

The Chronicle

of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues



United States and New Brunswick two-country franking, mailed at St. John, New Brunswick on May 23, 1859. The U.S. 3¢ 1857 Type II dull red stamp and U.S. 1¢ 1857 Type V stamp, along with two New Brunswick 6d olive-yellow stamps, were all used in a successful attempt to prepay the 24¢ treaty rate from the U.S. to Great Britain. This curious and colorful cover is explained by David D'Alessandris in "St. John, New Brunswick, Express Mail to Great Britain" in our Foreign Mails section beginning on page 381.

H.R. Harmer is Accepting Consignments for Fall 2010
*Collections, Covers, Singles and Sets,
 We Sell it All...*



At H.R. Harmer, our first priority is to obtain the highest prices realized while providing unparalleled customer care to each and every client.

When you select H.R. Harmer to auction your stamps, you'll join the thousands of satisfied clients who have trusted us over the last seven decades of service.

Call our philatelic experts today for more information today! 800.782.6771



H.R. HARMER
 Fine Stamp Auctions, Since 1940

18061 Fitch, Irvine, CA 92614 • 800.782.6771 • +1.949.748.4802 • Fax: 949.748.4803

www.hrharmer.com

HRH CHRONICLES 06.18.10

THE CHRONICLE of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues is published quarterly in February, May, August and November by the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Inc. at P.O. Box 750368, New Orleans, LA 70175. Periodicals-class postage paid at Madrid, IA 50156 and additional mailing office. Subscription price \$27.50. Printed in the U.S.A. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to 102 Old Pawling Road, Pawling, NY 12564.

Looking for a professional who shares your passion for collecting?

Our clients sometimes wonder why we get so excited about a superb stamp, a rare cancel, 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 Siegel 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.

Other stamp firms can do the job by the book. But the philatelists at Siegel have more of what it takes to do the best job.

Passion.



Robert A. Siegel

AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.

Scott R. Trepel, President

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.
60 East 56th Street, 4th Floor
New York, New York 10022

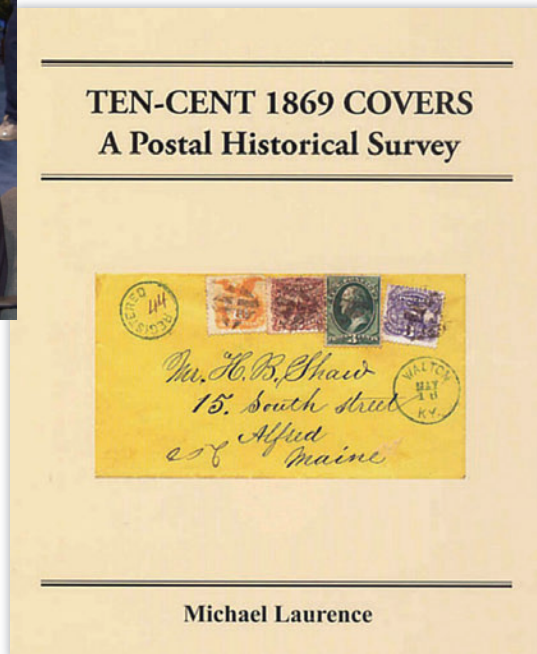
Phone (212) 753-6421 Fax (212) 753-6429

E-mail: stamps@siegelauctions.com

For on-line catalogues, prices realized and the Siegel Encyclopedia

www.siegelauctions.com

There has never been a postal history book quite like this. Clearly, the best book ever written about a single stamp in the mails.



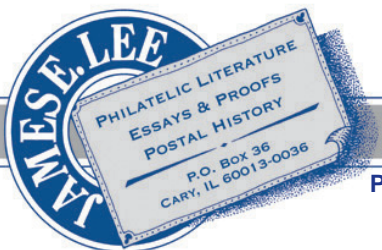
Decades in the making, Michael Laurence's tour de force study of the postal use of the 10-cent 1869 is so much more than the study of one of the most intriguing 19th century U.S. stamps. In seven extensive sections and 26 chapters, it is the highly comprehensive (and documented) study of the mails to foreign countries during the years preceding the Universal Postal Union. Domestic mails are included, too, but this stamp saw limited use within its own country's borders.

But as Laurence says, himself: "This is a time period that most of the previous students of U.S.-foreign mails have neglected or treated cavalierly."

One marvels at the lavish color images Laurence has assembled of important (and often unique) uses of his favorite stamp. Specialists will also greatly appreciate the 117 tables delineating everything from myriad rate structures to a variety of cover censuses.

No philatelic library can ever be called complete without this book.

Hardbound with dustjacket, 390 pages, Index, printed on high-grade enamel paper stock. Limited edition. **\$75.00 plus \$5.00 shipping.**



Phone: (847) 462-9130 • Email: jim@jameslee.com

www.JamesLee.com

The Chronicle

of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues

November 2010

Published Quarterly in
February, May, August and November

Vol. 62, No. 4
Whole No. 228

\$4.50 Members
\$6.00 Non-Members

Official publication of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Inc.
(Unit 11, A.P.S.) www.uspcs.org

Annual Dues
\$27.50

EDITORIAL BOARD

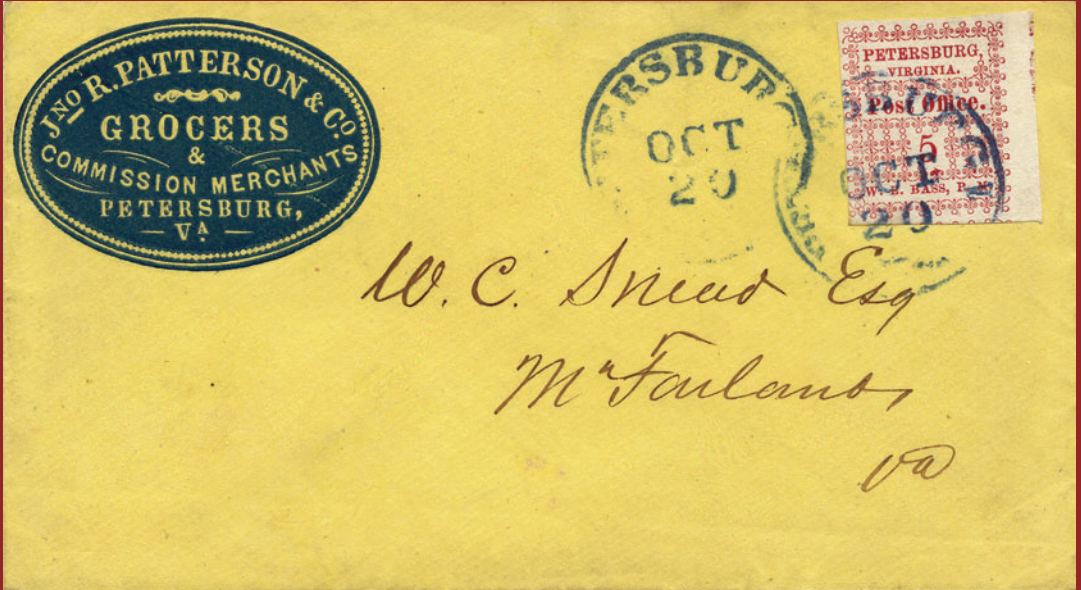
MICHAEL LAURENCE (plaurance@nyc.rr.com).....	<i>Editor-in-Chief</i>
324 East 41st Street, Apartment 1001-C, New York, NY 10017	
JAMES W. MILGRAM, M.D. (j-milgram@northwestern.edu).....	<i>Prestamp & Stampless Period</i>
1352 Estate Lane, Lake Forest, IL 60045	
GORDON STIMMELL (stimmell@sympatico.ca).....	<i>U.S. Carriers & Independent Mails</i>
203 Willow Avenue, Toronto, ONT M4E 3K4, Canada	
WADE E. SAADI (wade@pencom.com).....	<i>1847 Period</i>
93 80th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11209	
MICHAEL C. McCLUNG (mmcc767166@aol.com).....	<i>1861-69 Period</i>
4809-D Kingshill Drive, Columbus, OH 43229	
SCOTT R. TREPTEL (strepel@siegelauctions.com).....	<i>1869 Period</i>
Robert A. Siegel Auctions, 60 East 56th Street, New York, NY 10022	
JEFFREY FORSTER, Assistant (jforstr@pacbell.net)	
MATTHEW KEWRIGA (matt@kewriga.com).....	<i>Bank Note Period</i>
7 Tracy Lyn Road, Holliston, MA 01746	
ALAN CAMPBELL (alanccamp@aol.com).....	<i>Officials</i>
2746 29th Street, San Diego, CA 92105	
LESTER C. LANPHEAR III, Assistant (llanphear@earthlink.net)	
JAMES E. LEE (jim@jameslee.com).....	<i>Essays & Proofs</i>
P.O. Box 36, Cary, IL 60013	
STEVEN WALSKES (swalske@myriadllc.com).....	<i>The Western Mails</i>
2118 Vallejo Street, San Francisco, CA 94123	
RICHARD F. WINTER (rfwinter@bellsouth.net).....	<i>The Foreign Mails</i>
31 Flagship Cove, Greensboro, NC 27455	
DWAYNE O. LITTAUER, Assistant (dl@kullmanlaw.com)	
GREG SUTHERLAND (gregfree@coax.net).....	<i>The Cover Corner</i>
P.O. Box 24231, Dayton, OH 45425	
JOHN W. WRIGHT, Assistant (vwr6712105@aol.com)	

SOCIETY OFFICERS

WADE E. SAADI (wade@pencom.com).....	<i>President</i>
93 80th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11209	
JOHN BARWIS (jbarwis@charter.net).....	<i>Vice President</i>
P.O. Box 8035, Holland, MI 49422	
CHARLES J. DICOMO (charles.dicomo@uspcs.org).....	<i>Secretary</i>
102 Old Pawling Road, Pawling, NY 12564	
ROB LUND (robinlund@comcast.net).....	<i>Assistant Secretary/Membership Chairman</i>
2913 Fulton, Everett, WA 98201	
DWAYNE O. LITTAUER (dl@kullmanlaw.com).....	<i>Treasurer</i>
P.O. Box 750368, New Orleans, LA 70175	
DIRECTORS: JAMES ALLEN '12; JOHN BARWIS '12; DAVID D'ALESSANDRIS '12; CHARLES J. DICOMO '12; MICHAEL HELLER '11; LESTER C. LANPHEAR III '13; JAMES E. LEE '11; DWAYNE O. LITTAUER '13; ROB LUND '11; STEPHEN B. PACETTI '11; WADE E. SAADI '13; DANIEL C. WARREN '13; EX OFFICIO: THOMAS J. ALEXANDER, VAN KOPPERSMITH, PATRICIA STILWELL WALKER, RICHARD F. WINTER	
ALEXANDER T. HAIMANN (bretalex1@aol.com).....	<i>Publicist</i>
3965 Kirkland Court, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302	
DAVID D'ALESSANDRIS (dalessandris@comcast.net).....	<i>Advertising Manager</i>
2900 N. Rochester Street, Arlington, VA 22213	
WALTER DEMMERLE (demmerle@cox.net).....	<i>Publication Sales Chairman</i>
821 Winthorpe Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23452	

Address changes should be sent to Secretary, back issue requests to Publication Sales Chairman, other correspondence to the Editor-in-Chief. Reports of new items or articles should be submitted to appropriate Section Editor or to the Editor-in-Chief. Do not send stamps or covers unless requested. Any items sent will be carefully guarded but no liability attaches to the Society or to any editor. ISSN 0009-6008.

CONFEDERATE PROVISIONALS



An Outstanding Petersburg, Va. Cover

A generously margined single showing portions of adjoining stamps, tied to a pristine yellow grocers' corner card cover by a nicely struck blue Petersburg Va. cds, exceptionally fresh, accompanied by a 1999 PFC, *the finest attainable condition*



RUPP BROTHERS

Post Office Box 487 • Locust Valley, New York 11560 • 516-364-3701

E-mail: ruppbrothers@mindspring.com

CONTENTS

THE EDITOR'S PAGE	
In This Issue	
<i>by Michael Laurence</i>	303
PRESTAMP AND STAMPLESS PERIOD	
Handstamped "Advertised" Postmarks on United States Stampless Covers	
<i>by James W. Milgram</i>	306
THE 1847 PERIOD	
1847 Covers with Stampless Rate Markings	
<i>by Gordon Eubanks</i>	324
THE 1851 PERIOD	
New Earliest Documented Use for Scott #24 from Plate 10	
<i>by Richard C. Celler</i>	331
THE 1861 PERIOD	
Valuation Factors for United States Postage Stamps Used as Revenues	
<i>by Edwin J. Andrews</i>	335
THE 1869 PERIOD	
<i>Ten-Cent 1869 Covers: A Postal Historical Survey</i> , reviewed	
<i>by Scott R. Trepel</i>	351
OFFICIALS	
Constant Plate Varieties of the 1873 Official Stamps: War Department	
<i>by George G. Sayers</i>	355
SPECIAL FEATURE	
The Postal History of U.S. Stamp Collecting, 1862-1899, Part 5	
<i>by Steven R. Belasco</i>	360
THE FOREIGN MAILS	
St. John, New Brunswick, Express Mail to Great Britain	
<i>by David D'Alessandris</i>	381
Letter to New Zealand "via Brindisi" in 1880	
<i>by Colin Tabcart</i>	386
THE COVER CORNER	389
ADVERTISER INDEX	392



We are currently accepting consignments for our Live Signature® auctions in the following areas:

- Rare US, World, & Ancient Coins and Currency • European & American Art
- Modern & Contemporary Art • Fine Art Photography • Art of the American West
- Texas Art • Illustration Art • Decorative Art • Fine Silver & Vertu • 20th-Century Design
- Fine Jewelry & Timepieces • Comic Books & Original Comic Art • Vintage Movie Posters
- Music & Entertainment Memorabilia • Americana & Political Collectibles
- Rare Books & Manuscripts • Natural History • Civil War & Militaria
- Air & Space • Sports Collectibles • Rare & Fine Wine

HA.com/Consign | Consignment Hotline 800-872-6467

Visit HA.com to see our 2.5 million auction prices realized

Annual Sales Exceed \$600 Million | 500,000+ Registered Online Bidder-Members

3500 Maple Avenue | Dallas, Texas 75219 | 800-872-6467 | HA.com

DALLAS | BEVERLY HILLS | NEW YORK | PARIS | GENEVA

THE WORLD'S THIRD LARGEST AUCTION HOUSE

HERITAGE HA.com
Auction Galleries

THE EDITOR'S PAGE

MICHAEL LAURENCE

IN THIS ISSUE

The splendid and colorful two-country franking featured on our front cover is one of several fascinating objects discussed by David D'Alessandris in an article in our Foreign Mails section. D'Alessandris' subject (page 381) is late-closing transatlantic covers from New Brunswick that were posted dockside and carried as loose letters via express mail from St. John to Boston. There aren't many of these, and they are all fascinating. Also in our Foreign Mails section, Colin Taebert (page 386) sheds surprising new light on a cover to New Zealand that was featured in *Chronicle* 227.

The discovery of a new earliest documented use (EDU) date for a classic United States stamp doesn't happen every day. In the last decade or so, some of these discoveries have involved stamps of the 1851 series, both perforated and imperforate, that are catalogued by plate number with separate EDU dates for each plate. In our 1851 section this issue, starting on page 331, Richard Celler discusses a circular-rate cover that moves forward by more than a month the EDU date for the Type V perforated 1¢ Franklin stamp from Plate 10 (Scott 24). Such a profound re-dating is unusual, but this one is clear-cut and unarguable. Celler explains why. We've shared this discovery with our friends at Scott, and expect to see a revised EDU date for this item in the next edition of the U.S. specialized catalog.

This issue concludes two series that have been running with us for quite some time. With his article on the War Department stamps, commencing on page 355, George Sayers winds up a nine-part work on the plate varieties of the 1873 Official stamps. We launched Sayers' opus in *Chronicle* 219 (August 2008) and it has been with us every issue since. Fittingly, the announcement was made in September that Sayers had won the Chase Cup, our Society's most prestigious stamp-related writing award, for this remarkably thorough investigation. We're hoping to see more material from Sayers in years to come.

On page 360, Steven Belasco wraps up his five-part series on 19th century stamp-dealer advertising covers. This has been a very popular investigation. It's clear that many Society members collect or at least have an interest in this area. Not surprisingly, Belasco's articles have sparked the appearance of a number of previously unrecorded items. He plans a follow-up that we hope to publish sometime next year.

In our stampless section, starting on page 306, James W. Milgram discusses hand-stamped "advertised" markings found on United States stampless covers. This is the first major treatment of this subject in more than three decades. The listing at the conclusion of Milgram's article will provide the basis for information to appear in the next edition of the *American Stampless Cover Catalog*, which your Society is in the process of revising. Former president Van Koppersmith, head honcho on the catalog revision project, says he hopes to establish a publication date by the end of this year.

In our 1847 section, starting on page 324, Gordon Eubanks discusses 1847 covers bearing markings usually seen on stampless covers. Our 1861 section (page 335) features a highly visual article by Edwin J. Andrews, discussing postage stamps used on revenue documents. As Andrews makes clear, such uses were illegal, but they're highly collectible. Last but not least, in our 1869 section (page 351), Scott Trepel reviews a new book on an 1869 subject. To say more would make your editor blush. ■

Fall Auction Preview

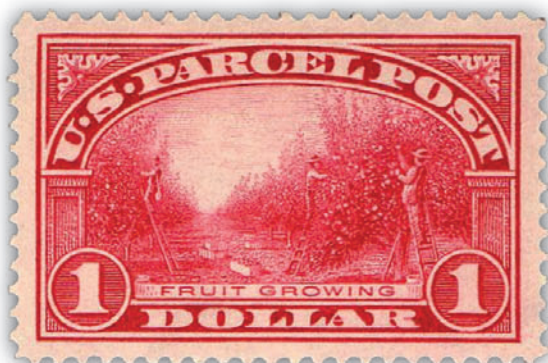
Visit our website for schedule



#242 PSE 95 OGnh



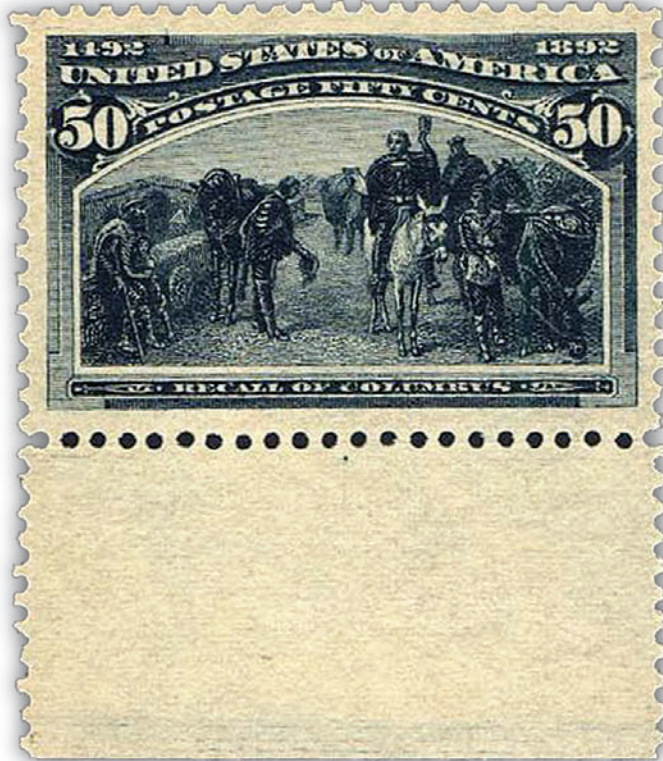
#C14 PSE 100 OGnh



#Q12 PF 98J OGnh

Michael I. Casper

**Collector, Dealer and Auctioneer
of Rare Stamps. Specializing in
extraordinary condition rarities
and absolute aesthetics**



**Call Michael with your want list ...
he just might have what you need**

www.casperstamp.com

**Post Office Box 40, Ithaca, New York 14851
Phone: (607) 257-5349 Fax: (607) 266-7904
michael@casperstamp.com**



CCNY, USPCS, USSS



HANDSTAMPED “ADVERTISED” POSTMARKS ON UNITED STATES STAMPLESS COVERS

JAMES W. MILGRAM, M. D.

Introduction

Collectors of United States stampless covers will occasionally encounter a letter with a handstamped “ADVERTISED” postmark. I am editing a listing of these handstamped markings for the forthcoming *American Stampless Cover Catalog*, to be published by this society. An earlier article on this subject, a listing that I prepared in collaboration with N. Leonard Persson, was published in *The American Philatelist* more than 30 years ago.¹

Postmasters were required to advertise letters that were not picked up by the addressees. The rules for this were provided in a number of early post office regulations from 1798, 1808, 1820 and other years. The text for these regulations remained virtually unchanged in each edition. Here is a representative example, from Section 26 of the 1832 *Postal Laws and Regulations (PL&R)*:²

And be it further enacted, That the postmasters shall, respectively, publish, at the expiration of every three months, or oftener, when the Postmaster General shall so direct, in one of the newspapers published at or nearest the place of his residence for three successive weeks, a list of all the letters remaining, in their respective offices, or instead thereof, shall make out a number of such lists, and cause them to be posted at such public places in their vicinity, as shall appear to them best adapted for the information of the parties concerned; and at the expiration of the next three months, shall send such of the said letters as then remain on hand, as dead letters, to the General Post-office, where the same shall be opened and inspected; and if any valuable papers or matters of consequence, shall be found therein, it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to return such letter to the writer thereof, or cause a descriptive list thereof to be inserted in one of the newspapers published at the place most convenient to the supposed residence of the owner, if within the United States; and such letter, and the contents shall be preserved, to be delivered to the person, to whom the same shall be addressed, upon payment of the postage, and the expense of publication. And if such letter contain money, the Postmaster General may appropriate it to the use of the department, keeping an account thereof, and the amount shall be paid by the department to the rightful claimant, so soon as he shall be found.

