longer king.

One of Professor North's basic theses is that the cotton industry was the major expansive force in the U.S. economy between 1815 and 1860. As he stated on pages 67-68,

. . . It was the growth of the cotton textile industry and the demand for cotton which was decisive . . . the vicissitudes of the cotton trade—the speculative expansion of 1818, the radical decline in prices in the 1820s and the boom in the 1830s—were the most important influence upon the varying rates of growth of the economy during the period. Cotton was strategic because it was the major independent variable in the interdependent structure of internal and international trade. The demands for western food-stuffs and northeastern services and manufactures were basically dependent upon the income received from the cotton trade. . . The Northeast provided not only the services to finance, transport, insure, and market the South's cotton but also supplied the South with manufactured goods, either from its own industry or imported and reshipped to the South. Major markets for the Northeast were the South and West. Both depended, directly in the first case and indirectly in the second, on the income from the cotton trade. . . But cotton was the commodity for which foreign demand was significantly increasing, it accounted for one half the value of exports, and the income directly or indirectly from cotton was the major independent influence on the evolving pattern of interregional trade. Without cotton the development in the size of the market would have been a much more lengthy process, since there was no alternative way to expand the domestic market rapidly without recourse to external demand. . . In short, cotton was the most important proximate cause of expansion, and by tracing out the resulting interrelationships light may be shed on the pace and character of the economy's development, particularly in the years up to 1843.

If Professor North's documentation of the importance of cotton in U.S. economic growth is correct, then the records of U.S. exports, which include both cotton and its products from the northern mills, is an approximate proxy for U.S. economic growth or GNP. Table II shows this:

The actual reported number of letters in 1836 as reported in *Chronicle* was modified by population growth figures from the Census and then further modified by the export index on the basis that this index is a rough proxy for GNP adjustments. The result is the projected 1840 letter count, which is about 5 million high (32-35 million) from the *Chronicle* reported actual letter count of 27.5 million. The adjusted total for 1843 is a very close match for the actual reported by *Chronicle*, suggesting that there was really no loss of business by the arrival of the independent mails, but rather their lower prices increased the total market for letters. There was a loss of business during fiscal 1844 and fiscal 1845 as the economic revival caused the added mail volume to be diverted to the independent mails. The fiscal 1847 projected 51 million letters is right on the nose compared with the government's 52,173,480 actual letter count, indicating how powerful the changes from the 1845 postal act were when the government became more competitive by moving the drop letter class from a postmaster perquisite to a mail rate, adding a circular rate and making major rate reductions. The projected figure for fiscal 1852 is 62.2 million compared with the actual figure of 95,790,524.⁶ The additional 33 million letter difference in fiscal 1852 again supports the concept that the independent mails created a largely new market rather than taking away existing postal business.

The third conceptual error was the failure to incorporate into the analysis the political factor of the rise of the Jacksonian "spoils system" on postal operations. Duff Green led a cadre of publicists and newspaper men who promoted Jackson's candidacy and Green coined the phrase "reward his friends and punish his enemies" in his *United States Telegraph* newspaper. This cadre which now set mail policy included Nathaniel Greene, editor of the Massachusetts political organ, *The Statesman*, owned by David Henshaw, the Massachusetts political boss who insisted Greene become the new Boston postmaster; Amos Kendall, editor of the *Kentucky Argus of Western America*, and future Postmaster General; Isaac Hill, editor of the *New Hampshire Concord Patriot*; and Samuel Ingram, Jackson's first Treasury Secretary.

As the postoffice had long been organized on a hierarchical military design with a few leaders serving as general staff, this meant decapitating the postal system, which Green and the others set out to do. Too, under Postmaster General John McLean, the postoffice had been operating as a "public trust" while still being an effective political organization for the Federalists. It was to become a patronage trough for the Jackson men. In addition to McLean, the senior staff consisted of Abraham Bradley, Jr., First Assistant Postmaster General since 1800; his brother Phineas Bradley, the Second Assistant Postmaster General and head of the contract department; chief clerk Andrew Coyle, who coordinated between the postoffice, Congress and the Treasury; Charles K. Gardner, who was in charge of appointments; and Baptist preacher and postoffice contracts auditor, Obadiah Brown. All were comparatively well paid, felt secure in their offices and had spent years in their posts.

In his 1995 *Spreading the News*,⁷ Richard John cites both John Adams and Henry Clay on page 219 as charging that none of the clerks knew when they would be dismissed or how close the postoffice would be turned into a police department that fingered all the letters. This conflicted with the then accepted view that no one was to be "removed" without a fair hearing, as Johns noted. Nathaniel Greene boasted openly of "turning out the

⁶*Report of the Postmaster General*, dated December 4, 1852, H Document I, p. 650.

⁷Richard R. John, *Spreading the News: The American Postal System from Franklin to Morse* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1995).

Table II
Value of Total Exports and Cotton Exports

Year	Total Exports	Cotton Exports	Total Exports Index 1836=100	Population Adjusted Letters	. Adjusted by Export Index	Actual Letters in Fiscal Year
1835	115,216,000	64,961,302	92.7	---		
1836	124,339,000	71,284,925	100.0	29,360,992*	29,360,000	29,360,992
1837	111,443,000	63,240,102	89.6	30,154,000	27,018,000	
1838	104,979,000	61,556,811	84.4	31,028,000	26,188,000	
1839	112,252,000	61,238,982	90.3	31,773,000	28,691,000	
1840	123,669,000	63,870,307	99.5	32,663,000	32,500,000	27,535,557
1841	111,817,000	54,330,341	89.9	33,741,000	30,333,000	
1842	99,878,000	47,593,464	80.3	34,686,000	27,853,000	
1843	82,826,000	49,593,464	66.6	35,935,000	23,933,000	24,004,000
1844	105,746,000	54,063,501	85.0	37,229,000	31,644,000	24,267,552
1845	106,040,000	51,739,643	85.3	38,345,000	32,709,000	
1846	109,583,000	42,767,341	88.1	39,419,000	34,728,000	
1847	156,742,000	53,415,848	126.0	40,444,000	50,959,000	52,173,480
1848	138,191,000	61,998,294	111.1	41,617,000	46,236,000	
1849	140,351,000	66,396,967	112.9	42,657,000	46,986,000	
1850	144,376,000	71,984,616	116.1	43,723,000	50,763,000	
1851	188,915,000	112,315,317	151.2	44,743,000	67,651,000	
1852	166,984,000	87,965,732	134.3	46,309,000	62,192,000	95,790,524

*Actual, according to *Chronicle* #189.

Source: North's Exports p. 233; 1836 letters adjusted by Table I Population Growth. These are further adjusted by export index.

postmaster general," John McLean, who was given a seat on the Supreme Court. In the first six months the four most senior officers were dismissed. As successor to McLean Jackson appointed William Barry, a close personal friend and former chief justice of the Kentucky court but also a spendthrift who had gone deeply in debt in his unsuccessful campaign to become governor of Kentucky and needed to recoup. Obadiah Brown authored a circular under Barry's name that savaged McLean's reputation. In payment he was named chief clerk in place of Coyle, although forced to resign a few years later, as was Barry, for financial irregularities. His replacement was John Marron. The Bradley brothers were next to be quickly dismissed, with Gardner given Abraham's post, while Selah Hobbles, a former congressman, was named in Phineas' place. The Dead Letter Office staff was raised from five to ten, while McLean's choice to head it, Richard Simpson, was also replaced by 1837. Richard John summed up the result:

No longer would office seekers find themselves frustrated by McLean's well-known refusal to authorize dismissals on partisan grounds. No longer would contractors find themselves stymied by Andrew Coyle's command of postal protocol or the Bradleys' passion for fiscal propriety. "The whole department," lamented Phineas Bradley in October, "is now political."

This decapitation and the subsequent political scandals that resulted in the dismissal of both Barr and Brown left the postoffice department in management disarray. The appointment of Amos Kendall, an excellent administrator, was not sufficient to offset the weakness of a lack of years of intimate knowledge of the contracting, appointment, dead letter, distribution and other administrative details of the department. Thus, the government was administratively weakened at the time of the rise of the independent mails.

The fourth conceptual problem involves ignoring the sectional dismissal of postmasters in the Northeast, the area where the independent mails arise. Richard John presents a detailed picture of the sectional nature of the immediate dismissals on pages 223-224. He points out that while overall dismissals were relatively small, but 13% of the total, however, approximately 38% of the leading postmasters in the New England and Mid-Atlantic regions were replaced. A second chart on page 239 depicts the pattern from 1829 through 1841, which shows continued high dismissal rates in New England and the Mid-Atlantic. This was the sectional strategy originally developed by Duff Green and which continued to be carried out well past the time when Green lost political power. John quotes one commentator in 1849 as noting, "The South perpetuated its control of the central government, by bestowing postmasterships upon its northern supporters." This was also true of the main office in Washington, which now had a strong Southern flavor in its staff as 28 of those listed in 1837 were born below the Mason-Dixon line with another seven coming from Europe, chiefly Ireland. New England interests were outnumbered as there were only seven New Englanders including Kendall and his son, both of whom had strong Kentucky backgrounds.

A problem with the linking of the postoffice with the party in power occurred with the mass abolitionist mailings of the summer of 1835 when some 175,000 pieces of abolitionist mail were directed to 20,000 influential Southerners. (Free blacks were excluded from the mailings). The new postmaster general, Amos Kendall, and New York postmaster Samuel L. Gouverneur were intimately involved in seeing that this mailing did not get to those addressed. They created the doctrine of federal reinforcement of state law by honoring South Carolina law over the federal, which Kendall spelled out in a letter of August 5, 1835 to Charleston postmaster Huger. Looking back in 1875, journalist Nathan Sargent in his *Public Men and Events* book⁸ stated,

⁸Nathan Sargent, *Public Men and Events from the Commencement of Mr. Monroe's Administration, in 1817, to the Close of Mr. Filmore's Administration, in 1853* (Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott & Co., 1875), Vol. 2, page 61.

[Ordinary men] could not fail to see that if the officers of the government could, under any pretense whatever, exercise such a power over the mails as to withhold or deliver any publication sent therein at their option, the freedom of the press would henceforth be nothing but a name, a mere shadow without substance. Mr. Kendall's letter struck the public mind of the North with a force that stirred thousands to action who had never sympathized with the abolitionists and who were even opposed to their movements.

Such was the attitude toward the government mails when the independent mail system began to grow. The New England and Mid-Atlantic dismissals for political reasons meant a growing inefficiency in the very sectors where business mails were increasingly important and a number of the prominent business men were increasingly sympathetic to the abolitionist and free press views championed by the independent mails.

Pliny Miles in his 1857 "History of the Post Office"⁹ made the point that until that point (i.e., almost to the Civil War) Americans did not send letters to any extent through the postoffice. The figure was 1.1 letters a year in 1820, 1.3 in 1830 and but 2.9 in 1840. This average figure very much underrepresented the more literate and traveled Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions, which were the base of the independent mail system, and very much underrepresented the needs of the Northeast's business community for rapid communications. While the 1836-39 express mails aided business interests in the South, no comparable help was given the Northeast. As Jacksonian dismissals were highest in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions and the independent mails offered not only sharply reduced rates but equal or better efficiency, there is no reason for surprise that they had a great success in expanding the mail market in 1844-1845 to the great distress of the politically inclined Southern heads of the Post Office Department. □

⁹Bankers' Magazine, No.7, 1857, pp. 363-364.

United States Postal Service
Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title: THE CHRONICLE OF U.S. CLASSIC PERIODICALS
 2. Publication Number: 0560-680
 3. Filing Date: 1 OCTOBER 2001

4. Issue Frequency: QUARTERLY
 5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 4
 6. Annual Subscription Price: \$24.00

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4):
 SA PATRICIA STUBBINS LAUGHER
 BRAINARD, LISBON MD 21765
 Complete Mailing Address of General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer):
 PATRICIA S. WALKER
 442-1034

8. Full Name and Complete Mailing Address of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):
 U.S. PHILATELIC CLASSICS SOCIETY, SA PATRICIA STUBBINS LAUGHER
 BRAINARD, LISBON MD 21765
 Editor (Name and complete mailing address):
 CHARLES J. PETERSON
 BOX 5559, LAUREL MD 20786
 Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address):

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address):
 THE U.S. PHILATELIC CLASSICS SOCIETY, INC. SA PATRICIA STUBBINS LAUGHER
 BRAINARD, LISBON MD 21765

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box: None

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one):
 Not for profit, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes.
 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, October 1989 (See Instructions on Reverse)

13. Publication Title: THE CHRONICLE OF U.S. CLASSIC PERIODICALS
 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: AUGUST 2001

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation

		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		1,450	1,450
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100)		1,175	1,173
c. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Sum of 11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100))		0	0
d. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Sum of 11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100))		0	0
e. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100))		1,265	1,263
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100))		1,265	1,263
g. Total (Sum of 1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100))		1,450	1,450
h. Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100))		100%	100%

16. Publication of Statement of Ownership: (Publication required - Will be printed in the NOVEMBER 2001 issue of this publication. Publication not required.)
 Signature and Title of Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: [Signature] EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
 Date: 1 OCTOBER 2001

17. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

Instructions to Publishers

- Complete and file one copy of this form with your postmaster annually on or before October 1. Keep a copy of the completed form for your records.
- In cases where the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, include in items 10 and 11 the name of the person or corporation for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who are stockholders who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities of the publishing corporation. In item 11, if none, check the box. Use blank sheets if more space is required.
- Be sure to furnish all circulation information called for in item 15. Free circulation must be shown in items 15c, e, and f.
- Item 15h. Copies not Distributed. Must include (1) newspaper copies originally mailed on Form 3541, and returned to the publisher; (2) estimated returns from news agents; and (3) copies for office use, leftovers, spoiled, and all other copies not distributed.
- If the publication had Periodicals authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.
- In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.
- Item 17 must be signed.

Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of Periodicals authorization.

PS Form 3526, October 1989 (Revised)

The Long-Anticipated Comprehensive Study of 1847 Issue Postal History

The United States 1847 Issue: A Cover Census

By Thomas J. Alexander

After years of detailed compilation from a huge range of sources—and following on the heels of the early census studies conducted by Creighton Hart and Susan McDonald—Tom Alexander has assembled this monumental study of the known covers of America's first issue of postage stamps. To be published in a large single volume by the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, *The U.S. 1847 Issue: A Cover Census* is the first work of its kind ever assembled. No more important book on the 1847 issue has ever been compiled.

The work contains a detailed listing of nearly 13,000 covers bearing 1847 stamps, arranged by place of entry into the mail system. These places include 31 states, two territories, the District of Columbia, Choctaw Nation, railroad route agents, waterway route agents, Canada and Panama. Supplementary listings cover all recorded 10-cent bisects, 5-cent plus 10-cent combination covers, post-demonetization covers and covers to foreign destinations. A separate section discusses fake covers.

Commentary includes discussions of some of the problems faced by postmasters in dealing with the first issue of stamps. Characteristics of mail from each state and territory as well as those of many towns and cities are covered; mail to and from famous persons are noted as are large correspondences, both commercial and those sent to wives and girlfriends.

Place your order now!
(Dealer Inquiries Invited)

Make check payable to:
U.S. Philatelic Classics Society
P.O. Box 445 • Wheeling IL 60090
Fax: (847) 215-7253



Fill in and mail this coupon

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

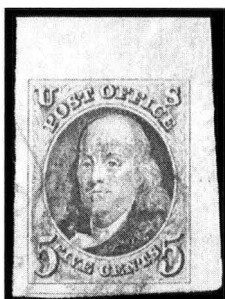
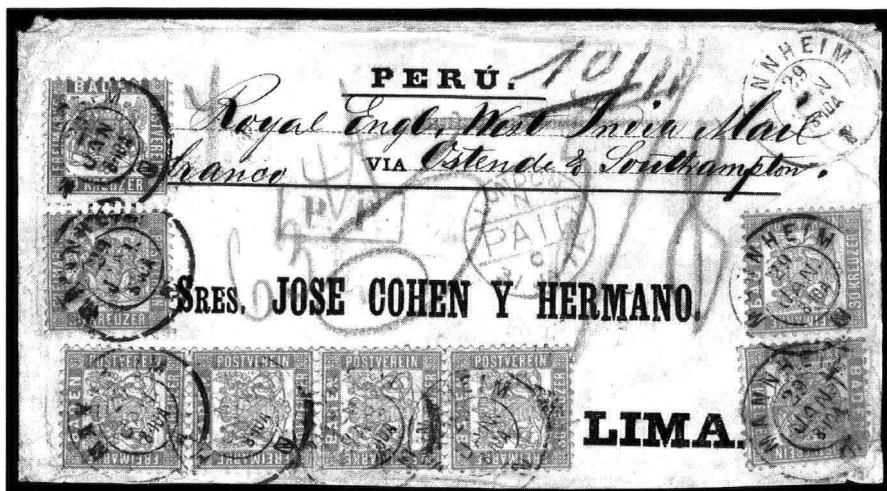
United States: 1847 Cover Census By Thomas J. Alexander

Please send me:

____ Copy(ies) of the Regular Hardbound Edition at **\$79.95**

____ **Check Enclosed**

Whether building or selling a Grand Prix Collection, we at Rumsey Auctions understand your needs and appreciate your achievement.



Consignments now being accepted for our Westpex Auction.

Please visit our website at:
www.rumseyauctions.com

email: srumsey@rumseyauctions.com

Schuyler
Rumsey
Philatelic
Auctions

1255 Post Street
San Francisco
California 94109
t: 415-351-2124
f: 415-351-2127

PICTORIAL CANCELS OF CANTON, MISSISSIPPI: PART II
HUBERT C. SKINNER

Part I of this article appeared in *The Chronicle*, No. 190, Vol. 53, No. 2 (May 2001), pp. 94-101. As the pictorial cancels of Canton, Mississippi, appeared about 1856, only a few of these designs are known obliterating the imperforate stamps of 1851-1856. In Part I, three of the pictorial killers recorded on the imperforate issues were described and illustrated. Further, a group of line drawings of Canton cancels was reproduced as illustrated in 1929 by Dr. Carroll Chase. These include designs recorded on the United States perforated issues during the late 1850s through the Confederate Use period [of U.S. stamps] in early 1861 [prior to June 1]. Refer to this illustration (Figure 2, *Chronicle* 190, p. 96) for the earliest scholarly references to and illustrations of the designs treated here in Part II.

At this time, five pictorial designs on the imperforate stamps have been identified from Canton, as follows: a Christian Cross, a design featuring the Odd Fellows Three Links with crossed arrows, a Masonic Square and Compass, a Cogwheel or Paddle Wheel, and a circular negative or Outline Star. Drawings of the three more common and best known pictorials, together with seven covers illustrating the use of these three designs, appear in Part I. Subsequently, examples of two other early pictorials on cover, the Masonic Square and Compass and the Cogwheel or Paddle Wheel, were lent to this writer for study and description; they are illustrated here in Figures 12 and 13. In addition to the pictorials,



Figure 12. A 3¢ entire [SCN U10] with a 3c imperforate adhesive [SCN 11] affixed to pre-pay the double letter rate from Canton to New Orleans, n.y.d. The pictorial obliterators is a well-formed circular negative “Masonic Square and Compass” design [diameter 25 mm] with an apparent solid center. The irregularities at center appear to be the result of the raised embossing of the indicium, rather than the “G” [for Geometry] which is present in some Masonic cancels. This is a very scarce Canton cancel. The townmarks are struck in black, dated “JAN/6” [c. 1857]. (Courtesy VK)

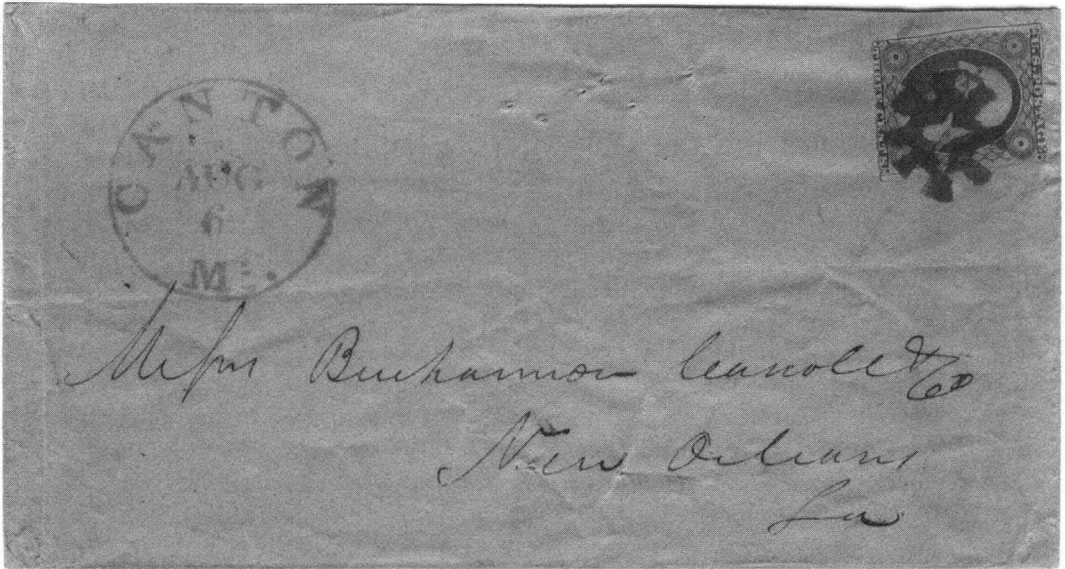


Figure 13. A handsome, well-struck example of the pictorial design known to Mississippi collectors as the "Paddle Wheel." This label refers to the similarity of the image to the mechanism propelling some of the steam vessels on the Mississippi River. The cover is franked with a single 3¢ adhesive [SCN 11] and is addressed to the well-known firm of commission merchants in New Orleans. [How little we would know of the river mails if the Buchannon Carroll/Carroll, Hoy & Co. correspondence had not been recovered intact early in the twentieth century.] The townmark, here in red ink, was struck in red or black with this obliterator, dated "AUG/6" [c. 1857]. (Courtesy VK)

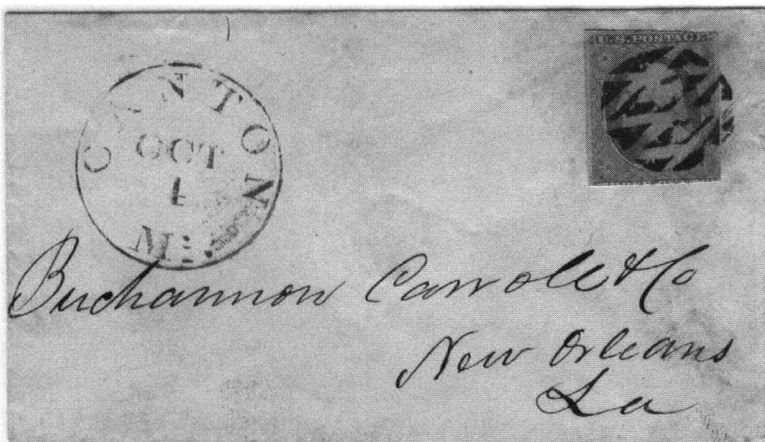


Figure 14. Another cover addressed to Buchannon Carroll & Co. with a single 3¢ stamp [SCN11] in prepayment of the single letter rate. The adhesive is neatly and attractively tied by a circular carved cork cancel with a crisscrossed diamond pattern. This scarce design has not been recorded previously. The postmark is struck in black and dated "OCT/1" [c. 1857]. (Courtesy DG)

several geometric designs are known on the early stamps, including a diamond pattern grid (see Figure 14), a discrepant circular grid (see Figure 15), and a spectacular square geometric pattern (see Figure 16). Neither of the two additional pictorial cancels illustrated here and only one of the geometric designs, the discrepant circular grid (Figure 15), was recognized from Canton by Chase (1929, p. 331) and by Skinner-Eno (1980, p. 24).