Advertisement for letters can be found in many early newspapers. Figure 1 is an example from 1833, advertising letters remaining in post office at Schoharie Court House, New York. The postmaster who placed this ad, Jabez W. Throop, ran the post office from his pharmacy, which survives (as a museum) to this day. There must be thousands of these early lists of advertised letters to be found in different newspapers. Later examples sometimes separate the letters into two groups, the gentlemen and the ladies. An ad placed by Abraham Lincoln when he was postmaster at New Salem, Illinois was offered on eBay some years ago; it did not reach its asking price.

Advertised letters have been seen with year dates as early as 1816 (see Figure 2, discussed further below). Perhaps there are earlier examples, because the regulations about advertising go back to the 18th century. But markings showing a charge for advertising are not encountered before the 1840s.

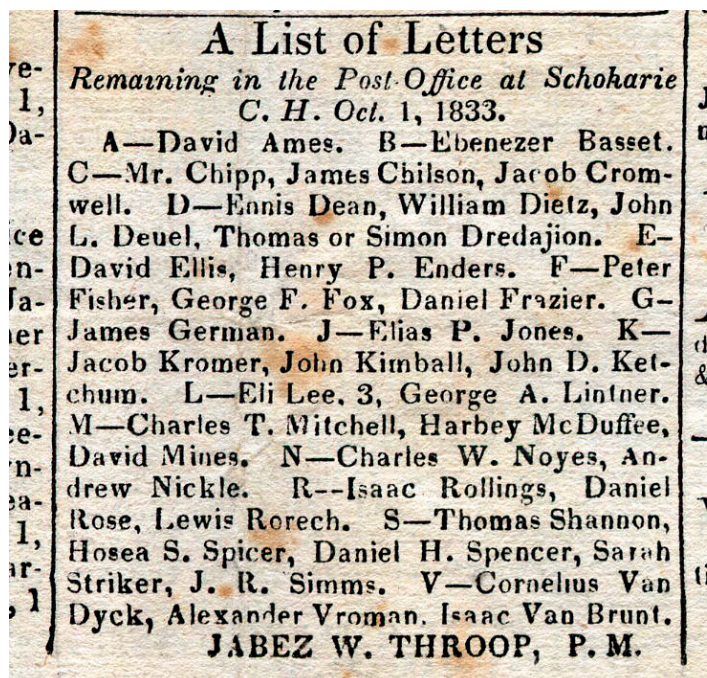


Figure 1. An 1833 newspaper advertisement listing the addressees of letters uncalled for at the post office at Schoharie Court House, New York.

The *PL&R* for 1843 and 1847 both state similar regulations as to the advertising of letters: “*And be it further enacted*, that advertisements of letters remaining in post offices may, under the direction of the Postmaster General, be made in more than one newspaper: Provided, That the whole cost of advertising shall not exceed four cents for each letter.”³³

Based on the evidence of surviving covers, the usual fee charged for advertising, until 1 July 1851, was 2¢ per letter. A few large post offices charged 4¢ fees; these are discussed below. There is no indication that any fees were charged prior to the mid 1840s.

The Postal Act of 3 March 1851, effective 30 June 1851, was published in the *Albany Argus* issue of March 7, 1851. This same paper, in the editorial section on 5 April 1851, published this clarification:

In answer to an enquiry, the Postmaster-General has clarified the Act of March 3, with respect to advertising letters, as follows:

Gross Receipts of Office	To be Advertised	Cost per Letter
Not over \$500 per quarter	Once in 6 weeks	1¢
Not over \$1000 per quarter	Once each month	1¢
Not over \$7500 per quarter	Twice each month	1¢
Over \$7500 per quarter	Once each week	1¢

To be advertised in one newspaper only printed in the village or city where the post office is located. The newspaper used must have the largest circulation within range of the post office delivery area.

By 1859 the instructions had changed only slightly: “Agreeably to law, and the standing regulations of the Department (Section 181), letters are to be advertised once in six weeks, once a month, twice a month, or once a week, according to the yield of the offices, and they must be returned as directed by chapter 14 of the Regulations...”³⁴

The practice of advertising undelivered letters continued into the stamp period and



Figure 2. 1816 stampless cover to Berwick, Maine, with red pen “Adv July 1, D[itt]o Oct 1.” The only sum to be collected was the postage, 18½ cents. No advertising fee was assessed.

indeed into the second decade of the 20th century. In summary, the fee charged for advertising varied with the date of service and with the office doing the advertising. At first there was no charge, then 2¢ or 4¢, then 1¢.

The table that concludes this article lists handstamped “advertised” markings known on letters from the earliest period up to 1855, when prepayment of postage by stamps was required. From the years in which prepayment was optional, markings may have been recorded from stamp-bearing covers. These are included in the listing because stampless uses are presumed to be possible. All of the pre-stamp listings and a few later listings are taken from actual stampless covers. Of course, all advertised fees were not paid in stamps.

The markings are listed alphabetically by state and then by town within each state. In virtually all cases, the name of the town applying the marking has been deduced from the address. Thus, following convention, the towns in the table are presented in parentheses. The date of use is taken from the actual cover or estimated from other evidence. The data in the “Marking” column gives the exact spelling and punctuation of the marking. The “Description” column presents the color, format and measurement of the marking in millimeters. “SL” abbreviates “straightline”; “2 SL” indicates a double straightline.

Unlisted markings are solicited. Please send a photocopy, a scan or other supporting data to the author at the address given on the masthead page of this *Chronicle*.

Discussion of Covers

If one browses groups of old newspapers from the 19th century, it is not unusual to find a listing for undelivered letters. If one knows the newspaper used for that purpose in a given town, it is sometimes possible to locate the actual ad for a specific letter. A typical listing from an early date was shown in Figure 1.

Although it has been documented that letters were advertised even in the 18th century, markings indicating that a cover was advertised are not seen on such early covers. This is probably because there was no charge for advertising until the 1840s. In the absence of a charge, there was no need to make special note of the fact of advertising.

Manuscript Markings

Figure 2 shows a very early manuscript marking. This is an 1816 stampless cover to Berwick, Maine (“District of Maine”). The cover was advertised twice, on July 1 and again on October 1, as indicated at lower left in the red pen marking: “Adv July 1 D[itt]o Oct 1.” But the only sum collected was the postage, 18½¢.

The cover in Figure 3 shows another manuscript advertised notation, this one from 1847 when there was a 2¢ charge for advertising. This cover shows a “PAID” handstamp (scratched out) and a manuscript “Pd 43,” directing the postmaster of Milledgeville, Georgia, where the cover entered the mails, to charge the 10¢ postage to the account of post office box number 43. This was done and the “Pd 43” scratched out. After the cover arrived Richmond, it was not called for and advertised (manuscript “ad 2”). In due course an addressee was located. Additional postage was required for forwarding. The cover was postmarked “RICHMOND Va. AUG 23,” readdressed with red pen to “Staunton,” marked “FORWARDED” with the red straightline handstamp, and rated for 7¢ due with a manuscript “5” added to the 2¢ advertising fee. The total of 7¢ postage due was collected from the recipient in Staunton, a successful outcome of advertising the letter.

Handstamped Markings

The earliest handstamped advertised postmarks were straightlines containing the date of advertisement. No mention is made of a charge until after the change of rates in 1845. The earliest example appears to be from Cleveland in 1834. Figure 4 shows an example from 1837. This is a cover from Parkman, Ohio, to Cleveland with 10¢ postage due. The cover was “ADVERTISED JULY 1” with no indication of additional charge for this service. This is the second earliest advertised postmark from Cleveland.

Several advertised markings are known from St. Louis from the 1841-1842 era. One of these is shown in Figure 5. This is a cover from Jacksonville, Illinois, to St. Louis, postmarked April 6 [1841] and struck at St. Louis with a blue “Advertised April 15.” Again, there was no additional postage charge.



Figure 3. “MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga. AUG 5” with “10” rate marking. On receipt in Richmond in 1847, this letter was advertised and assessed a 2¢ fee (manuscript “ad 2”). Additional postage was needed for forwarding. Illustration courtesy of Frank Crown.



Figure 4. Cover from Parkman, Ohio, to Cleveland in 1837. The cover was “ADVERTISED JULY 1” without any indication of additional charge for this service. The 10¢ postage due was the ordinary letter rate.



Figure 5. Cover from Jacksonville, Illinois, to St. Louis in 1841 with blue “Advertised April 15” and no advertising fee charged.

An advertising marking on a drop letter is illustrated in Figure 6. Addressed to an unmarried female—“Miss Reese (Teacher)” —this letter was put into the post at Indianapolis with 2¢ drop postage “PAID”. Subsequently the cover was struck with a long red straight-line “ADVERTISED JAN 1” and a manuscript indicating a 2¢ advertising fee. This is earli-



Figure 6. This is a drop letter put into the post at Indianapolis, with 2¢ drop postage “PAID”. The cover was advertised and received the red “ADVISED JAN 1” straightline and a manuscript indication of a 2¢ advertising charge.



Figure 7. Henderson, Illinois, to Dover, New Hampshire, in 1844. The cover bears a blue “ADV APRIL 1” in blue with no 2¢ fee indicated.

est handstamp known on a cover showing a 2¢ advertising charge. The cover is undated, but known to be from the 1840s.

The 1844 cover shown in Figure 7 shows a rare use from a small town. This cover was sent from Henderson, Illinois, to Dover, New Hampshire, in 1844. The cover bears a blue “ADV APRIL 1” with no advertising fee indicated. Just 25¢, the ordinary postage for this distance, was collected.

The 1843 PL&R contains the comment, noted above, that the fee cannot exceed 4¢. The year 1845, with its new rates, seems to begin the era of charging for advertising at 2¢ per letter, except for certain cities which advertised more frequently and charged 4¢.



Figure 8. Letter to a Mexican War soldier sent from Columbus, Ohio “OCT 12” (1846) to Mobile. Advertised and then forwarded from Mobile to Port Isabel, Texas, and then on to Matamoros, Mexico, with no additional postage charged for forwarding.



Figure 9. Cover from Berlin, Illinois (July 1, 1851) to Stockton, California. Oval “FORWARDED” and “ADVERTISED” markings were applied at Stockton, where the cover was readdressed to Sonora. Illustration courtesy Bernard Biales.

The cover in Figure 8 is an early example of an advertising marking incorporating the 2¢ fee. This cover is also interesting because of its association with the Mexican War. Addressed to Mobile, Alabama, it originated at Columbus, Ohio, where it received the



Figure 10. This 1850 cover was forwarded three times (the first time being missent) within New York state before reaching its recipient. The straightline advertised handstamp was applied at Syracuse.

“OCT 12” [1846] circular datestamp. It was advertised at Mobile, where it received the red “ADV 2” showing a fee was charged for the advertising. From Mobile it was forwarded without additional postage to Port Isabel, the military base in Texas. It bears a handstamped straightline postmark “PT. ISABEL No 9”. Then it was forwarded a second time. A manuscript notation at top reads “ford, Matamoros, Mex Nov 18”. Thus the cover went first to Texas and then was forwarded again to the troops in Mexico, where it finally reached its addressee. This is a very interesting forwarding use, showing no additional postage charged. This is the only advertised cover to go to a Mexican war soldier.

Figure 9 is a cover sent from Berlin, Illinois to Stockton, California, on 1 July 1851. The cover was advertised at Stockton and ultimately forwarded to Sonoma with 17¢ postage due from the recipient (10¢ initial postage, 5¢ forwarding, 2¢ advertising). Above the address is a manuscript “missent” but this may be a mistake, using that term rather than “forwarded.” Forwarded and advertised handstamps are unusual from western towns.

The illustration in Figure 10 is clipped from an old auction catalog. It shows a cover posted at St. Johnsbury, Vermont, as indicated by the orange “ST. JOHNSBURY, VT. AUG 6” (1850) circular datestamp with matching “X” indicating collect postage. The cover was originally addressed to Geneva, New York. It was missent and forwarded from Canandaigua, indicated by manuscript notation at top and the “CANANDAIGUA, N.Y. AUG 8” circular datestamp in a crimson red. After reaching Geneva it was forwarded again with a manuscript “Ford 5 15 due” and blue “GENEVA N.Y. AUG 9.” It then went to Syracuse, where it was struck with the black “AUG 16” postmark and “ADVERTISED”. That effort must have been successful. It caused the cover to be forwarded a third time, to Rochester, with additional charges of “2c” for advertising and “5” for postage adding up to a total of “22¢” due, as summarized on the cover.

The cover shown in Figure 11, addressed to Lowell, Massachusetts, bears a red “So. ROYALTON, VT. FEB 25” and a manuscript “Way 6” notation. The way marking means the mail carrier picked the cover up between post offices on his way into South Royalton.

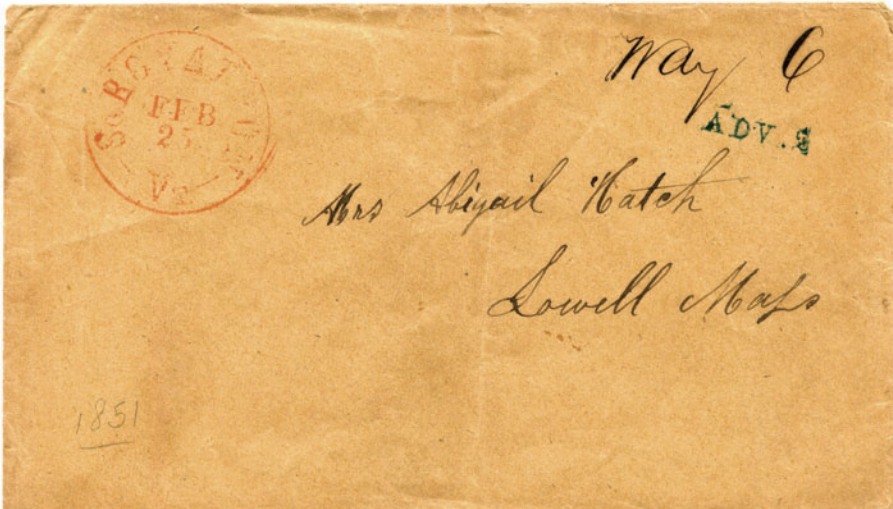


Figure 11. Cover from South Royalton, Vermont (February 25, 1851) to Lowell, Massachusetts. The combination of “Way 6” and “ADV 2” markings create an interesting cover.



Figure 12. Very few covers show the 4¢ advertising fee. This pair of covers to Louisville show “ADV. 4 cts.” and “ADV. 2 cts.” handstamps. The date of use of the 4¢ fee is uncertain.



Figure 13. Cover carried via Panama in 1849 from Bethany, Ohio, to San Francisco at the 40 cent rate. San Francisco charged a 4¢ advertising fee and forwarded the cover to Culloma at the 12½¢ California rate. This resulted in a total due of 56½ cents. Illustration courtesy Rumsey Auctions.

The year date is 1851. The advertising rate changed from 2¢ to 1¢ on June 30, 1851, but the February date on this cover confirms the handstamped “ADV 2” rating, which was applied at Lowell. In the later period Lowell used a very similar “ADV 1” postmark. The combination of Way 6 and ADV 2 markings creates a most interesting cover.

While the regulations mention a 4¢ fee, very few covers document its use. Only about half a dozen types are known. Figure 12 shows 2¢ and 4¢ advertised handstamps on different covers addressed to Louisville. The handstamps are quite similar. One letter must have been advertised more extensively to justify the higher rate. Unfortunately, the date on the “ADV. 4 cts.” cover is uncertain.

Figure 13 shows an example of the 4¢ fee applied by San Francisco using manuscript markings. On this cover, all the markings in red ink were applied at San Francisco. Posted at Bethany, Ohio, on 28 May 1849, this cross-country cover travelled by ships via Panama to San Francisco at the 40¢ rate. San Francisco was evidently a large enough city to charge the 4¢ advertised fee. From San Francisco the cover was forwarded to Culloma, at the 12½¢ rate. This resulted in a total collection of 56½¢.

In Figure 14 is an example showing the 2¢ fee applied at Newark to a cover from New York City, franked with a 5¢ 1847 stamp. Although the stamp here is defective, this cover well demonstrates the 2¢ advertising fee. Not only does it show a manuscript “adv 2” in red (just under the word “Hollister”), but the cover also bears a handstamped red “2”. The year date is uncertain. Uses of the 5¢ 1847 stamp with advertised markings are very rare. No 10¢ 1847 covers with advertised markings are known.

Figure 15 shows a pretty 5¢ 1847 cover that originated at Cambridge, Massachusetts. This bears the well-known “ADVERTISED 4 cts” marking used at New York in 1849 and 1850. This is the most common handstamp showing the 4¢ fee. Most covers advertised at New York during 1849-1850 show this handstamp, struck in red.

Beginning with the change of rates effective June 30, 1851, the advertising rate was reduced to 1¢ at all locations. Figure 16 shows a 3¢ 1851 cover posted at Columbia, Pennsylvania, and addressed to Niagara Falls, New York. There it was struck with a blue-green “ADV.” marking and a separate handstamped date, but no rate.

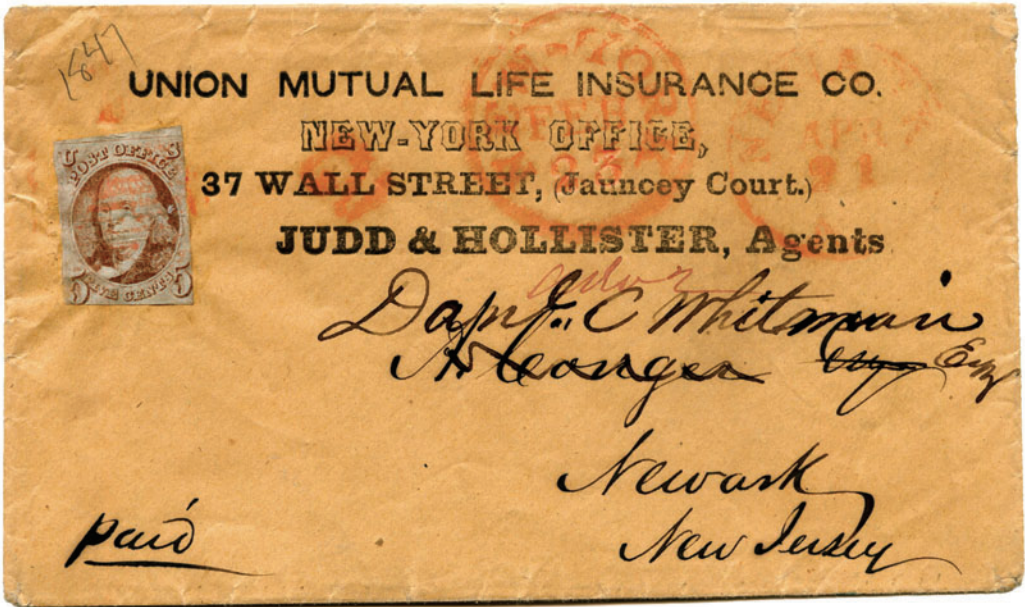


Figure 14. 2¢ advertising fee assessed at Newark, New Jersey, on 5¢ 1847 cover from New York City. The cover shows a manuscript “adv 2” in red along with a handstamped red “2”. The year date is uncertain.

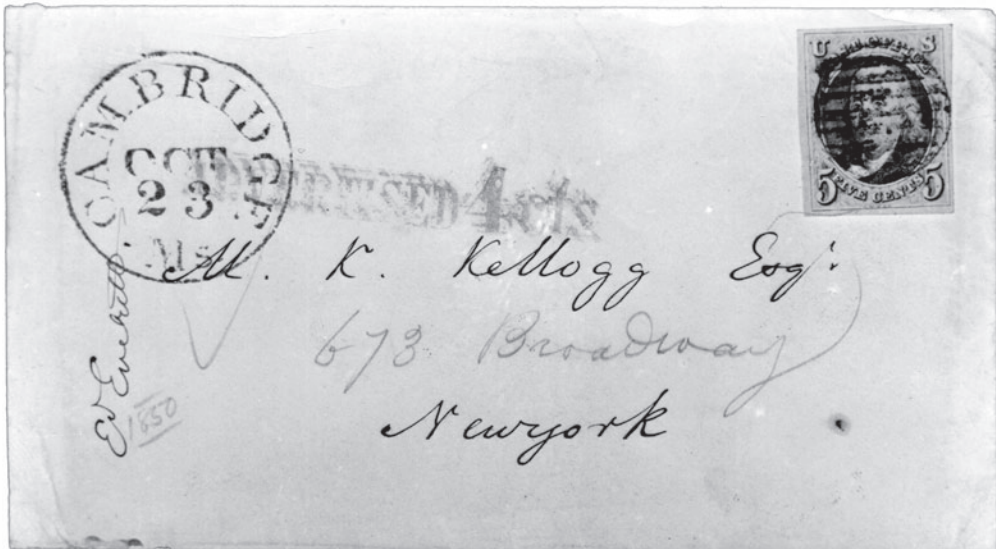


Figure 15. 5¢ 1847 cover from Cambridge, Massachusetts, to New York City, showing the “ADVISED 4 cts” marking used at New York in 1849 and 1850. This is the most frequently seen handstamp indicating a the 4¢ fee.

Figure 17 shows a straightline “ADVISED 1 CENT” marking on a franked cover sent from Washington, D.C. to Brooklyn. The advertised marking was of course applied at Brooklyn. The identity of the franker is difficult to decipher, but this may be the signature of James W. Shields, a democrat, who was the only man to serve as a U.S. Senator from



Figure 16. “ADV” with a separate date stamp and no fee mentioned, on a cover from Columbia, Pennsylvania, and addressed to Niagara Falls, New York.

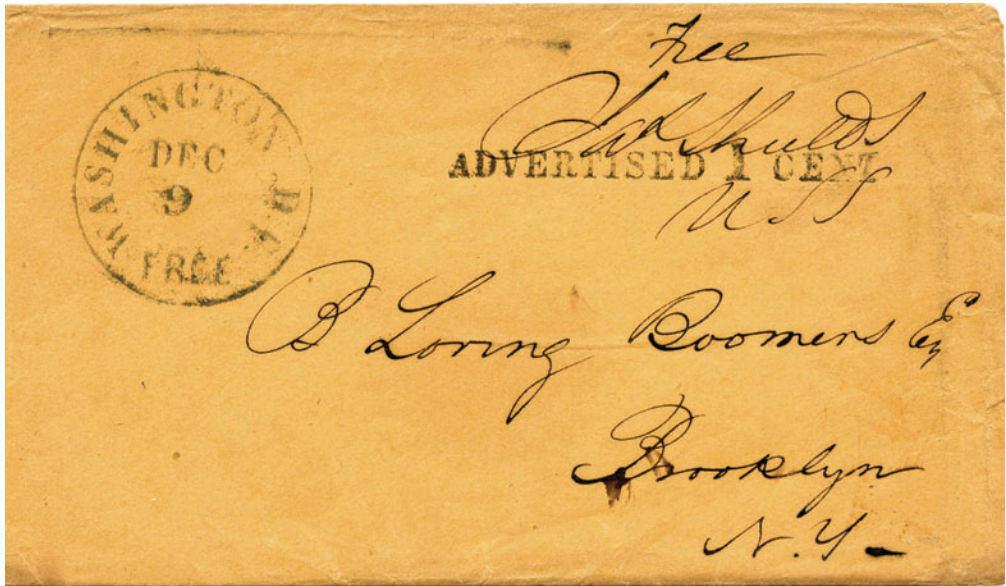


Figure 17. Stampless cover bearing a U.S. Senator’s free frank and showing the interesting rated advertised handstamp from Brooklyn, New York (“ADVERTISED 1 CENT”).

three different states. Shields was a senator from Illinois between 1849 and 1855, from Minnesota from May 11, 1858 to March 3, 1859 and from Missouri briefly during 1879. As a young man, he almost fought a duel with Abraham Lincoln.

An advertised marking in an unusual circular format is shown in Figure 18. This is a cover from San Francisco to Waterville, Maine, internally dated 1853. The cover is additionally rated “10”, representing the penalty 10¢ rate for California postage on a letter sent unpaid. Prepaid, this cover would have required 6¢ postage. The cover was advertised at Waterville and a total of 11¢ was collected from the recipient.



Figure 18. This cover from San Francisco to Waterville, Maine, with letter dated 1853, demonstrates a very unusual circular “ADV 1” marking.



Figure 19. Another western use, showing an “ADVERTISED” postmark applied at Oregon City, Oregon Territory, in 1855.

A different sort of western use is the territorial cover shown in Figure 19. This cover was sent from Bagdad, Missouri, to Oregon City, Oregon Territory, in 1855. Again, the “10” due marking represents the transcontinental penalty rate. At Oregon City the cover was struck with the black straightline “ADVERTISED” postmark.

But the most interesting territorial advertised cover is shown in Figure 20. This cover shows the 3¢ under 3000-mile rate from Fort Fillmore, New Mexico, to Washington, D.C. in 1854. It traveled overland on the southern route via San Antonio, Texas. In Washington it was not picked up and had to be advertised; Washington applied the “ADVERTISED 1 Ct”

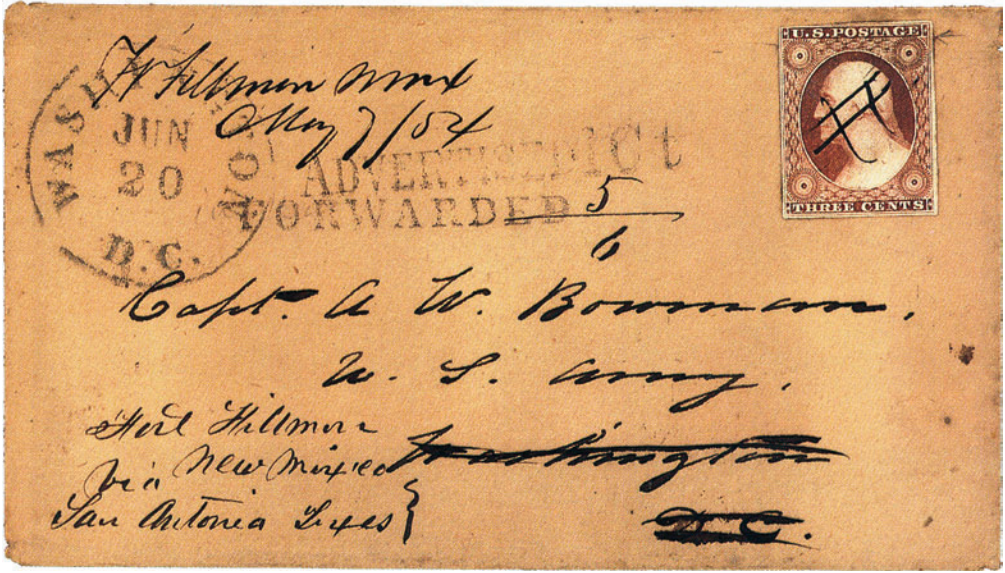


Figure 20. Franked with a 3¢ 1851 stamp, this cover from Ft. Fillmore, New Mexico, traveled across the country and was returned to the addressee at the same location in 1854. The cover was “ADVERTISED” and “FORWARDED” at Washington, D.C.



Figure 21. Oval advertised marking showing fee and date, used at Chicago in 1854. This cover contained money so it required special treatment at the Dead Letter Office. Eventually, it was returned to its sender.

handstamp. As it turned out, the addressee had returned to Fort Fillmore, so the cover was “FORWARDED” at the higher 5¢ unpaid rate back to New Mexico, where a total of 6¢ was collected. Note that the year date is 1854, before the 1855 increase in the overland rate.

The cover in Figure 21 was sent prepaid from New York to Chicago to the traveling son of the writer; his last known address was the Tremont House in Chicago. It was advertised at Chicago and there received the oval “ADVERTISED/JUL 1/1 Ct” handstamp.

Subsequently it was sent to the Dead Letter Office in Washington (large dated oval hand-stamped at upper left). When opened it was discovered to contained \$10 so it became a money letter. Money letters were filed by the first initial of the addressee's name, "D" in this case. Thus the bold red marking at right. Because this cover was found in the original correspondence of a Professor Dunn, we know it was ultimately returned to him in New York.

Late Uses

Although the cover in Figure 22 is beyond the 1855 cut-off date used for these listings, this is an international stampless cover, sent from Great Britain to Salem, Massachusetts, with 24¢ postage due. International mail was frequently sent stampless into the 1860s.



Figure 22. International mail was frequently sent stampless into the 1860's. When uncalled for, such covers were advertised just like domestic covers. This is an example. In addition to showing the "ADVERTISED" handstamp of Salem, Massachusetts, it bears a rare British handstamp better known for its use during the American Civil War.



Figure 23. This late stampless cover was a soldier's due letter sent during the Civil War. Evidently the addressee moved after the soldier left home, hence it was "ADVERTISED" at Delaware, Ohio.

When uncalled for, such covers were advertised just like domestic covers. This one was advertised at Salem, where it received the “ADVERTISED” handstamp, with no successful result. The cover was then returned to England, where it received the red triple straightline “SENT BACK TO ENGLAND/WITHOUT A REASON/ FOR NON-DELIVERY.” After the Civil War began, this postmark was applied to letters from England addressed to states that had seceded from the union.

Advertised postmarks are not rare on patriotic covers from the early 1860s. The soldier’s due cover in Figure 23, sent from Nashville in 1862, shows proper certification by an officer. It was addressed to a young lady who did not call for it, hence it was “ADVERTISED” at Delaware, Ohio. Certified soldiers’ due covers rarely show advertising markings.

As stated at the beginning of this article, we are trying to record new listings of advertised handstamped postmarks on United States stampless covers. Photocopies or scans are welcome. ■

Endnotes

1. James W. Milgram and N. L. Persson, “Markings on Advertised Letters to 1870,” *The American Philatelist*, Vol. 93 pp. 405-412, 506-12 (May and June, 1979).
2. *PL&R*, 1832.
3. *PL&R*, 1843, Section 35.
4. *PL&R*, 1859.

Preliminary Listing of Handstamped Advertised Markings on United States Stampless Covers

City	Marking	Description	Date
(Mobile, Ala)	Adv 2	red SL 21x7	1846
(Mobile, Ala.)	ADV/1,	black circle 21	1850s
(Mobile, Ala.)	ADVERTISED	black SL 42x4.5	1850s
(Calevaras, Cal.)	ADVERTISED	black oval 40x19	?
(Nevada City, Cal.)	Adv'd	red SL 50x5	1850
(San Francisco, Cal.)	Adv 1 ct	black SL 32x11	1853
(Stockton, Cal.)	ADVERTISED	blue oval 40x19	1850's
(Hartford, Conn.)	ADVERTISED	red SL 41x4.5	?
(Middletown, Conn.)	Advertised	blue SL 30x3	1850
(Middletown, Conn)	ADVERTISED [A inverted]	black 53x4	1852
(New Haven, Conn)	ADVERTISED	black SL 48x5	1850-51
(New Haven, Conn.)	[date] ADV	black circle 32	1850s
(Norwich, Conn)	ADVERTISED [date]	black SL 40x6	1850s
(Washington, D.C.)	ADVERTISED 1 Ct.	black SL 48x5.5	1854
(Wilmington, Del.)	ADVERTISED 2, green,	SL	1850
(Chicago, Ill.)	ADVERTISED [date] 1Ct.	black oval 40x21	1854
(Chicago, Ill.)	CHICAGO ILL./ADVERTISED [date]	black circle, 32	1858
(Indianapolis, Ind.)	ADVERTISED [date]	blue SL 58x3	1843
(Indianapolis, Ind.)	ADVERTISED [date]	red SL 60x12	1846
(Lafayette, Ind.)	ADVERTISED	blue SL 32x3	1853
(Lima, Ind.)	2	black SL 5x5	1837
(Des Moines, Iowa)	ADVERTISED 1 CENT	black circle 27	1850s
(Keokuk, Iowa)	ADVERTISED	black SL 42.5x4	?
(Louisville, Ky)	ADV 2	blue SL 11x5	1845
(Louisville, Ky.)	ADV. 4 Cts	blue SL 30x5	?
(Louisville, Ky.)	ADV. 2 Cts	blue SL 31x4.5	1846-48
(Louisville, Ky.)	A	blue (?) SL 13x13	1850s
(Louisville, Ky.)	ADV 1 C.	blue SL 31x4	1850s
(Louisville, Ky.)	ADVERTISED	blue SL 42.5x5	1850s
(Dover, N.H.)	ADV. [date]	blue SL 20x2	1844

City	Marking	Description	Date
(Baton Rouge, La.)	ADVERTISED 2	black SL 30x3 (?)	1847
(New Orleans, La.)	ADV 2.	red rectangle 39x11	1850
(New Orleans, La.)	ADV. 1	red rectangle 33x12	?
(Opelousas, La.)	ADV. 2	black SL 9x3	1847
(Bangor, Me.)	ADVERTISED 2 [2 in center]	red circle 34	1847
(Bangor, Me.)	ADVERTISED 1 [1 in center]	black circle 28	1855
(Waterville, Me.)	ADV 1	black circle 16	1853
(Boston, Mass)	ADVERTISED 2 CTS	red SL 45x4	1851
(Cabbotville, Ma.)	ADVERTISED	blue SL 33x4	1851
(Cambridge, Mass.)	ADVERTISED 1	blue SL 36x3	?
(Chelsea, Mass)	ADV 1 [separate 2-line date]	black 2 SL 20x16	1854
(Lawrence, Mass)	ADV. 1	blue SL 23.5x3.5	?
(Lawrence, Mass)	ADV 1	black SL 22x4	1850s
(Lowell, Mass.)	ADV 2	blue SL 17x3.5	1851
(Lowell, Mass.)	ADV 1	blue SL 12x3.5	1852
(Lowell, Mass.)	ADV.1	black SL 19x4	1854
(New Bedford, Mass.)	ADVERT'S'D 1 [month]	blue circle 22	1855
(Northampton, Mass.]	ADVER -T-D	red SL 26.5x3.5	1840
(Salem, Mass.)	ADVERTISED	black SL 37x4	1860
(Westfield, Mass.)	Adv 1	black SL	?
(Westfield, Mass.)	adv 1	black SL	?
(Worchester, Mass.)	Adv. 1 cent	black SL 35x4	1850s
(Natchez, Miss.)	1 A	black SL 24x12	?
(St. Louis, Mo.)	Advertised [date]	blue SL 32x2.5	1840
(St. Louis, Mo.)	ADVERTISED [date]	red, black, blue SL 46x2.5	1841
(St. Louis, Mo.)	Advertised [date]	blue SL 42x2	1842
(St. Louis, Mo.)	ADVERTISED/[date]	black circle 31	1856
(Dover, N.H.)	ADV date	blue, SL 20x2	1844
(Great Falls, N.H.)	ADV 1	black SL 16x3.5	1854
(Newark, N.J.)	2 [with "adv2" in manuscript]	red	1850
(Binghamton, N.Y.)	ADV 2 cts	blue SL ?x4.5	1840
(Binghamton, N.Y.)	ADV. [with separate] 2	black SL	1849
(Binghamton, N.Y.)	ADV [date] 1CT.	blue SL 49x5	?
(Brooklyn, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED 1 CENT	black SL 60x6	?
(Chitanango, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED [ms] 1	blue SL 36x3	?
(Deposit, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED 1ct	black SL 25x1.5	1850s
(New York, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED 4 cts.	red SL 56x10	1849-50
(New York, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED, 2 CENTS	blue SL 41x3	1849
(New York, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED	red SL 37x6	1851
(New York, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED	black SL 40x6	1853
(Niagara Falls, N.Y.)	Adv./[date]	blue 2 SL 17x8	1850s
(Plattsburgh, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED/1 ct	black, 2 SL 44x5, 11x5	1850s
(Poughkeepsie, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED	red SL 54x5.5	1854
(Rochester, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED.	blue SL 21x2	1850
(Rome, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED	blue SL 29x3.5	?
(Saratoga, N.Y.)	ADVT/1	black arc 13x12	1850s
(Seneca Falls, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED [separate date]	red SL 39x4	1850s
(Syracuse, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED	black SL	1850
(Syracuse, N.Y.)	ADV 1 ct	black SL 28x4	1850s
(Syracuse, N.Y.)	ADV 1 ct.	blue SL 35x5	1850s
(Towanda, N.Y.)	Advertised	blue SL 30x4	1850s
(Troy, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED: 4cts	blue oval 43x7	1849-50
(Troy, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED: 1 ct.	blue oval 43x7	1850s
(Troy, N.Y.)	Advertised/1 ct/[date]	blue 2 SL 38x10	1850s
(Utica, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED 2 CENTS.	blue SL 42x3.5	1849
(Utica, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED, 2 CENTS	blue SL 42x2.5	1850s
(Utica, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED 2 CT.	black SL 60x7	1850
(Utica, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED 1 CT.	red oval 60x7	?

City	Marking	Description	Date
(Utica, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED 1 CT	black SL 60x7	1852
(Utica, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED 1	red SL 55x7	1853
(Watertown, N.Y.)	ADVERTISED	black SL 40x5	1852
(Akron, Oh.)	Adv. 2	red SL 24x6	?
(Cincinnati, Oh.)	ADV	red SL 22x6	1851
(Cincinnati, Oh.)	ADV 1	red SL 22x5	1850s
(Cleveland, Oh.)	ADVERTISED/[date]	black SL 25x6	1834
(Cleveland, Oh.)	ADVERTISED/[date]	black SL 25x5	1837
(Cleveland, Oh.)	ADVERTISED/[date]	black SL 20x6	1839
(Cleveland, Oh.)	ADVERTISED/[date]	red SL 24x11	1840-42
(Cleveland, Oh.)	ADVERTISED, [date]	red rectangle 31x13	?
(Cleveland, Oh.)	ADVERTISED, [date]	blue rectangle 31x13	?
(Dayton, Ohio)	ADV. 1	black SL 28x5	1851
(Painesville, Oh.)	Adv 1	blue SL 7x5	1851
(Piqua, Oh.)	ADV	red oval 21x17	1839
(Oregon City, O.T.)	ADVERTISED	black SL 42x5	1855
(Philadelphia, Pa.)	ADVD / 4 CTS	blue 2 SL 33x19	1848
(Philadelphia, Pa.)	ADVERTISED	black SL 43x4	1855
(Providence, R.I.)	ADV/CE1NT	red rectangle 23x19	1850s
(Charleston, S.C.)	ADVERTISED/ ONE CENT	blue rectangle 37x12	1850s
(Richmond, Va.)	ADVERTISED	green SL 39x4	1847
(Fond du Lac, Wis.)	ADVERTISED	black SL 46x5	1850s

Nothing's Better than the Classics

If you have a stamp collection to sell, let us create a classic showing of your material. We mail thousands of catalogs to our proven customers every auction, and our website is one of the most user-friendly sites in the auction world.

As the official auctioneer of four major national stamp shows, we are known across the country and around the world for providing

SUPERIOR SERVICE & SUPERIOR RESULTS!

For information on how to consign, call us toll free, visit our website, or stop by one of our two galleries:

9478 W. Olympic Blvd., Ste 200
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

229 N. Euclid Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63108

STAMPS • COINS • SPACE • SPORTS • HOLLYWOOD
REGENCY SUPERIOR SINCE 1929
Saint Louis, Missouri *Beverly Hills, California*

800.782.0066 • www.RegencySuperior.com



1847 COVERS WITH STAMPLESS RATE MARKINGS
GORDON EUBANKS

On July 1, 1847, the federal government released its first general issue postage stamps. While the preponderance of mail continued to be sent stampless and often unpaid, postmasters now had to deal with covers that were franked with postage stamps. In *Chronicle* 201 (February 2004), in an article entitled “1847 Covers Reflect Stampless Usages,” James Milgram discussed many of the issues that postmasters faced, using examples from the Matthew Bennett Auction of some of the Guido Craveri collection for his illustrations. This commentary will focus on one aspect of Milgram’s topic, the use of rate markings on covers that also bear stamps.

The postal regulations in effect at the time required that the postmaster mark each cover with the town name, the state and the date and month that the letter left the post office. For letters not prepaid with stamps, the postmaster was required to include the amount of postage and indicate if it had been paid. In the absence of a “paid” marking, the indicated postage would be collected from the recipient.

Figure 1 shows a folded letter that was sent unpaid from Southport, Wisconsin Territory, to Cleveland, Ohio. The “10” in octagon is the rate marking indicating that 10¢ was due from the recipient. When stamps were applied to prepay the entire amount of postage, there was no need to otherwise indicate the amount of postage or that it was prepaid. The stamps themselves were proof of the prepayment. Regulations did not preclude applying rate or paid markings. However, if stamps were used, a new requirement existed to cancel or “kill” the stamp to prevent reuse. Since well over 95 percent of the mail in this era was



Figure 1. Stampless folded letter sent unpaid from Southport, Wisconsin Territory, to Cleveland, Ohio. The “10” in octagon is the rate marking indicating that 10¢ was due from the recipient.



Figure 2. Another cover from Southport, Wisconsin, this one addressed to Connecticut. Here the “10” in octagon rate marking was used to cancel the stamp.

sent without stamps (and mostly unpaid), postmasters would sometimes ignore the fact that the stamp itself was all that was needed to prove payment and apply rate markings and/or paid markings to letters that were franked with proper postage paid in stamps.

Figure 2 shows another cover from Southport, Wisconsin. But here the rate marking cancels the stamp. Wisconsin joined the Union on 29 May 1848; this folded letter was sent after statehood. The use of a rate marking as a canceller was a technical violation of the regulation that specified that stamps be cancelled with a manuscript “X” or a supplied grid, but it got the job done. Such practices have left us with some outstanding postal history items. Southport received no 1847 stamps and we can speculate that the postmaster was not accustomed to the use of stamps. No doubt he employed what was handy, the rate marker, to cancel this stamp. In the instance of the cover in Figure 2, the postmaster met the intent of the law on one of the very few 1847 stamps that ever passed through his office.