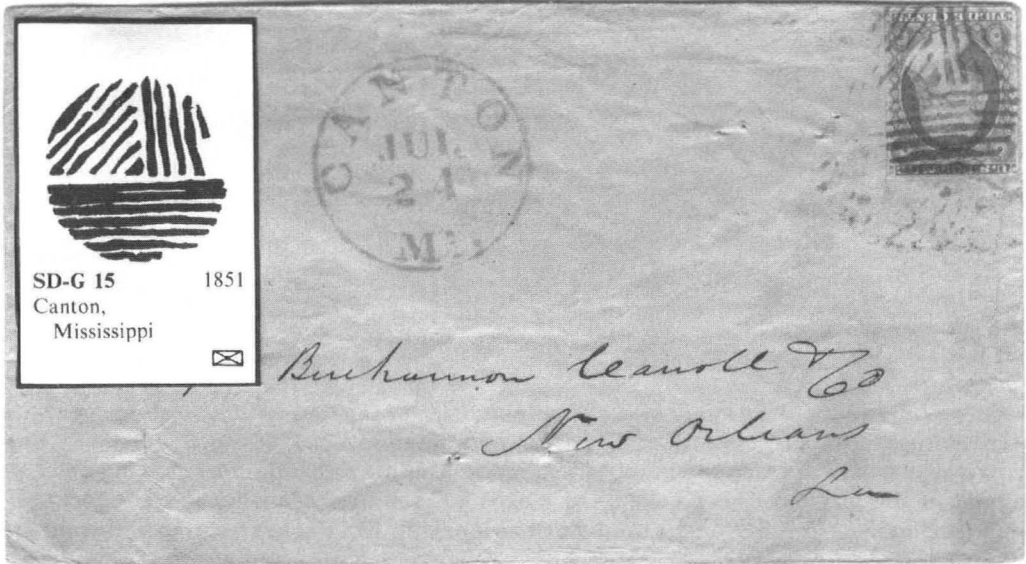


Figure 15. This single rate letter was franked with a single 3¢ adhesive [SCN 11] and is from the same correspondence as those illustrated above. It is tied by a distinctive circular discrepant grid design which has been recognized and recorded previously by Chase (1929, p. 331) and by Skinner-Eno (1980, p. 24). It is listed as a Simple Design-Grid number 15 in the latter work, SD-G 15. The townmark is struck in red ink and is dated "JUL/24" [c. 1857]. (Courtesy DG)



Figure 16. The geometric design exhibited by this cover is so handsome and striking that it could be considered "pictorial." It has not been recorded previously. The single rate is prepaid by a 3¢ stamp [SCN 11] and the postmark is struck in black, dated "MAY/4" [c. 1857]. (Courtesy VK)



Figure 17. Compare the outline star on this single letter franked with a 3¢ adhesive [SCN 11], addressed to Buchanan Carroll & Co., and dated in black "MAR/9" [c. 1857]. The cutaway negative areas in the hand carved obliterator are much broader, leaving each element of the inked design smaller. The clear and well struck quality of the cancel appears to make simple wear a doubtful explanation for the distinctive differences. (Courtesy VK)

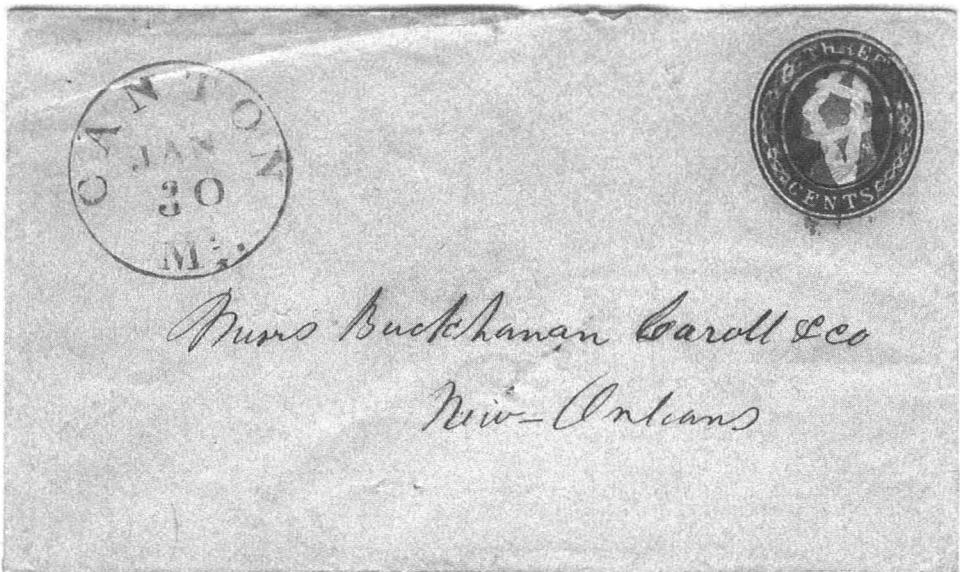


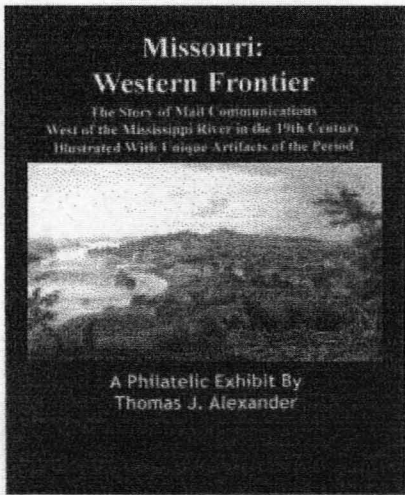
Figure 18. This 3¢ entire postal stationery envelope [SCN U1] is canceled by a very neatly and precisely carved outline star which is much more regular and uniform than the other three covers illustrated in Part I (Figures 10 and 11) and above in Figure 17. Clearly, it appears to be distinct and separate from the others; again, wear from use does not appear to be a credible answer to the differences. The townmark is struck in black and is dated "JAN/30" [c. 1857]. (Courtesy VK)

In Figures 17 and 18, two more covers with circular negative or Outline Stars are shown. The obliterations on these two covers exhibit either incredibly even wear of the previous device, two recarved versions, or newly carved examples of the basic Outline Star design. Whatever the origin of these variations may be, they are demonstrably different from the Outline Stars illustrated in Part I of this series (Figures 10 and 11, *Chronicle* 190, p. 100). Such anomalies are common among the simpler cancelers recorded from many cities; thus, new and repeated versions of designs previously utilized should be recognized as commonplace.

Concluding Remarks [Part II]

Originally, Part I of this series was intended to encompass the pictorial and other distinctive designs used at Canton, Mississippi, as recorded on the imperforate issues of 1851-1856. However, the material described here in Part II augments that portion of the history of distinctive cancels from Canton. At this writing, Part III is intended to address additional pictorial designs known from Canton only after the advent of the perforated issues in 1857. As noted earlier, William Priestley's use of "fancy" and geometric cancels continued into the Confederate Use period [early 1861] and beyond throughout the tenure of the Confederate postal system. Thus, some of the fascinating Canton cancels are known on the Confederate general issue postage stamps and a few are recorded struck after the conclusion of hostilities in 1865.

Again, this writer is indebted and grateful for generous assistance and input from several other members of the USPCS. Don Garrett and Van Koppersmith made material available for illustration herein as acknowledged in the figure captions. Ed Jatho once again contributed his computer expertise to the project. To all, I offer my sincere thanks and gratitude. □



**Missouri:
Western Frontier**
The Story of Mail Communications
West of the Mississippi River in the 19th Century
Illustrated With Unique Artifacts of the Period

A Philatelic Exhibit By
Thomas J. Alexander

Missouri: Western Frontier


**A unique new book
and CD-ROM (1st of its kind ever)
by Thomas J. Alexander**

A great new concept in philatelic publishing, Tom Alexander's precedent-setting book is a high-quality printed record of each page in a very important world-class 160-page exhibit. Tracing the vital mail communications west of the Mississippi River in the 19th century, it is illustrated with a large number of unique and important covers and other major period artifacts. This well researched exhibit reads like a book. Also included are an Index and Bibliography. The CD-Rom offers the entire book in FULL COLOR. This is a "must have" for the not only the student and postal historian, but the philatelic exhibitor who wishes to see how a significant postal history exhibit is accomplished.

A nationally-renowned philatelic exhibit in a beautifully-bound volume w/color covers. CD-ROM had entire book in full color. **Missouri: Western Frontier**, 2001, 173p. + Index, Softbound. \$39.50; With CD-Rom \$54.95. Shipping and handling: \$4.00. Order via mail, e-mail, phone or visit our site:

www.ehostamps.com

Post Office Box 1479
Freedom, CA 95019-1479
Call Toll Free: 888-819-5372
E-Mail: info@echostamps.com



**The Echo
Sierra
Press**

Looking for a professional who shares your passion for collecting? Glad to meet you.

Our clients sometimes wonder why we get so excited about a superb stamp, a rare cancellation, or an unusual cover.

The answer? We love stamps.

In fact, if we weren't America's premier stamp auctioneers, we would probably be America's premier stamp *collectors*.

Each auction is like our own collection. We hunt for the best material. We carefully present it in one of our award-winning catalogues. And when it's done, we get to start again!

So, how can our passion benefit you?

Think about it. In any field, the best professionals have it in their blood.

Sports, music, medicine...stamps.

When you want the best, you want someone who loves what they do, because

their enthusiasm and experience will work for you.

Sure, there are stamp firms who can do the job by the book. But the philatelists at Siegel have something the other guys don't.

Passion.



Robert A. Siegel

AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.

For information about our auctions or to request a copy of the next sale catalogue and newsletter, please write to:

Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. (Dept. CS)
65 East 55th Street, New York, NY 10022.

Telephone (212) 753-6421. Fax (212) 753-6429.

For on-line catalogues and private treaty offerings, please visit our website:

<http://SiegelAuctions.com/home.htm>

THE 10¢ TYPOGRAPHED ALTERED PLATE OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

©2001 LEONARD H. HARTMANN

The history of the CSA 10¢ Altered Plate is deserving of a book but the time is not yet ready, there is still much to learn. It is a long and fascinating story. This article is intended to give the basic history and to present both new discoveries and old ones that have not been published previously. We still need a few more bits of information to pull the story together and hopefully this article will bring some in. The initial philatelic history of the 10¢ Altered Plate is clouded with much mystery, confusion and skullduggery; this has become a wonderful part of the fascination.

The CSA government wanted engraved stamps from the start and so stipulated in their original advertisements for bids. For the initial general issues they had to rely on lithography. In late 1861 the CSA sent a delegation to England to obtain many needed commodities. Major B. F. Ficklin arranged with De La Rue & Co. of London for stamps, printing plates, paper, ink, etc. De La Rue invoiced the first 5¢ plate (image of Jefferson Davis) along with five million stamps, January 30, 1862. A 1¢ plate (image of John C. Calhoun) along with four hundred thousand stamps was invoiced on March 15, 1862.

On March 24th, 1862 De La Rue charged a second plate for both the 1¢ and 5¢ stamps and other materials. These were shipped on the S.S. *Bermuda*. However, the ship was intercepted by the Federal warship *Mercedes* and this shipment never reached the Confederacy.

A significant number of stamps were printed in London from the first 5¢ plate and were sent to the Confederacy along with the plate. They are now referred to as Scott No. 6, for the London printing. The London stamps are well printed on a distinctive paper which De La Rue referred to as cream. When the 5¢ plate arrived in the Confederacy it was also used to print stamps, both on the cream paper from England and on paper of Confederate manufacture. The Confederate printing quality is not up to that of De La Rue; these stamps are Scott No. 7. A plate in the 1¢ value was made and some stamps (*i.e.*, Scott No. 14) were printed in England. The stamps and plate were sent to the Confederacy. This 1¢ value was never placed in service and the CSA did not print any stamps from this plate.

The postage rates changed effective July 1, 1862. The single letter rate of 5¢ for under 300 miles was increased to 10¢ and the 300 miles restriction was removed. The 10¢ stamp thus became the common value. The drop rate was set at 2¢.

De La Rue took the original 5¢ design and changed the value to 10¢ and the original 1¢ was changed to 2¢. They then produced a plate of 400 arranged in four panes of 100 each for both values, the same format as the 5¢ and 1¢ values. The denomination change was evidently made on an intermediate die as the original 5¢ engraved master die still exists and is now in the British Library, London. The 1¢ original die was searched for in the 1930s but could not be found and is still missing.

Per John Easton's *The De La Rue History of British & Foreign Postage Stamps 1855 to 1901*, pp. 765-766, De La Rue invoiced the above two Altered Plates on November 7, 1862 and the invoice was paid indicating the shipment arrived in the CSA. The previously mentioned lost shipment was not paid. Easton noted "There is no record of stamps having been printed from these plates" and also noted "An old register of stamp specimens contains overprinted copies of both the One Cent and Five Cent stamps, but no proofs or prints are to be found of the Two Cents or Ten Cents."

A little known paper, read by John Drinkwater on June 25, 1931 at the Eighteenth Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, appeared in their book of that year, as an article titled "The Stamps of the Confederate States of America, 1861-1865." It was also privately published as a 16-page monograph in 1931. This booklet contains major information on the De La Rue stamps. John Drinkwater was a serious collector and scholar. He had access to the De La Rue archives in the 1920s and 1930s, before many records were destroyed on the night of December 29, 1940 by a World War II bombing of London:

There is one entry of the De la Rue day-book [folio 143] that is of great philatelic interest. I will transcribe it in full:

1862, Nov. 7, The Confederate States of North America, per Major B. F. Ficklin.

1 Printing form for C.S. Postage Stamps
 containing 400 multiples Duty 10 cents
 (head of President Jefferson Davis)
 mounted on Cast Iron plate truly
 planed 100 0 0
 Case and Packing 0 15 0

1 Printing frame for C.S. Postage Stamps
 containing 400 multiples duty 2 cents
 (with head of Calhoun) mounted on a
 Cast Iron plate truly planed
 100 0 0
 Case and packing 0 15 0
 201 10 0

Please note a change in this transcription. My copy of the Drinkwater monograph is inscribed by Drinkwater to Oliver Barrett, the noted scholar and collector of Lincolniana. The above Case and Packing charges are printed as £15, however they were changed by pen to 15s, a much more realistic charge for 1862.

The following paragraph from the Drinkwater monograph is of equal importance.

This is conclusive evidence not only that the Confederate Government placed an order with the London firm for stamps necessitated by the new postal rate decreed by Congress, but also that the order was actually executed. Electrotype units from Joubert's original one and five cent dies were used, the values were altered, and from these new units leads were made up as before, and the new electrotype plates were deposited. The conclusion of this transaction is to be found in a De la Rue ledger entry of June, 1863, that is to say, seven months after the invoice, in which these 10 and 2¢ forms are recorded as "Not received by the P.O.D.," and the sum of £101 10s is written off. Whether the "Not received" signifies not delivered or not accepted on delivery is not clear. In any case the De la Rue 2 and 10 cent stamps were never used, nor ever printed officially.

The Drinkwater account is believed to be definitive and only differs in fact from John Easton's in one point. Did the Altered Plates actually arrive in the Confederacy? Easton said they did arrive and offered as proof an entry that Major Ficklin paid De La Rue a bill totaling £3466.7.8. This was evidently a payment for many charges which may or may not have contained £201.10.0 for the altered plates. Drinkwater also noted "Other transactions with Ficklin are also entered running into some thousands of pounds, but with no indication of their nature."

The Drinkwater and Easton works prove the 10¢ and 2¢ altered plates were made for the Confederacy and so dispatched. They may or may not have arrived in the Confederacy and if so they may or may not have been received by the Confederate Postal Service. I am certain De La Rue pulled an impression or two from the altered plates for their records, but if so we have no examples or records except perhaps the one impression from a pane of 100 that Dietz referred to, details to follow.

The 2¢ Altered Plate was discovered intact in Southern Louisiana and announced by August Dietz in the November, 1926 issue of *The Southern Philatelist*. Even to this day only a few printings or impressions have been made from the 2¢ plate though examples of these stamps are not rare or expensive. August Dietz made a fine printing in 1926, green on a cream vellum paper, which he offered for \$20.00 per sheet of 400. These sheets came with a small card having a printed description, signed and numbered by Dietz. In 1926, \$20.00 was a lot of money and we believe only a few were sold during his lifetime. The Dietz estate contained a small number of sheets which are now in collectors' hands. The sheets from the estate were all folded into units of four to match the panes and are not signed or numbered. There is also at least one proof quality print of the 2¢ in black on enameled paper. I would guess Dietz did this circa 1926 to obtain a superior image to use in his publications. For the American Philatelic Society convention in Norfolk, Va., September 21-24, 1955, prints from the original 2¢ plate were made and sold. These prints are on a white paper and in green, well printed but not as finely as the 1926 Dietz printing. A few panes exist in orange and brown, which are perhaps proofs from the 1955 printing. The 2¢ plate was a part of August Dietz's estate, it then passed to William G. Bogg, and from Bogg's estate to its present owner, Bruce E. Englistler.

The 10¢ plate was initially ravaged! We have always thought this happened in the mid 1860s but perhaps it was as late as the 1880s for the first portion, the Atlanta section. It was separated from the original cast iron backing. A pane of 100 was cut into a section of 70 (7x10, Atlanta Section) and two different sections of 9 (3x3, Columbus and Baltimore Sections). Some single subjects or a small block may also exist but to date those so pretending have been fraudulent. From these authentic plate fragments, numerous impressions were made over the years. To make matters worse, many printings were made that had little or no derivation from an original section of the plate, some of exceptional quality and others horrid to say the least. It is said that some of these fraudulent stamps, including the notorious N.Y. counterfeit with the 10¢ value changed back to 5¢ to resemble the original stamps, were made from impressions taken from sections of the authentic 10¢ Altered Plate. The general design was also printed but not from an authentic plate origin; again some of these printings are excellent and others horrible.

All of these 10¢ Altered Plate impressions in collectors' hands today are from the cut up section of 100 and not from a full section of 100. Almost!

August Dietz owned an impression of 100, which is illustrated on page 189 of his *The Postal Service of the Confederate States of America*, which he thought came from the S. George Offutt proof book and was either a CSA printing or a proof impression from De La Rue. To quote Dietz:

A proof in black of the full pane of 100 stamps with the altered value—before its mutilation—is among the reference material in the author's possession. It is probably from the proof impressions mentioned by Col. Offutt in the following letter, reprinted from *The American Stamp Mercury*, Boston, May, 1868.

This 1868 article is with respect to the then-circulating stories of a 10¢ Stonewall Jackson stamp in red which is the same format as the De La Rue stamps. Dietz is using this reference to establish the existence of the CSA Proof Book. The 10¢ Stonewall Jackson stamp is another mystery. It is most likely bogus; however, the early prints are both extremely rare and show an exceptional quality of engraving. Again there are many quite inferior reproductions, with those by S.A. Taylor being common. This 1868 article does not mention the 10¢ Altered Plate.

While there are many references from 1868 referring to the 10¢ Stonewall Jackson stamp, I have not found such on the 10¢ Altered Plate. The time line on the 10¢ Altered Plate after its shipment from England is quite uncertain and I have no references from the 1860s or 1870s. Page 186 of August Dietz's *The Postal Service of the Confederate States*

of *America* recounts a story he obtained in 1919 relating to Richard Glenn, a Hospital Steward in the 95th Ohio, having obtained the plate or a portion of the plate and perhaps cutting it into two portions of 9 subjects each, one of which is now in the Ohio Historical Society and the other known as the Baltimore section. The problem with this account is there are no details as to when Glenn obtained the plate and what he originally had, a plate of 400 or 100 or even the remains of the Atlanta section of 70, and when it was cut up. Perhaps he had a section of 100, or perhaps the remainder of the section of 70, etc. This story is also covered by L.F. and G.C. Bennett in an article "The Stamp That Never Was," *American Philatelist*, November 1982. There is tremendous speculation at this point on the facts; he may have obtained his portion long after the Civil War, we just don't know!

The earliest mention I have found of the 10¢ Altered Plate is a vague one by Major Edw. B. Evans in the November 10, 1888, issue of *The American Philatelist* (Vol. 3, No. 2, page 36). C. B. Corwin refers to the Evans article and gives a quite detailed description of The Old Book Store printing from the plate of 70 in the February 11, 1889 issue of the same journal (Vol. 3, No. 5, pages 126-127). At this time, Evans and Corwin considered the 10¢ Altered Plate stamps to be bogus.

An example of The Old Book Store printing has a circular blind embossed seal of The Old Book Store with the name W. B. Burke, P.B.V. These stamps are poorly printed in a light gray on a soft porous off-white paper with an advertisement printed in black on the reverse side (Figure 1). This advertisement gives the address as 38 Marietta Street. If one wishes to speculate one could say the plate of 100 was cut to 70 permitting common paper to be used for this advertisement.

Micki Waldrop of the Atlanta History Center has kindly searched their collection of city directories. The first listing for W. B. Burke is 1881 as a travel agent, but in 1882 he was listed as "secondhand book." Starting in 1885 he is listed as "The Old Bookstore, 38 Marietta." This listing continues with minor wording changes through the 1896 edition. In 1897 the listing is simply books and stationery, but with a business address of 49 Peachtree. In 1898 the address is 58 N. Broad. The 1908 listing has no business listing, and the 1909 is the last listing for Burke. These listings suggest an early date of 1885 for the Old Book Store prints, with a probably date of 1885-1888. This is consistent with the 1888 and 1889 dates for the *American Philatelist* articles regarding the Old Book Store prints.

An 1924 account of a 1896 printing from this unit of 70 by H. A. Diamant is quoted by August Dietz in *The Postal Service of the Confederate States of America*, page 187. Diamant says that he borrowed the plate from a Richmond, Va., book dealer and had prints made that day. The account states that the printing was done in red, green and blue ink on whatever paper that was at hand. The George Sloane collection has a print from this plate of 70 inscribed by H.A. Diamant; the penmanship of the inscription seems to be contemporary with the 1896 date. Another example of this printing bears an inscription "To August Dietz from H.A. Diamant," the inscription probably dating from 1924. For many years now this printing has been referred to as the Diamant printing.

An example of the Diamant printing is on paper watermarked 1897. The 1897 date is not a problem as paper was often made a year in advance. This 1897 dated print is in red on a cream paper and inscribed "Printed from the original plate, To R. S. Lochman, compliments of Martin Hayden."

An interesting block of four from the plate of 70 is in a pale orange, which has been assumed to be the Diamant printing. It is inscribed "Original plate in possession of J.A. Lambert of Atlanta, Ga. Presented to Rev M. L. Burger by S.J.B. Boyd" and also bears an erroneous inscription in the same hand "Reprinted from the original plate finished the day Lee Surrendered & never turned over to the Confederate Gov't S.B.B.," (Robson Lowe sale, June 10, 1975, lot 795, Freeland collection) The Atlanta city directories list a Joseph



Figure 1A. Old Book Store Atlanta print, block of 4

"The Old Book Store"

38 MARIETTA, ST.,

ATLANTA, GA.



The Old Book Man

THE NAPOLEON

OF THE

Book Trade South.

This sheet of stamps is presented by "The Old Book Store." Is printed from the genuine plate captured at the fall of Atlanta---on Confederate made paper. Stamps of this kind that have passed through the mails are very rare, bringing from \$10 to \$30 each.

PRICE LIST CONFEDERATE BILLS.

WARRANTED GENUINE AND IN GOOD CONDITION.

Complete sets, consisting of \$500, \$100, \$50, \$20, \$10, \$5, \$2, \$1, 50 cts.	-	\$2.00 per set.
\$500 Bills,	- - - - -	\$1.00 each.
\$100 Bills,	- - - - -	15 cents or 2 for 25 cents.
\$50 Bills,	- - - - -	10 cents or 2 for 15 cents.
\$5 to \$20,	- - - - -	5 cents each.
50 cents \$1, and \$2,	- - - - -	25 cents each.

Enquirers enclose stamp for reply.

"THE OLD BOOK STORE,"

38 MARIETTA STREET,

ATLANTA, GA.

Figure 1B. Old Book Store Atlanta advertising

Albert Lambert as a traveling salesman (drummer) starting in 1889, no entry for 1890 but again from 1891 until 1912. He is first listed as working for the Southern Belting Company and then the Buffalo Belting Works.

The Old Book Store prints are distinct and apparently date from circa 1885-1888. The Diamant account and the Lambert ownership notation and other names all date to circa 1896. It is possible that what we call the Diamant 1896 printing is in reality several printings from that period. The author has found no indication of knowledge of the existence of the 10¢ Altered Plate between it leaving De La Rue and being captured in 1862, and circa 1886-1888.