More examples of rate markings applied to stamp-bearing letters are shown in Figures 3 and 4. These are a pair of covers that show the distinctive oval cogwheel rate markings that were used at Chicago during this era. On the 5¢ cover in Figure 3, addressed to Joliet, Illinois, the oval cogwheel “5” helps kill the stamp. On the 10¢ cover in Figure 4, addressed to Buffalo, New York, the oval cogwheel “10” is struck on the cover, not as a canceller but as a rate marking. The stamp on this cover is the Harelip variety, from Position 57L.

The two covers from Philadelphia shown in Figures 5 and 6 are similar. The cover in Figure 5, addressed to New York City, is franked at the 5¢ rate (for a distance under 300 miles). The 5¢ 1847 stamp is well tied by the common Philadelphia double-circle “5” rate marking. On the cover in Figure 6, addressed to Albion, Illinois, over 300 miles distant, the 10¢ 1847 stamp is tied by two strikes of Philadelphia’s double-circle “10” rate marking.

Again, in all of these examples, there was no postal requirement to apply the rate markings but they served the function of killing the stamps. Chicago and Philadelphia were large towns with heavy mail traffic. They received many 1847 stamps and certainly were accustomed to stamped mail. Nevertheless, their postal personnel used rate markings to show the rate paid on these stamped letters.



Figure 3. 5¢ 1847 cover from Chicago to Joliet, Illinois. The distinctive Chicago oval cogwheel “5” helps kill the stamp.



Figure 4. 10¢ 1847 cover from Chicago to Buffalo, New York. Here the Chicago oval cogwheel “10” is struck not as a canceling device but as a rate marking. The stamp on this cover is the Harelip variety, Position 57L.

A more unusual example is shown in Figure 7. On this cover Baltimore’s “2” in an oval, normally used on stampless drop letters, cancels and ties a 5¢ 1847 stamp. The letter within is datelined Wrightsville, Pennsylvania, a small town north of Baltimore along the Susquehanna River. Wrightsville was the northern terminus of the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal, which connected to Havre de Grace, Maryland, at the head of Chesapeake Bay. The Figure 7 cover was most likely carried privately on a coal barge to Baltimore, where it entered the mails as a drop letter. The use of a 5¢ stamp to overpay the drop rate is



Figure 5. Cover from Philadelphia to New York City, with a 5¢ 1847 stamp well tied by the Philadelphia double-circle “5” rate marking.



Figure 6. Cover from Philadelphia to Albion, Illinois, with a 10¢ 1847 stamp tied by two strikes of Philadelphia’s double-circle “10” rate marking.

most unusual. Perhaps the sender intended to mail the letter at Wrightsville.

Sometimes rate markings were necessary on stamp-bearing mail. Figure 8 shows an underpaid letter from Boston to Philadelphia. The letter weighs between one half and one ounce and was franked with just one 10¢ 1847 stamp. In this case the “20” in flattened circle rate marking was necessary to show that the 10¢ stamp did not fully pay the postage. The Boston post office made this very clear when it applied, in crayon, the manuscript “Unpaid 10.”



Figure 7. Dated Wrightsville, Pennsylvania, this cover was carried privately to Baltimore where it entered the mails and was picked up as a drop letter. The 5¢ 1847 stamp is tied by a Baltimore “2” in oval, normally used on stampless drop letters.



Figure 8. Underpaid letter from Boston to Philadelphia. The letter weighs between one half and one ounce but was franked with a single 10¢ 1847 stamp. The encircled “20” rate marking was applied to show that the 10¢ stamp did not fully pay the postage. Boston made this very clear with the manuscript “Unpaid 10.”

Figure 9 is another example of a rate marking used to indicate partial payment. This is a 10¢ 1847 cover from Philadelphia, addressed to Delafield, Wisconsin. The slanted “20” was applied at Philadelphia to express the full postage requirement, again with a manuscript clarification (“10 due”). In both Figure 8 and Figure 9, the postmaster gave credit for



Figure 9. 10¢ 1847 cover from Philadelphia to Delafield, Wisconsin. The slanted “20” was applied at Philadelphia to express the full postage requirement, with a manuscript “10 due” expressing the deficiency.



Figure 10. 5¢ 1847 cover from New York City to Albany. The stamp is tied by a New York “6” in circle rater, a marking normally used on incoming ship letters.

partial payment by stamp. This seems to be the practice throughout the 1847 period.

In some cases the rate marking seems to serve no purpose at all, except to cancel the stamp. Figure 10 shows a cover from New York City to Albany. The 5¢ 1847 stamp is well killed and tied by a New York “6” in circle rater. This rate marking was normally used on incoming (stampless) ship letters.

These are but a few of many uses of stampless-period rate markings on covers bearing stamps. In general, postmasters did a remarkable job of handling mail. While a few markings were used redundantly, it is rare to see an 1847 cover improperly rated. ■

Certification and Grading Excellence Since 1987

Founded by noted U.S. Classics Expert, J. Randall Shoemaker, PSAG commits to providing unparalleled certification and grading of all United States, Canada and Canadian Province stamps.

- Finest US and Canadian Experts, 25 years Expertizing Experience
- Competitively Priced Graded & Ungraded certificates at the same price
- Comprehensive References

3.5" X 5.75" Graded Certificate



- GRADING singles, pairs, blocks, plate blocks, booklet panes and souvenir sheets for US & BNA

• Best Turnaround Time in the Trade

• Consistent Standardized Third Party Grading



3.5" X 5.75" Premium Certificate - Identifies Examining Experts



3.5" X 5.75" Ungraded Certificate

FEE SCHEDULE (All United States & Canadian Stamps)

SERVICE	FEE	ITEMS THAT CAN BE SUBMITTED	MINIMUM QUANTITY	MAX SCOTT VALUE	MAX FEE	APPROX TURNAROUND
ECONOMY	\$15	1932 to date (US#643 to date, C19 to date, RW35 to date, E14 to date) No ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES	5	\$100	\$15	30 Business Days
REGULAR	4.5% Scott Value (Min \$30)	1847 to 1931 (US# 1-642, C1-18, RW 1-34, E1-E13, J1-J78, Revenues, etc)	1	No Max Value	\$500	30 Business Days
SPECIALIZED	4.5% Scott Value (Min \$45)	1847 to date (Private Vending Coils, Postal Stationary, Postmaster Provisionals, Special Printings, Covers, Locals/Carriers)	1	No Max Value	\$500	Varies
EXPRESS	Add \$20 to Each Item		1	No Max Value	\$20	20 Business Days



Philatelic Stamp Authentication and Grading

P.O. Box 56-2111 Miami, FL 33256

Phone: 305.345.9864

E-Mail: info@psaginc.com

NEW EARLIEST DOCUMENTED USE
FOR SCOTT #24 FROM PLATE 10

RICHARD C. CELLER

Currently, the earliest documented use (EDU) of the 1857 1¢ Type V stamp from Plate 10 (Scott 24) is June 14, 1860. That date is listed in the 2010 Scott specialized catalog. This article documents a recently discovered printed circular bearing a Plate 10 stamp used more than a month earlier, on May 5, 1860.

The address portion of the circular is shown in Figure 1 and the contents are shown in Figure 2. The circular was mailed by N. Kingsbury & Co., Wool Dealers, 145 State Street, Hartford, Connecticut. It contains a printed dateline of May 1, 1860, and is postmarked with a Hartford circular marking that is clearly dated May 5, 1860.

In Stanley Ashbrook's 1938 two-volume book on the 1¢ stamp of 1851-57, he illustrated (on page 297 of Volume I) a December 21, 1860 cover that was the earliest use for which he then had a record. He made the following comment: "It is entirely possible Plate Ten was made at a much earlier period than any actual evidence we have indicates."

When Neinken published his One Cent 1851-1861 book in 1972 (an update of Ashbrook's Volume I), he illustrated a June 14, 1860 cover that Ashbrook had found after the publication of his 1938 book. Ashbrook had been right, this new date was more than six months earlier than the December 21 date in his book.



Figure 1: Address portion of a printed circular postmarked at Hartford, Connecticut on May 5, 1860. The stamp is position 11R10, showing a natural straight edge at the left side.

Office of N. Kingsbury & Co.,
WOOL DEALERS,
148 STATE STREET.

Hartford, Conn., May 1, 1860.

Gentlemen:

Your attention is respectfully invited to our large Stock of Prime American and Foreign Fleece and Sorted Wools, comprising some of the choicest lots of Wool now in market.

We have constantly on hand Nine qualities of Assorted Wool, suitable for the finest Cassimeres or other grades of Goods, to which your attention is especially invited.

Trusting we may have the pleasure of seeing you soon at our Office, and hoping, by fair and honorable dealing, to merit a share of your patronage,

We are, very respectfully, yours,

N. Kingsbury & Co.

Figure 2: The printed circular on the reverse of Figure 1, with the heading "Office of N. Kingsbury & Co., Wool Dealers, 145 State Street, Hartford, Conn., May 1, 1860."



Figure 3: Enlargement of the lower left corner of the stamp on the Figure 1 cover, showing the scratches that identify Position 11R10.

It is unusual at the present time to discover a new EDU on the 1851-57 stamps that improves the listed date by as much as a month. A reason this may occur on the Type V stamps from Plate 10 is that the stamps from this plate are more difficult to identify than stamps from the other plates that produced Type V stamps, namely Plates 5, 7, 8 and 9. There may well be covers in collector hands with Plate 10 stamps used even earlier than the one being reported here, on which the stamp has yet to be plated.

Fortunately, in the case of the cover in Figure 1, the stamp has numerous strong scratches that identify position 11R10. An enlargement of the lower left portion of the stamp is shown in Figure 3. The scratches show quite clearly. Some of these scratches are indicated on the 11R10 plating mat on page 459 of the Neinken book. The plating of the stamp has also been confirmed by comparing it with a full right pane of Plate 10 recently sold at auction. ■

FREEMAN's
Established 1974

BUYING & SELLING
WORLDWIDE POSTAL HISTORY

Bourse Table at Many Shows as Global Philatelic Associates – Schedule on web site

WWW.GREGFREE.COM

Greg Sutherland
POB 24231

Dayton, OH 45424-0231

STANLEY M. PILLER & ASSOCIATES

Quality Classic U.S. Stamps
and Postal History



Simply Stated

We Build...

We Buy...

We Sell...

Great Collections

Established 1968

Stanley M. Piller & Associates

Office: 800 S. Broadway, Suite 201 • Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 559 • Alamo, CA 94507

Phone: 925-938-8290 • Fax: 925-938-8812

Email: stmpdlr@aol.com • Web: www.smpiller.com



CSA



CLASSICS SOCIETY
CCNY

VALUATION FACTORS
FOR UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS
USED AS REVENUES

EDWIN J. ANDREWS

The purpose of this article is not to provide a checklist of the illegal use of United States postage stamps to satisfy revenue tax as previously reported by Beaumont,¹ Caldwell,² Graham³ and Ward.⁴ Rather I will focus on the factors that need to be considered when valuing these relatively elusive items and provide examples of several previously unreported rarities.

There have been quite a few articles written regarding these stamp usages as well as arguments for and against their being illegal. Troutman⁵ and Morrissey⁶ provide representative examples. However, at this point it is accepted that whether the application of the stamp was accidental or intentional, use of postage stamps to pay revenue tax was categorically illegal and rendered invalid the document (instrument) on which the stamps were used. Mahler⁷ and Stanford⁸ have made that clear. It is fairly evident that the majority of such uses were for convenience, when revenue stamps were not available or not available in the correct denomination.

Figure 1, ex-Morrissey, is an example of a document properly executed but with no revenue stamps applied. This is a summons (certificate) from Meigs County, Ohio, dated December 12, 1862, very early in the taxation period. In this case there were two documents. In the absence of the correct denomination of revenue stamps for each, the proper

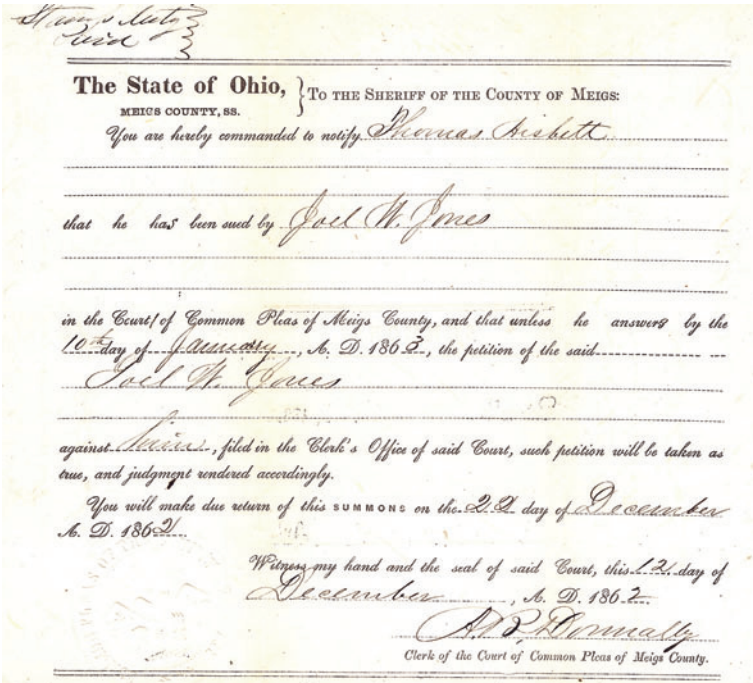


Figure 1. Example of a document without a revenue stamp, but with the revenue tax legally paid by a double-rate stamp on a companion document. The manuscript notation at upper left "Stamp duty paid" refers to a stamp on the accompanying document.

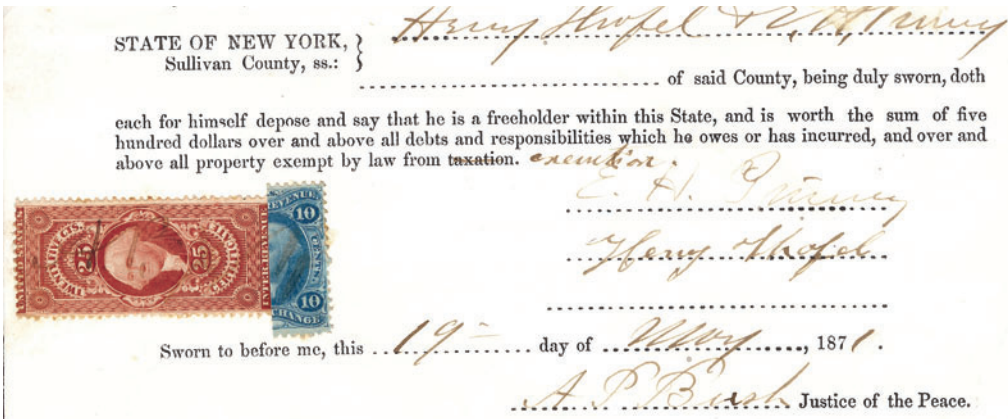


Figure 2. Example of a bisected revenue stamp used to make the correct rate when proper denomination stamps were not available.



Figure 3. Illegal postage use when revenue stamps were not available: A run of bank checks in chronological order, numbered 1739, 1753 and 1758. The top and bottom checks paid the bank check tax per the Act of 1862 with a perforated 2¢ orange Certificate revenue stamp and an imperforate 2¢ Bank Check revenue. The middle check bears a 1¢ 1861 stamp.

tax of 50¢ cents was applied to one document, while the document shown in Figure 1 carried the notation “Stamp duty paid” (manuscript at upper left), referring to the stamp on the companion document.

Figure 2, ex-Mahler, shows use of a bisected revenue stamp created when the correct denomination was not available. The image shown is electronically cropped from a hotel license bond (general bond) executed May 19, 1871, at Callicoon, New York. The 25¢ tax duty per the Act of 1862 is paid using a 25¢ Certificate revenue stamp. The 5¢ Justice of the Peace fee for certification of execution (per the Act of 1863) is satisfied by a bisected 10¢ revenue stamp (either Inland or Foreign Exchange).

Figure 3 shows an example of illegal postage use when revenue stamps were not available. This is a run of bank checks, ex-Mahler, in chronological order from the top, numbers 1739, 1753 and 1758, showing both revenue and postage use. The top and bottom checks appropriately satisfied the bank check tax per the Act of 1862 with, respectively, a fully perforate 2¢ orange Certificate revenue and an imperforate 2¢ Bank Check stamp. Each of these is properly cancelled with manuscript “S. Bros.” (representing “Stevens Brothers,” the issuer) and the date. The center check was apparently handled on a day when the clerk was absent. It bears a 1¢ 1861 postage stamp cancelled in manuscript “AGS” followed by the date. The initials are those of A. Gallatin Stevens, one of the proprietors.

These items are uncommon and as such carry a premium over the intrinsic value of either the stamp or the document on which it is affixed. Factors for consideration in valuing such documents are listed herewith roughly in the order of their importance: stamp issue, denomination, multiple use, mixed use with revenue stamps, type of document, date of use, condition and appearance of the document, and type of cancel. Each of these factors will be discussed in turn with examples where appropriate.

Stamp Issue

Howard B. Beaumont was an early student of these uses and amassed a decent collection before selling to Philip Ward, the well-known Philadelphia dealer. Beaumont and Ward both published articles and listings (cited above) regarding these uses and in those listings detail stamps (albeit few) from the 1847 issue. It is unclear if they are reporting the same sightings or different examples. Mahler has reported the 1¢ 1857 Franklin used as a revenue stamp.⁹ In all these cases, I would be suspicious of the use of any stamp from a period much earlier than the enactment of the revenue tax law in August, 1862. While such an occurrence is certainly possible, such a use, if it could be certified as genuine, would have to be considered exceedingly rare. I have not personally seen any postage stamps prior to the 1861 issue used as revenues, so am not in a position to form an opinion. As a general rule, the stamp issue itself will dictate a premium only if it happens to be one with limited printing (such as the Z-grill stamps of 1867), or a short period of existence, hence fewer stamps in circulation (such as the 1869s).

The most commonly seen uses involve the 1861 stamps followed by rarer sightings of the 1867 grills and the 1869 issue. Bank Notes fall in place next, up to the rescinding of the tax act in 1873 (for all but bank checks which was rescinded in 1883). Taxes were reinstated for certain documents for the Spanish-American War so later uses are occasionally found.

Figure 4 shows a rarity that recently came to light in the Cunliffe estate. This is a previously unreported vertical pair of 6¢ 1869 stamps, satisfying the rate for six separate pay orders to the treasurer of the Boston and Providence Railroad Company, dated January 1, 1870. This is the only recorded example of a 6¢ 1869 pair in revenue usage.

Denomination

As might be expected, the lower denominations are most frequently reported and



Figure 4. Pair of 6¢ 1869 stamps on document. The tax rate required 2¢ for amounts over \$10 drawn on any corporation. Consisting of six separate pay orders, this document represents is the only recorded example of a pair of 6¢ 1869s in revenue use.

seen.¹⁰ This makes sense since the majority of the documents involved were simple checks and receipts or certificates of various kinds. The legislation called for most instruments to be taxed at rates of 2¢ to 5¢ although there were many higher tax rates depending on the value of the transaction. Several works by Mahler provide details.¹¹

Writers have suggested that the 2¢ Blackjack stamp (Scott 73) is the most commonly used postage stamp found on revenue documents, but in my experience the 3¢ Washington (Scott 65) is more common. From the standpoint of catalog value, the 2¢ Blackjack is certainly a scarcer stamp and should therefore command a greater premium on an instrument. Of the other 1861 stamps, the next most common stamp is the 5¢ followed by the 10¢. The 12¢, 24¢ and 30¢ stamps are extremely rare on revenue documents. The 15¢ has been reported but I have never seen an example. Of all the 1861s, the 15¢ and the 90¢ would have to be considered the rarest.

Figure 5 shows an 1867 promissory note, ex-Turner, with a 12¢ black 1861 stamp. The note, for \$200, is dated August 1, 1867. The tax rate then in effect required 10¢ tax on instruments valued between \$100 to \$200, so the 12¢ stamp overpaid the proper rate by 2¢. Only two 12¢ 1861 stamps are recorded used on revenue documents.

Figure 6 shows a piece of a draft bearing a pair and single 30¢ 1861 stamps along with a \$3 Charter Party revenue stamp. This is an incoming foreign-exchange draft payable at

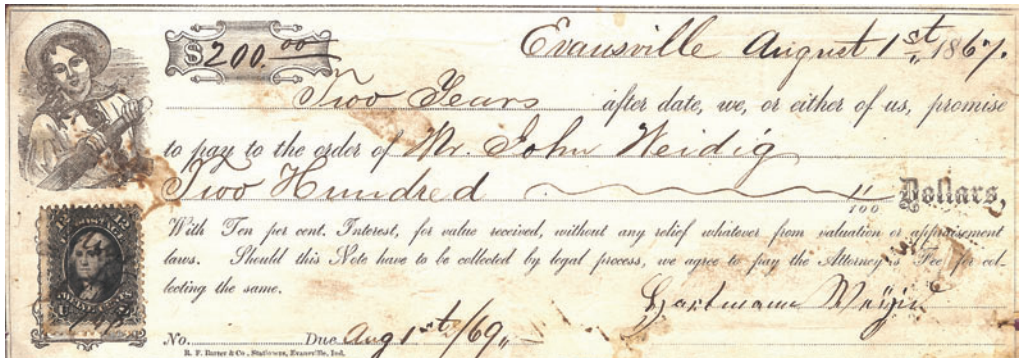


Figure 5. Promissory note for \$200 dated August 1, 1867. The rate in effect required 10¢ tax on instruments \$100 to \$200 so the 12¢ stamp overpaid the rate by 2¢. This is one of two 12¢ 1861 stamps recorded used as revenue stamps.



Figure 6. Front and back of a piece of a foreign exchange draft issued at Havana, Cuba, for \$8,000, accepted February 23, 1866 by Youngs Smith & Co., New York. This is the only recorded multiple of a 30¢ 1861 stamp used as a revenue.

other than sight or demand. Per evidence on the reverse, this instrument was issued at Havana, Cuba, in the amount of \$8,000. It was accepted in New York on February 23, 1866 by Youngs, Smith & Co. It was subject to the August 1, 1864, tax rates for inland exchange, 5¢ for each \$100 or fraction thereof. The 30¢ pair and single plus the \$3 Charter party revenue stamp failed to pay the full \$4 tax due. Ex-Colonel Green, this is the only recorded multiple of a 30¢ 1861 stamp on a revenue document.

Multiple Illegal Uses

As with covers or even mint stamps, multiples such as pairs or blocks will carry a premium over the catalog value of the single stamps. This holds true for revenue use on an instrument. Multiple uses of postage stamps on the same document are less common than



Figure 7. Portion of a promissory note for \$150 dated February 10, 1863, and bearing five 10¢ postage stamps, overpaying the tax. The stamps are properly cancelled. This is the largest recorded multiple use of 10¢ 1861 stamps as revenues.

single stamps and therefore carry a premium. A good example is the use of five copies of an 1861 10¢ green stamp shown in Figure 7. This is electronically cropped from a promissory note for \$150 dated February 10, 1863. The rate in effect required 10¢ tax on instruments of \$100 to \$200, so these stamps grossly overpaid the required tax. It is likely that the instrument was erroneously taxed as a conveyance which (prior to August 1, 1864) would have required a tax of 50¢ on an amount between \$100 and \$500. This is the largest number of 10¢ 1861 stamps known in revenue use.

Mixed Use with Revenue Stamps

There are two types of mixed use. The first is occurs when the postage stamp simply makes up the tax rate along with a revenue stamp. Simple mixed use is rarer than a single postage stamp on a document and clearly shows that the intent was to pay the correct rate for the tax. Such uses always command a premium. Figure 8, ex-Morrissey, shows such a mixed use with a 24¢ brown lilac stamp of 1861 used alongside a 5¢ Inland Exchange revenue stamp.



Figure 8. Promissory note for \$552 dated February 11, 1867, paid with a 24¢ brown lilac 1861 stamp and a 5¢ Inland Exchange revenue stamp. The required 30¢ rate was underpaid by 1¢. This is the sole recorded mixed use of a 24¢ 1861 and a revenue stamp.

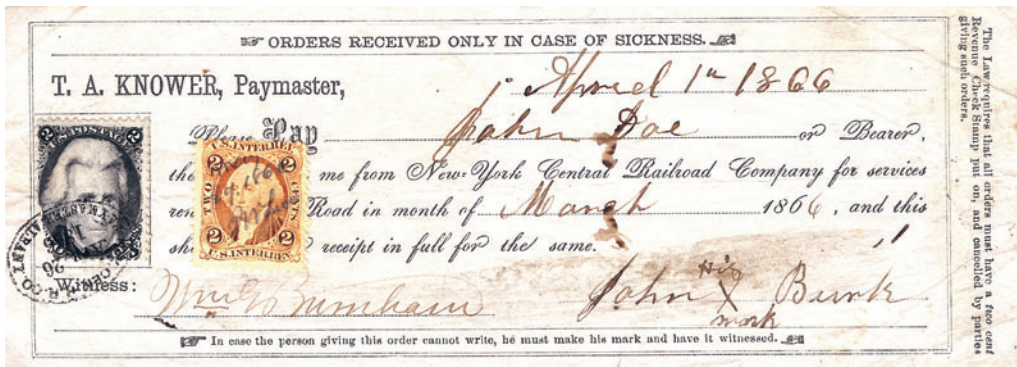


Figure 9. Very uncommon mixed use of postage and revenue stamps, a 2¢ Blackjack and a 2¢ Internal Revenue stamp.

stamp on a promissory note (for \$552) dated 11 February 1867. Here the required 30¢ rate was underpaid by 1¢. This is the only recorded use of a 24¢ 1861 stamp along with a revenue stamp.

Mixed use can also occur when the same document is subject to two different taxes, usually at different times. An example is shown in Figure 9. This is a pay order, on sight, paid with a 2¢ Jackson and cancelled with a N.Y. Central Railroad handstamp, April 26, 1866. The revenue stamp pays the 2¢ tax for a receipt, denoting payment to John Bunk on May 27, 1866. The 2¢ Internal Revenue stamp is properly cancelled with initials and date.

Corrective or recovery use, a term coined by Morrissey in his *Linn's* article cited earlier, is another matter. This relates to guilt or more likely the desire to assure the legality of the document. In some cases there are attempts to remove the postage stamp before applying the revenue stamp,¹² but most frequently the revenue stamp is placed over or adjacent to the postage stamp.

Recovery uses are much less common and command the highest premium of mixed usage. Figure 10 shows a recovery use with the revenue stamp over the postage stamp. The underlying stamp is a 2¢ Blackjack, Scott number not known. The revenue stamp is the common 2¢ orange Internal Revenue stamp. The document is a pay order to the Haverhill (Massachusetts) Savings Bank for \$100, dated February 2, 1869, and paid March 2, 1869.



Figure 10. Recovery or corrective use: A 2¢ revenue stamp is here placed on top of a Blackjack to legalize the document.

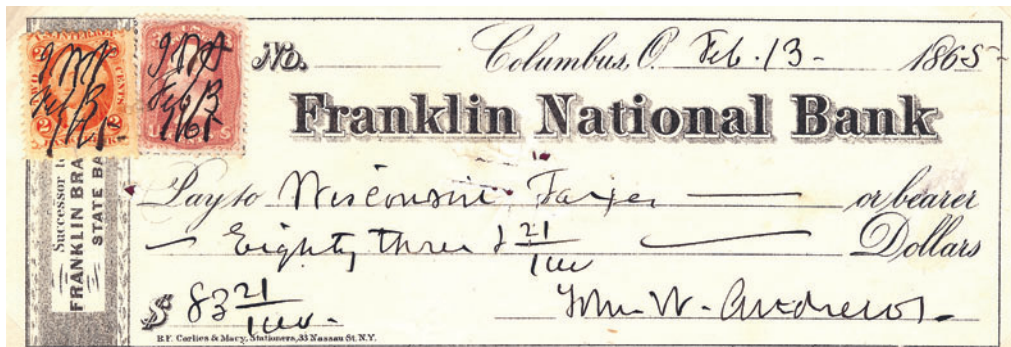


Figure 11. Recovery use of a silk-paper 2¢ Bank Check revenue stamp, legalizing the document in lieu of the 3¢ rose postage stamp.

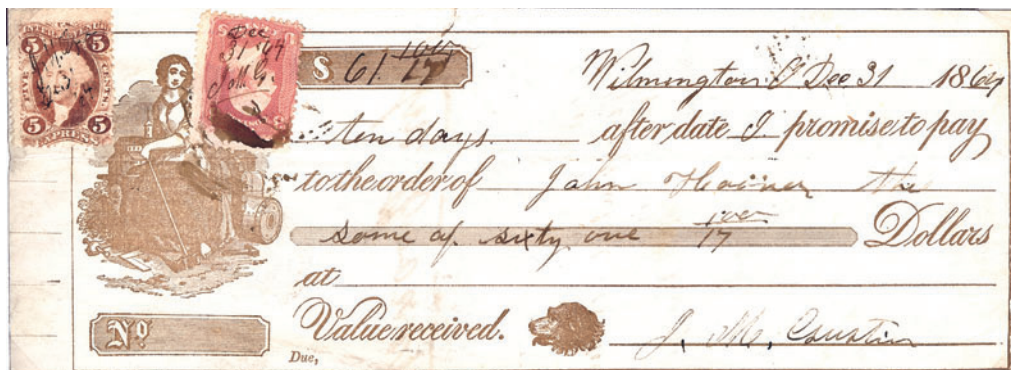


Figure 12. Promissory note with recovery use of a revenue stamp: Wilmington, Delaware, December 31, 1864. This is a note for \$61.17 payable within 10 days.

Figure 11 is another recovery use with the stamps adjacent to one another. Applying the silk-paper variety 2¢ bank check stamp legalized the document in lieu of the 3¢ rose postage stamp. Both stamps were properly cancelled at Columbus, Ohio, on February 13, 1865. Since the check is payable to a state agency (“Wisconsin Taxes”), one can assume that the signatory wanted to insure the legality of the instrument.

Figure 12, ex-Morrissey, is another recovery use with a 3¢ 1861 postage stamp and a 5¢ revenue stamp. The document is a promissory note (\$61.17 payable within 10 days) created at Wilmington, Delaware, on December 31, 1864. The tax rate per the Act of 1864 was 5¢ for each \$100. The original attempt to pay the tax was with a 3¢ rose from the 1861 issue. Both stamps are properly canceled.

Type of Document

Very few reports of these uses take the time to accurately describe the instrument on which the postage is used and the correct tax rate for the instrument. Morrissey and Mahler have been judicious in their reports. Mahler is certainly the authority on the tax rates and has published numerous articles and several books detailing the rates and uses. Clearly the most common instruments will have less value than more obscure documents. Bank checks and drafts as well as various types of receipts are the most common followed by various classifications of certificates. It behooves the collector (or dealer) to understand the instrument and what its proper rate should have been when assessing whether the postage satisfied that rate. The more unusual the document the higher the premium.



Figure 13. Certificate of weight for coal, July 10, 1865. The stamps are not properly cancelled as they lack initials of the signatory and a date. Nevertheless an unusual document.

As an example of an unusual document, Figure 13 shows an 1865 Certificate of Measurement of Weight, with a mixed use of a 3¢ rose 1861 stamp and a 2¢ Internal Revenue stamp to pay the 5¢ rate for a general certificate. However, after August 1864 no stamps were necessary for coal weight certificates and this one is dated July 10, 1865. Also, the stamps are not properly cancelled as they lack initials of the signatory and a date. But this is an unusual document nonetheless, ex-Morrissey.

In addition to the type of document the item may also command a premium based on striking appearance. Figure 14 shows part of an engraved life membership certificate issued by a business college. The 2¢ brown 1869 stamp fails to pay the 5¢ tax then in effect for certificates. The signatory likely applied the 2¢ stamp as payment of a receipt tax.

Date of Use

The earlier the use to the enactment of the given tax rate, the more desirable is a document that shows the rate. Similarly, uses after the rescinding of a given tax rate have extra interest. Mahler's catalog established a class of revenue stamped documents referred to as "Early Matching Usages" or "EMUs". The original revenue tax act required that specific stamp designations be used only on like documents, i.e. Bond stamps on bonds, Certificate stamps on certificates, Bank Check stamps on checks, etc. But owing to the short initial supplies of stamps and general confusion among the public about using them, the law was quickly amended (on December 25, 1862). The amendment allowed for any revenue stamp, of proper denomination, to be used to satisfy the required tax. The only exception was for proprietary articles, and later photographs, which specifically required the use of either Playing Card or Proprietary stamps. EMUs are proper matching uses found from the early days of the tax act. The generally accepted cutoff date for considering a revenue stamped document to be an EMU is June 30, 1863. By extension, postage stamps used as revenues from the early period of the tax act are also more desirable.

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED...

Scott #9a, 1849 1Fr Light carmine on yellowish, tete-beche, a showpiece unused horizontal "face to face" tete-beche pair. This spectacular pair is widely regarded as one of the greatest 1849-50 Ceres issue tete-beche rarities extant. ex-Ferrary, Hind and "Lafayette".
Cat. \$235,000;
Realized \$218,600



The First postage stamps in Minnesota Territory, Ten Cent Black 1847 Issue with green "Saint Paul, Min. Ter./Feb 12" datestamp, the only known 1847 issue cover from Minnesota Territory.
Est. \$10,000-15,000
Realized \$54,725



Scott #126, 6c Blue re-issue, a phenomenal used example that is quite likely the finest used copy of this rare re-issue in existence. PF & 2005 PSE certificate (XF-Superb 95).
Cat. \$2,750;
Realized \$24,250



Austin, Stephen F. An incredible content Autograph Letter Signed, Raising Troops for Texas, "Stephen F. Austin", With Nashville postmark, February 25, 1836. Est. \$15,000-20,000; Realized \$207,000



Scott #57b, 1870 20c Bright arresting mint never hinged inverted cliché. Quite likely of the 20c 1870 Siege of Paris issue.
Cat. \$6,000; Realized \$27,700

You knew our friend the noble brave Miles
now to Kentucky - he intended to have gone to his native
land a regiment - his glorious patriotic spirit calls
60 country men to arm for liberty & Texas & avenge his
& hope the call will be responded to & that 1000's of men
will soon honor the gray & Milan by their presence in a

ops
336.
100



Paid Central Overland Pony Express Company, printed Pony Express frank on eastbound 10c Green on buff entire (#U18) to Coopers Mills, Maine, manuscript "Carson City - Sept 30/60", Paid \$2.50, only eight reported examples of this printed frank. ex-Barkhausen, West. Est. \$15,000-20,000; Realized \$74,850

sold 2
arts
"In the
ant-
town, about
3
032



Full Rigged Ship illustrated postmark on a fresh folded letter with integral address leaf datelined "Canton (China) April 16, 1834" to New York endorsed "Globe", undoubtedly the finest reported strike of this illustrated marking, as well as the only "full rigged ship" handstamp applied to a cover from China. ex-Porriss. Est. \$7,500-10,000; Realized \$71,975



Spink Shreves is thrilled to consistently offer the most premium quality stamps and covers from some of the most exciting collections in the world. And our level of commitment and passion for excellence ensure that every element is in place to reach and surpass even the highest expectations of our clients. Because we'd stop at nothing less.

State to
upon his
his death
antivirus
near -

Pensacola, largely clear straightline British Colonial handstamp on folded letter to St. Augustine, East Florida datelined "Camp at Grand Sable, 14th, December, 1772", the only reported example of this combination of rare markings. ex-Glassco. Est. \$30,000-40,000; Realized \$115,100



SPINK
— FOUNDED 1666 —
SHREVES GALLERIES

800 556 STAMP www.spinkshreves.com

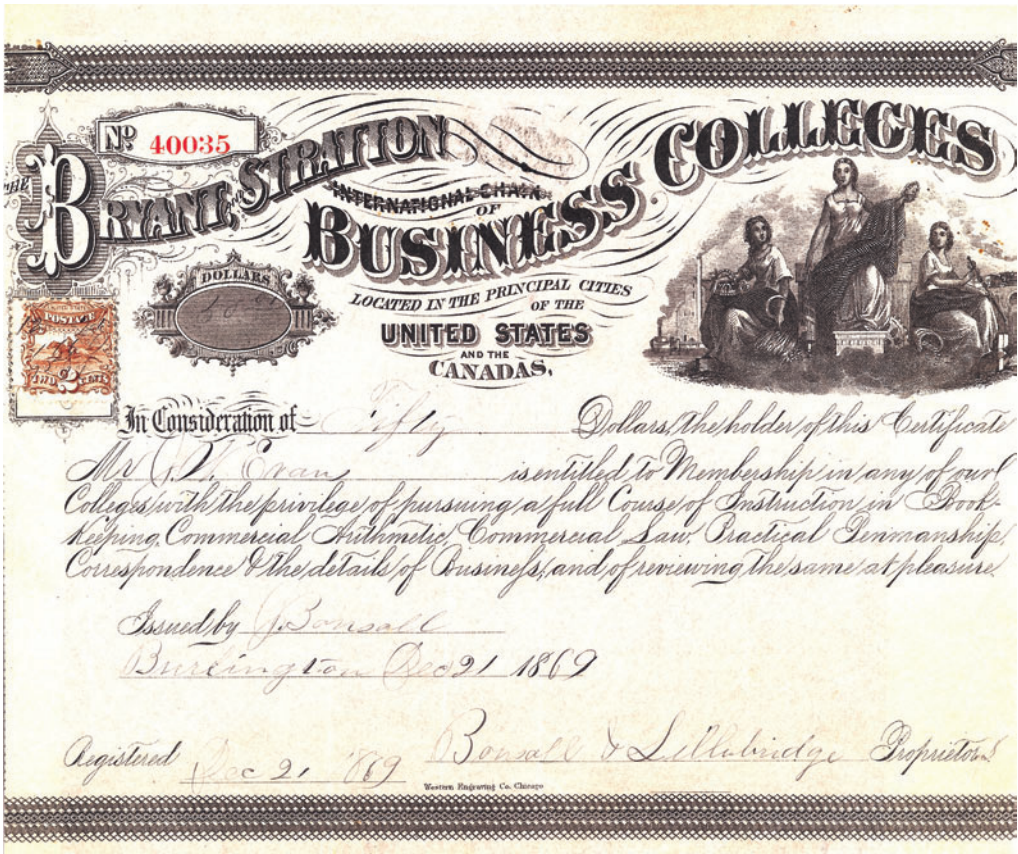


Figure 14. A beautifully engraved business college membership certificate, issued at Burlington, Vermont, on December 21, 1869. The 2¢ 1869 stamp is properly cancelled.

Condition and Appearance of Document

As with stamps and covers, condition is all important when valuing these uses. Unlike covers that might have been carefully filed or bundled, revenue instruments such as receipts were often dashed off on lined paper or crudely fashioned from scrap paper. Bank checks were often cancelled with cut or punch cancels so defacement of both the instrument and stamp are possible. Legal documents were often bound. Glue defacement or punch holes for filing are possible along with file folds or spindle holes which can affect the stamps. While the item may be desirable for its other factors, condition needs to be weighed in the final valuation.

Type of Cancel

The type of cancel also provides some margin of value. Revenue stamps were specifically required to be canceled by the user's initials and the date. Accordingly, proper revenue cancellations on documents using postage instead of revenue stamps are very important. A faker could easily use a simple "X" or similar manuscript cancel to make an otherwise inexpensive revenue document seem much more valuable. Ideally the stamp will bear the initials of the signer of the document and in the best of situations, it will be tied to the document. The penmanship or hand of the signatory should match that of the document. The dates on the stamp cancel and instrument should also match. Improperly canceled postage stamps on revenue instruments, if tied, certainly denote authentic (though illegal) uses and are acceptable, but less desirable, than properly cancelled postage used the same way.

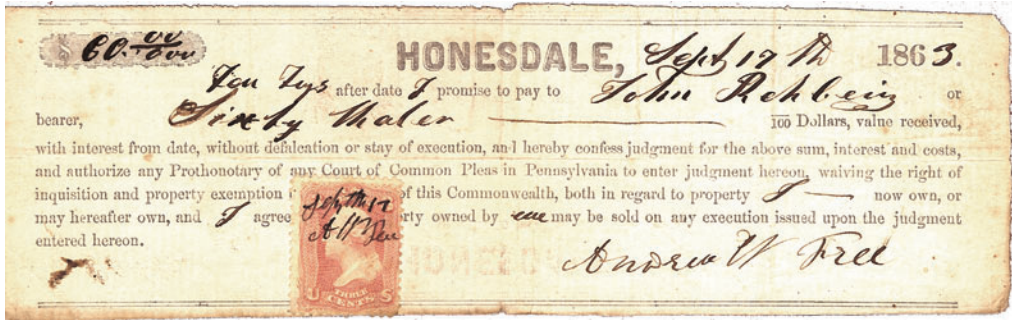


Figure 15. Promissory note executed at Honesdale, Pennsylvania, September 17, 1863, for “60 Thaler.” The 3¢ rose stamp is properly cancelled with the date and initials of the signatory. The penmanship on the cancel matches that on the document.

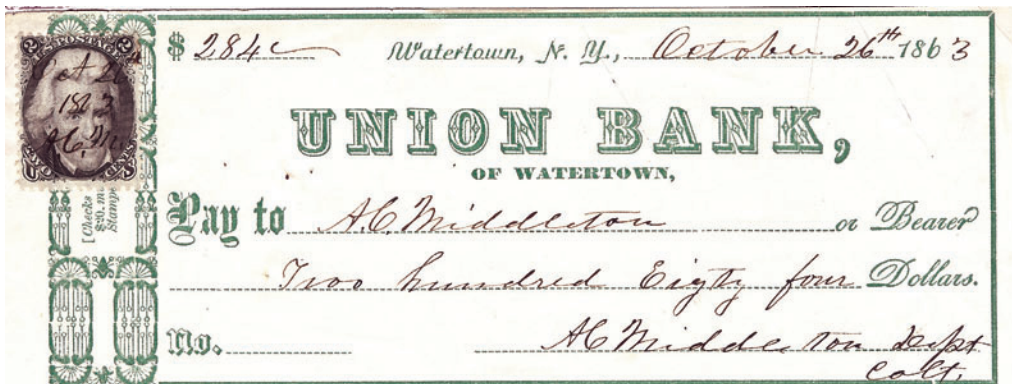


Figure 16. Properly cancelled 2¢ Blackjacket from the 1861 issue. The green legend under the stamp advises “Checks over \$20 must be stamped.” Check dated October 26, 1863, and drawn on the Union Bank of Watertown, New York. The 2¢ tax rate is correct.