August Dietz tells the story of the 10¢ Altered Plate in the September 1926 issue of *The Southern Philatelist*. His story of the three sections is what we believe today. But at that time Dietz thought the 10¢ Altered Plate was made by Archer & Daily in Richmond by altering the 5¢ plate. To quote this article:

Removing the metal plate from its wooden base, and tapping lightly with a punche on the areas immediately under the word "FIVE," the metal is brought to the level of the printing surface and the incised letters raised to face-level. After burnishing this area, a steel punch, upon which the word "TEN" had been engraved, was struck into the space formerly occupied by the letters of "FIVE."

Dietz did not know of the De La Rue origin or the original cast iron backing or that the printing surface was made as four sections of 100. The 2¢ Altered Plate was not discovered until late 1926. Many of these details were corrected for his 1929 book. At this time it is best not to speculate on the original discovery as we have no facts. The Altered Plate designation is a misnomer dating from the original thoughts that the plate was made in the Confederacy by altering the 5¢ plate. In reality the new stamp owes its origin to the original 5¢ master die. The numerous later printings from the 10¢ Altered Plate fragments will not be discussed at this time.

Early this year an old poor quality impression of the 10¢ Altered Plate from a unit of 100 came to light. Its provenance is attributed to August Dietz and Robert Siegel but the paper documentation is poor. Accompanying papers suggest August Dietz once owned it. It is an incomplete printing from a unit of 100 but enough shows to prove it did not come from the well-known unit of 70. The print is fragile, the paper is old, quite soft and porous. It could well date from the 1862-1890 period. This old print from a 100 subject unit is illustrated as Figure 2.

From the 1970s I have known of an original plate of 100 of this stamp in the Chicago Historical Society archives. Some prints from this plate were made but never circulated beyond the archives. The plate was loaned to the Smithsonian from 1970 to 1975 and was on display at the Chicago Historical Society in their Civil War Gallery from 1975 to 1982. It is presently displayed in their exhibition "A House Divided." The plate consist of a copper electrotype with a lead leveling backing, mounted on an old wood base; overall it is in excellent condition.

In an attempt to plate the newly discovered old impression from the plate of 100 I visited the Chicago Historical Society on June 21st, 2001, saw the plate again and obtained a quality photograph in addition to data on the Society's original acquisition. Their records state the plate was donated in 1933 by Brother Joseph Schmidt, St. Michael's Church, 1615 N., Cleveland Ave., Chicago. An accompanying letter from Brother Schmidt indicates the plate was obtained in 1918 when a mid-west stamp dealer died.

We have not been able to find a record of Brother Joseph Schmidt. However, the Provincial Archivist, Redemptorist - Denver Province has a record of a Raymond Joseph Schmitt, born in Milwaukee, Oct 1, 1903, who entered the novitiate in 1924. His father was Louis Schmitt from Milwaukee, WI. The Baltimore Province archives can not find a record of either Schmidt or Schmitt.

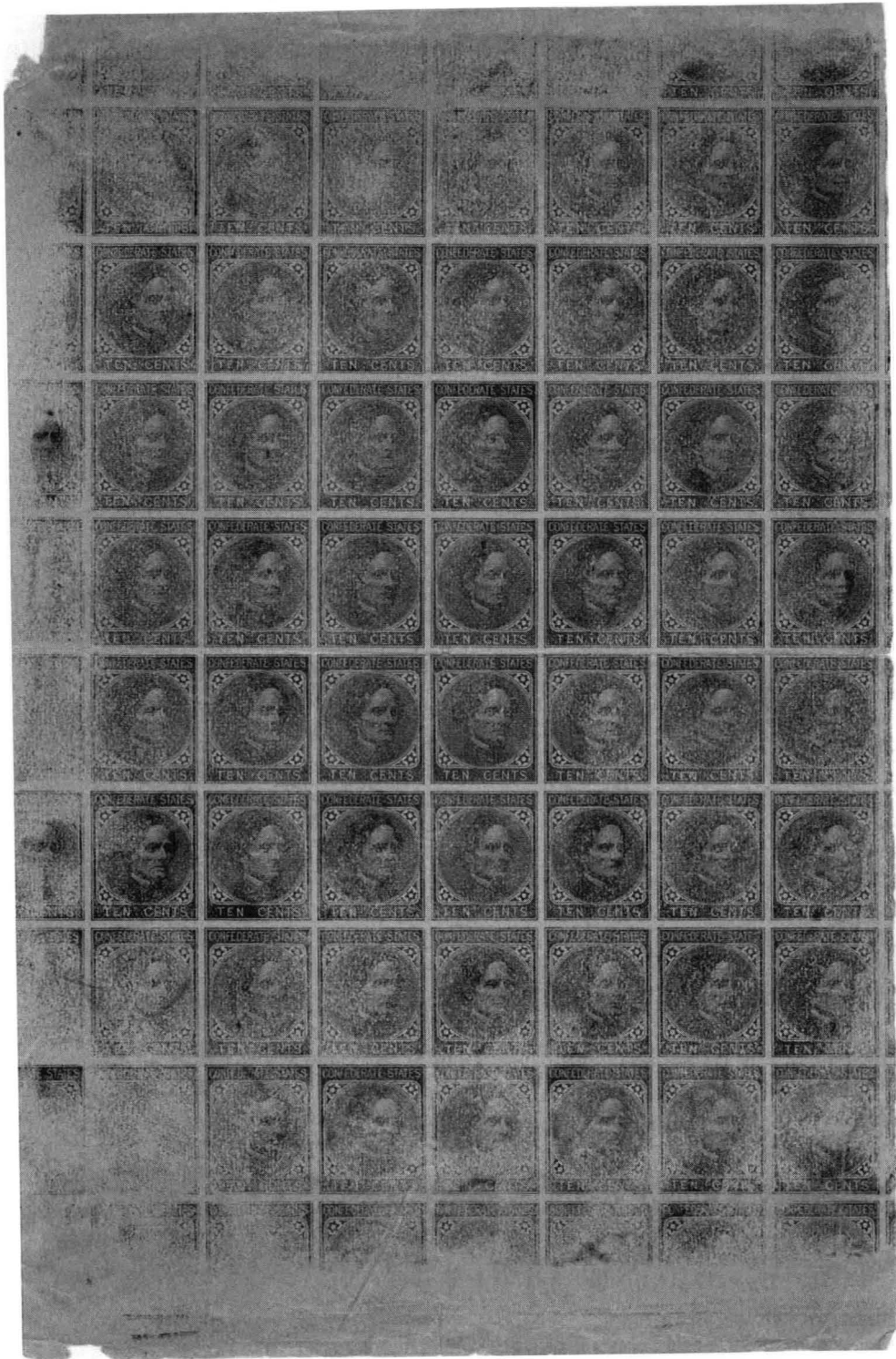


Figure 2. Recently discovered old printing from unit of 100

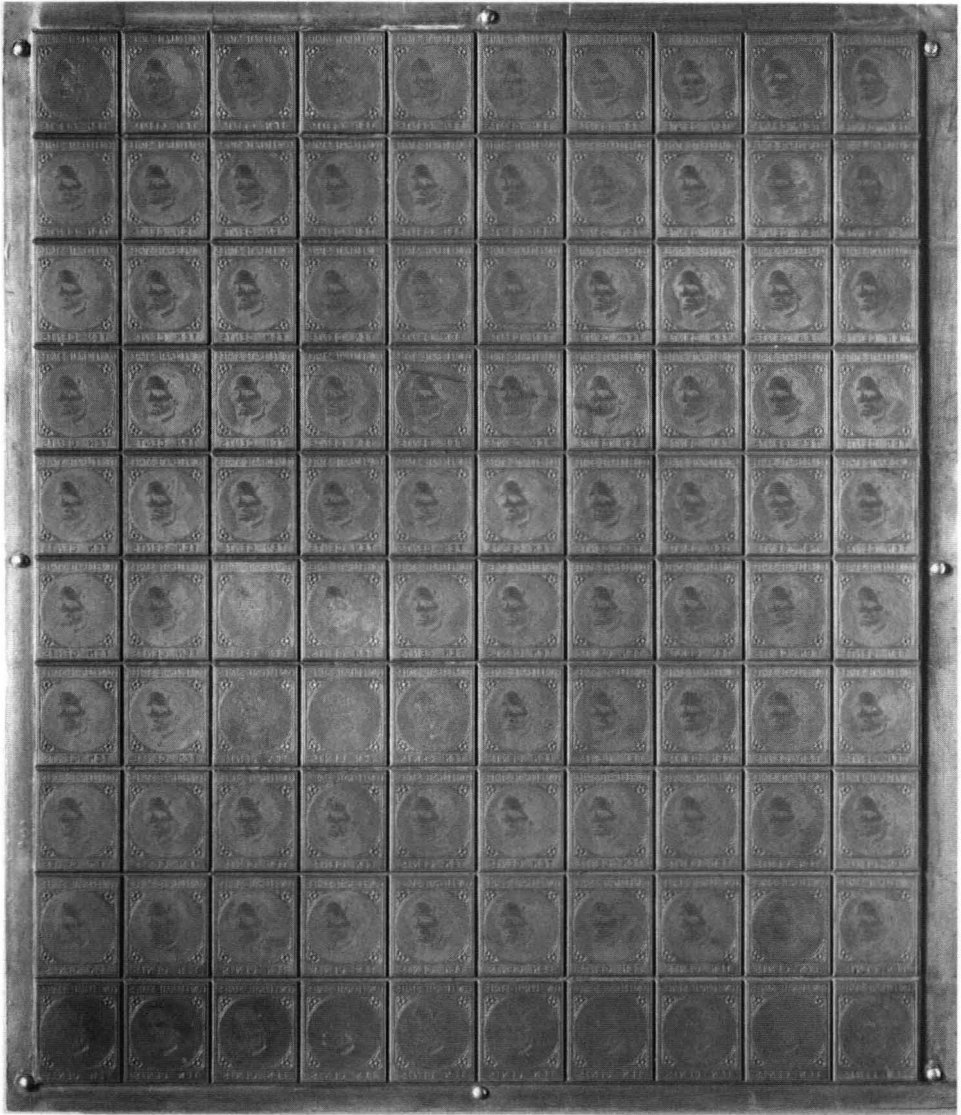


Figure 3. Photograph of Chicago Historical Society plate



Figure 4. Print from Chicago Historical Society Plate, block of 4

The Bureau Issues Association has formally changed its name to...

United States Stamp Society

For the U.S. Specialist...

The United States Specialist

A publication for the U.S. collector who wishes to "Know Your Country's Stamps."
The premier publication specializing in postage and revenue stamps and stamped paper of the United States and U.S.-administered areas of the 20th and 21st Centuries.

Send \$2.00 for sample copy and membership prospectus to:
USSS Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 722, Westfield, NJ 07091-0722

Some time in the late 1960s or the early 1970s a few impressions were made from the Chicago Historical Society plate. I have impressions given to me by an old friend, Alan T. Atkins, who requested that I not make their existence known at that time, and though he indicated they came from Chicago he would say nothing more. I do not recall the exact date I acquired the impression but it was the early 1970s. The sheet is poorly printed in blue on a common white woven paper of no special quality. Please see Figure 3 for a photograph of this plate and Figure 4 for an enlarged 1970 print from the plate. The plate appears to be in excellent condition. However the museum quality lighting available for my last examination of the plate did not permit a detailed inspection; there could be surface damage.

To my astonishment I first heard of another plate on June 26th, 2001, and saw it on June 30th. Yes, an authentic plate of 100 of the 10¢. The new plate's origin is also Chicago and it ties in perfectly with the Chicago Historical Society section. This plate is in mint condition and as with the Chicago Historical Society plate has not been printed from except for archival purposes.

This newly discovered second plate was found in the inventory of a Chicago printing company purchased in 1921 by Matthias Joseph Sitter (later changed to Matthew). He operated under the name of M.J. Sitter Printing and Engraving. The shop was located at 419 Eugenie St., Chicago, Ill. The Sitter family attended church and school at St. Michels and had a close relation with the Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago doing much of their printing and especially the German printing during the 1930s. Traveling from the print shop the Church is literally two blocks west, around the corner and a half block south.

The newly discovered plate is presently owned by Mark M. Sitter and obtained from his father and grandfather who obtained it via the 1921 purchase of a printing company. In the late 1980s Mr. Sitter's father started to research the plate and at that time produced about 30 proof quality prints, some in black and some in green. These were for the family and not for sale. They are on an enameled stock quite similar to what De La Rue used for proofs in the 1860s and still in common use today for proofs. The impression quality is exceptional; please see Figure 6 for a block of four from this printing. To the best of our knowledge these are the only printings from this plate. Figure 5 for a photograph of this plate and Figure 6 for an enlarged print from the plate.

The Sitter plate now has a hardwood backing. However, it is evident from the margin holes that it had been re-backed, perhaps twice. The Chicago Historical Society plate was re-backed at least once, with wood. The companion 2¢ Altered Plate still has the original cast iron backing as described in the Drinkwater transcription of the De La Rue records. The 2¢ plate is in four panes, each a separate plate of metal. The panes are individually fastened to the iron base by means of 8 screws to the pane, one at each corner and one midway on each side. The Chicago Historical Society plate has holes near each corner and midway in-between for a total of 8. The Sitter plate originally had holes in these exact same positions but now has small screws in different locations to secure it to a wood base. As De La Rue made the 2¢ and 10¢ plates at the same time one would expect the manufacturing procedure to be similar.

There is no question the two 10¢ plate sections are related and were together in the 1920-1930 period. It is strange that there are no contemporary printings from either section, considering the cut up section of 100 has seen numerous printings.

The Chicago Historical Society plate has been re-backed with wood using nails instead of screws. The Sitter plate has been re-backed at least twice and the print quality was exceptional. The 2¢ plate has the original cast iron backing and yielded excellent prints when August Dietz pulled impressions in the 1920s. These plates are an electrotyping, a thin electroplated copper shell backed with lead, and thus overall quite soft. To have a fine impression an absolutely perfect backing is necessary along with the knowledge of how to

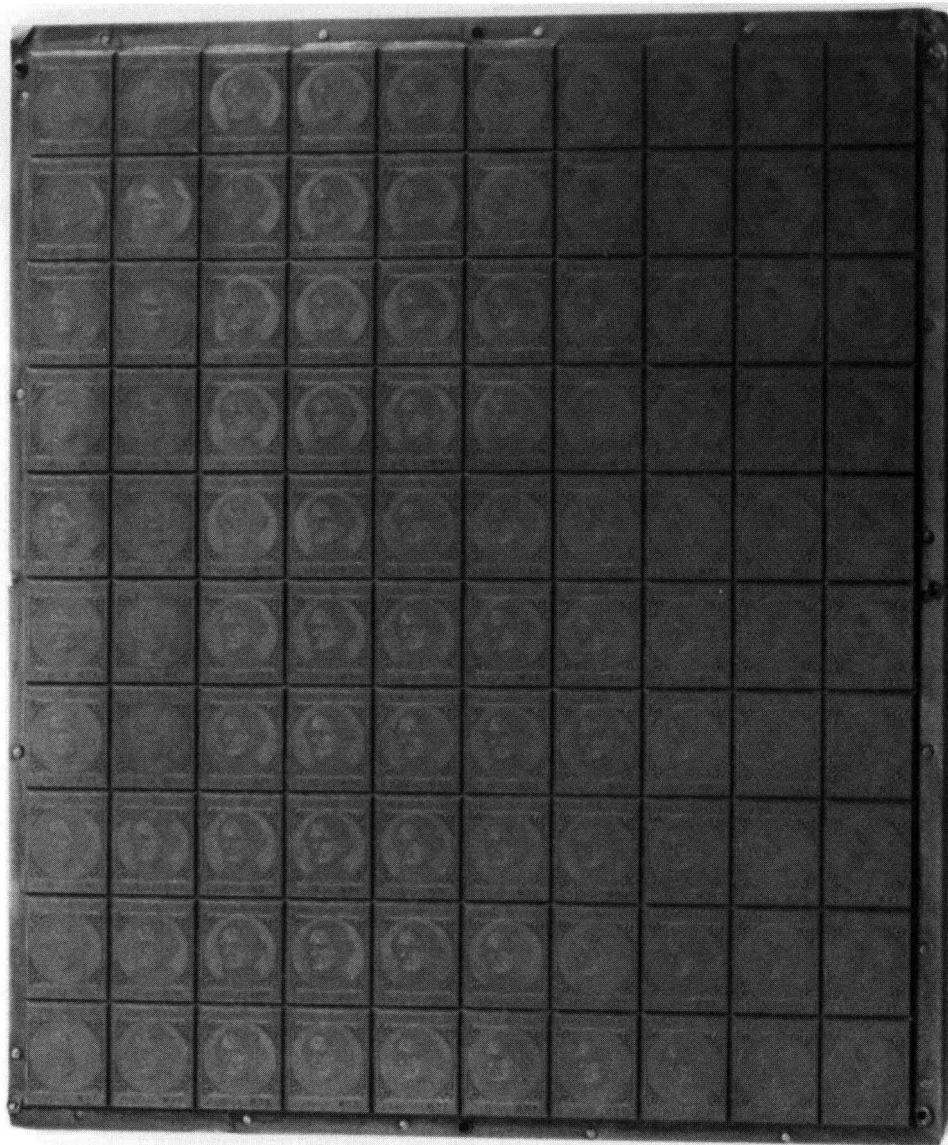


Figure 5. Photograph of Sitter Plate

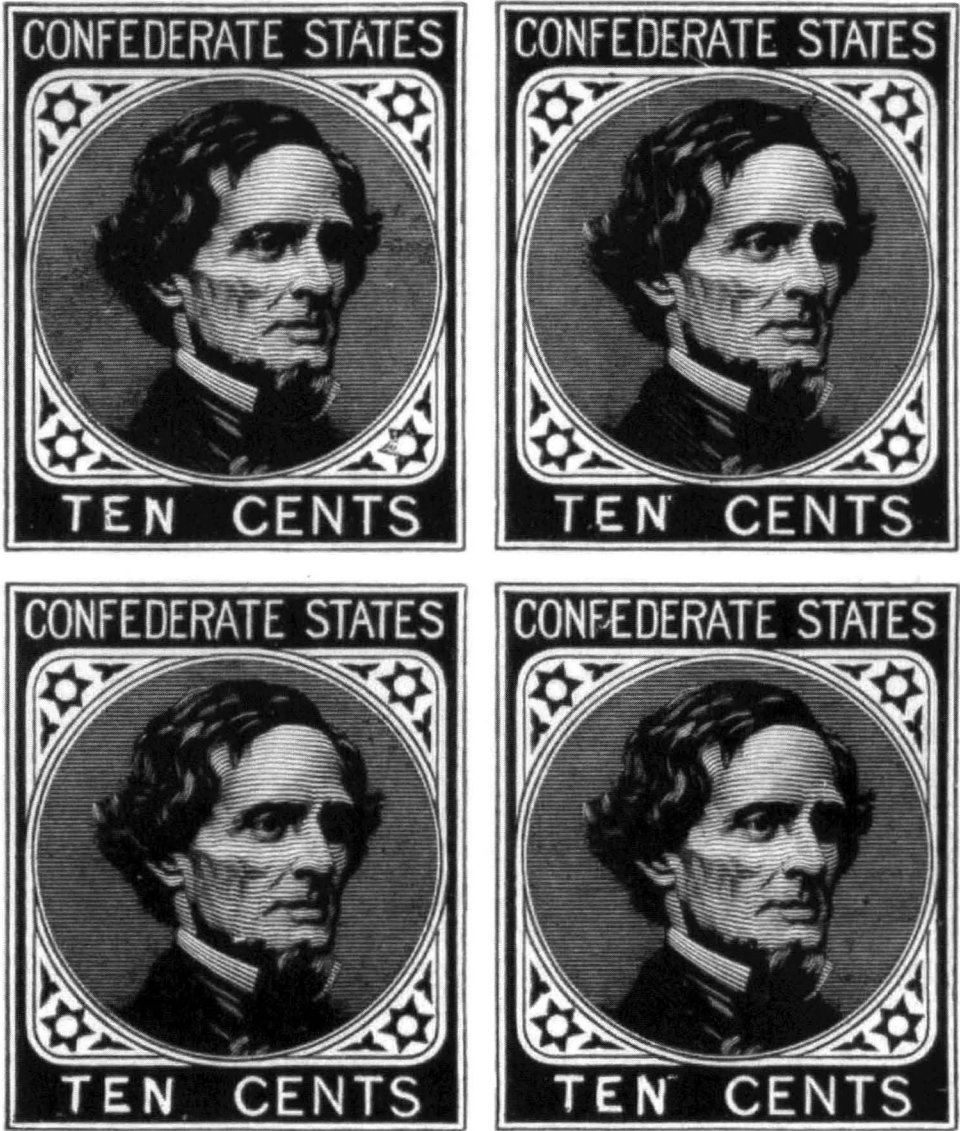


Figure 6. Print from Sitter Plate, block of 4

print from such a plate. The 2¢ plate remained undiscovered until the 1920s and stayed intact. The 10¢ was evidently cut up in the 1860s-1880s period. To do this without a major machine shop the plate was evidently removed from the cast iron backing. One section of 100 was cut into a unit of 70 and two of 9. The plate of 70 and one of 9 had numerous printings over the years— some are quality prints, some horrid. The rest of the plate, three sections of 100, were virtually not printed from; two of the plates are known today, the third is lost.

We assume the Chicago Historical Society plate and the Sitter plate had a common origin. Perhaps they were not printed from, as the original improper backing would not permit quality impressions, and with the numerous impressions on the market from the cut up plate the owner didn't pursue the matter. We have no records, but from examining the plate and the history the Sitter plate was re-backed properly for the late 1980 printing.

There is still a missing section of 100. We have no idea where it may be today.

The newly discovered old printing from a plate of 100 is not yet plated and perhaps never will be. It is an extremely poor printed impression that was taken from a quality plate made by one of the world's major security printers. The defects in the printing are transient, being from the printing and not the printing plate. There are some edge marks on both the Chicago H.S. and the Sitter plate but unfortunately the old printing does not show these edges. The old print of 100 could even have been made from the plate of 100 before it was cut up or from the still-missing fourth pane of 100 or the two known sections.

The photograph of the Sitter plate appears poor when compared with that of the Chicago Historical Society plate. In reality, the Sitter Plate is in excellent condition and I was able to examine it in detail, however my photographic abilities were not up to those required. The superb print from the Sitter plate proves the surface is in perfect condition. The print from the Chicago Historical Society plate appears poor when compared to the proof quality impression from the Sitter plate. Again, this appears to have been a factor of the printer's skill, however I have not been able to actually touch the surface of the Chicago Historical Society plate and thus we cannot rule out such potential problems as etching from being in contact with acidic paper, plastic, etc.

I would like to take the liberty of naming the two new plate sections for their current owners, following the custom of the original broken up section: The Chicago Historical Society Plate and the Sitter Plate. My special thanks to Mark M. Sitter, Bruce E. Englistler, Tiffany Charles of The Chicago Historical Society, John Alvit of The Franklin Institute, David Beech of The British Library and Micki Waldrop of the Atlanta History Center for their cooperation in making this study possible. Also many thanks to Tony Crumbley and Jerry Palazolo for their help leading to the discovery of the last section to turn up.

This study has turned up new information on the lost 5¢ typographed plate shipped on the blockade runner *Bermuda* which never reached the Confederate. This plate was discovered in 1954 and has again been re-discovered; it may be the basis for my next CSA article. □

The second edition of Wierenga's major work
on U.S. incoming steamship mail in the classic period.

United States Incoming Steamship Mail, 1847-1875 Second Edition

(In A Limited Edition)

By Theron Wierenga

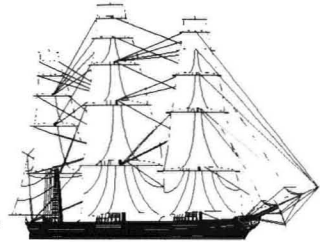
This book is a significantly expanded version of the first edition, which was published in 1983 by the author. In this second edition he has expanded the contents of the chapters of the original edition and added a number of new chapters dealing with aspects of steamship mails not discussed previously.

The most important additions appearing in this second edition, however, are appendices that provide sailing data for over 120 different steamships operating independently and for numerous steamship lines, most with mail contracts. Since the names of these steamships often were written on the face of letters, his documenting the voyages of these vessels helps today's students determine the transit route and duration of transit for letters from origin to destination. The author has organized over 200 pages of sailing tables by the principal steamship routes in the Atlantic as well as the Pacific Ocean areas. Atlantic sailing data is available for over 50 different steamship lines or independent steamships operating between New York, Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, New Orleans, Havana, Bermuda, Chagres/Aspinwall, Nicaragua, Mexico, St. Thomas, and Rio de Janeiro. In the Pacific, the author provides sailing data for ten different steamship lines and independent steamships operating between San Francisco, Panama, Nicaragua, and the West Coast of South America. The majority of the dates covered by these tables are from the late 1840s to the mid-1850s, with some steamship voyages documented to 1861 or later.

The book gives both the postal history student and collector extremely important sailing information. The data is essential to the evaluation of covers carried by sea between the east and west coasts of the United States, the principal route for all mails before 1869. The author brings a good amount of this data to the reader's bookshelf for immediate and convenient use.

The author has updated an important appendix that provides information on the steamship markings. He has added many new steamship markings and made numerous changes to the known dates of use of the previously published markings. He provides carefully selected scanned images of all the markings. In addition, he includes the latest available information on the markings of the California route agents and the Panama despatch agents. This is an important supplement to his second book, *The Gold Rush Mail Agents to California and their Postal Markings, 1849-1852*, published in 1987.

Place your order now!
(Dealer Inquiries Invited)
Make check payable to:
U.S. Philatelic Classics Society
P.O. Box 445 • Wheeling IL 60090
Fax: (847) 215-7253



Fill in and mail this coupon

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

U.S. Incoming Steamship Mail By Theron Wierenga

Please send me:

____ Copy (ies) of the hardbound edition at \$54.95 postpaid

____ Check Enclosed

CSA PHILATELIC INDEX AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

Richard H. Byne, *Confederate States of America Philatelic Subject Index and Bibliography 1862-1999*. Volume II. Published 2001 by Leonard H. Hartmann, P.O. Box 36006, Louisville KY 40233. Cloth, sewn signatures, 8x10 inches, offset, viii+196 numbered pages. ISBN 0-917528-17-4. Available from the publisher, \$45 postpaid.

All of us who have had to hunt up information on a particular subject have had reason to be grateful for bibliographies, and for that small group of people who produce them. In most cases, we're delighted to find even a modest checklist of books, let alone an index to articles. But as Orwell says in *Animal Farm*, "Some pigs are more equal than others," and some bibliographies are as well.

The relative usefulness of a bibliography hinges on two factors: the breadth and complexity of the subject being treated, and the ease with which the information can be found. The Byne bibliography rates commendably high on both counts.

The initial volume, published in 1986, covered some 5,000 separate books, newspaper and journal articles, auction sales and catalogs, published 1862-1984, dealing with aspects of Confederate States philately. The current volume extends the coverage through 1999 (and in fact includes some from 2000, notably Leonard Hartmann's seminal articles which appeared in last year's *Chronicle*), picking up a few publications that had been missed in the previous volume, for a total of nearly 2,500 additional works. That's a sizeable body of literature for anyone to have to deal with without a reliable guide.

The treatment is identical in both volumes, and is most commendable. The bibliography itself—the listing of the individual works, in alphabetical order, with full identifying data—takes up the second half of the book. Each of these entries also has its own reference number, matching the alphabetical listing order.

The subject index has pride of place in the front. It provides entries in alphabetical order for such key words and phrases as: states and territories, towns and offices, names of people, organizations and institutions, text of postal markings, ships and railroads, prisons, stamps, conceptual subjects such as "correspondences," "maps," "prisoner of war mail," "soldiers' due covers," etc. Each entry is followed by the appropriate bibliographic reference number(s) corresponding to the subsequent source references; here an "F" prefix is added as applicable to denote a reference with illustrations.

Mr. Byne has been sensitive to the needs of his readers in providing considerable redundancy and cross-listing in the subject listings. Thus, the auction documentation (illustrated) of a cover from the Classical and Musical School, Scotland Neck, North Carolina, is referenced under the name of the school and the name of the town, as well as under a separate section for "college covers." A 1991 *Way Markings* article pair [Tom Stanton, ed. on the Richmond & Danville RR] shows up in the subject index under "Richmond & Danville RR" (along with five other references), and also under "maps"; for some reason it is not carried under an existing heading for "Railroads," nor in fact are any individual lines carried under that key word. Readers will also have to be sensitive to the nuances of Confederate collectors' terminology: thus one must look for CSA adhesive stamps under "General Issues," with no cross-reference posting under "adhesives" or "(postage) stamps." Similarly, censored mail shows up under "examined," while imprinted stationery is only found as "semi-official covers." These idiosyncracies aside, the book is an outstanding reference, and is recommended for all CSA students and collectors.

Volume I is available as well from the same source, at \$45 postpaid.

- Reviewed by Charles J. Peterson

HELBOCK'S UNITED STATES POST OFFICES

Richard W. Helbock, compiler, *United States Post Offices: Volume IV—The Northeast*. Published 2001 by La Posta Publications, Scappoose, Oregon. Card cover, 5½ x 8½ inches, offset, 288 numbered pp. No ISBN or LOC number. \$27.50 plus \$4.00 shipping/handling from James E. Lee, P.O. Drawer 250, Wheeling IL 60090.

Richard Helbock has been deeply involved with U.S. postal history—in particular, town marks and other postal markings—for over 30 years, and has produced a respectable series of postal history publications. As editor/publisher of *La Posta*, he concentrated for many years on the Western states, but more recently the journal has lost its earlier geographical bias, with the most recent (September 2001) issue taking in such diverse subjects as free carrier service in Washington, D.C.; mail delivery at Fort Liscum, Alaska, 1900-10; covers of the 1922-26 U.S. regular issue; letters between sweethearts (Valentines and otherwise); postal handling of improperly used postal cards; plus major articles on Montana territorial postmarks, post offices of Kenton County, Kentucky, and letters from Fort Klamath, Oregon.

He's also compiled and published a series of handy guides to U.S. post offices, with the postmark collector in mind. These have been based on the official "Records of Appointments of Postmasters," as revised and refined by postal historians such as Gallagher and Patera, John Kay and Chester Smith, Jr., and others. The "La Posta Pocket Guides" were handy 3x7 inch booklets for individual Western states. These proved impractical, and in 1993 La Posta Publications issued a single 8½ x 11 inch volume of 215 pages covering all the Western Post Offices. In 1998, a second edition was published, in 5½ x 8½ inch format, as Vol. I in the present series.

This new volume is similar to its predecessors. First comes a brief introduction, a short history of the development of post offices in the region, and an explanation of the conventions used in the subsequent listings. The great bulk of the book is devoted to the list of post offices: by office name, in alphabetical order, with identification of county and state, inclusive dates of operation (by year only) and Scarcity Index (S/I). An office is listed only once unless it was discontinued, then reopened; each such discontinuance/reopening is treated as a new office.

The scarcity index is the author's evaluation of the relative scarcity of mail from a given office, from a high of 9 (very rare) to a low of 0 (still in operation). This, he advises, should be multiplied by a Demand Factor of 0.50, 0.75 or 1.0, based on the relative popularity of postmarks from a specific state or county. [He draws this factor from analyses developed by Jim Forte, and refers readers to Forte's internet site for further guidance—unfortunately, the location has since changed, and the information has to be sought under individual state listings at Forte's main site at www.postalhistory.com.]

The result is a quick-and-dirty checklist by office, with simplistic scarcity scores. It has no information on the actual postmark types used in those offices, dates of such use, and relative scarcity of (for example) a manuscript marking versus a subsequent balloon cancel or a standard duplex or a later Doane. A popular reference, and useful for the casual collector; I've already seen e-Bay offers quoting S/I numbers. I don't consider the volumes particularly helpful for more advanced collectors

Helbock has a similar set of post office listings on 3.5 inch floppy disks, one per state, at varying prices. These contain the same information as the books, but are provided in various flavors of data base and spreadsheet formats; available directly from La Posta Publications, PO Box 100, Chatsworth Is., NSW 2469 Australia or helbock@la-posta.com.

- Reviewed by Charles J. Peterson

We're celebrating our 40th Anniversary. Across these many years our proudest affiliation has been with the Classics Society.

And we're grateful that so many of the Society's members' collections have been sold to us. We think there's a very good reason for this.

Our 40-year record of buying is virtually unmatched in philately. It represents a record of integrity and comfort for the seller who always must trust, implicitly, the individual who buys his collection.

Andrew Levitt is the most competitive buyer in philately. We have handled properties as diverse as those of Grunin, Haas, Boker, Hill, Neil, and Jennings. When the serious U.S. classics philatelist thinks of selling his collection there is no doubt that he should come to Andrew Levitt first.

We have as much as \$10 million ready right now to purchase your philatelic property....from the smallest stamp or cover collection to entire carloads of albums. Our letters of credit can be sent to you today. And for larger holdings we can come right to your home.

Can Andrew Levitt pay you more for your stamps? We keep our finger on the pulse of the market and will pay you the most competitive market value for your stamps and covers. And not tomorrow or in installments, but full payment right on the spot. This is always our guarantee.

Allow Us To Compete For Your Collection. Call Toll Free 1-800-522-1607



Andrew Levitt

Post Office Box 342
Danbury CT 06813

Andrew Levitt
ALPC
Philatelic Consultant

(203) 743-5291
Fax: (203) 730-8238
E-mail: info@nutmegstamp.com



The renowned Pony Express cover addressed to The Hon. Abraham Lincoln when he was running for president in August 1860. One of the most spectacular covers in American postal history.

Become A Nutmeg bidder...

Today, scores of members of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society are regular active bidders in our large mail sales. Why? It's because they can trust us to *always* feature classic U.S. stamps and postal history in our sales.

Call or write us for
your **FREE** catalog
for our next sale!



As a U.S. classics specialist, you'll find Nutmeg to be a key source for thousands of auction lots of outstanding specialized United States stamps and covers. **Selling?** We have a voracious need to buy every kind of quality collection, large or small. Call us at (203) 743-5291 and let's have a chat about what you have for sale.



Andrew Levitt began learning the stamp trade over 50 years ago when his father, Albert, owned the Equitable Stamp Co. in New York.

When you sell: Place Your Trust In Our 40 Years Of Experience In Working With Many Of The Great Classics Society Members.

We are America's #1 buyer of U.S. and world-wide stamps and postal history—and have enjoyed our lasting relationships with many Classics Society members.

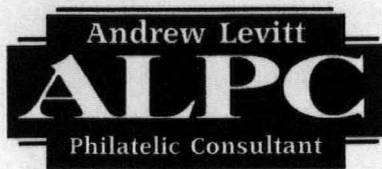
With up to \$10 million available at all times, we urge you to give us the opportunity to compete for your collection when it is for sale. Call, write or e-mail us today for our bank letters of credit.

Right now, the stamp market is quite strong.

Find out today why we're paying the highest prices we have ever offered to purchase practically every kind of philatelic property you can imagine.

We're very anxious to talk to you personally—*and today*—about all stamps, covers and collections you have for sale. Call for our bank letters of credit. Find out how serious we are! Phone: 203-743-5291.

Post Office Box 342
Danbury CT 06813



(203) 743-5291
Fax: (203) 730-8238
E-mail: info@nutmegstamp.com

**OFF-COVER USAGE OF OFFICIAL STAMPS IN
WASHINGTON, D. C., 1873-1874**
ALAN C. CAMPBELL

In an earlier article on this general topic, I did not include stamps on piece and off-cover stamps with legible postmarks or dateable killers because I doubted that I could develop a significant data base on which to base conclusions.¹ Official stamps on piece are uncommon. Even though the non-year-dated Washington, D.C. postmarks of this period can be dated based on their different diameters, off-cover stamps with legible datestamps are rare, because clerks at the main post office there typically canceled stamps according to regulations only with the killer. In Figure 1, courtesy of Robert L. Markovits, we illustrate a remarkable bit of a Department of State parcel label dated October 13, 1873 and franked with a 1¢, 3¢, 24¢ and two 30¢ official stamps. This easily qualifies as the earliest known use of the 1¢ and 24¢ State stamps, since no covers of either value are known from the 1873-1874 period. Four-value frankings of official stamps are quite rare, the only other two examples I know of being from the Treasury Department: a 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 6¢ combination on a registered penalty envelope from the Internal Revenue Service at Reading, Pennsylvania to the U.S. *Gauger* (the registry fee overpaid 2¢, as no supplemental postage was required on field office correspondence to government officials),² and the 2¢, 6¢, 10¢, 30¢ combination from Boston recently illustrated here, now in the collection of Robert L. Markovits.³ Mr. Markovits also has in his collection a copy of the 3¢ Justice with a legible blue postmark from Dakota Territory dated July 28, 1873, an astonishing discovery considering how few postmarks at this time actually contained the year date. Lester C. Lanphear III reports a similar item: a 3¢ Post Office stamp with a July 9, 1873 blue postmark from Morristoen, New Jersey. This qualifies as the EKU for any off-cover official stamp.

In my earlier article, I traced the development of postmarks in Washington, D.C. by illustrating the upper right corners of covers in my collection, showing the postmark alongside various distinctive duplexed killers. Off-cover official stamps showing clear strikes of these characteristic killers should also qualify as earliest known usages. Since for most official stamps only a handful of covers survive, documenting off-cover EKUs has increased relevance. For example, the high value Agriculture stamps—15¢, 24¢, 30¢—were first used primarily to mail seedlings from the department's experimental nursery to farmers. But for all three values, only one 24¢ parcel label has survived. In 1875, a new regulation made such mailings free of postage, rendering these three values obsolete. In fact, no value higher than the 6¢ was requisitioned after the fiscal year 1875. So in this case, a 30¢ Agriculture stamp off-cover with a killer attributable to Washington, D.C. from August 1873 represents a significant piece of postal history.

¹Alan C. Campbell, "Usage of Official Stamps in Washington, D.C., 1873-1874," *Chronicle*, Vol. 52, No. 3 (August 2000)(Whole No. 187), p. 205-15.

²Robert A. Siegel, Sale #728, September 14, 1990, lot 154.

³Alan C. Campbell, "High Value Official Stamps on Cover," *Chronicle*, Vol. 52, No. 4 (November 2000)(Whole No. 188), Figure 7, page 294. Sold as lot 709 in the Matthew Bennett, Inc. auction on January 20, 2001.



Figure 1. Four value franking on Department of State piece, October 13, 1873, courtesy of Robert L. Markovits.



Figure 2. Incised star killers, July 1873



Figure 3. "Negative captain's wheel" killers, August 1873



Figure 4. "Lobed sand dollar" killers, August 1873

In Figure 2, we illustrate strikes of a large incised star killer used on the 3¢, 6¢ and 10¢ Executive, the 12¢ Interior, a 3¢ Post Office pair and the 1¢ War. This obliterator, with a duplexed 26 mm. CDS, is known to have been used in Washington, D.C. in late July 1873.⁴ In Figure 3, we illustrate strikes of the “negative captain’s wheel” on the 12¢ Navy and \$2 State stamps, and in Figure 4, we show strikes of the “lobed sand dollar” on the 10¢ and 30¢ Agriculture stamps. Both of these oblitors were used in Washington, D.C. in early August 1873.⁵ In Figure 5, we illustrate a strike of a waffle gridiron killer on a 6¢ Navy (my proving cover is a 3¢ Interior from the U.S. Patent Office dated mid-October 1873), and in Figure 6, a Maltese cross killer on a 2¢ Executive, known to have been used in Washington, D.C. during November 1873.⁶



Figure 5. Waffle gridiron killer, October 1873



Figure 6. Maltese cross killer, November 1873

In Figure 7, we illustrate a very clean 3¢ Executive cover postmarked March 29 [1874], addressed in the hand of President Grant to Adolf E. Borie in Philadelphia.⁷ Borie, a wealthy Philadelphian who made his fortune in the East India trade, had served for three months in 1869 as Grant’s Secretary of the Navy, and would later accompany him on a world tour in 1877-1878. The “Executive Mansion” corner card in the upper right in an ornate Gothic typeface and the pre-frank of one of Grant’s private secretaries, Levi P. Luckey, are characteristic of obsolete free frank envelopes, and this cover is believed to be the second earliest Executive franking in private hands. In Figure 8, we illustrate off-cover 30¢ Treasury and 90¢ Interior stamps with a similar diagonal lattice grid, which I had not been able to confirm as Washington, D.C. cancellations until I purchased this cover. A detailed time-line for Washington, D.C. killers of this era can only be established by reference to regular Bank Note issue covers. While I have found a photocopy of Tuck Taylor’s exhibit collection, “Washington, D.C. Postal Markings: Killers for 25 Years, 1860-1885,” to be a useful reference, I still eagerly await the study being undertaken by the Washington Philatelic Society based on the George Turner material.

By this point, the careful reader will have noticed a potential flaw in the method of attribution being used. Killers similar to some of those depicted—including the incised star, the waffle gridiron, and the diagonal lattice grid—are known to have been carved (or could easily have been carved) and used by postal clerks in other cities and towns. A preponderance of the official stamps were used and canceled in Washington, D.C. (especially the higher values), yet it is entirely possible that strikes of so-called “look-alike” cancellations could have been applied elsewhere and survived to confuse us (although not on

⁴Campbell, “Usage of Official Stamps in Washington, D.C., 1873-1874,” page 209, where the proving cover is illustrated in Figure 3.

⁵*Ibid.*, Figure 1, page 207, where the corners of the proving covers are illustrated.

⁶*Ibid.*, Figure 2, page 208, where the corner of the proving cover is illustrated.

⁷Matthew Bennett, Inc., 230th Public Auction, January 20, 2001, lot #685.

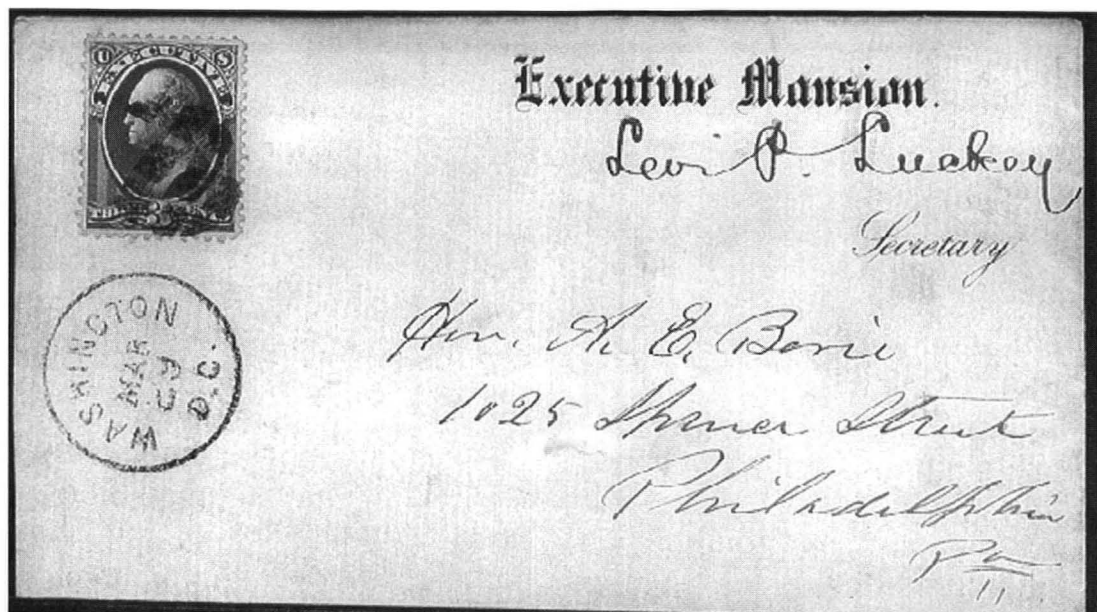


Figure 7. 3¢ Executive cover to Philadelphia, March 29, 1874, with diagonal lattice killer



Figure 8. Diagonal lattice killers, March 1874

Executive or State official stamps, which had a very limited distribution). Furthermore, in the specific case of the incised star killer, this obliterator is known to have been recarved and used at other times at the main Washington, D.C. post office in the 1870s. Also, although most killers were discarded after they wore out, it is conceivable that a few might have been tossed in a drawer and pressed into service later. Therefore, some of the “earliest known usages” being put forth here clearly depend on conjecture. My principal defense is that a start must be made, no matter how tentative. Due to the high attrition rate for official covers, the lack of a substantial mass of postal history to analyze has forced us to turn elsewhere, to the study of regular Bank Note issue covers and off-cover used official stamps. Also, any claims being made here for EKUs of off-cover official stamps do not carry with them any automatic increase in value. Among cancellation specialists, official stamps such as those illustrated here do command a small intrinsic premium, simply because it is so difficult to find decent strikes of anything artistic (forget NYFM geometrics or Waterbury fancies!) on all but the most common low value official stamps. At this point, the prevailing taste for postal history (*i.e.*, EKUs on cover) has gained so much momentum, it is doubtful whether any off-cover official stamp purported to be an EKU will ever command a premium in my lifetime.

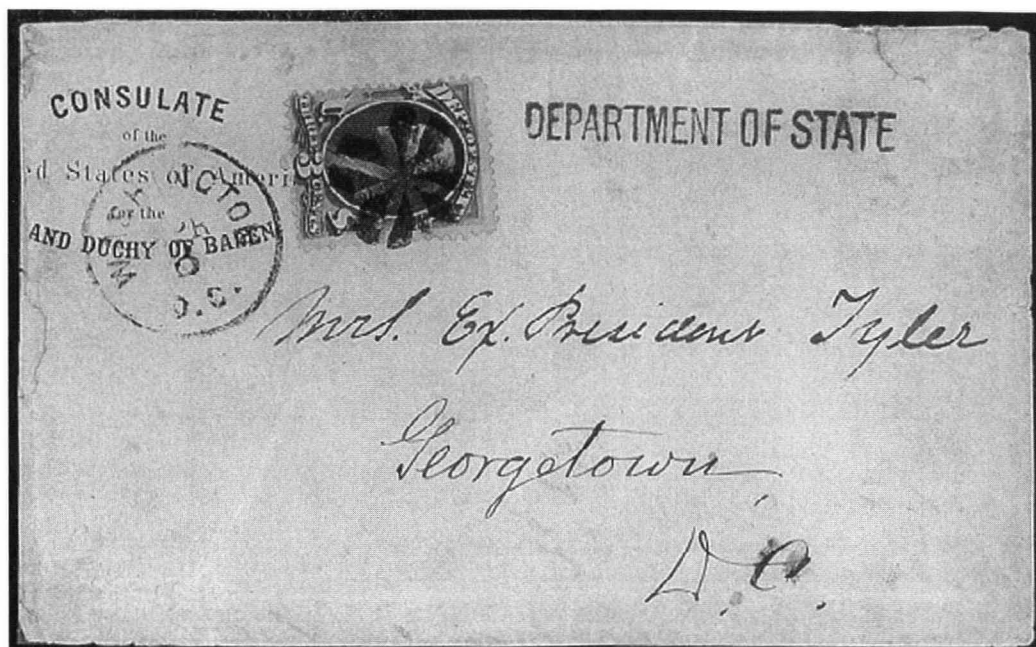


Figure 9. 3¢ State on diplomatic pouch mail from the Consulate for the Grand Duchy of Baden, April 3, 1874, with double crossroads killer



Figure 10. Double crossroads killers, April 1874



Figure 11. Circle of 8 Vs with incised circle killers, April 1874

Continuing on, in Figure 9 we illustrate a diplomatic pouch mail cover from the Consulate for the Grand Duchy of Baden, addressed to Mrs. Ex. President Taylor.⁸ The 3¢ State was added in Washington, D.C. and when the cover entered the regular mail, it was postmarked April 3 [1874], the stamp being tied by a fancy double crossroads killer. Once again, although I had good strikes of this particular killer on off-cover Agriculture, Interior, Navy and War Department official stamps, I was not able to attribute these cancellations to Washington, D.C. until this cover surfaced. In Figure 10, we illustrate strikes of this killer on the 6¢ Agriculture and 15¢ Interior. In Figure 11, we depict various strikes of the most familiar of all the classic Washington, D.C. geometric killers, a circle of eight Vs with an incised circle, on six different official stamps: 3¢ Agriculture, 10¢ Interior, 12¢ State, 24¢ Treasury, 10¢ and 12¢ War. This style of killer was recarved several times and used from late March throughout April 1874, with proving covers surviving from at least five different departments.⁹ In Figure 12, we illustrate strikes of “circle of 8 Vs” killers on the 1¢ and 15¢ Navy and the 24¢ War. I have 3¢ Interior and 6¢ Navy covers to confirm that V-8 killers were being used at the main Washington, D.C. post office in mid-April 1874.