Figure 15 illustrates a proper revenue cancel on a small promissory note. Here the 3¢ rose 1861 stamp is properly cancelled with the date and initials of the signatory. The penmanship also matches the document. The promissory note, executed at Honesdale, Pennsylvania, September 17, 1863, is for “60 Thaler”. The signer, Andrew Free, likely meant dollars when he wrote the note. The correct tax per the Act of 1863 would have been 3¢ for amounts \$20 up to \$200 payable within 63 to 93 days. Since the instrument does not designate a payment period, there is no way to determine the correct tax.

Figure 16 shows another example of a postage stamp properly cancelled on a bank check, drawn on the Union Bank of Watertown, New York, October 26, 1863. The green printing partly obscured by the 2¢ 1861 Blackjacket stamp advises that “Checks over \$20 must be stamped.” Though its use wasn’t legal, the stamp paid the correct tax.

Non-manuscript cancels such as steel die handstamps or patent ribbon stampers generally satisfy the name and date requirements of revenue cancellations. Very often these also tie the stamp to the actual document. Figure 17 shows a bold broker’s handstamp on a 3¢ 1861 postage stamp. The illustration is electronically cropped from a New York Central Railroad receipt, dated August 1, 1866. The document acknowledges payment for the services of a clerk. The bold oval handstamp of D. E. Wilson Co., New York brokers, is not totally proper as a revenue canceller because it lacks a date. The 3¢ brown-red (1865) stamp overpays the 2¢ receipt rate.

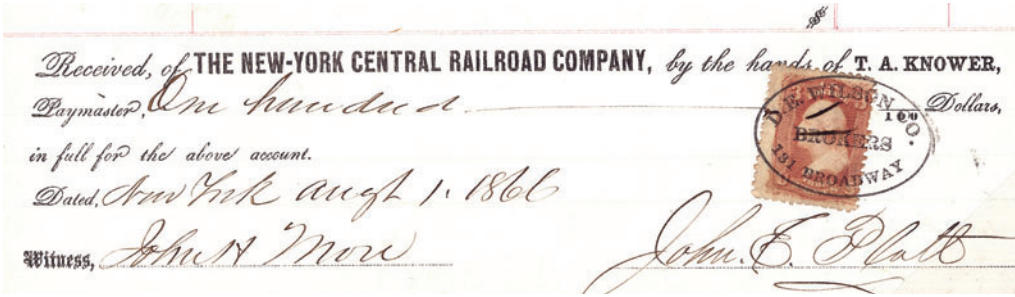


Figure 17. Bold oval handstamp of D. E. Wilson Co., brokers in New York City. The cancel is not totally correct because it fails to provide a date. From a New York Central Railroad receipt dated August 1, 1866, paying for the services of a clerk.

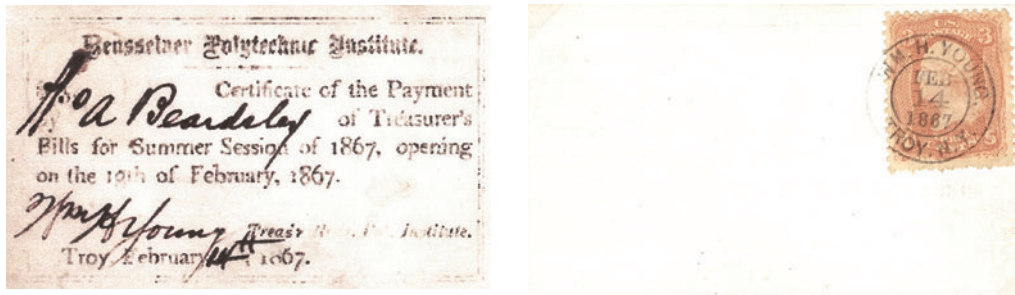


Figure 18. Both sides of a tuition receipt from the treasurer of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York, February 14, 1867. Struck with a handstamped steel die cancel, the 3¢ rose 1861 stamp overpays the required 2¢ receipt tax.

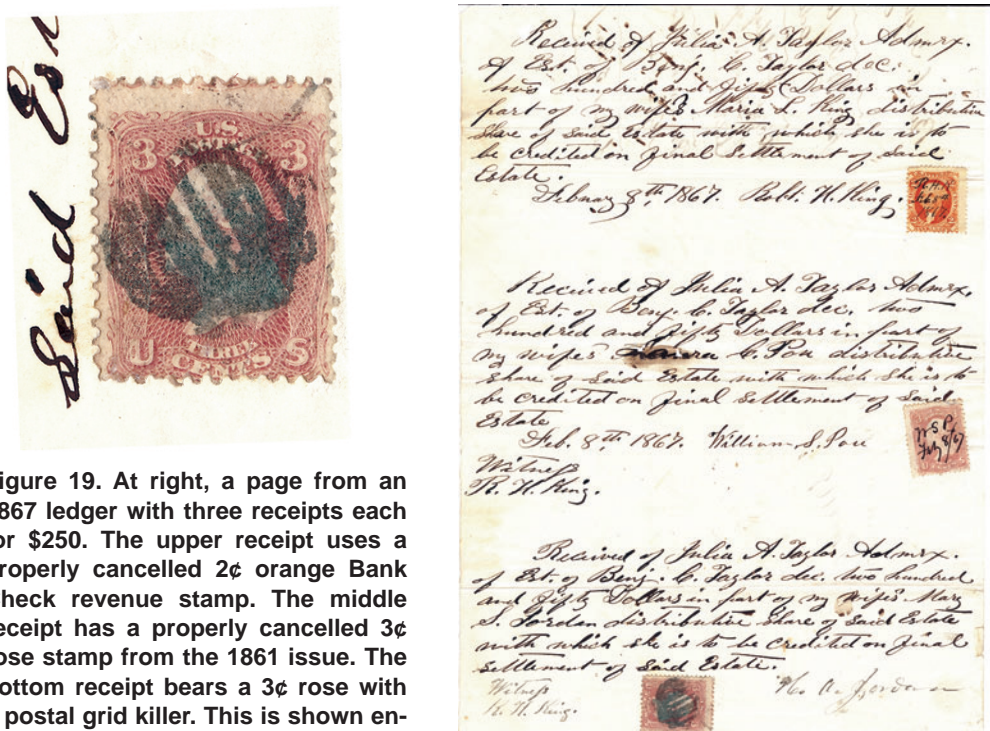


Figure 19. At right, a page from an 1867 ledger with three receipts each for \$250. The upper receipt uses a properly cancelled 2¢ orange Bank Check revenue stamp. The middle receipt has a properly cancelled 3¢ rose stamp from the 1861 issue. The bottom receipt bears a 3¢ rose with a postal grid killer. This is shown enlarged in the photograph above.

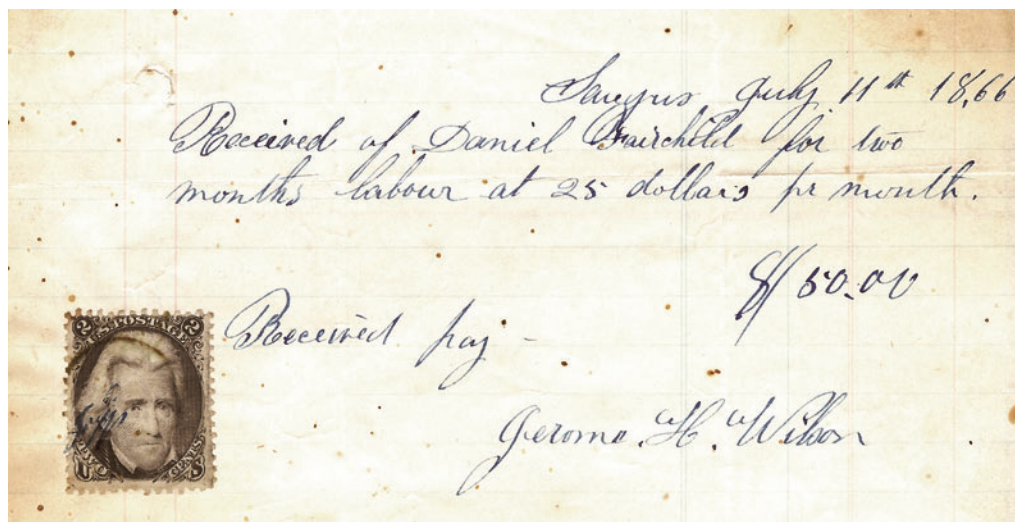


Figure 20. A receipt for payment of labor, July 11, 1866. The 2¢ 1861 Blackjacket was previously used as postage, evidenced by the partial circular black cancel. It is also cancelled as a revenue in blue ink with the initials of the signatory. A doubly illegal use.

Figure 18 shows the steel handstamp of the treasurer of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, as it appears on the reverse of a small receipt (also shown) acknowledging payment of tuition for the summer session of 1867. The marking was applied at Troy, New York, on February 14, 1867. The 3¢ rose 1861 stamp overpays the required 2¢ receipt tax.

A final cancel category, seldom seen, is the use of postally canceled stamps when neither a revenue nor mint postage stamp was available. These need to be carefully assessed to insure they are not a philatelic contrivance by simply adding canceled postage to a revenue document. Figure 19 shows a page from an 1867 ledger. It contains three receipts, apparently created on the same day, each for \$250. The upper receipt bears a 2¢ orange Bank Check revenue stamp, properly cancelled. The middle receipt bears a 3¢ rose 1861 postage stamp, also properly cancelled for revenue use. The bottom receipt bears another 3¢ rose 1861 stamp, this one with a postal grid killer. Certainly this is a most unusual combination.

Figure 20 shows a 2¢ Blackjacket with a postal cancel overwritten by a manuscript revenue cancel. This is a receipt for payment of labor (\$50 for two months), dated July 11, 1866. The 2¢ 1861 Blackjacket was postally used as evidenced by the partial circular black cancel. But it was also cancelled as a revenue use, in the distinctive blue ink in which the document was written, and with the initials of the signatory. This is a rare combination of illegal uses.

Epilog

There is one situation where postage stamps can be legally used on an instrument bearing a revenue stamp. This is when the instrument is mailed using the postage stamp properly. This combination is rarely seen but when found will likely be on an insurance policy. An example is shown in Figure 21. Here the 3¢ 1861 stamp properly paid postage to deliver an insurance policy to its named recipient. Mailed from Le Roy, Ohio, on June 13, 1863, the policy insured a house, barn, wash house, feed and wagons for \$833, requiring a premium payment of \$5.10. The revenue rate in effect after March 3, 1863, for insurance premiums not exceeding \$10 was 10¢. This tax was paid by the 10¢ Inland Exchange revenue stamp affixed at upper right. An unusual combination.

Figure 21. Legal use of a 3¢ rose 1861 stamp to pay letter-rate postage on the face of an insurance policy. Mailed from Le Roy Ohio, June 13, 1863, the policy insured a house, barn, wash house, feed and wagons for \$833. This required a premium payment of \$5.10. The revenue rate in effect after March 3, 1863 for insurance premiums not exceeding \$10 was 10¢, here paid by the 10¢ Inland Exchange revenue stamp. This is a very unusual combination.



Conclusion

The illegal use of postage to satisfy revenue taxes during the Civil War and related tax periods can be an interesting and challenging area of study and collecting. Discernment and knowledge are needed to ensure that the postage used on the instrument is authentic and not a philatelic fabrication. Various factors will affect the value of these items and should be considered when acquiring them. ■

Endnotes

1. Howard B. Beaumont, "Postage Stamps Used as Revenues and Revenue Stamps Used as Postage," *American Philatelist*, December 1932 (Vol. 46, No. 3), pp. 167-169.
2. William H. Caldwell, "Two Interesting Taxed Photographs," *The American Revenuer*, July-August 1985, pg. 102.
3. Richard B. Graham, "Revenue Stamps as Postage and Visa Versa," *Linn's Stamp News*, January 4, 1993, pp. 30-31.
4. Philip H. Ward, Jr., "U.S. Postage Stamps as Revenues," *Mekeel's*, May 6, 1955, pg. 138; August 19, 1960, pg. 58.
5. Scott Troutman, "The War Revenue Laws of 1862 thru 1898 as they Apply to Postage Used as Revenues," *The American Revenuer*, July-August 1986, pp 148-149.
6. Michael Morrissey, "Invalid but Handy: Postage Fills Revenue Role," *Linn's Stamp News*, January 11, 1999, pg. 30.
7. Michael Mahler, "Postage Stamps were Invalid for Payment of Documentary Taxes of the Civil War and Spanish-American War Periods," *The American Revenuer*, February 1987, pp. 24-26.
8. Eidsel C. Stanford, To the Editor [law concerning the use of postage stamps as revenue stamps]. *The American Revenuer*, July-August 1985. pp. 101-102.
9. Michael Mahler, "A Postage-As-Revenue Item," *The Checklist*, October 1975, pg. 106.
10. Michael C. McClung, "The 3¢ 1861 Used as a Revenue Stamp," *Chronicle* 215, pp. 212-215.
11. Michael C. Mahler, *United States Civil War Revenue Stamp Taxes: A Compendium of Statutes, Decisions, Rulings and Correspondence Pertaining to the Documentary and Proprietary Taxes* (Castenholz and Sons, Pacific Palisades, California, 1988); *A Catalog of United States Revenue-Stamped Documents of the Civil War Era by Type and Tax Rate* (The American Revenue Association, Rockford, Iowa, 1999).
12. McClung, *op. cit.*

THE 1869 PERIOD
SCOTT R. TREPEL, EDITOR

TEN-CENT 1869 COVERS: A POSTAL HISTORICAL SURVEY,
BY MICHAEL LAURENCE

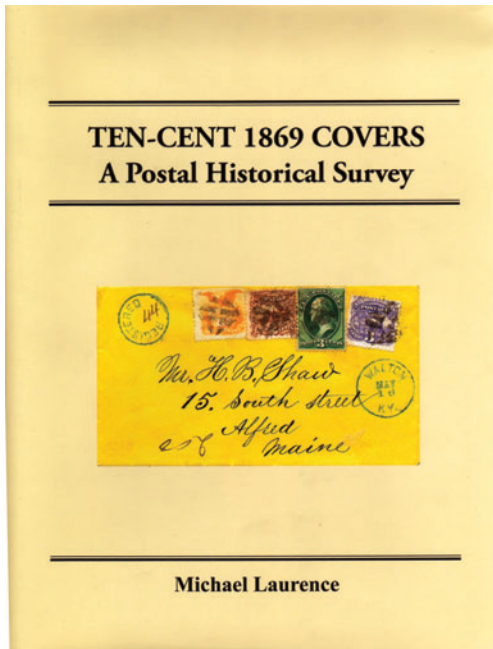
REVIEWED BY SCOTT R. TREPEL

Books about stamps are usually written to raise collector awareness of a particular area and to document the author's research and collecting accomplishments. Philatelic books with general themes, such as *The 100 Greatest U.S. Stamps*, seem to be less successful in achieving these goals than books focused on a narrow area of specialization. But paradoxically, books on highly-specialized subjects often fail to find a broad audi-

ence, which undermines the authors' efforts to educate philatelists and stimulate interest in a particular collecting specialty.

After reading Michael Laurence's new book on the 10¢ 1869 Pictorial stamp and its use on mail—a 400-page *tour de force* in philately and postal history—this reviewer had the uneasy feeling that hundreds, or perhaps thousands, of stamp collectors, philatelists and postal historians around the world might never bother to order a copy, misled by the assumption that this is a book about one U.S. stamp. The person who dismisses this book as a work of extraordinary specialization and limited utility will be missing an essential tutorial on an epic period of postal history in America and, indeed, the world. The contrast between this book's subject and its scope is captured in a pithy reviewer's quote on the inside dust jacket, penned by postal historian Richard Frajola: "Laurence's book is about 10¢ 1869 covers the way *Moby Dick* is about whales."

Laurence covers his subject in seven sections, preceded by an introduction and followed by six appendices, a bibliography and detailed index. There are 476 illustrations and 119 tables supplementing the well-written narrative. Laurence is a professional journalist, former editor and frequent con-



***Ten-Cent 1869 Covers, A Postal Historical Survey*, by Michael Laurence. Published in 2010 by the Collectors Club of Chicago, 1029 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60610. Hardbound, 8½ x 11 inch format, illustrated, color throughout, 400 pages, \$75.**

tributor to *Playboy* magazine, and former editor-publisher of *Linn's Stamp News*. Like the men's magazine Laurence once wrote for, his book could be recommended solely for its visual stimulation, but it also makes an easy and informative read, striking the perfect balance between scholarly achievement and intellectual accessibility. Explaining the complexities of mid-19th century international postal arrangements can easily induce somnolence, but Laurence manages to keep the discussion lively without sacrificing detail or accuracy.

The title of the book, *Ten-Cent 1869 Covers: A Postal Historical Survey*, defines the subject. Although collector Laurence owns and exhibits 10¢ 1869 essays, proofs, stamps and cancellations off cover, in this book author Laurence focuses exclusively on covers. A census of 1,298 covers provides the empirical evidence for his analysis and conclusions. Laurence was one of the first philatelic researchers to develop his own comprehensive cover census for study. Eventually the entire 1869 Pictorial Research Associates group coordinated census-taking for all the higher-value 1869 stamps. This work in the 1970s and 1980s led to publication of *The 1869 Issue on Cover: A Census and Analysis*.

Laurence's book follows the structure that has become *de rigueur* for displaying international-mail covers in FIP and APS exhibitions. Section 1 is devoted to domestic and cross-border mails. Sections 2 through 7 present international-mail covers according to the postal routing: Pan-American mails, British mails, French mails, German mails, mails to other treaty nations and Transpacific mails. A trailing chapter presents re-issue covers, fake covers and concluding remarks. The chronology is principally limited to the period from 1869 to 1876, at which point the simplifying standards of Universal (or General) Postal Union obsoleted most of the prevailing postal treaties and conventions.

The tables provide easy access to sailing dates, postage rates and information about actual 10¢ 1869 covers. More than 20 tables provide data that are not limited to 10¢ 1869 covers, making this book a valuable resource for all postal history students. In particular, the sections on Pan-American mails and Transpacific mails are extremely useful to anyone whose interests involve these areas. The appendices present supporting data and illustrations, including tracings of markings, U.S. credits on British Mail covers and lists of 10¢ 1869 covers in various categories.

Almost all the cover illustrations are in color. Laurence shows many items from his outstanding collection, but he is also willing to picture significant items from other collections which, by his own admission, carry a cost "beyond my means." In addition to photos of covers from private collections, the book contains high-resolution color images of covers from the Smithsonian National Postal Museum and the Hirzel Collection at the Museum of Communication in Bern, Switzerland.

Laurence's narrative has a very contemporary and inviting tone, referring frequently to other collectors, to auctions and to auction realizations in an effort to bring the reader inside the circle of specialist collectors. Opinions regarding scarcity, desirability and, in certain cases, questions of genuineness are found throughout the book. Through this approach, Laurence succeeds in mentoring the reader. For example, at the conclusion of Chapter 5 in the Pan-American Mails section, Laurence sums up the objective of his presentation:

"I hope this information will enable collectors to better appreciate 10¢ 1869 covers carried by the Brazil line. At least a passing familiarity with the routes and ports of the mail-carrying steamer lines is necessary to fully appreciate the covers they carried. Surviving covers do not stand as mute objects to be classified solely by rate, origin or destination. Rather, they are all artifacts of an evolving international communications network whose complexities and interrelationships are often evidenced by the markings that they bear."

The book's design and layout are attractive and skillfully executed. The introductory text for each main section is set in a slightly larger type than the body text, helping the reader to find a good starting point for each broad category of mail. The right-page headers follow the section titles, which makes it easy to navigate the book.

Everyone should own this book, and anyone who uses reference books with vigor should buy two copies. This reviewer has already marked up one copy with notes, Post-Its and dog-ears. With the publication of Richard Winter's two-volume *Understanding Transatlantic Mail* and Laurence's 10¢ 1869 book, this reviewer is ready to relegate the old Hargest volume to the bottom shelf. ■

COLUMBIAN

STAMP COMPANY INC.



BUILDING AND BUYING GREAT STAMP COLLECTIONS



HARRY HAGENDORF
DEALER IN RARE STAMPS



700 WHITE PLAINS ROAD SCARSDALE NY 10583 TELEPHONE 914 725 2290 FAX 914 725 2576
E-MAIL: harryhagendorf@aol.com

MATTHEW BENNETT INTERNATIONAL

Early Fall Sales Reveal Revitalized Market



*1c blue, E. grill (86)
C.V. \$550
Realized \$25,300*



*\$5 Columbian (245)
C.V. \$10,500
Realized \$92,000*

*M*atthew Bennett International inaugurated the Fall, 2010 philatelic auction season with a series of four auctions featuring classic and high quality United States proofs and stamps.

After an unprecedented amount of bidding activity from over 400 participants on the internet, phone and floor as well as 100s of mail bidders, the total sales realized over \$4 million and showed a vibrant market in virtually every area of U.S. stamps. It was a pleasure for all of us, collectors and professionals alike, to see such enthusiasm and this excitement should bode well for future consignors.