Figure 12. Circle of 8 Vs killers, April 1874

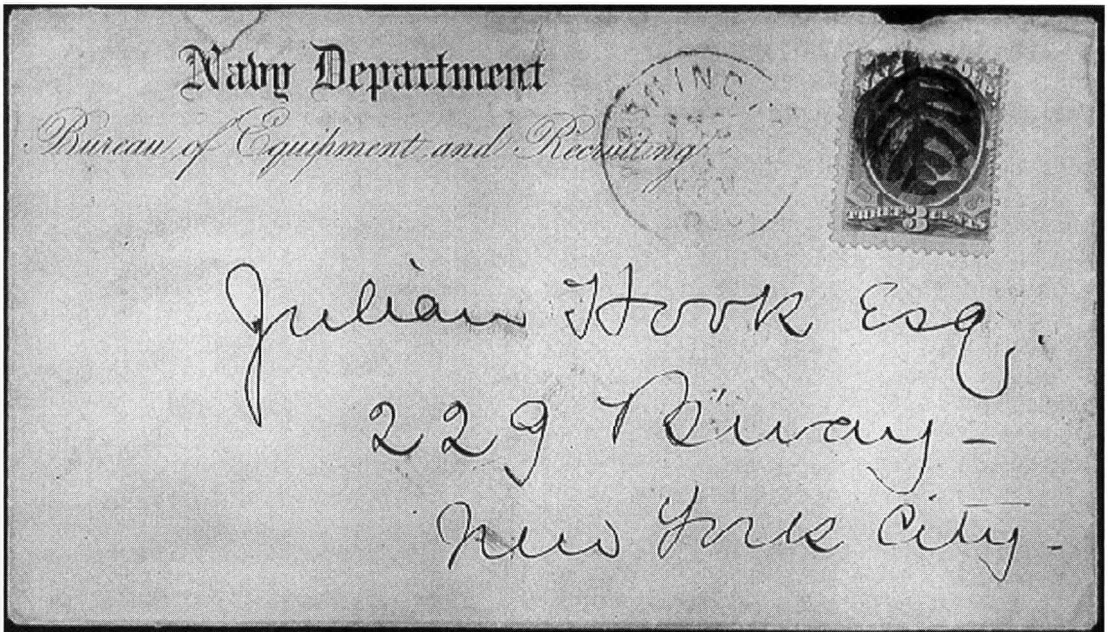


Figure 13. 3¢ Navy cover from the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting with pine tree killer

⁸Robert A. Siegel, Sale #834, March 6, 2001, lot #627.

⁹Campbell, "Usage of Official Stamps in Washington, D.C., 1873-1874," Figure 2, page 208.

In Figure 13, we illustrate a 3¢ Navy cover from the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting mailed to New York City.¹⁰ The poorly struck postmark contains the hour of the day, a troublesome type used from late 1874 through 1877 and then again in early 1879. Covers with postmarks like this are hard to date. This one is notable for bearing a good strike of a “pine tree” fancy killer. Once again, I had strikes of this killer on off-cover 3¢ Agriculture and 3¢ Interior stamps, but had not been able to attribute them to Washington, D.C. until this cover turned up. Remembering the pine tree shillings in my father’s collection of colonial coinage, I had previously believed that such a cancellation would most likely have originated in Massachusetts. As with this cover, both my off-cover strikes are upside down on the stamp, suggesting either that the obliterator slug was accidentally inverted relative to the postmark, or that this isn’t a pine tree at all but a finely detailed leaf instead.

So far I have only illustrated strikes of these various Washington, D.C. killers on official stamps where the off-cover strike predates the earliest known usage on cover as listed in my previous census, having assumed that early off-cover strikes postdating the EKUs on cover have little academic interest. At this point, I have researched only in my own collection, and will wait to see if this angle of inquiry excites other collectors to inspect and report their own findings.

**Preliminary Census of Earliest Known Usage of
Off-Cover Official Stamps from Washington, D.C.**

Official Stamp	Earliest Use Off Cover	Cancellation Type	Earliest Use On Cover
3¢ Agriculture	April 1874	V-8, incised circle	April 19, 1875
10¢ Agriculture	August 1873	Lobed sand dollar	January 25, 1875
30¢ Agriculture	August 1873	Lobed sand dollar	no cover known
2¢ Executive	November 1874	Maltese cross	February 16, 1875
3¢ Executive	July 1873	Incised star	December 24, 1873
6¢ Executive	July 1873	Incised star	??
10¢ Executive	July 1873	Incised star	Dec. 20, 1876 Unique
10¢ Interior	April 1874	V-8, incised circle	??
12¢ Interior	July 1873	Incised Star	March 22, 1874
15¢ Interior	April 1874	Double crossroads	??
90¢ Interior	January 1874	Diagonal lattice grid	?? unique
1¢ Navy	April 1874	Circle of 8 Vs	??
6¢ Navy	October 1873	Waffle gridiron	November 1873
12¢ Navy	August 1873	Negative captain’s wheel	??
15¢ Navy	April 1874	Circle of 8 Vs	no cover known
3¢ Post Office	July 1873	Incised star	August 4, 1873
1¢ State	October 13, 1873	on piece (RLM)	??
12¢ State	April 1874	V-8, incised circle	July 6, 1874
24¢ State	October 13, 1873	on piece (RLM)	??
\$2 State	August 1873	Negative captain’s wheel	Oct. 25, 1882 Unique
24¢ Treasury	April 1874	V-8, incised circle	no cover known
30¢ Treasury	January 1874	Diagonal lattice	?? Unique
1¢ War	July 1873	Incised star	March 7, 1874
3¢ War	August 1873	Negative captain’s wheel	December 6, 1873
12¢ War	April 1874	V-8, incised star	??
24¢ War	April 1874	Circle of 8 Vs	??

In the above table, question marks for the EKUs on cover indicate that no covers from Washington, D.C. were reported for the 15 month time span (July 1873 - September 1874) in my previous article. Covers from the subsequent 1875-1877 period are much harder to date.

¹⁰Robert A. Siegel, Sale #834, March 6, 2001, lot #625.

My earlier article elicited a note from route agent David S. Lever Jr., who reported a 3¢ War cover postmarked November 10, 1873, which now becomes the EKU for a solo usage of that stamp not on official stationery. Robert L. Markovits reports a very large printed matter Post Office envelope used locally within Washington, D.C. and franked with a pair of 2¢ stamps, not postmarked but advertised on March 31, 1874. This becomes the earliest recorded on-cover usage of the 2¢ Post Office stamp. In my earlier article, I was openly skeptical that my census results would affect the value of such covers. As it turns out, I could not have been more wrong. In the census, I recorded the earliest known cover for the 6¢ Treasury as July 10, 1873. This listing was based on a cover I saw at Anaheim in the summer of 2000. I could have bought it for \$100 but passed because the killer didn't interest me. Moments later, it was snapped up by a veteran bird dog of EKU covers. In January of 2001, the Matthew Bennett postal history auction included an important consignment of official covers from George Lehto, along with almost 200 lots of first day, earliest known and early usage covers of the regular issues. I had seen photocopies of the Lehto covers and had included them in two of my articles before the sale was finally scheduled. However, I was not aware that another 6¢ Treasury cover, postmarked in Washington, D.C. on July 10, 1873, had been consigned later. It was not the same cover I had seen in Anaheim. This new cover, lot #707, was described as the earliest known usage and estimated to realize \$500-\$750. Thinking this estimate optimistic, I was surprised to learn that the cover had been hammered down for \$1,000. (Prices realized do not include the 10% buyer's commission.) At first, I assumed that it must have been sold to a demented Lincoln collector, but I am told that this was not the case. Since the Washington, D.C. postmarks of this era did not contain the hour of the day, it is impossible to determine which of the two July 10 6¢ Treasury covers was mailed earlier. So both, in a photo-finish tie, qualify as the earliest known usage of this stamp (just as two blocks of 16 would each qualify as the largest known multiple of a particular stamp). In rare instances, a superlative adjective like "earliest" or "largest" can legitimately be shared, while "unique" must always be singular. I am reminded of the catalogue for a mail bid auction where an item was described as "unique," while the very next lot was described "as above."

Spending serious money on EKU covers is not for the faint of heart. For no matter how well-researched the auction catalogue descriptions, it is impossible to know whether an earlier cover might soon turn up. Indeed, an earlier cover may already have been discovered, and the knowledge of its existence not widely disseminated. A disingenuous consignor might submit for auction the earliest *recorded* usage, while retaining in his collection a recently acquired even earlier unreported cover. Especially risky, from my point of view, would be commerce in EKUs for the Continental soft paper and experimental paper printings, in light of the recent revision of the Scott specialized catalogue and the closely-reasoned arguments exchanged by Eliot A. Landau and James E. Kloetzel in this journal.¹¹

As a postscript to my article on high value official stamps on cover, since I was kindly allowed to illustrate three covers from the Lehto consignment, I would like to take this opportunity to report on how these covers fared in the aforementioned Bennett auction. The 24¢ Navy used to forward a U164 entire to Uruguay, lot #697, was estimated at \$7,500-\$10,000, and after spirited bidding was finally hammered down for \$18,000. This is a record price for an official cover at auction, exceeding the \$15,000 paid by Theodore O. Lockyear for the legendary 30¢ (4), 90¢ (3) Justice cover.¹² Incredibly, although the un-

¹¹Eliot A. Landau, "Continental vs. American Papers: the EKU of King Scott's New Clothes," and James E. Kloetzel, "The Scott Catalogue Editor Responds to Eliot A. Landau," *Chronicle*, Vol. 52, No. 4 (November 2000)(Whole No. 188), pp. 269-283.

¹²Campbell, "High Value Official Stamps on Cover," Figure 5, page 293.

derbidder was a well-known collector of official covers, I am told the final buyer collects ship mail. The 12¢, 30¢ State combination on a parcel label, lot #705, estimated at \$1,000-\$1,500, brought \$3,500. As I had previously noted here, this is the earliest known usage of the 12¢ State stamp, and the realization confirms that among collectors of official covers usage on a parcel label instead of a cover per se carries no stigma. The 2¢, 6¢, 10¢, 30¢ Treasury cover to Boston (badly foxed but perhaps the only surviving usage of the 30¢), lot #709, estimated at \$750-\$1,000, was hammered down to Robert L. Markovits for \$2,600. A disproportionate amount of official mail was sent out in oversized envelopes, a format more susceptible to the ravages of time and mishandling. Collectors of official mail learn from experience not to reject covers in less than pristine condition.

These realizations were encouragingly strong, while other results were mixed. The only recorded solo usage of the 2¢ Executive, lot #684, addressed in the hand of President Grant to A. E. Borie, sold for only \$1,100 to Robert L. Markovits, perhaps because it was short paid 1¢. Had it been on a local rate cover within Washington, D.C., the price would surely have been higher. Mr. Markovits plausibly theorizes that the envelope was not marked postage due because it would be unseemly to point out such a shortcoming on mail from the Executive Mansion. The earliest known usage of the 2¢ Navy, lot #692, with the appropriate red cancellation on a small ratty local rate cover, sold for \$210 to Ralph Ebner. Lester C. Lanphear paid \$525 for lot #686, a small 3¢ Executive cover postmarked in indigo January 23, 1880, the latest known on-cover usage of an Executive stamp. He also bought lot #711, a small penalty envelope from the U.S. Engineer Office posted at Urbana, Virginia and franked with a 1¢, 2¢ War combination, for \$400. Mr. Lanphear, having the premier exhibit collection of early penalty mail, recognized the special significance of this unassuming cover, the first reported use of supplemental War stamps on a penalty envelope posted outside of the nation's capital and addressed to a private citizen. □

F A K E !

**A dreaded word to any collector or dealer who's
stuck with faked, fraudulent, forged, or otherwise
counterfeit U.S. related philatelic material**

S O L U T I O N ?

Donate your spurious philatelic material to

S.C.R.A.P.

**Stamp & Cover Repository & Analysis Program
U.S. Philatelic Classics Society**

To arrange a potentially tax deductible donation, contact:


**Michael J. Brown
S.C.R.A.P. Administrator
U.S. Philatelic Classics Society**

**P.O. Box 300, Lightfoot, VA 23090
Telephone: (757) 565-4414
E-mail: Brown621@aol.com**

THE Catalog.

May - June 2001
Quality U.S. Stamps
Philatelic Report #130
23RD Anniversary Sale

Discounts: 10% Discount-Any Order over \$800.00
15% Discount-Any Order over \$3,000.00
20% Discount-Any Order over \$10,000.00



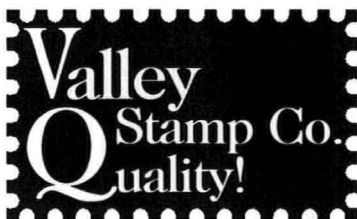
Valley Stamp Co.
Larry Voloeski
Call Toll Free 1-800-828-9225

Post Office Box 470 • Goshen, Connecticut 06756
Office Hours: 10-6 Weekdays • Closed Weekends
Regular Telephone: (860) 491-9358 • 24-Hour Toll Free Fax Line: 1-888-828-5690

Our customers are perfectly frank.

They tell us our bi-monthly catalogs contain the finest U.S. stamps offered anywhere in philately. Find out for yourself. The first copy of our catalog is free. Send for it today. Just call, write, e-mail us, or visit our website...

www.valleystamp.com



Our website also offers great QUALITY U.S. stamps to online collectors who appreciate the importance of acquiring only the finest material for their collections.

Call for our latest catalog today.

Always a Toll Free call:

(800) 828-9225

P.O. Box 470 • Goshen CT 06756

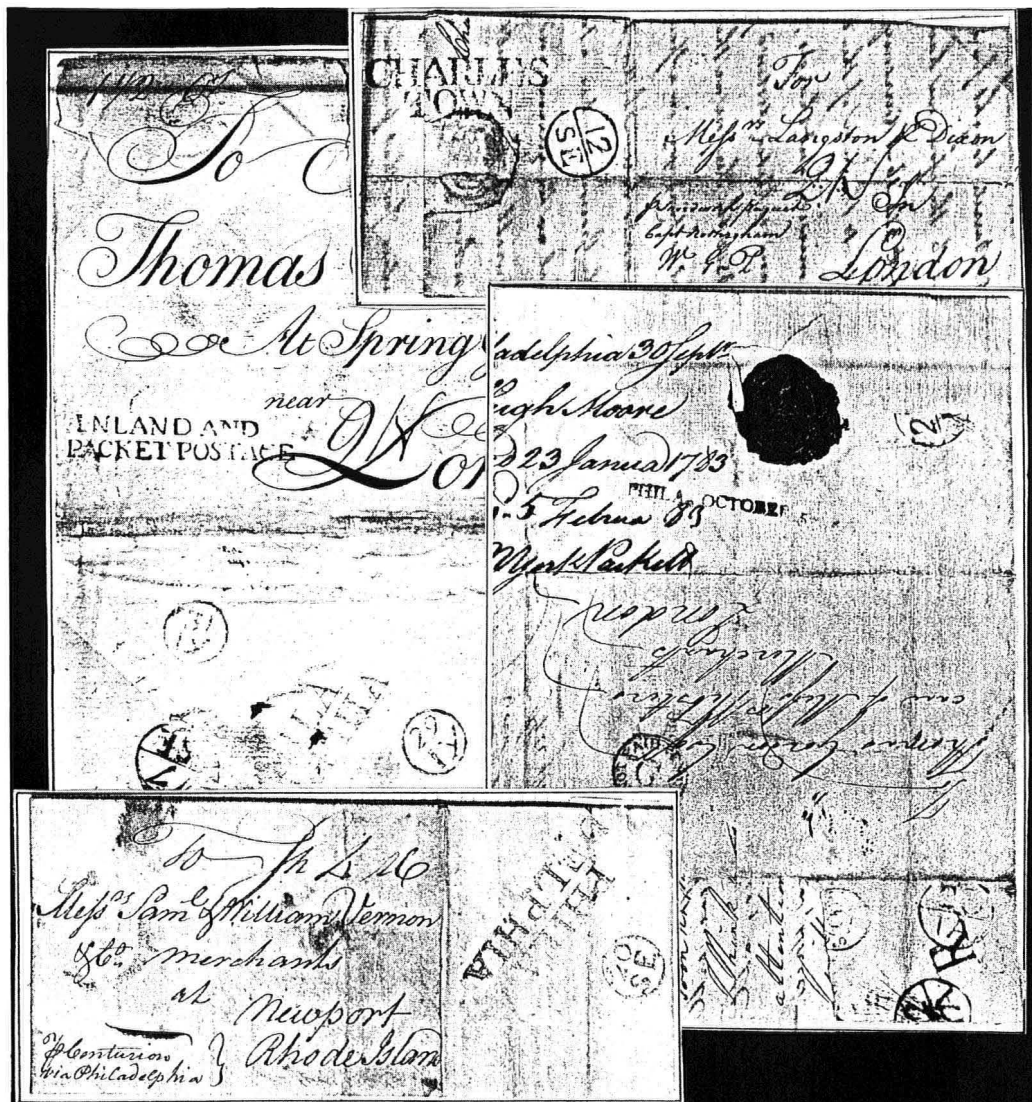
E-Mail: valley.stamp@snet.net

Regular Phone: (860) 491-9358 • 24-Hour Toll Free Fax: (888) 828-5690

Office Hours: 10-6 Weekdays • Closed Weekends



Our auctions always include
 better postal history,
 especially
 British North America
 and the United States



For a complimentary catalogue contact:

Charles G. Firby
 AUCTIONS

6695 Highland Road, Suite #107
 Waterford, MI 48327-1967
 Telephone (248) 666-5333 • Fax (248) 666-5020

**THE CENTS ACCOUNTANCY MARKINGS
OF THE ANGLO-U.S. CONVENTIONS, 1849-1875**
COLIN TABEART

(continued from *Chronicle* 191:224)



Figure 9. 1867 entire, Liverpool to New York, prepaid triple rate and sent on British packet *China* from Queenstown, so $3 \times 5\text{c} = 15\text{c}$ due to the United States. Liverpool did not use its 15/CENTS accountancy handstamp, the marking being made up of a handstruck "1" and a crayon "5." Only one handstruck triple rate accountancy marking has been seen used properly, the few such letters seen being accounted in manuscript.

The 16/CENTS, 32/CENTS, and 64/CENTS markings, Liverpool M41; London M20, M33 and M46. (Figure 10)

Sixteen cents was the sum due to the country owning the packet for the transatlantic voyage under the 1848 Anglo-U.S. Convention. It was struck in red on single letters prepaid from third countries to the U.S. via England, which had been paid to the limit of the British postal system, *i.e.*, the port of arrival in the U.S. When carried by U.S. packets between England and the United States, the U.S. was credited with the transatlantic postage. It is usually found on mail from the Middle and Far East. From 1 January 1868 it ceased to be valid under the new Anglo-U.S. Convention.

The 32/CENTS and 64/CENTS markings were for multiple rates of 16¢ until 1 January 1868, when their role changed under the 1868 Anglo-U.S. Convention. This convention reduced the rate between the countries to 12¢, of which the transatlantic element was 8¢. Accountancy on direct international letters was abolished, but remained for letters



Figure 10. 1868 unpaid letter from Buenos Ayres to New York via England. Royal Mail Steam Packet Company steamer *Shannon*, arrived Southampton 31 May. Onwards by North German Lloyd *Hermann* from Southampton 2 June. Under 1868 Anglo-US Convention all westbound packets considered to be British, so 24¢ South Atlantic plus 8¢ North Atlantic transit fees due to UK; 32/CENTS struck at London. New York added 2¢ U.S. inland, for 34¢ collect, 46¢ in Notes.

from third countries transiting either signatory country. All westbound packets were to be regarded as British and all eastbound as American. Unpaid letters from third countries via England to the U.S. therefore owed the British the postage to England, plus the transatlantic element of 8¢. As the rate to England was generally 1/-, or 24¢, these letters were struck with 32/CENTS in black for the postage due to the U.K. from the U.S., with 64/CENTS now serving as a double rate marking for this class of letters. Four examples only of the 32/CENTS have been seen, all on letters from Argentina or Brazil to New York via England. The 64/CENTS marking has yet to be seen on cover. As this usage was only valid for the two years of the 1868 Convention, perhaps their rarity is not surprising.

The 18/CENTS marking, London M21. (Figure 11)

First proofed in November 1860, two further examples were proofed on 19 December 1873, so it was valid under at least two of the three Anglo-U.S. Conventions. Until 1868 it could have been used on sextuple rate unpaid letters to the U.S. by U.S. packet, reclaiming 6 x 3¢ for U.K. inland; it could also be used as a credit to the U.S. on sextuple rate paid to destination letters for U.S. inland postage under the 1868 Convention—see the discussion under the 3¢ markings above. After 1 January 1870 it can only have been used to reclaim 2¢ transatlantic sea postage plus 16¢ (8d sterling) owed to the British for carriage to U.K. This was the rate, including any fines due on unpaid letters, from several European countries, especially Portugal, the Cape Verde Islands and Madeira to U.K., plus ship letters from Norway.

The only example yet seen on cover is that shown at Figure 11. This letter was sent unpaid from Verona, Italy, to Gallipolis, Ohio, in January 1868 via British open mail. The rationalization of the 18/CENTS accountancy marking applied at London is thought to be as follows. The onward journey from England to America was by British packet under the



Figure 11. January 1868 unpaid letter from Verona to the United States via British open mail. 18/CENTS debit to U.S. of which 4¢ to Italy, 4¢ to France, 2¢ to U.K. for inland and 8¢ ocean carriage, also to U.K. On 1 April 1868 new US-Italian Convention established closed mails via England, so letters from Italy to the United States show British transit markings only during the first three months of 1868.



Figure 12. 1859 entire from Newcastle to Salem, Massachusetts "Per Persia from Liverpool," prepaid for one rate, but found at Liverpool to be "ABOVE 1/2 OZ.," so prepayment ignored. 38/CENTS struck by Liverpool for unpaid double letter by British packet debit to U.S. New York marked 48¢ postage due.

Anglo-U.S. Convention of 1868, so the British Post Office was entitled to 8¢ sea carriage plus 2¢ UK transit. France and Italy were owed the equivalent of 4¢ each, so the U.S. was debited 18¢, which was subsequently credited to the respective countries by London.



Figure 13. 1851 unpaid quadruple rate entire from Bristol to Philadelphia carried by British packet *Europa*, so 4x19¢ due to the British, or 76/CENTS. Liverpool type M53.

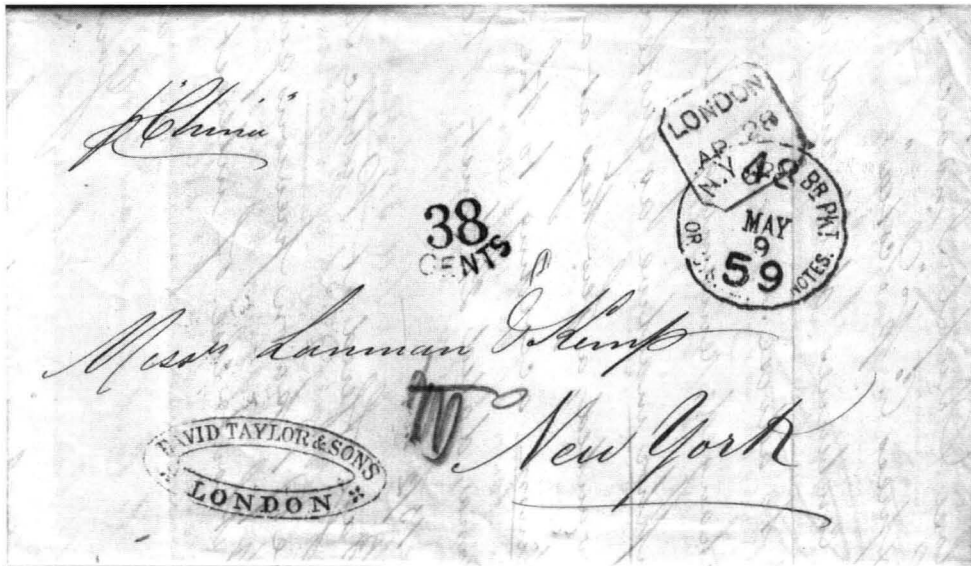


Figure 14. 1865 unpaid double rate entire from London to New York carried by British packet *China* from Liverpool 28 April, so 38/CENTS owing to the British. New York added the 10¢ U.S. inland for 48¢ collect, 59¢ in Notes. London type M37.