MATTHEW BENNETT INTERNATIONAL
8096 Edwin Raynor Blvd, Suite B · Baltimore, MD 21122
info@bennettstamps.com · www.bennettstamps.com
(410) 647-1002

OFFICIALS

ALAN C. CAMPBELL, EDITOR

CONSTANT PLATE VARIETIES OF THE 1873 OFFICIAL STAMPS: WAR DEPARTMENT

GEORGE G. SAYERS

This is the final of nine studies, documenting the constant plate varieties currently reported and verified in the philatelic literature both public and privately distributed, for the 1873 Official stamps. Definitions and historical references are found in the introduction to the series preceding the first article.¹ Most plate varieties not illustrated but described in these studies can be found as printed, enlarged scans in the author's book, *Departmentals Plate Varieties* at the American Philatelic Research Library.² These studies are intended to be informative and useful to the interested non-specialist collector. Suggestions to further these goals will be welcomed.

This study of the War Department stamps is intended to clarify the few catalog listings of constant plate varieties in the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers*, where only one plate variety is listed on a hard-paper stamp, and two plate varieties are listed on a different soft-paper stamp. The ink compositions used for both papers were efficient at minimizing the appearance of plate varieties and very few have been recorded. Literature citations are minimal. The author has not examined the large blocks of plate proofs for the War stamps. Examination of more than 30 sets of proofs, and full and part sheets of several values, shows no notable new plate varieties, just a few small plate scratches and minimal double transfers. Production varieties, particularly large ink smears, can be found for several values.

Most War stamps are readily available. The seven denominations reprinted on soft paper are generally much more common, as thousands of stamp sets, mostly soft-paper stamps, were distributed free by War Department officials after the 1884 demonetization. The 1875 Special Printing stamps are rare. No plate varieties have been reported from this printing. The 2¢ and 3¢ stamps were printed from plates of 200 impressions divided into panes of 100 by interpane arrows aligned to the margin between Columns 10 and 11. The other nine values were printed from plates of 100 impressions. The original plates were used for all printings. The author has not examined the War plate proofs for plate layout marks.

War Department: 1¢ (Scott O83, O114 soft paper)

No plate varieties have been reported for these stamps.

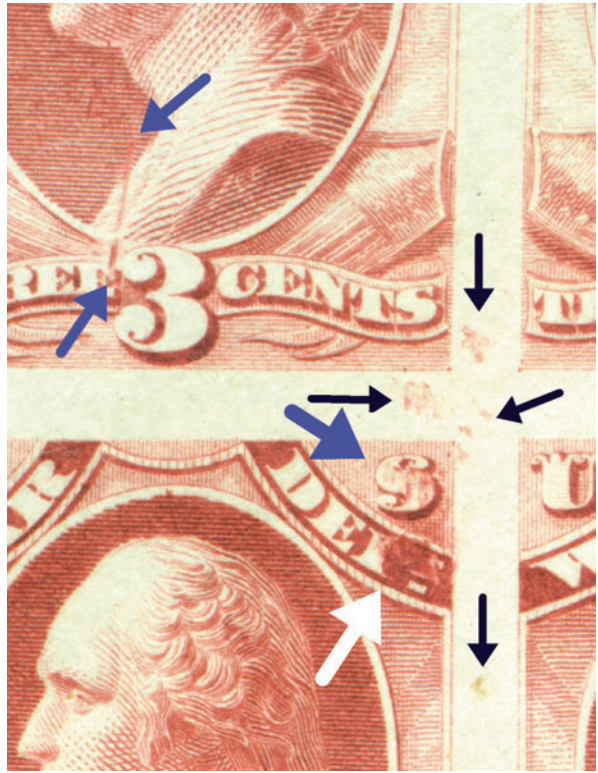
War Department: 2¢ (Scott O84, O115 soft paper)

No plate varieties have been reported for these stamps.

War Department: 3¢ (Scott O85, O116 soft paper)

The catalog listing for the plate flaw at upper left for the soft-paper stamp is incorrect. The plate damage was correctly described and illustrated by David H. Lobdell in *Chronicle* 174, page 131, as being found at the upper left corner of Position 11 of the right pane. Lobdell noted that the flaw was partly in the margin between columns 10 and 11, the location

Figure 1. 3¢ War India-paper proof block (O85P3), from positions 2, 3, 12 and 13 on the left pane, showing plate damage. The small blue arrows indicate the scratch in Position 2. The black arrows indicate the small damages in the margins. In Position 12, the large white arrow indicates the deep damage in the “PT” of “DEPT.” and the large blue arrow indicates the multiple small damages in the “S”. This proof block is shown here through the courtesy of Alfred E. Staubus.



of the interpane cut, and that left panes cut with a wide right margin would show a piece of the flaw at Position 20. Thus the listing error. At this time, the variety has not been reported or catalog-listed on hard paper.

There is a group of plate damages found in Positions 2 and 12 of the left pane, in their right margins and in between. The affected area is shown in Figure 1, from a late India-paper proof block. The black arrows indicate the small damages in the margins. The small blue arrows indicate the scratch in Position 2. In Position 12, the white arrow indicates the damage obliterating part of the “P” and most of the “T” of “DEPT.,” and the large blue arrow indicates the small damages in the “S”. This group of damages is the most significant plate variety found on the War Department stamps. While it was first described by Konwiser,³ it was more extensively described as part of a block by Herman Toaspern,⁴ editor of the “Specialized United States” column in *Scott’s Monthly Stamp Journal* for December, 1927, page 274. The block came from one Col. Bonesteel, (probably a pseudonym), a frequent contributor. Toaspern’s column was the pathway to catalog listing for varieties at the time. All three men missed the damages in Position 12 and the margins, and the variety inexplicably missed catalog listing. “Bonesteel” reported the variety as being found on hard and soft papers.

There is a catalog-listed double transfer priced mint and used for the soft-paper stamp. The author has not a clue as to what this refers. No double transfers have been found on full panes of stamps or proofs.

War Department: 6¢ (Scott O86, O117 soft paper)

A few examples of what appear to be double transfers in different letters of “DEPT.” have been noted, but confirming copies have not been reported and these examples may be production varieties.

War Department: 7¢ (Scott O87)

No plate varieties have been reported for this stamp.

War Department: 10¢ (Scott O88, O118 soft paper)

Phillips reported “a broad, thick crack extending from the left hand margin right to the bust.”⁵ A few copies with differing ink patterns in this area have been reported. As of yet, confirming copies have not been found. Examination of full sheets of the soft-paper stamp show no such damage, and this is considered an ink-spatter production variety.

There is a crack descending from the left bottom frame found on the die and therefore found on all stamps. This crack was catalog-listed for many years, then de-listed in 2001.

War Department: 12¢ (Scott O89, O119 soft paper)

No plate varieties have been reported for this stamp.

War Department: 15¢ (Scott O90)

The catalog-listed erasure of the top right corner at Position 74 is shown as Figure 2, indicated by the black arrows, from a proof on card stock (O90P4). A much smaller erasure of the same corner occurs at an unknown position.

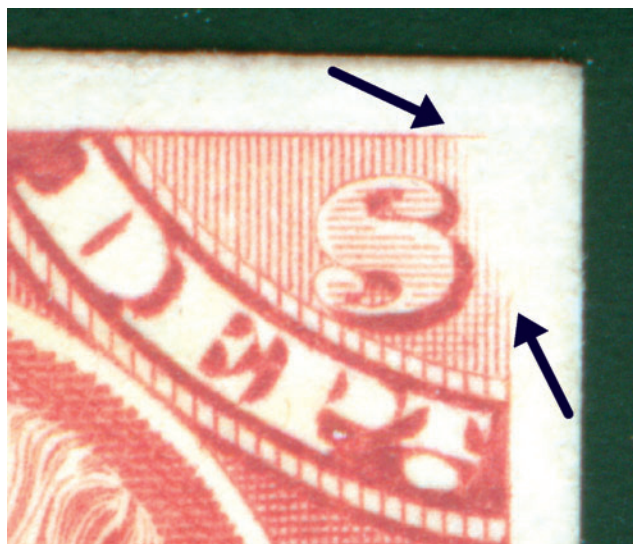


Figure 2. 15¢ War proof on card stock (O90P4), Position 74. The erasure of the top right corner is indicated by the black arrows.

A notable ink smear across at least eight stamps in the lower two rows has been reported.

War Department: 24¢ (Scott O91)

The double transfer of the top imprint was described and illustrated in the author’s article on plate varieties of marginal markings in *Chronicle* 218, page 143. No other plate varieties have been reported for these stamps.

War Department: 30¢ (Scott O92, O120 soft paper)

An unidentified position shows a doubled bottom frame line on two “Atlanta” proofs on card stock. This variety has been reported on production stamps and probably occurs at more than one position.

War Department: 90¢ (Scott O93)

No plate varieties have been reported for this stamp.

Conclusion

Preparation of these studies has taken about four years, after five years of literature search. The studies, originally intended as a straightforward listing of Officials constant plate varieties, have included speculation on aspects of the Continental Bank Note Company's printing technology. One conclusion which derives from the overall analysis of plate varieties is that the Officials plates, at least the first 95, were not case-hardened.

The number of plate scratches, damages and possible rust pits appearing throughout the lives of the plates is consistent with annealed dead soft "mild" steel plates. Case-hardening will make plates much less prone to scratches and rust, but more brittle on the surface and susceptible to cracking. The possible cracks noted on the 10¢ Navy and the 6¢ Post Office plates are more typical of fatigue cracks caused by repetitive flexing, which thin unhardened mild steel plates would experience on a printing press. Case-hardened plate cracks generally show a zigzag lightning-bolt or spider-web cracking pattern. Since most earlier U.S. plates were case-hardened, confusion between cracks and scratches has ensued. Omission of the time-consuming hardening procedure is consistent with the hurried pace of plate production at CBNC in the spring of 1873. After having been used for printing, the pigment and organic ink surface contaminants on the plates likely rendered them unsuitable for hardening. Much more work remains to be done, both in identifying plate varieties and in studying the technology that produced them.

Plate Variety and Plating Resources

The most important primary resources for this study have been the Crawford plate proofs on card stock, the Ackerman India-paper plate proofs and the photographic record of the Crawford proofs made by Elliott Perry in 1967. Alan C. Campbell detailed much of the recent history of these proofs in his article, "Plating the Official Stamps" in *Chronicle* 175 (pages 199-203). Ackerman, Brazer, Perry and Campbell all recognized the importance of the plate proofs and called for their preservation as a unique historical resource.

These studies strongly verify such arguments. The proof sheets were intact less than 50 years ago. Their dissemination into the collector community, primarily as a few large blocks and recognizable blocks of four, can be reversed, electronically if not physically. The author encourages some group to solicit extremely high resolution scans of the surviving parts of the sheets for assembly into an electronic database. Someone needs to begin by setting standards for such a philatelic database.

The extremely complex task of indexing the early philatelic literature is far from complete. The author relied on the Piper card index at the American Philatelic Research Library, the W. R. Ricketts Index, published in the quarterly *Philatelic Literature Review* in 1995-97, and the annual indexes of the periodicals cited, to find relevant articles. One lesson the author has learned, particularly from the Ricketts Index, is that the meanings of technology-specific words have evolved with changing technology. Researchers should not assume that 19th-century article titles adequately explain their content. Much important information, not recognized as significant at the time, is buried in untitled columns and editorials. Particular thanks go to Gini Horn and Ellen Peachey at the American Philatelic Research Library for their tireless assistance in tracking down obscure references.

The single most important secondary historical document is John Luff's revised work, *The Postage Stamps of the United States*. The Officials sections are reportedly based on India-paper proof sheets from Henry G. Mandel's salvage of the American Bank Note Company's production archives, and Post Office records. Luff's comprehensive compilation of plate data for the Officials stamps appears accurate for the plates of 100 impressions, but ranges from incomplete (as in the listing of plates used for the Officials soft paper printings) to incorrect. The 3¢ War plate is listed as 100 impressions, it is 200 impressions, and

the American Bank Note Company Plate 428 for the 1¢ Post Office stamp is listed as a plate of 200 impressions, it is 100 impressions. Of course no work of that scale can be completely correct, and Luff appears less than enthusiastic about the Officials issue, possibly because of the lack of information. Students using the philatelic literature from the 1890s through the 1920s should keep in mind the Victorian cultural demand for completeness, which encouraged many authors to pave over ambiguities and unanswered questions. ■

Endnotes

1. George G. Sayers, "Constant Plate Varieties of the 1873 Official Stamps: The Department of Agriculture, Introduction and Definitions," *Chronicle* 219, pp. 218-220. Part 2, dealing with the Executive, appears at *Chronicle* 220, pp. 323-327. Part 3, dealing with the Department of the Interior, appears at *Chronicle* 221, pp. 63-71. Part 4, dealing with the Department of Justice, appears at *Chronicle* 222, pp. 155-162. Part 5, with co-author Dr. Alfred E. Staibus, dealing with the Navy Department, appears at *Chronicle* 223, pp. 229-239. Part 6, dealing with the Post Office Department, appears at *Chronicle* 225, pp. 51-60; Part 7, dealing with the Department of State, appears at *Chronicle* 226, pp. 129-137; Part 8, dealing with the Treasury Department, appears at *Chronicle* 227, pp. 251-259
2. George G. Sayers, *Departmental Plate Varieties*, privately published, 2nd Edition, two volumes, 2005.
3. Konwiser, Harry M., "Varieties of U. S. Departmental Stamps," *The American Philatelist*, June, 1925, pg. 582.
4. The name can be found spelled both "Toasperm" and "Toastperm" in *Scott's Monthly Stamp Journal*.
5. Phillips, Charles J., "U. S. Departmental Stamps—Plate Varieties," *Collectors Club Philatelist*, July, 1931, pg. 246.

United States Stamps and Postal History

Worldwide Philatelic Literature

Buying, Selling and Building Great Collections.

Please visit our website for more information on the services we can offer you and view our entire inventory available for sale. I am an accomplished exhibitor and nationally accredited judge who can help build and prepare your award-winning exhibit. Let us put our expertise to work for you.

"Three Oak Trees", two strikes in olive green and matching "Three Oaks Mich Jul 30" cds, *Ex-Skinner*. 2009 PF Cert.

A remarkable cancel design symbolizing the town name in rare color of green.



Matthew W. Kewriga

PO Box 318 • Medway, MA 02053 • 774-292-9074 • matt@kewriga.com

www.kewriga.com

POSTAL HISTORY OF U.S. STAMP COLLECTING: 1862-1899 (5)

STEVEN R. BELASCO

Introduction

In this fifth and final installment of our examination of the history of stamp collecting in the United States, as depicted by covers from collectors and dealers, we conclude our discussion of the stamp collecting postal history of the 1890s, begun in the last issue, exploring covers from the midwest, the west, and various U.S. territories.

Part 11 – The 1890s in the Midwest

In the 1890s philately was flourishing throughout the midwest. The two midwestern states missing from our survey of the previous decades, Minnesota and South Dakota, now make their appearance. Information about the earliest uses for Minnesota and South Dakota is shown in Table 8. The philatelic postal history of the midwest from this era mainly fo-

Table 8. Earliest Uses in Minnesota and South Dakota, 1880s

State	Recipient	City	Date	Reference
Minnesota	Royal Stamp Exchange	Winona	10/13/1896	Figure 11-9
South Dakota	F. Pettijohn	Vermillion	5/18/1898	Figure 11-14

cuses on interesting domestic and foreign uses by stamp dealers and collectors, as well as the first postal history items from Minnesota and South Dakota.

Now let’s look at this material alphabetically by state.

Illinois

Chicago was the center of midwestern philately as well as the setting for the Columbian Exposition in 1893. Philatelic items were created for the exposition, and one of the dealers who produced quite a number of them was J. A. Pierce. Figure 11-1 shows a cover he prepared using a 3¢ red 1876 Centennial stamped envelope (Scott U218). It is preprinted with a picture of a Columbian half dollar commemorative coin, his return address and publicity for Chicago Day at the World’s Columbian Exposition. The cover is franked with a 50¢ Columbian stamp (240) cancelled at the World’s Fair Station on October 13, 1893. Pierce made dozens of these souvenirs for events such as Manhattan Day and Columbus Day, using Columbian stamps, Columbian commemorative postal stationary and foreign stamped envelopes.

Figure 11-2 shows a stamp dealer cover with an unusual art nouveau design. The corner advertisement of Chicago dealer Edward Loring spelled out “Postage Stamps” in elaborately designed letters. The cancellation tying the 2¢ Columbian stamp is unclear, but this use is certainly from the 1890s.

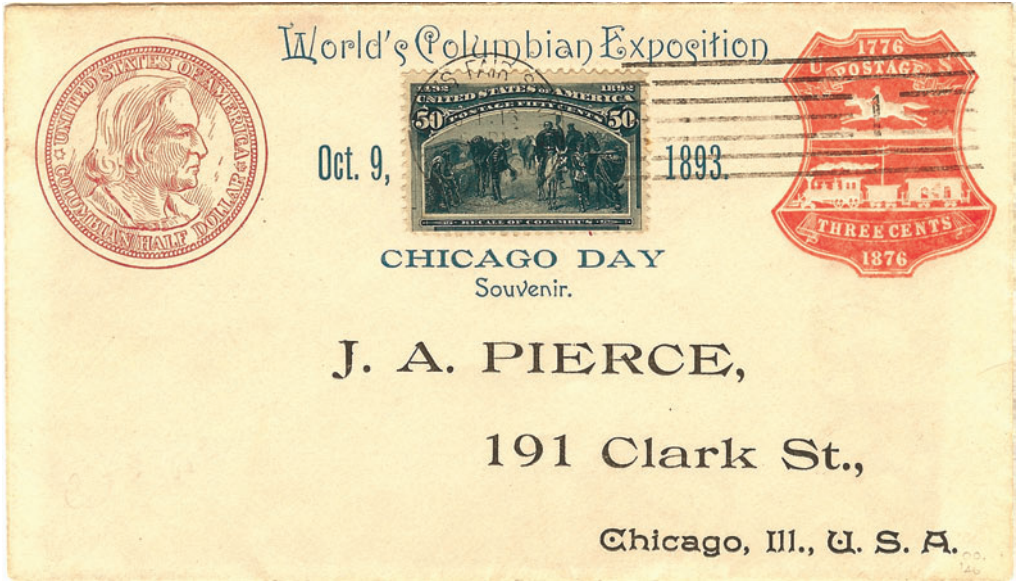


Figure 11-1. Columbian Exhibition souvenir cover prepared by stamp dealer J. A. Pierce using a 50¢ Columbian stamp on a 3¢ red 1876 stamped envelope (Scott 240 and U218). The cover is postmarked World's Fair Station October 13, 1893.



Figure 11-2. Advertising cover with an art deco design, sent in the 1890s by Chicago stamp dealer Edward Loring.

Indiana

The envelope in Figure 11-3, from Charles E. Babcock, shows that he was a stamp dealer as well as the editor and publisher of *The Hoosier Stamp*. This publication lasted 17 issues over four years, with most of the issues produced by Babcock. The 1¢ Columbian stamped envelope (Scott U348) is cancelled "INDIANAPOLIS, IND., 1894." The receiving marking on the reverse shows that it arrived in St. Louis on Feb 17, 1894, the same month as the last issue of *The Hoosier Stamp*.

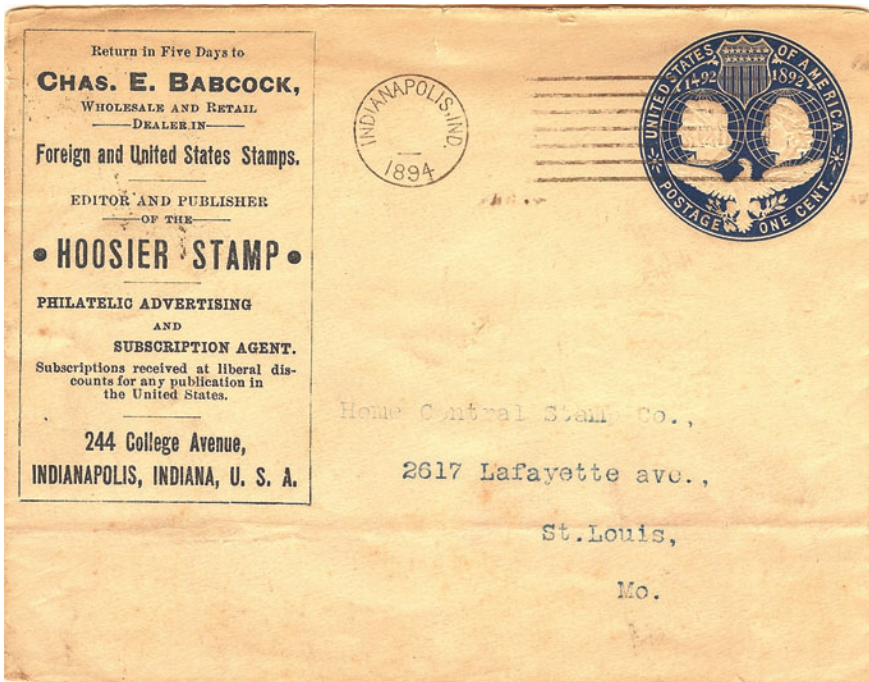


Figure 11-3. 1¢ Columbian stamped envelope from Charles Babcock, Editor and Publisher of *The Hoosier Stamp*, postmarked Indianapolis, 1894.