The 19/CENTS, 38/CENTS, 57/CENTS, and 76/CENTS markings, Liverpool M42, M43, M47, M48, M51, M53, M54, M84; London M22, M23, M36, M37, M44, M50. (Figure 12, 13, 14)

Nineteen cents was the sum due to the British under the 1848 Convention on unpaid letters from the U.K. to the U.S. by British packet, being 3¢ U.K. inland plus 16¢ ocean postage. It is probably the most common of all the accountancy markings. The other three markings are for multiple rates, the 57/CENTS, which has yet to be seen on cover, being valid only from 1 April 1866 to 31 December 1867, after which the second Anglo-U.S. Convention rendered all these markings obsolete. The 38/CENTS and 76/CENTS are relatively scarce, most such letters being accounted for in manuscript—perhaps it was too much trouble to dig out the relevant handstamp for just a few letters, only to get it dirty and have to clean it again after use!

The 21/CENTS, 42/CENTS, 63/CENTS, and 84/CENTS markings, Liverpool M46, M49, M50, M52, M54a and M85; London M25, M26, M39, M45, M53. (Figure 15, 16)

These markings were struck in red on letters fully prepaid in the U.K. under the 1848 Convention traveling in American packets to credit the U.S. with the 16¢ sea and 5¢ inland postage due to that country. Only one example of the Liverpool 63/CENTS triple rate marking has been seen. The double and quadruple rate 42/CENTS and 84/CENTS suffer from the same apparent problems as the 38/CENTS and 76/CENTS markings above, with the London 42/CENTS marking so far also not identified on cover.

The 22/CENTS and 44/CENTS markings, London M27 and M40.

Another very scarce rate, both proofed on 1 October 1866. Only one 22/CENTS cover has been seen, from Amsterdam to New York, transiting London on 6 December 1867. Postage from Holland to England at that time was 3d, or 6¢, to which the 16¢ sea postage was added to make a 22¢ claim on the U.S. New York added 5¢ U.S. inland for a total sum

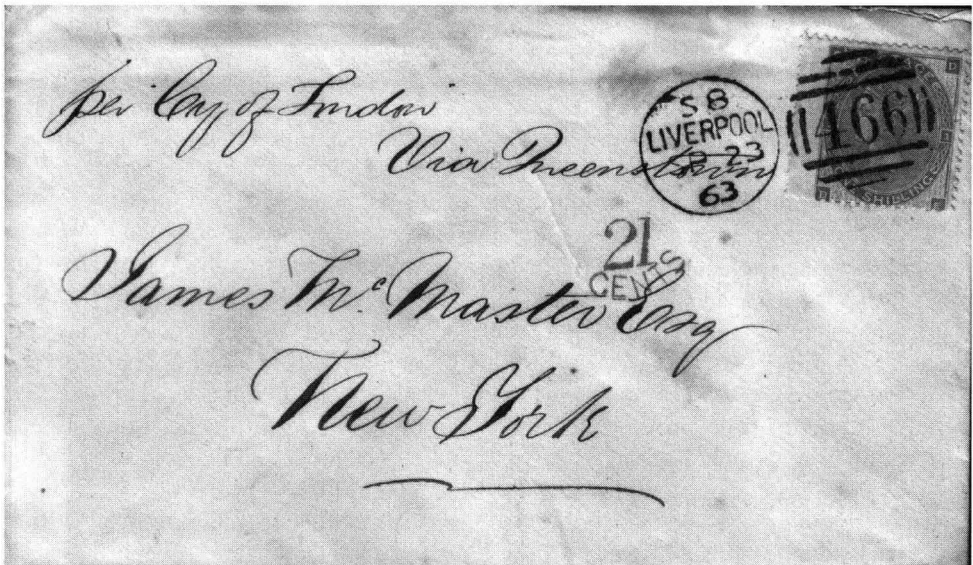


Figure 15. 1863 single rate prepaid letter from Liverpool to New York “per City of London via Queenstown.” As the ship sailed from Liverpool on 23 September, this letter would have missed her, so was directed “via Queenstown,” where she called next day. Adhesive cancelled at the Liverpool S8 district office that did not hold accountancy handstamps, so accounted onboard as owing the United States 21/CENTS for U.S. ocean and inland postage. Liverpool M85.

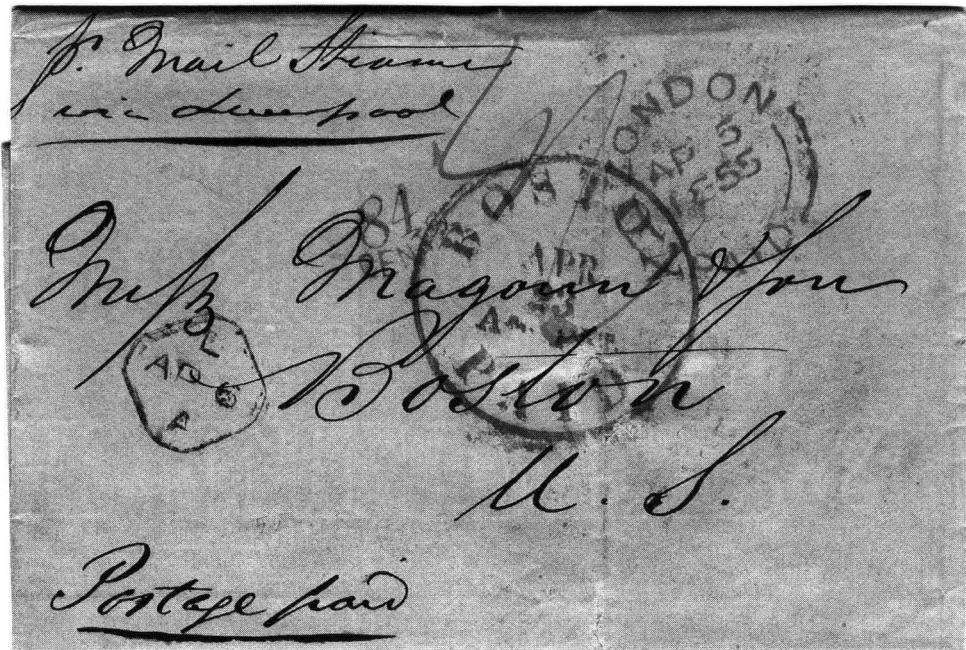


Figure 16. 5 April 1855, London to Boston, prepaid 4s quadruple rate (1-2 oz.) and sent by steamship *Nashville* to New York on single charter voyage for Collins Line. London credited 4x21¢ to U.S. with red 84/CENTS handstamp.

of 27¢ due from the recipient. The 22/CENTS marking reported in *Robertson Revisited* from Valparaiso to San Francisco in 1874 was incorrectly assigned therein to London; it does not resemble M27 in any way, and was applied on arrival at San Francisco. No examples of the 44/CENTS marking have been seen, which is assumed to be for the double rate as it was proofed on the same day as the 22/CENTS handstamp.

The 24/CENTS and 48/CENTS markings. London M28 and M42. (Figure 17)

These markings, issued in November 1860, were single and double markings for use on unpaid mail via U.K. forwarded to the U.S. in American packets, from countries with a single rate to England of 1/- or 24¢. They were struck in black to reclaim the British postage on such letters, the U.K. inland being included in the 1/- rate, and no transatlantic postage being due to the U.K. All examples of the 24/CENTS, and all but one of the 48/CENTS seen, were on letters from the east coast of South America. The 48/CENTS could also be used to reclaim the 2/- British rate on letters from the west coast of South America, and is so known used on cover from Chile in October 1863.

The 26/CENTS marking, London M29 and M30. (Figure 18)

There are two types: M29 is completely sans serif, whereas the figures in M30 have serifs. Two examples of each were proofed, M29 on 18 October 1872 and M30 on 31 August 1874. The small sample of 12 covers so far recorded, mostly from the east coast of South America, shows no overlap of dates, so possibly M29 was withdrawn when M30 appeared. The accountancy rate is made up of 24¢ British postage from South America, plus 2¢ sea postage by packet to the U.S. (westbound, therefore British under the 1870 Convention). A few markings are known also on unpaid, double weight letters from France, sent to the U.S. during the non-treaty period 1 July 1870-31 July 1874.

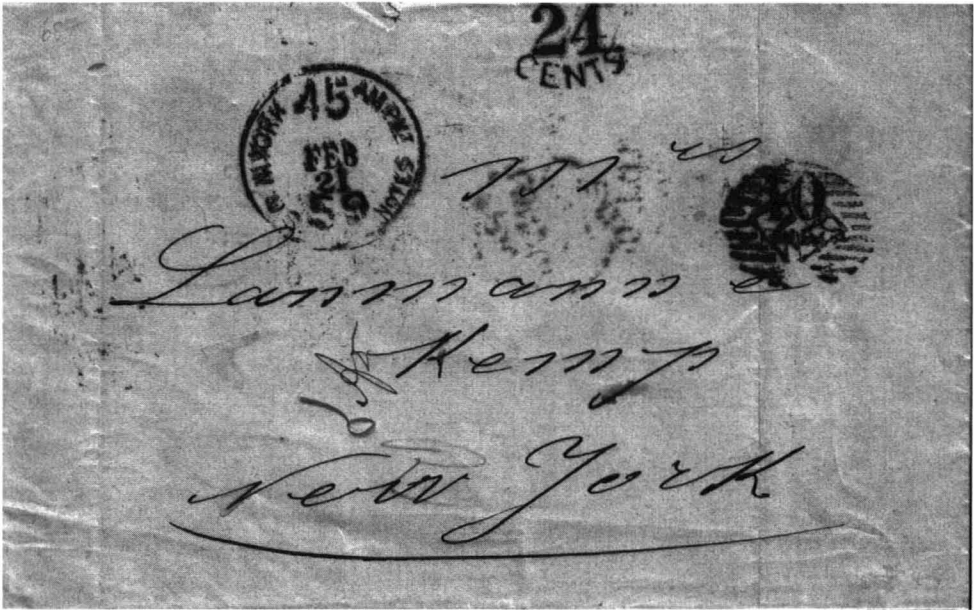


Figure 17. 1867 unpaid entire from Pernambuco to New York via England on Royal Mail Steam Packet Company steamer *Oneida* arriving at Southampton 2 February. Initially intended to be forwarded by British packet, hence 40/CENTS accountancy marking applied. London then realized that U.S. packet *Allemania* of the HAPAG line left earlier, so 40¢ amended to 24/CENTS due only for South Atlantic carriage. New York added 21¢ for U.S. sea and inland carriage for 45¢ collect, 59¢ in Notes.

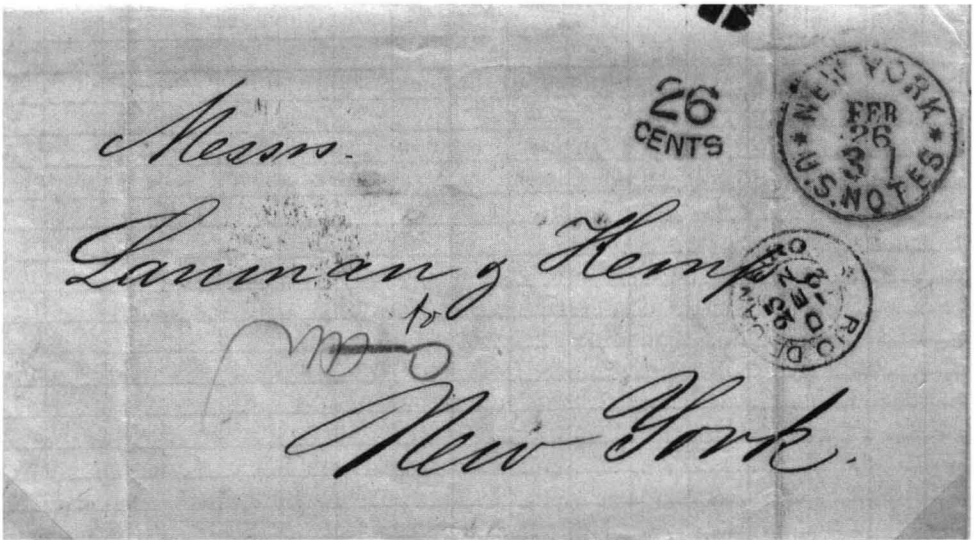


Figure 18. 1872/3 unpaid letter from Rio de Janeiro to New York via England. Letter just missed the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company steamer *Neva*, departing 24 December, and probably was sent by Pacific Steam liner *Cuzco*. Forwarded owing the British 24¢ South Atlantic postage and 2¢ North Atlantic sea postage for 26/CENTS. New York added 2¢ U.S. inland for 28¢ collect, or 31¢ in Notes.

The 28/CENTS marking, London M31.

Proofed on 18 October 1872, but yet to be seen on cover, this marking suggests an unpaid postage rate from a third country to Britain of 26¢ (1/1d sterling) which, added to the 2¢ sea postage to the U.S. prevailing in 1872, would make up 28¢ due to the U.K. There are some countries which qualify, for example parts of Egypt to England via France and Austria was 11d prepaid, but fined 2d if unpaid, making 1/1d due to U.K.

The 30/CENTS marking, London M32.

Proofed on 11 December 1861 but yet to be seen on cover, this marking suggests an unpaid postage rate from a third country to Britain of 14¢, or 7d, which added to the 16¢ sea postage for carriage by a British packet to the U.S. prevailing in 1861 would make up 30¢ due to the U.K. No such rate is known for the period in question. Alternatively, a 1/3d rate (30¢) to U.K., with onward transmission by U.S. packet, would also fit the bill. Such a rate was in force from parts of Turkey via France; if a cover is found it would be interesting to know from whence it came.

The 34/CENTS marking, London M34.

Unknown at present on cover, the first known proofing on 31 August 1874 suggests this marking was for use under the third Anglo-U.S. Convention, which allowed the U.K. 2¢ sea postage for carriage to the U.S., plus the sum owing to the British post office on the first leg of the journey. This leaves 32¢ or 1/4d sterling, a large amount for 1874. However, unpaid mail from Mauritius and Madagascar at this time was rated at 10d plus a 6d fine, so they are possible candidates for the origin of any letters subsequently found with this marking. There may be others.

The 36/CENTS and 72/CENTS markings, London M35 and M48.

Also unknown as yet on cover, the 36/CENTS marking was first proofed on 11 December 1861, during the first Anglo-U.S. Convention. Since it is unlikely to be a credit to the U.S., it must represent a sum due from the U.S. by either a British or U.S. transatlantic packet. If the former, the 16¢ transatlantic sea postage means that the letter must have arrived in London owing 20¢ to the U.K., *i.e.*, 10d sterling. If the latter the whole 36¢ was due to the U.K. on arrival in England, *i.e.*, 1/6d sterling. Possible rates are: Two Sicilies, Modena and Parma via France to the U.K. at 1/6d; Belgium to U.K. via France 10d unpaid. Later on, parts of the Ottoman Empire via Belgium also came under the 10d rate. Since all of these are scarce routes, it is not surprising that an example has yet to surface. The 72/CENTS marking, proofed on the same day, is presently assumed to be for double rate letters under the same conditions.

The 40/CENTS and 80/CENTS markings, London M38 and M52. (Figures 19, 20)

Since these were both proofed on the same day in November 1860 it seems reasonable to expect the 80¢ to be the double rate of the 40¢. Under the 1848 Convention 40¢ represented a letter owing the U.K. 24¢ (1/-) on arrival, plus the 16¢ ocean postage to the U.S. by British packet. The east coast of South America immediately springs to mind, whence the known examples of both markings come.

The 46/CENTS marking, London M41.

Proofed under the first Anglo-U.S. Convention on 11 December 1861, this marking would have been used on letters arriving in U.K. owing 30¢ (1/3d) to the British, plus the 16¢ ocean postage by British packet to the U.S. It also has yet to be seen on cover. The 1/3d rate applied for example to unpaid letters from Constantinople by French packet, and those from Bucharest and Botuschany via France. Since none of these are common routes the lack of a proving cover is not surprising.

The 52/CENTS and 104/CENTS markings, London M43 and M55.

It is tempting to assign these as multiples of the 26¢ marking discussed above, but they were proofed on 11 December 1861, so existed under a different set of rules. It would seem reasonable however to assume that the 104/CENTS marking is the double rate of

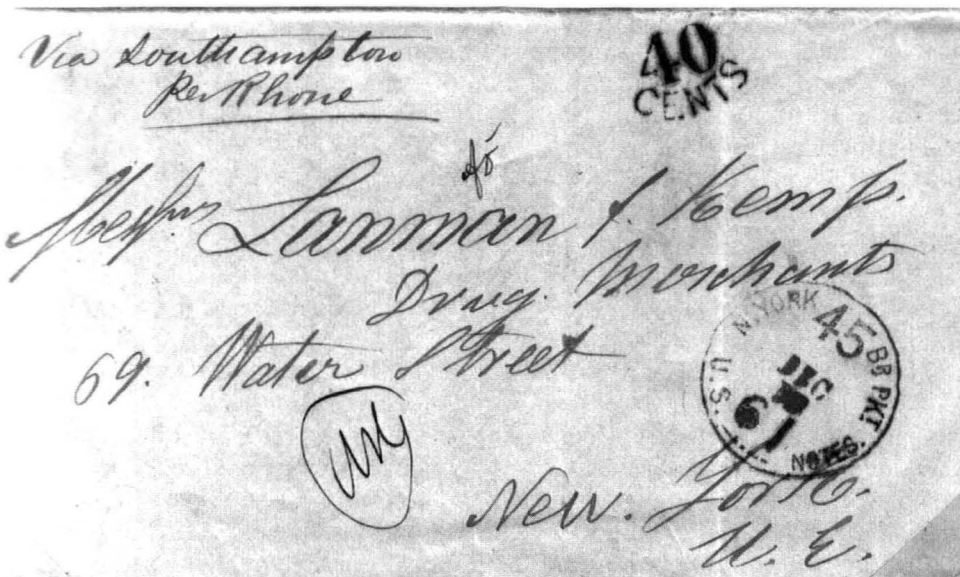


Figure 19. 1866 unpaid letter from Montevideo to New York via England by Royal Mail Steam Packet Company steamer *Rhone* to Southampton. Forwarded by Cunarder *Cuba*, arriving New York 13 December. 1/- (24¢) due to the British for South Atlantic packet rate, plus 16¢ for onward transmission by British packet, for 40/CENTS debit to U.S. New York added 5¢ U.S. inland for 45¢ collect, 61¢ in Notes.

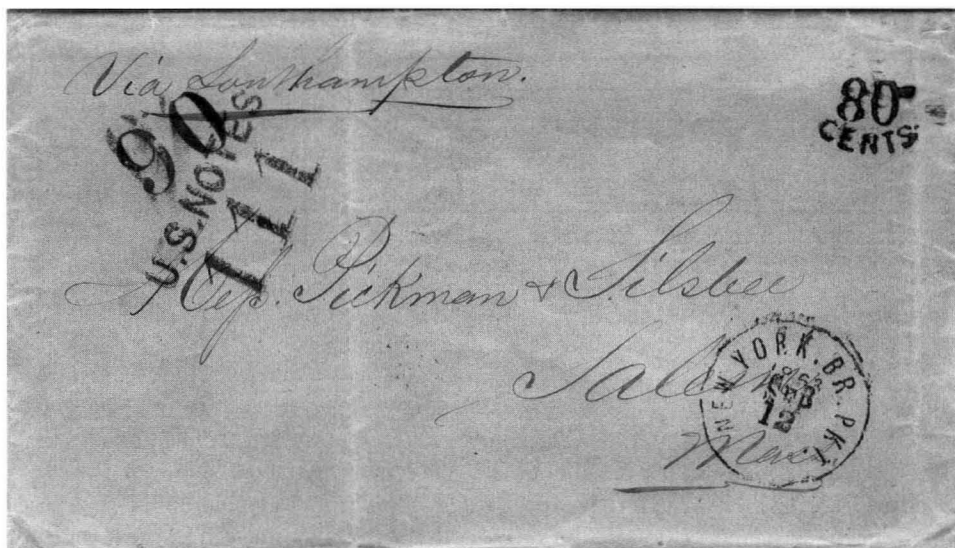


Figure 20. 27 July 1863, Buenos Ayres, Argentina to Salem, Massachusetts, double rate unpaid letter carried by Royal Mail Steam Packet Company steamer *Oneida* to Southampton and Galway Line steamer *Adriatic* to New York. London debited U.S. 2x40¢ with black 80/CENTS marking. New York marked 90¢ due in coin or \$1.11 in depreciated greenback notes using separate black handstamps.

52/CENTS as they were both proofed on the same day. Applying the logic used for the 36/CENTS marking above, the 52/CENTS mark would have been struck on letters arriving in U.K. owing 52¢ (2/2d) if forwarded by American packet, or 36¢ (1/6d) if sent by British packet to the U.S. The 1/6d rate existed from Modena or Parma via France to the U.K. as noted under the 36/CENTS marking; no 2/2d single letter rate is known to the author still extant in December 1861.

The 66/CENTS marking, London M47.

Also proofed on 11 December 1861, the rate requires letters owing 2/9d sterling to the British post office. If carried to the U.S. by British packet this would include the 16¢ sea postage, so it would have been required for letters arriving in England owing 2/1d to the British. Neither 2/9d nor 2/1d rates can be found for December 1861, so the use of this marking is a mystery at present.

The 74/CENTS and 78/CENTS markings, London M49 and M51.

These are two more markings yet to be found on cover, proofed in November 1860. The logic previously applied suggests a rate to the U.K. of 3/1d if forwarded to the U.S. by U.S. packet, or 2/5d by British packet for the 74/CENTS, and 3/3d or 2/7d respectively. Again no such rates can be found in the British Post Office Guide.

The 98/CENTS, 126/CENTS and 190/CENTS markings, London M54, M56, M57.

All proofed on 11 December 1861, and none seen on cover. If applied to the 1848 Anglo-U.S. Convention they infer rates of: 3/5d, 4/7d and 7/3d by British packets, or 4/1d, 5/3d, and 7/11d by U.S. packets, respectively. Again such high single rates cannot be found for 1861, so these markings also remain a mystery. Attempting to make them into double rates does not work; if divided by two, all these rates produce British rates ending in 1/2d, which are not known either. Note, however, that 126/CENTS was the credit due to the U.S. for a sextuple rate letter by U.S. packet under the 1848 Convention.

Marking Designator	Description	Proofed On	Marking Designator	Description	Proofed On
London M31	28/CENTS	18 October 1872	----	---	---
London M32	30/CENTS	11 December 1861	London M34	34/CENTS	31 August 1874
London M35	36/CENTS	11 December 1861	London M40	44/CENTS	1 October 1866
London M41	46/CENTS	11 December 1861	London M43	52/CENTS	11 December 1861
London M46	64/CENTS	July 1864	London M47	66/CENTS	11 December 1861
London M48	72/CENTS	11 December 1861	London M49	74/CENTS	November 1860
London M50	76/CENTS	16 January 1861	London M51	78/CENTS	November 1860
London M54	98/CENTS	11 December 1861	London M55	104/CENTS	11 December 1861
London M56	126/CENTS	11 December 1861	London M57	190/CENTS	11 December 1861

Summary of Unseen Markings

It seems strange that so many of these markings have yet to be seen on cover (by the author at least). The British Post Office was never renowned for spending a penny when a halfpenny, and preferably nothing, would suffice, so why produce handstamps for rates so rare that so many are missing from the record? Disregarding the triple rate markings of the 1848 Convention, which were only in force for 20 months and applied only to a scarce category of mail, and also a couple of the small 20/CENTS markings representing the quadruple rate by British packet, examples of the following markings have yet to be found:

M31, M34 and M40 had very limited lives until expiry of the relevant convention, so their absence on cover may be reasonable, but there remain two significant sets of markings, the 74/CENTS and 78/CENTS issued in November 1860, and a very large batch of 10 different values issued on 11 December 1861. If these were related to Anglo-U.S. mails it seems strange that none have yet come to light—they would have been valid until at

least the end of 1867. However, as the author's main collecting interest in this period relates to transatlantic mails, so giving a transatlantic bias to the covers that he records, possibly these markings, or many of them, apply to some other convention? The only other country with which the U.K. accounted in cents was Holland, 5 Dutch cents being equal to 1d sterling. Looking at the missing markings table, only the 190/CENTS divides by five to produce a whole number of British pennies, so that theory seems unlikely. Despite a careful search of available records no significant postal event can presently be found which would require a whole batch of accountancy markings of rather strange values to be issued on one day. If any reader has examples of any of the missing markings on cover, I would appreciate copies via the section editor.

Acknowledgments

Thanks are due to the British Post Office Archives without whose records this article would not have been as complete; to Richard F. Winter for invaluable help over the years in compiling records of examples seen on cover; and to many other friends for their contribution to the record over the years.

USA, Confederate States, & Possessions

**Stamps & postal history, including Western States, at
APS AmeriStamp Expo, Riverside, California
8-10 February (discount for USPCS members)**

**Stephen T. Taylor
5 Glenbuck Road
Surbiton, Surrey
England KT6 6BS**

Phone 01144-208-390-9357

Fax 01144-208-390-2235

Email: staylor995@aol.com

www.stephentaylor.co.uk

Member: ASDA, APS, USPCS, MCS, PTS, ASC-GB

Your American dealer in Britain



ANSWER TO PROBLEM COVER IN ISSUE 189

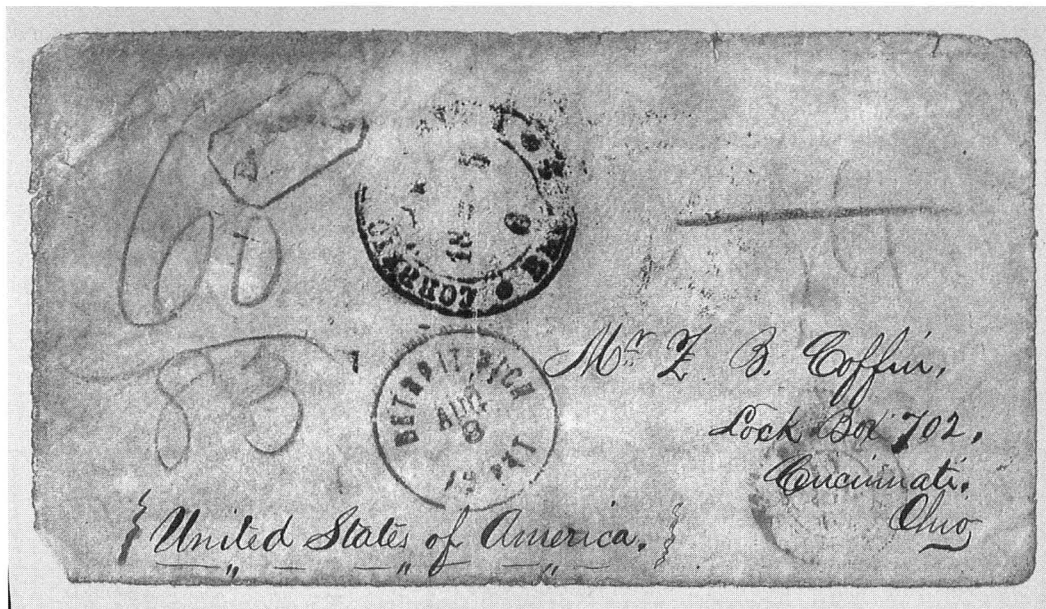


Figure 1. 1860s cover front from ?? to Cincinnati via Detroit

The problem cover front in Figure 1 was presented in Issue 189 (February 2001). It was nearly consigned to the unsolved mystery cover file when Route Agent Dick Winter sent an intriguing analysis which appeared in Issue 191 (August 2001). Dick concluded from the double circle CDS that the cover originated in Bahia, Brazil in 1865. Assuming the month to be June, he traced its path via French mail to Bordeaux and Londonderry where it departed 21 July 1865 on the Allan Line Steamship *Hibernian*. It arrived at Quebec on 1 August, the Detroit exchange office 3 August, and then to Cincinnati. The postage was unpaid, and was calculated to be:

- French debit to U.S. - $2 \times 27\text{¢} = 54\text{¢}$ (Double Rate—Brazil to France to Britain to Canada to Detroit)
- U.S. - Detroit to Cincinnati - $2 \times 3\text{¢} = 6\text{¢}$ (Double Rate)
- Total - 60 cents due in Cincinnati if paid in coin;
- 83 cents due if paid in depreciated Civil War currency

After sending the above analysis to press for Issue 191, another analysis was received, this from Route Agent Calvet Hahn. He writes:

This cover originated in the Amazon port of Breves, near the mouth of the river, where it was put on a British ship. The rate shows that it could only have arrived between July and November 1863 when the "60/83" depreciated currency rate was in effect. It would have crossed the Atlantic on the Allan Line steamer *America* arriving in the U.S. on the 4th for transit to Detroit. As that vessel left Liverpool on the 23rd of July, the origin in Brazil has to date May 18th 1863; it's a long slow trip from the Amazon to England!

Now we have two different analyses regarding the dating and the origin of the problem cover. Any further thoughts?

ADDITIONAL ANSWER TO PROBLEM COVER IN ISSUE 188

Figure 2 was a problem cover in Issue 188 (November 2000). A complete response appeared in Issue 190 (May 2001) which explained the different rate progressions between Britain and the U.S. at the time of this cover. It was rated by weight and paid 4/- in red at left) in Britain, and rated by number of sheets and paid 3 rates (72 cents in black) in the U.S.

But we did not answer the meaning of the “B63” marking at lower left. Calvet Hahn included in his response above his opinion that “it quite probably is a Post Office box number, as denoted by examples of other correspondence to E. Chadwick with the same marking.”

“B63” and “H63” (F.B.Croninshield) are the only alphanumeric markings recorded by your editor. Do any of our Route Agents have others to report?

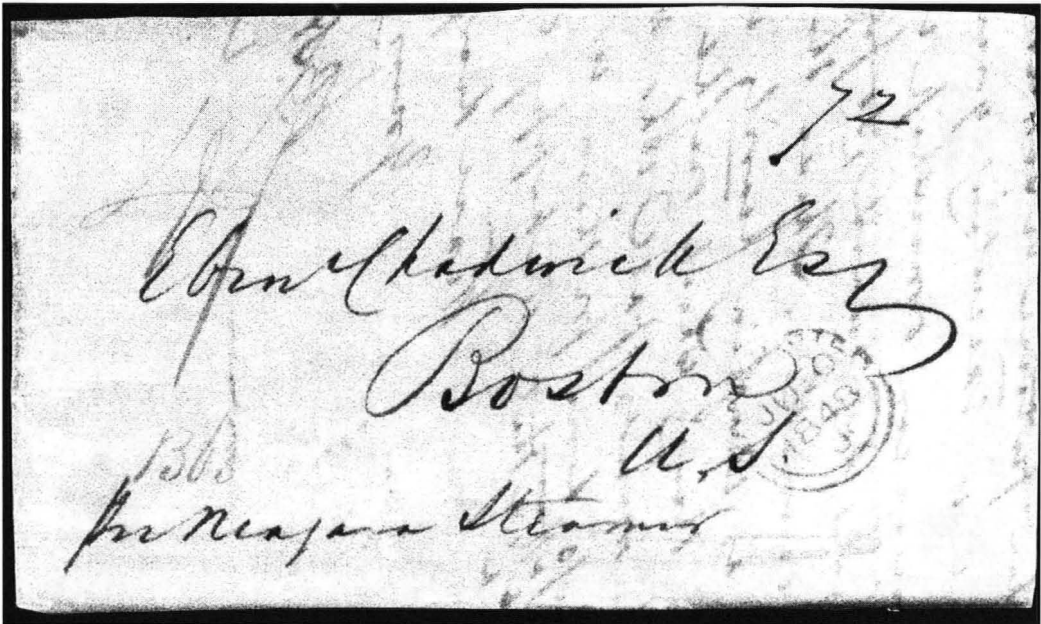


Figure 2. 1848 cover from Manchester to Boston

ANSWER TO PROBLEM COVERS IN ISSUE 190

The problem covers in Figures 3 and 4 are a pair which were in the May Issue (#190). Both originated in Nantucket, Mass., charged to “Box 149,” initialed, and addressed to the same Capt. Joseph Marshall of the Bark *Aurora*. The first cover was directed “Care Alex. Bathurst Esq. Paita (Peru) S.A.,” the other to “Care American Consul (?) Valparaiso (Chile) S.A.” Route Agent Doug Clark submitted an explanation of the different postages prepaid and unpaid and the accountancy markings on these covers as well as the internal charges.

Subsequently, Agents Percy Bargholtz and Theron Wierenga submitted further details of the postage rates of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company (PSNCo), the history of the Bark *Aurora*, and speculation about the role of Alexander Bathurst in collecting Captain Marshall’s mail. These arrived too late to include in the August issue, and are being provided here. This expanded information makes the explanation of the problem cover more complete and interesting. The inputs of Agents Bargholtz and Wierenga have been combined as follows:

First, the postage rates. The pair of covers represent a very nice example of the rates to Peru and Chile which began in December 1856. The American Steamship rate to



Figure 3. "PAID 22" cover from Nantucket to Paita, S.A.



Figure 4. "PAID 34" cover from Nantucket to Valparaiso

Panama was 10 (cents, single) in both cases. The British rate, however, to the West coast countries of South America by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company was cheaper to Peru, 12 (cents) than to Ecuador or Chile, 24 (cents). This was a concession Britain had given Peru in the 1851 Postal Convention between the two countries. Technically, the Convention was allowed to lapse in 1857, but the quirk in rates to and from Peru was observed until 1867.

A “25” is on the face of both covers; a handstamp on one (to Peru), and in manuscript (to Chile) on the other. The “25” in magenta on the Chile cover represents 25 centavos local postage, the Chilean incoming letter weighing in the 9 to 15 gram range. This Chilean postage is not always marked, but it was in principle always due. For more details on local Chilean postage, see Doublet, *The Pacific Steam Navigation Company, its Maritime Postal History 1840-1853 with Particular Reference to Chile*.

Peru also claimed postage on incoming letters, and the manuscript “Due 25¢” (centavos) may be this, according to Agents Clark and Wierenga. However, Agent Bargholtz states “The manuscript {u8216}91}Due 25¢’ is absolutely not a Peruvian postage due marking.” Agent Wierenga observed that the “50¢ AB” in manuscript on the Peru cover is in a different hand from the “Due 25¢” and could have been an accountant’s notation to record the amount due to Alex. Bathurst (presumably the American Consul) for postages he paid for receiving the Captain’s mail.

Next, more about the Bark *Aurora* and her Captain, Joseph Marshall. According to the Federal Project *Whaling Masters*, Captain Marshall is listed for three whaling voyages, the third in 1856 in the *Aurora* from Westport, Mass. Starbuck, *History of the American Whale Fishery*, lists this voyage of the *Aurora* beginning November 10, 1856 and returning July 12, 1861, a long voyage which returned 1,505 barrels of sperm oil and 363 of whale oil.

NO ANSWERS TO PROBLEM COVERS IN ISSUE 191



Figure 5. 1873 unpaid letter, Norway to Michigan

The trio of stampless, unpaid depreciated currency covers, Figures 5 to 7, from Easiness, Norway to Mainstay, Michigan brought no responses. We’ll carry them over for one more issue, trusting that some agents will share their knowledge. Highlights of the three covers are:



Figure 6. 1874 unpaid letter, Norway to Michigan

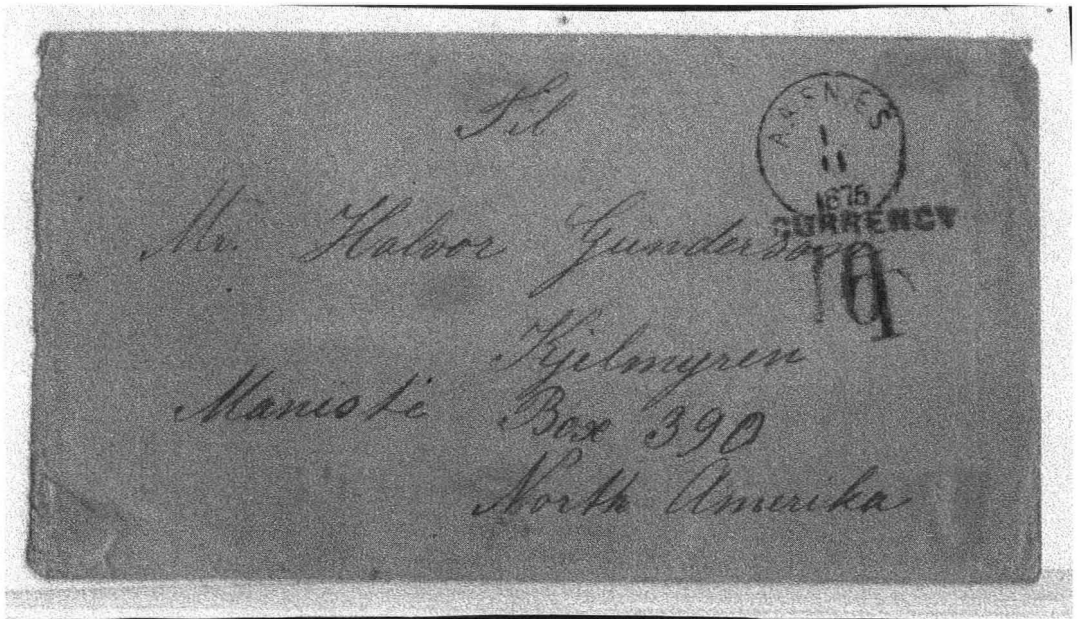


Figure 7. 1875 unpaid letter, Norway to Michigan

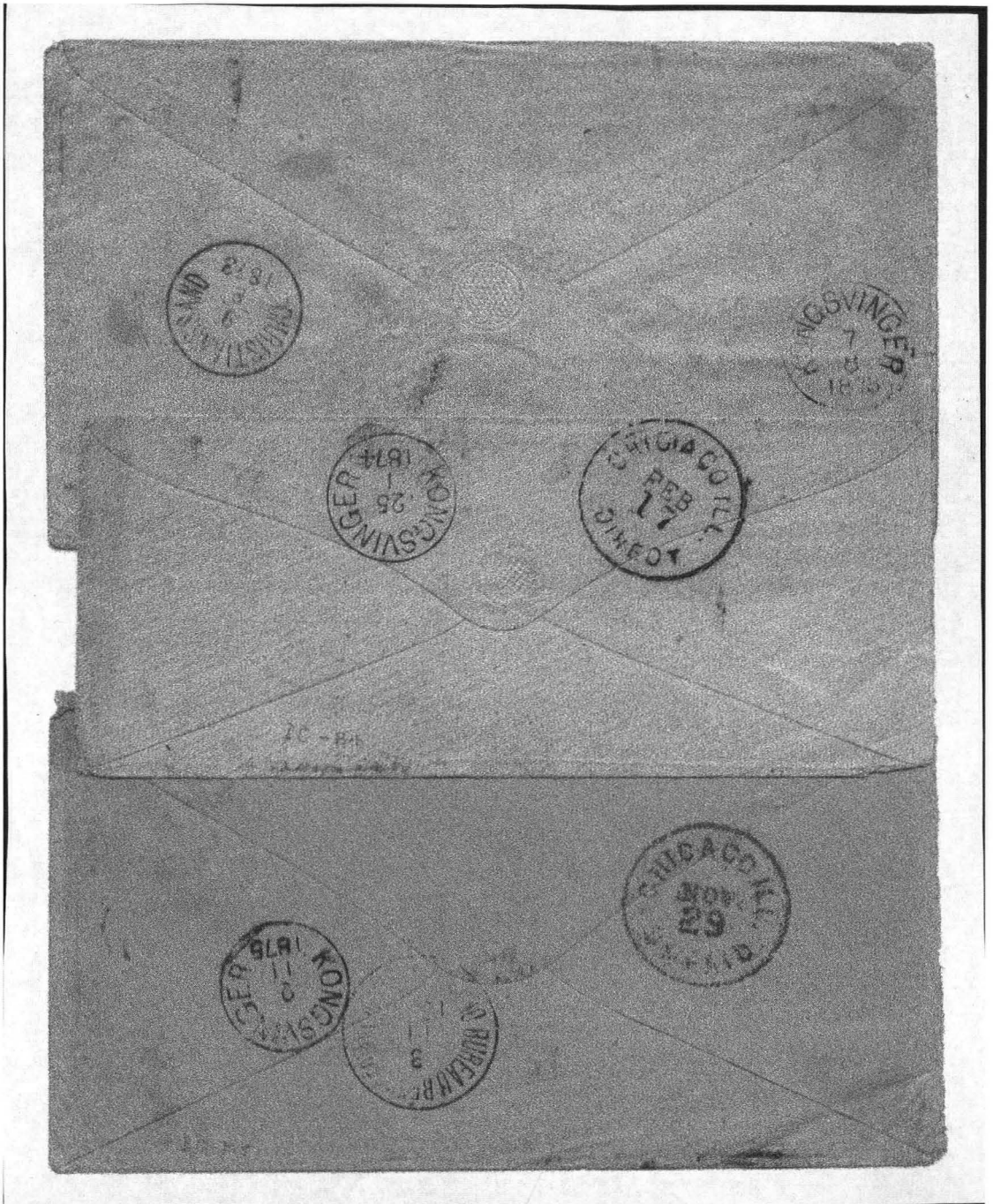


Figure 8. Reverse of the trio of Norway to Michigan covers shown earlier (Figures 5, 6 and 7, respectively)

<u>Figure</u>	<u>Entered Mail</u>	<u>Routing</u>	<u>U.S. Postage Due</u>
5	June 23, 1873	Via England	17 (cents)
6	Jan. 23, 1874	Via Tydskland [Germany]	16 (cents)
7	Nov. 11, 1875	??	10 (cents)

Figure 8 illustrates the combined cover backs showing transit routes for each cover. Note that all three are different.

The questions asked are:

- 1) What was the routing of each cover?
- 2) How were the U.S. postage due rates calculated, viz., 17, 16, 10 (cents)?

PROBLEM COVERS FOR THIS ISSUE

A recent acquisition by Route Agent Jim Blandford is shown in Figure 9, an interesting cover from "OLD POINT COMFORT / VA / MAY / 11" to a box number address in Detroit, Mich. in 1865(?). All markings are in black. It has a soldier's m/s endorsement at left "Army Letter / J W McTirany / Adj 30th Ohio Infy". A printed line "OFFICIAL BUSINESS" is crossed out at top left. Two due markings were applied: one at top right "Due 3"; the other in the middle "DUE / 3 / CTS" in a vertical box. "MAY / 17" and "MAY / 18" Detroit receiving h/s are at right. A large oval (28 X 49mm) is struck at the upper left "HAVE YOUR / LETTERS DIRECTED / TO YOUR / STREET & NUMBER", and this same marking also appears on the reverse. The following questions are asked:

- Why were two receiving dates struck?
- Why were two different due markings struck? Were both applied at Detroit?
- What was the purpose of the large oval handstamp? Was this used at Detroit only, or also at other P.O.'s?



Figure 9. Old Point Comfort cover (1865) to Detroit, Mich.



Figure 10. 1815 letter from Amsterdam to Providence via Baltimore

Figure 10 is a duplicate folded letter datelined “Amsterdam 25 August 1815” to Providence R.I. It was carried by a private ship to Baltimore where it received the red “SHIP” marking and a red “BALTIMORE Md. / NOV / 10” CDS. The apparent postage due “62” is in black m/s at upper right. There are no postal markings on the back. Answers are needed for:

- How the postage due was calculated?
- The meaning of the marking at upper left? Is it a receiving date -“14 Nov”?

Figure 11A, a cover to Watterford, Wisconsin is a sequel to a similar group of three unpaid covers to Manistee, Michigan. They were featured in *Chronicle* 191 with U.S. postage due charged from 10 cents to 17 cents. All four of these covers originated in the same period from the Norwegian town of Anstnes. This cover bears a CDS date of “4 / 3 / 1873” and a black postage due h/s of “U.S. CURRENCY / 20” [cents] at right. It also has a black European style “11” h/s accountancy mark at left. Figure 11B is the reverse, showing all transit markings in black and a boxed “via Tydskland” [Germany] routing h/s. Four questions:

- 1) How and (2) where was the postage due calculated?
- 3) What does the accountancy mark represent?
- 4) Where was the accountancy “11” mark applied?

Figure 12 is a cover from New York to Greytown, Nicaragua from 1875, paid 18 cents in U.S. postage (1¢, 1¢, 3¢, 3¢, 10¢). It received four strikes in black of a NY Foreign Mail cancel across the top of a New York Co. corner card (blue h/s). The reverse has no postal markings; the obverse has two:

- 1) A red CDS “8 / JUN / 30 / NEW-YORK”
- 2) A small black CDS “A / COLON / JU 28” [? – error?]

The following answers are needed:

- How was postage determined?
- What was the U.S. share and how was it collected?
- When did Nicaragua join the GPU/UPU?

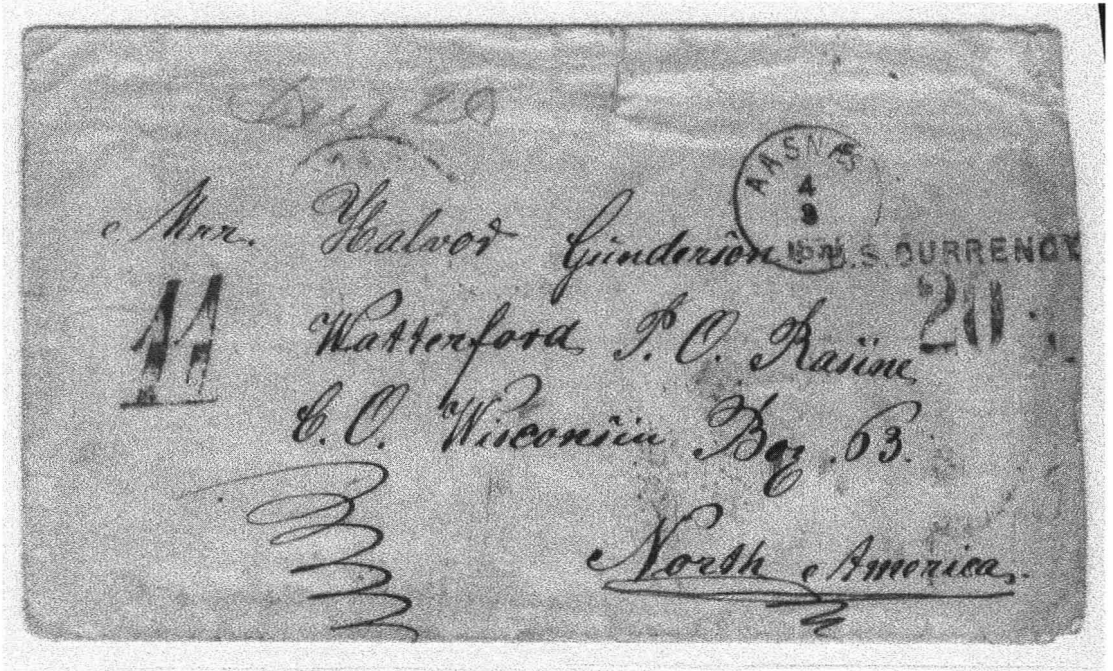


Figure 11A. 1873 unpaid letter, Norway to Wisconsin

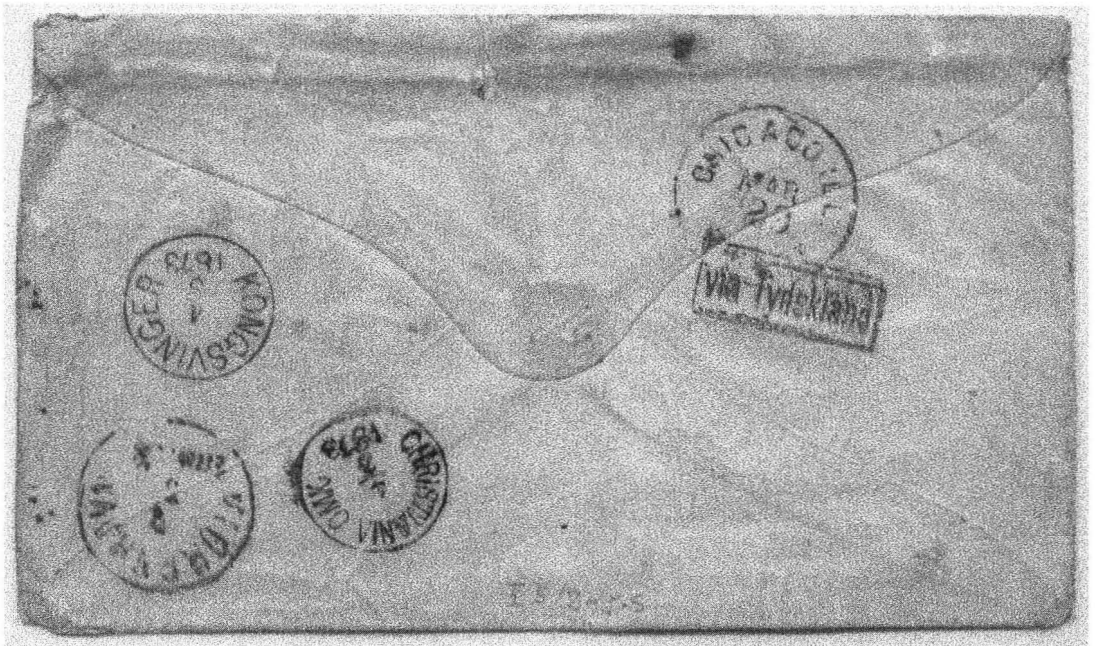


Figure 11B. Reverse of 1873 letter to Wisconsin



Figure 12. New York to Greytown, Nicaragua cover in 1875

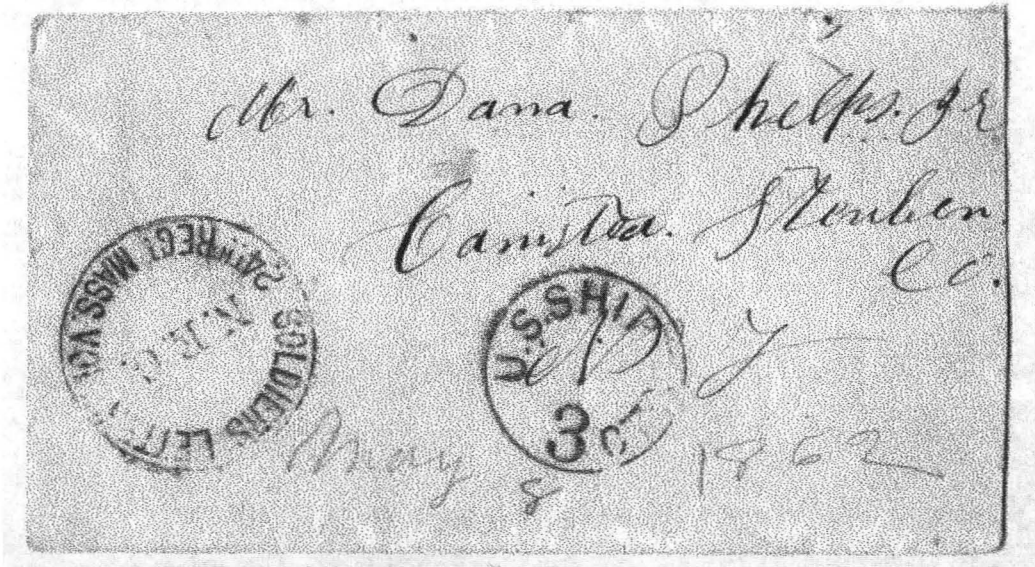


Figure 13. "SOLDIERS LETTER" with "U.S.SHIP / 3 CTS."

- The New York CDS is clearly JUN 30; the transit Colon “thimble” looks like JU 28, but is this too early. What happened?

- What postal history significance is there to the date of this cover?

The cover shown in Figure 13 came from a soldier on a ship during the period of the U.S. Civil War. It has a pencil date across the bottom, “May 8 1862”—ostensibly when received, but could also be date of writing. There are no postal markings on the reverse; the obverse has two, both in black:

- Circle “SOLDIERS LETTER / 24th REGT.MASS.VOL.” with “N.E.G.” across the middle.

- “Thimble” size circle “U.S.SHIP / 3 Cts”.

Please provide answers to the following:

- What does the abbreviation “N.E.G.” stand for?

- Why was postage of only 3¢ charged, vice 6¢, which was the ship letter rate at the time?

* * * * *

Please send to The Cover Corner Editor your answers to the problem covers for this issue, and any further discussion of previous answers to other problem covers, as soon as possible, preferably within two weeks of receiving your *Chronicle*. The “go to press” deadline for the February 2002 Cover Corner is January 10, 2002. I can receive mail at 9068 Fontainebleau Terrace, Cincinnati, Ohio 45231-4808, and via an e-mail address: RWCcarlin@aol.com

New examples of problem covers are needed for The Cover Corner. We have successfully experimented with copies of covers produced by high resolution copiers, either in black and white or in color, instead of requiring black and white photographs. This should make it easier to submit covers. Please send two copies of each cover, including the reverse if it has significant markings. It is also important to identify the color of markings on covers submitted in black and white. Thanks.

Bibliopole
Since 1965

PHILATELIC BIBLIOPOLE

<http://pbbooks.com>

Authoritative Philatelic Literature

US, CSA, Maritime, Forgery, GB and the Empire, etc.

Purchaser of major and minor philatelic libraries, stocking new titles from over 100 publishers. 112 page Stock Catalog: \$3 to a US address, Foreign by air \$5.

PB Blank Pages, Mylar and Page Boxes

The state of the art for both archival preservation and appearance, our pages are 100% cotton rag, neutral pH and buffered; blank and quadrille. Custom steel engraved page heads and paneling available. Will run on most Laser Jet Printers. All made exclusively for us in the US. Page Sampler: \$3 to a US address. Foreign by air \$7.

Leonard H. Hartmann

P.O. Box 36006, Louisville, KY 40233
Phone (502) 451-0317, Fax (502) 459-8538



FORWARDING OF MAIL BY THE U.S. POST

Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz, *The Forwarding of Mail by the U.S. Post Office Department, 1792-2001*. Published 2001 by James E. Lee, P.O. Drawer 250, Wheeling IL 60090-0250. ISBN 0-9712608-0-X. Hardbound, 8 x 11 inches, offset on coated paper, viii+230 numbered pages + 8 unnumbered color pages, copiously illustrated, well indexed. From the publisher, \$39.95 + \$4 shipping/handling.

Tony Wawrukiewicz seems to be going through an enviable phase of producing exceptional, definitive, seminal, can't-do-without philatelic reference books. This most recent magnum opus deals with forwarding of mail by the USPOD (and subsequently the USPS) from its founding in 1792 through 2001, and appeared just in time to be a great Christmas present for any student or collector of U.S. covers.

It's actually the second book he's written on the subject: *REDIRECTED MAIL: The Redirecting System of the U.S. Post Office for First Class Mail, 1799-Present*, was published by La Posta Publications in 1993. That earlier work was much more modest in scope, as the difference in titles would suggest. The present book, in the author's words, attempts to present the entire story of the forwarding process, with all of its ramifications, from the inception of the U.S. Postal Service in 1792, until the present day. Such a presentation must include a great deal more material than was found in the first book. All classes of mail, when they existed, have been forwarded, and this forwarding process will be discussed. . . . I have also chosen to discuss another aspect of the forwarding process, the handling of mail that is undeliverable and returned to the sender. That is . . . what happens to mail that cannot be forwarded for various reasons.

The approach is by classes or categories of mail, rather than by rate structure or simple chronology. The first chapter, logically, deals with the forwarding of first class mail—forwarding of letter mail was a regular part of U.S. postal operations from earliest days, and it undoubtedly continues to make up the largest portion of U.S. forwarded mail to this day. It systematically treats the changes in procedures, including the rates, the use of hand-stamps, the initiation of free forwarding, the inclusion of post and postal cards, special services and situations to include way letters, registered mail and combined surface and airmail domestic handling. Each forwarding situation is identified, relevant regulations or instructions cited, and an applicable example illustrated and described.

Subsequent chapters apply similar treatment to other categories of forwarded mail. The list of those chapter headings will give a good insight into the book's overall structure and depth of coverage, and the considerable complexity of the subject:

- Drop letter forwarding;
- Forwarded domestic letter mail that received carrier service;
- Domestic first-class mail, forwarded, undeliverable, and returned;
- Misdirected domestic first-class mail;
- Forwarding of domestic airmail, air parcel post, and priority mail;
- Forwarding or registered mail;
- Armed forces mail forwarding;
- Forwarding during the Civil War;
- Forwarded domestic express letters;
- Domestic second-class mail, forwarded, undeliverable, and returned;
- Domestic third-class mail, forwarded, undeliverable, and returned;
- Domestic fourth-class mail, forwarded, undeliverable, and returned;

- Forwarding of pre-UPU (International) surface letter mail, 1792-1875;
- Forwarding of UPU (International) surface letter/postal card mail, 1875-2001;
- Airmail forwarding of international mail;
- Forwarded international printed matter;
- Forwarding of cross-border mail, to and from Canada;
- Forwarding related to the territories and possessions of the United States;
- Mobile post office forwarding and other unusual forwarders of domestic first-class mail and international letter mail;
- Domestic and international forwarding of domestic free mail

There are two appendixes. The first is a listing of selected U.S. domestic postage rates, intended to provide the reader the essential tools to understand a forwarded cover.

The other is an illustrated listing of FORWARDED handstamps: those available at specific (individual) cities, from the 1820s to the present, in alphabetical order of city name; and those used at more than one city, essentially in chronological order of earliest known use.

There's a one-page bibliography, and a very well designed four-page, double-column index; 15 minutes used in browsing the index will be time well spent. There's also a useful table in Chapter 4 listing and explaining the endorsements on non-deliverable/forwarded mail (*e.g.*, Box closed - no order = Post Office Box closed for non-payment of rent).

But it's the illustrations that warrant the highest commendation. Each was carefully selected to make a particular point, to carry the story forward, and they are inextricably set into the body of the text. Each is carefully explained by captions giving a quick description of the cover followed by the itinerary of individual steps on its journey. Each is inconspicuously annotated with a code marker (12 steps, a-l, from less than \$10 up to \$2,000)-a helpful guide, although it's hard to believe the author was able to find some of the examples he needed, let alone at the modest cost indicated. And each is sharply scanned and reproduced, so that all key features are distinct, with a selection of the more interesting (*sic!*) reproduced in the color pages at the center of the book. The reader is furnished an illustrated tutorial, or perhaps what more aptly could be compared to an anatomy lesson, with each piece selected in logical order and then carefully dissected so the students can see how it was put together and how it differs in detail from other, similar parts.

Tony Wawrukiewicz has already had two "book of the year" publications; he seems to have done it again with *The Forwarding of Mail by the U.S. Post Office Department, 1792-2001*.

For those who may have somehow overlooked or failed to acquire a copy of the two earlier prime references to U.S. postal history, they are still available from philatelic literature dealers at approximately \$40 for the card cover editions, \$50 hardbound:

U.S. Domestic Postage Rates, 1872-1999, by Henry W. Beecher and Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz, 2nd revised and expanded edition, 330 pages, CAMA Publishing Company, 1996 (the first edition, 229 pages, appeared in 1994 and has long since been sold out); *U.S. International Postage Rates, 1872-1996*, by Anthony W. Wawrukiewicz and Henry W. Beecher, CAMA Publishing Company, 1996.

- Reviewed by Charles J. Peterson

VERMONT POSTAL HISTORY

Paul G. Abajian and Jason M. Granger, *Vermont Postal History: The Branches, Stations, & CPOs of the Green Mountain State*. Published 2000 by The Vermont Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 475, Essex Junction, Vermont 05453. ISBN 0-9635562-5-8. Softbound, 8 x 11, 199 pages, full color illustrations, maps, index. From the Society, \$31.50 (including shipping).

This publication is the second in an ongoing series of monographs published by The Vermont Philatelic Society to address specialized aspects of Vermont postal history. The

first, also with full color and now out of print, was a study of covers and their associated markings from Vermont's scarcest Discontinued Post Offices.

In exploring what had been a sporadically and inconclusively studied area of Vermont's postal history and its related markings, this new book furnishes detailed coverage for all of the 92 known branches, stations and contract offices which have served the Green Mountain State over the last 110 years. As the book indicates, although such subsidiary offices first came into being in Vermont around 1890, they have been known by a wide variety of changing names and in many locales over the ensuing 11 decades. Their unifying feature, however, has been the consistent absence from all of them of any resident postmaster, for they have operated (and, in the case of a number, continue today) to serve their communities under the supervision of some other office's postmaster.

Greatly complicating all previous study of this field has been the fact that records and information regarding these offices were poorly documented and also scattered among a variety of postal documents, assorted philatelic literature, private cover holdings, and, not infrequently, reposed only in individual memories. The authors dealt with these underlying problems by conducting extensive research in the original postal records in Washington, corresponding with many current Vermont postal officials, studying the contents of all available major Vermont postal history collections, and, of equal importance, personally visiting each of Vermont's still-operating subsidiary offices.

The result is a rich collection of information which, for the first time, is able to furnish in one place the opening and closing dates for each subsidiary office, the initial postal classification and all known changes to it, and all locations where that office is known to have functioned. The book also includes large color photographs of every office for which one could be obtained, frequently including additional interior pictures for those offices still in daily operation. In addition, color photographs are included showing all known markings used by each of the subsidiary offices, either illustrating full covers or cropped images from them. The book includes four appendices, among which is a detailed rarity guide, and it also is completely cross-indexed.

This book provides an example of how to open a challenging (even though frequently inexpensive) area of state postal history to new collecting interest. In doing so, it also shows that the study of postal history can be approached in ways which not only bridge the classic and modern periods but which also help to make significant collecting opportunities available to those of more modest means. It is hoped that other state societies may decide to follow its example by producing similar works for those collectors interested in their own states' postal history.

- Reviewed by Richard J. Marek

Sell in Haste.....
Repent in Leisure!

Fast, Confidential

LOANS

On

**United States and Worldwide Stamps,
Covers and Postal History**

**LOANS NORMALLY PROCESSED IN 48 HOURS
SEND OR CALL FOR OUR BROCHURE**

Edelman's Loan Office

301 York Road Jenkintown, PA 19046

(215) 572-6480 Fax: (215) 572-6482

E-mail: Edelmanscoins.com

Jon D. Edelman, President

Established 1926

**Licensed & Bonded by the
Banking Dept. of Pennsylvania**

ADVERTISER INDEX

Matthew Bennett, Inc.	242
Echo Sierra Press	257
Edelman's Loan Office	314
Charles G. Firby.....	288
Leonard H. Hartmann	310
Ivy & Mader Philatelic Auctions, Inc.	316
Victor B. Krievins	240
James E. Lee	Inside Back Cover
Andrew Levitt, Philatelic Consultant	276-77
Jack E. Molesworth, Inc.	Inside Front Cover
Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions	252
Shreves Philatelic Galleries, Inc.	237
Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.	258, Back Cover
Spink	238
Stephen T. Taylor.....	300
United States Stamp Society	268
Valley Stamp Co.	287

CLASSIFIED

WANTED: Carriage, wagon, harness, livery stable, blacksmith, all horse goods - advertising covers, trade cards, post cards, letter-heads, catalogs, nameplates, medals, tokens, etc. All types of paper, celluloid or metal advertising items. Myron Huffman, 12409 Wayne Trace, Hoagland, IN 46745, 219-639-3290. E-mail: myron.huffman@nav-international.com (195)

NEW BOOK: By award winning author, Bob Stets, *Post Offices of South Carolina, 1865-1980 and their First Postmasters*. 200 pp., comb bound, soft covers protected by clear plastic. Lists over 3,000 offices by county with alpha index, maps of 46 counties showing post offices that operated in early 1900s. Send check or money order to Robert J. Stets, P.O. Box 142, Walterboro SC 29488-0002. Price \$20 postpaid by book-post in USA. (192)

WANTED: Leica or Hasselblad camera outfit. Virgil Frederiksen, 1-702-293-7800. P.O. Box 60781, Boulder City, NV 89006. (198)

FOR SALE: U.S STAMPLESS COVERS. All states. 1790s to 1850s. Also a large stock of Congressional and Departmental Free Franks. Please let me know your wants and approval selections will be gladly sent. Cortland Covers, Box 371, Homer NY 13077. (193)

CENTENNIAL Albums and Pages wanted, new or used having a page size of 9 1/4 in. wide x 11 1/4 in. high, not including hinge portion. Write: John A. Lange, Jr., 373 Root Road, Ballston Spa NY 12020-3227. Tel.: 518-882-6373. (194)

WANTED: Dr. Joseph Rorke's "U.S. Postal Card Issue of 1881 exhibit pages. First or second generation photocopy only (have later ones). Advise price. Louis K. Robbins (HL438), P.O. Box 20731, Park West Station, New York NY 10025-1516 (192)

YOUR AD HERE FOR 50¢ A LINE
Send payment to: Richard M. Wrona, P.O. Box 7631, McLean, VA 22106-7631. Next Deadline: January 5, 2002.

Your Confidence is our Guiding Value!

At **Ivy & Mader** we take pride in our integrity, reliability, and personal service.

But, all the principals can be summed up in one: Your confidence that we are the right choice to handle the sale of your collection.

All of our efforts are directed towards assuring you that your valuable stamps and covers are in the best of hands!

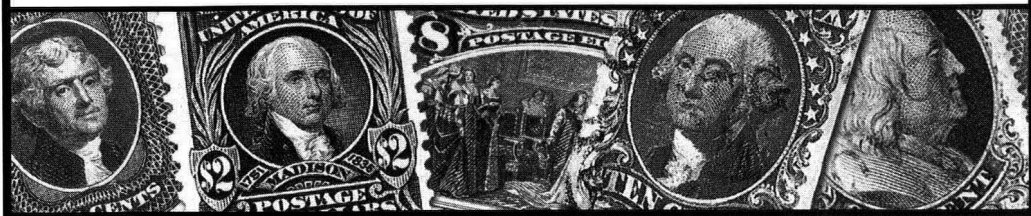
Call or write Walter Mader or Rex Bishop to inquire further how **Ivy Mader Philatelic Auctions, Inc.** can assist you in the sale or the building of your collection.

Past or current catalogs available free of charge to Classics Society Members.

Call Today 1-800-782-6771

**IVY
&
MADER**
Philatelic Auctions, Inc.

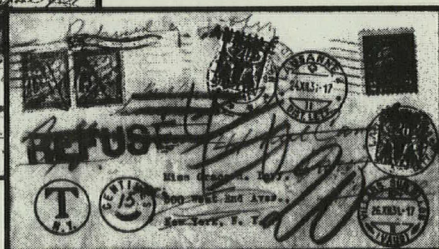
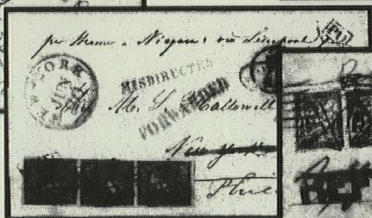
775 Passaic Avenue
West Caldwell, New Jersey 07006
Phone: 973-882-0887 Fax: 973-852-5433
email: wmader@ivymader.com
rbishop@ivymader.com



The important long-awaited
revised edition is here!

The Forwarding of Mail by the U.S. Post Office Department, 1792-2001

By Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz



Available Aug. 15

\$39.95

Plus \$4 shpg.



Tony Wawrukiewicz's first book on this subject was published in 1991—but as John Hotchner says in the Preface to this new work, "...he has used the intervening ten years to work with others, to gather research materials, and to review tens of thousands of covers for examples and for puzzles to solve."

In 230 pages (with scores and scores of fine illustrations) and 21 chapters, this **hardbound book** is a comprehensive, logical and easy reference to a subject that often hampers postal historians in their studies. And as it covers a period dating almost to the exact beginning of the United States, it will be of major interest to all specialists—classic to modern. In fact, by not limiting his coverage to one particular era, the author has turned this work into a monumental contribution to the study of American postal history. Classics Society members will truly benefit from the pre-1900 chapters.

This is a "Must Have" book for every collector of covers! Order it now while supplies last. In the future, when you're puzzled by a difficult-to-decipher cover, you'll be glad you have this "bible" on hand!

For additional related titles visit our website at

www.jameslee.com

JAMES E. LEE


P.O. Drawer 250 • Wheeling IL 60090

(847) 215-1231 • Fax: (847) 215-7253

E-Mail: philately2@earthlink.net

17th SALE

THE "GEORGE W. HALE"
COLLECTION OF
**UNITED STATES
FANCY CANCELLATIONS**



At Public Auction
THURSDAY, APRIL 24th, 2 p.m.

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTIONS**

100 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK CITY

Hale 1954

20th SALE

EDMUNDSON C. KRUG
Collection of
**UNITED STATES
COVERS**

AT PUBLIC AUCTION
Wednesday and Thursday
MAY 21 and 22, 1958
AT 2 P.M. EACH DAY

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTIONS**

100 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK CITY

Krug 1958

21st SALE

THE HENRY W. HILL COLLECTION
**FIVE CENT JEFFERSON STAMPS
1856-1861 ISSUES**

AT PUBLIC AUCTION
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th, 1959
AT 2 P.M.

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTIONS**

100 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK CITY

Hill 1959

The
**NEWBURY
Collection**

Part I

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTIONS**

100 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK CITY

Newbury 1962

THE JOSIAH K. LILLY
COLLECTION

PART I

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTIONS**

Lilly 1967

23rd SALE

UNITED STATES
POSTAL HISTORY COVERS

From the Award Winning Collection of
Mrs Katharine Mathies

AT PUBLIC AUCTION
Tuesday, Wednesday
May 29th, 30th, 1969

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTIONS**

100 EAST 94th STREET NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012

Mathies 1969

26th SALE

The
MORTIMER L. NEINKEN
Collection

AT ENDSERVED PUBLIC AUCTION
Thursday Afternoon, November 19th, 1970 at 1:00 P. M.
Friday Afternoon, November 20th, 1970 at 1:00 P. M.

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTIONS**

100 EAST 94th STREET NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012

Neinken 1970

46th SALE

UNITED STATES
1861-1869

A Portion of the
Louis Grunin Collection

Sold by the Order
AT PUBLIC AUCTION
Tuesday, April 14th, 1975
at 1:00 P.M.

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.**

100 EAST 94th STREET
NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. 10012
Tel. (212) 750-8000

Grunin 1975

End of Robert A Siegel's award winning collection of the century United States Cancellations Covers (1847-1977)

**ROBERT A. SIEGEL
AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.**

Rohloff 1977

22nd SALE

THE AWARDED WINNING
POSTAL HISTORY COLLECTION
OF
J. DAVID BAKER

Offered by order of the estate
AT ENDSERVED PUBLIC AUCTION

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTIONS**

100 EAST 94th STREET NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012

Baker 1978

28th SALE

**UNITED STATES
POSTAL HISTORY**

FROM THE
MARC HAAS COLLECTION

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.**

Haas 1980

55th SALE

Ex-Sheriff

PART I
DECEMBER 11, 12, 1985

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.**

100 EAST 94th STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012

Sheriff 1985

68th SALE

**CLASSIC UNITED STATES
STAMPS AND COVERS**

A PORTION OF THE PHILIP G. RUST COLLECTION

JUNE 25, 1987


**Robert A Siegel
AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.**

100 EAST 94th STREET
NEW YORK CITY, NY 10012

Rust 1987

5th SALE

UNITED STATES 1847 ISSUE
The Award-Winning Kapiloff Collection




**Robert A Siegel
AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.**

100 EAST 94th STREET NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012

Kapiloff 1992

HONOLULU ADVERTISER
1847 ISSUE
HAWAII

1



**Robert A Siegel
AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.**

100 EAST 94th STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012

Honolulu Advertiser 1995

THE
VERNON R. MORRIS JR. M.D.
COLLECTION

CLASSIC UNITED STATES STAMPS
OF
EXTRAORDINARY QUALITY AND COLOR

Sale 793

Friday Evening at 6:30 p.m.
September 26, 1997

**Robert A Siegel
AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.**

100 EAST 94th STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012

Morris 1997

Great collections have one name in common.