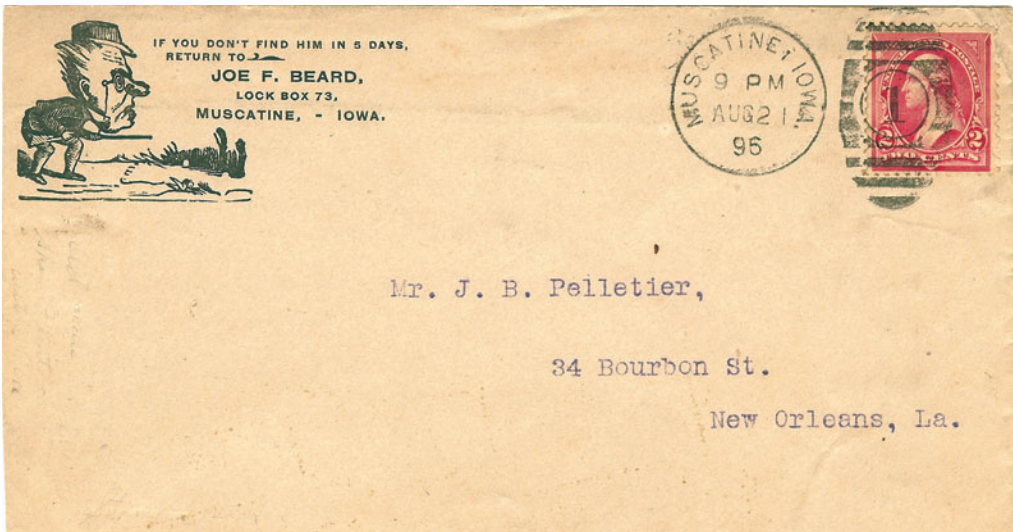


Figure 11-4. Cover from stamp dealer Joe F. Beard with an unusual return address, postmarked Muscatine, Iowa, August 21, 1895.

Iowa

Joe F. Beard was a stamp dealer in Muscatine, Iowa. In part, he was known for the corner card on the envelopes he used: a caricature of a hunter with a gun searching for the addressee, with the words “If You Don’t Find Him in 5 Days return to Joe F. Beard, Lock Box 73, Muscatine, Iowa.” Figure 11-4 shows an example with a 2¢ First Bureau stamp, postmarked at Muscatine on August 21, 1895.

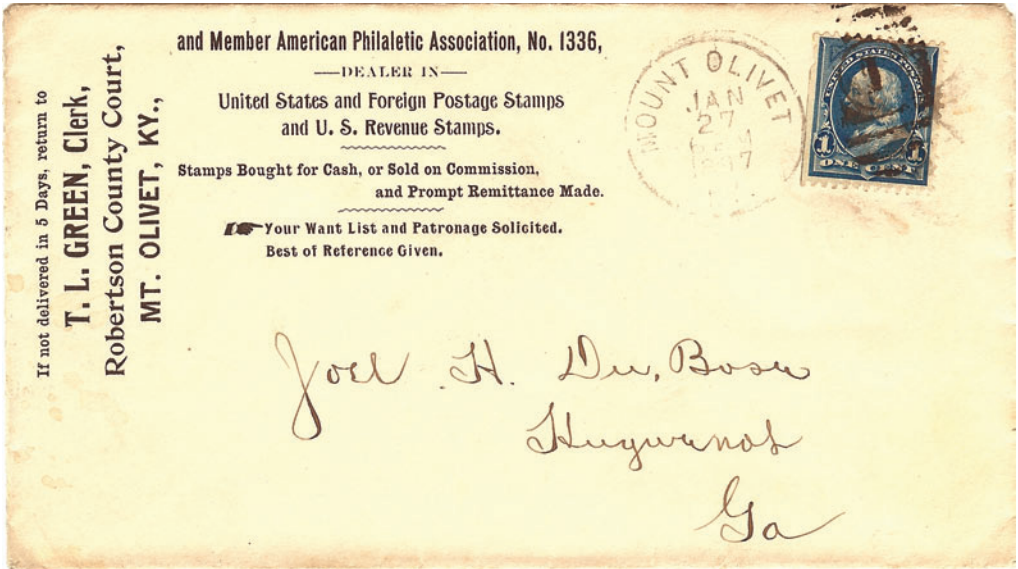


Figure 11-5. Cover from stamp dealer T. L. Green, postmarked Mt. Olivet, Kentucky, January 27, 1897, to stamp dealer Joel DuBose, Huguenot, Georgia.

Kentucky

Figure 11-5 shows a cover with an interesting corner card. T. L. Green was the Clerk of the County court in Mt. Olivet, Kentucky, but he was so a member of the American Philatelic Association and a stamp dealer. This cover is postmarked at Mount Olivet on January 27, 1897. The cover is addressed to Joel DuBose in Huguenot, Georgia, a stamp dealer who figured in our previous installment. (See *Chronicle* 227, page 284, Figure 10-3.)

Michigan

Millar and Lane (first names not known) were stamp dealers (also commission merchants and produce dealers) in the small town of Vassar, Michigan. Figure 11-6 shows their



Figure 11-6. Advertising cover from dealers Miller and Lane in Vassar, Michigan.

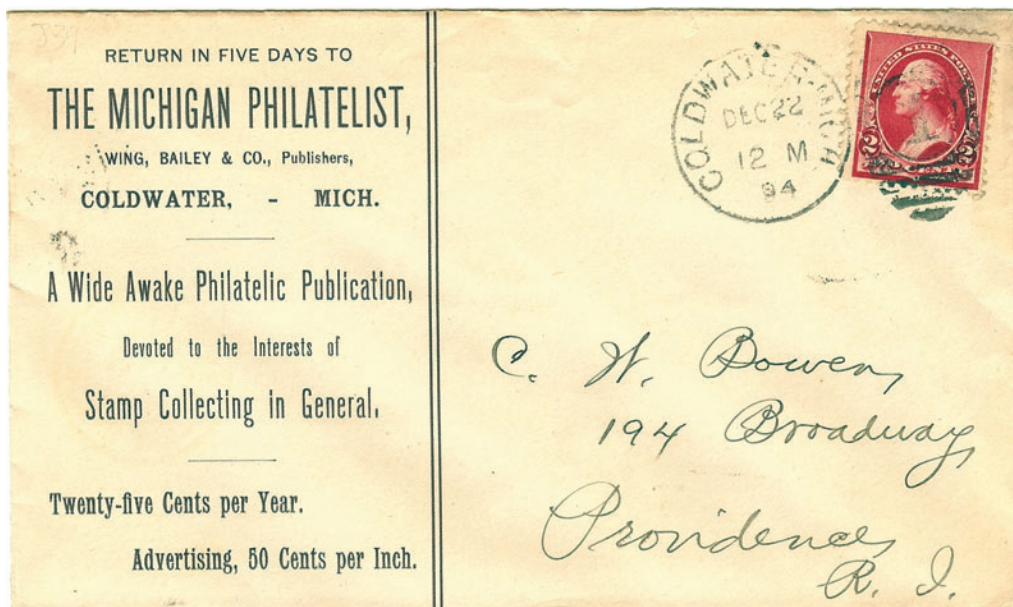


Figure 11-7. Advertising cover for *The Michigan Philatelist*, postmarked Coldwater, Michigan, December 22, 1894.

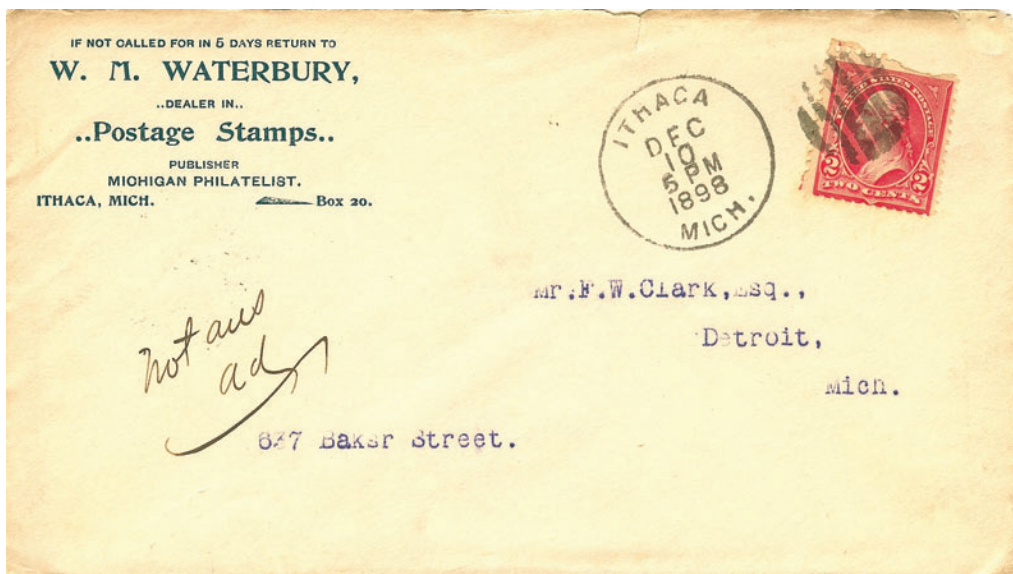


Figure 11-8. Cover from W. M. Waterbury, stamp dealer and publisher of *The Michigan Philatelist*, postmarked Ithaca, Michigan, December 10, 1898. This publication and *The Michigan Philatelist* illustrated in Figure 11-7 are unrelated.

attractive corner card with a fairly crude reproduction of the 30 centavos Argentina stamp of 1888, Scott 65. The cover is postmarked March 12, 1890, with a 2¢ large Bank Note stamp (Scott 213) paying the first-class rate to Bristol, Connecticut.

The 1890s saw four unrelated periodicals with the name *The Michigan Philatelist*. An advertising cover for one of them, based in Coldwater, Michigan, is shown in Figure 11-7. This periodical lasted 17 issues, beginning December, 1894 and ending April, 1896.

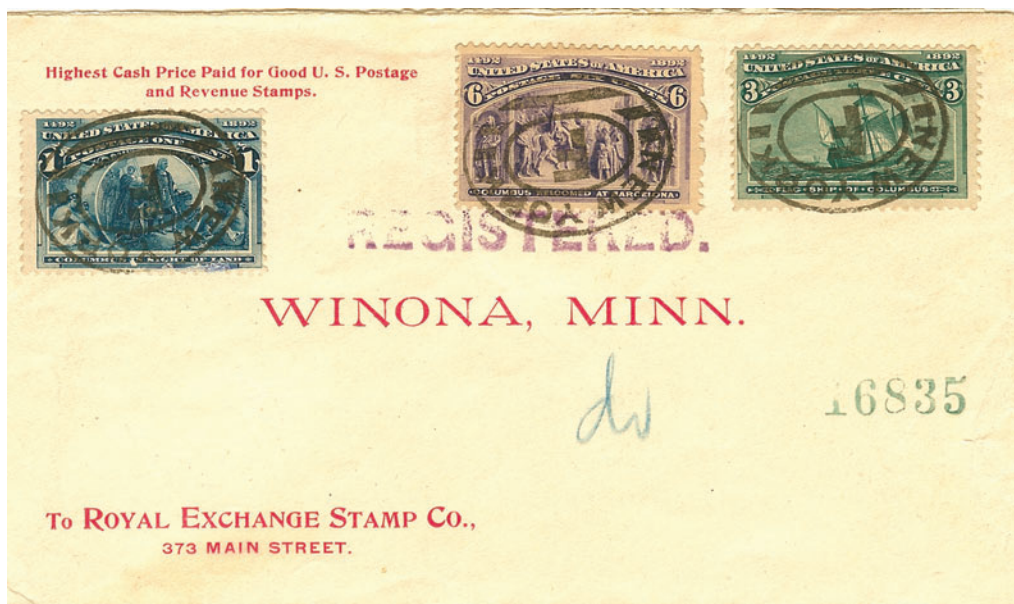


Figure 11-9. Registered cover to the Royal Exchange Stamp Co. of Winona, Minnesota. Postmarked New York, October 13, 1896. The 2¢ first-class letter rate and 8¢ registry fee were paid by 1¢, 3¢ and 6¢ Columbian stamps.

The cover, postmarked at Coldwater on 22 December 1894, dates from the first month of publication. A later *Michigan Philatelist* was published for one issue in June, 1898, by W. M. Waterbury of Ithaca, Michigan. The cover shown in Figure 11-8, from Waterbury, is franked with a 2¢ First Bureau stamp and postmarked at Ithaca on 10 December 1898, a few months after the lone issue appeared.

Minnesota

The Royal Exchange Stamp Company based in Winona, Minnesota did a big stamp-exchange business for a few years in the mid 1890s. Figure 11-9 shows an attractive registered letter sent to the Royal Exchange on a printed return envelope. The cover was registered in New York City on October 13, 1896. The 2¢ first-class rate and 8¢ registry fee was paid by three different Columbian commemoratives, the 1¢, 3¢ and 6¢ values (Scott 230, 232 and 235). Although there is no return address, the sender must have been a stamp dealer or collector. As indicated in Table 8, this is the earliest Minnesota stamp dealer cover in my records.

Missouri

In the 1890s St. Louis continued to be a major center for philately. Charles H. Mekeel continued as the most prominent stamp dealer and publisher in that city. Figure 11-10 shows a bicolored patriotic Spanish-American War cover from *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, postmarked St. Louis, July 9, 1898. I. A. Mekeel, named as publisher on the envelope, was Charles' brother. The cover was sent locally, franked with a 1¢ Trans-Mississippi stamp (Scott 285) which had been issued just a few weeks earlier.

Nebraska

The Nebraska Stamp Co., of Smithfield, Nebraska, was involved in importing and exporting foreign postage stamps. Figure 11-11 shows a 1¢ Columbian stamped envelope (Scott U348) that was sent by Nebraska Stamp Co. to Manila, Philippine Islands. Presum-

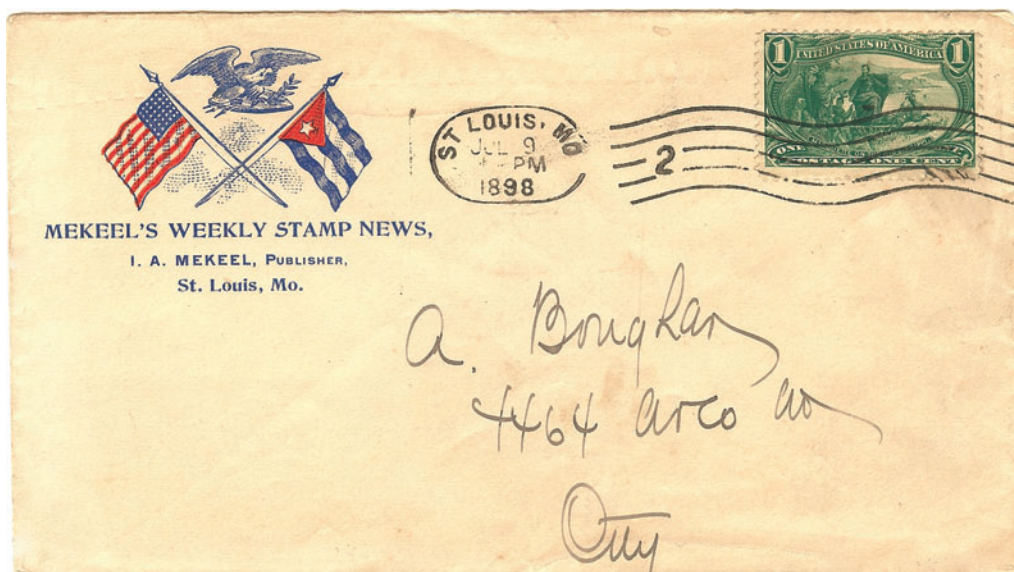


Figure 11-10. Spanish-American War patriotic cover used by *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, postmarked St. Louis, July 9, 1898.



Figure 11-11. Cover from the Nebraska Stamp Co., postmarked Smithfield, Nebraska, January 3, 1897, to Manila, Philippine Islands. The 1¢ circular rate postage was paid by the 1¢ deep blue Columbian envelope.

ably the envelope contained printed matter. The front is postmarked “SMITHFIELD, NEB. JAN 3, 1897” and was apparently sent via Europe. On the back is a San Francisco receiving stamp dated January 5 and a New York postmark dated January 8, 1897.

Ohio

William Witt of Cincinnati, Ohio, was a collector and dealer in worldwide postage stamps. Figure 11-12 shows a registered cover Witt sent to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 1 October 1895. Postage of 10¢, for a letter weighing ½ oz. to 1 oz. at the UPU international



Figure 11-12. Registered cover from stamp collector and dealer William Witt, postmarked Cincinnati, October 1, 1895, to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

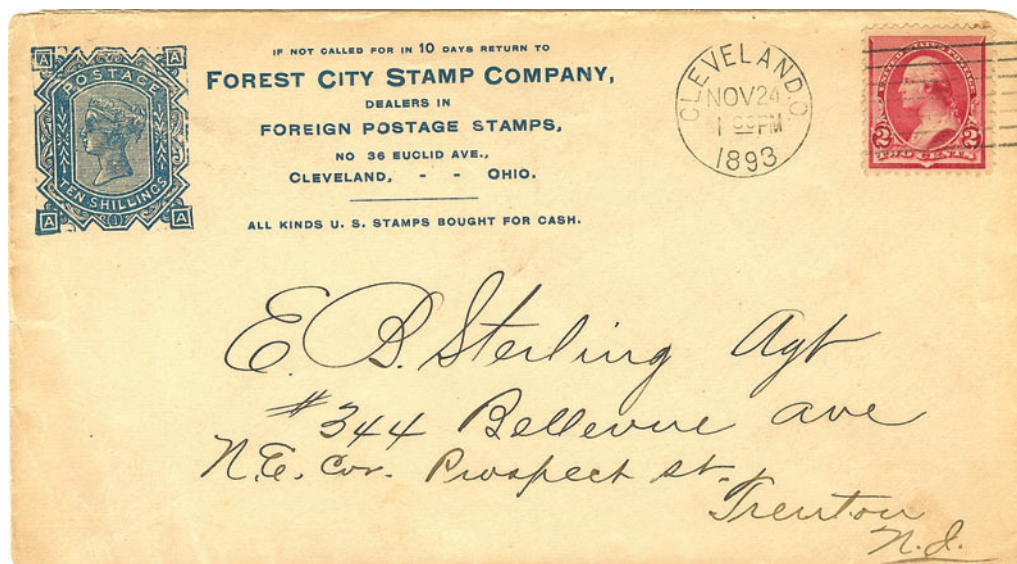


Figure 11-13. Advertising cover from the Forest City Stamp Company, postmarked Cleveland, November 24, 1893, to stamp dealer E. B. Sterling, Trenton, New Jersey.

rate, plus a registry fee of 8¢, was paid by a pair of 8¢ First Bureau stamps on a 2¢ stamped envelope (Scott 257 and U313). The letter reached Rio de Janeiro on November 4, 1895.

Figure 11-13 shows an attractive advertising cover, with a reproduction of a 10 shilling British stamp (Scott 74), used by the Forest City Stamp Company of Cleveland, Ohio. The 2¢ small Bank Note stamp was postmarked at Cleveland on November 24, 1893. The cover is addressed to E. B. Sterling of Trenton, New Jersey, the pioneer revenue collector and dealer discussed in Part 5 (*Chronicle* 226, pp. 161-163), who by 1893 was nearing the end of his long philatelic career.

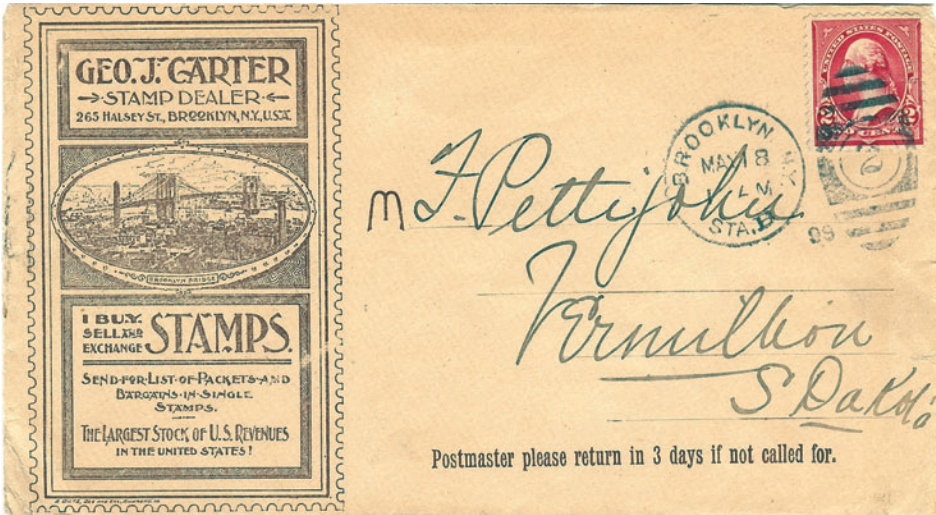


Figure 11-14. Advertising cover to F. Pettijohns in Vermillion, South Dakota, from stamp dealer George Carter, postmarked Brooklyn, New York, May 18, 1899.

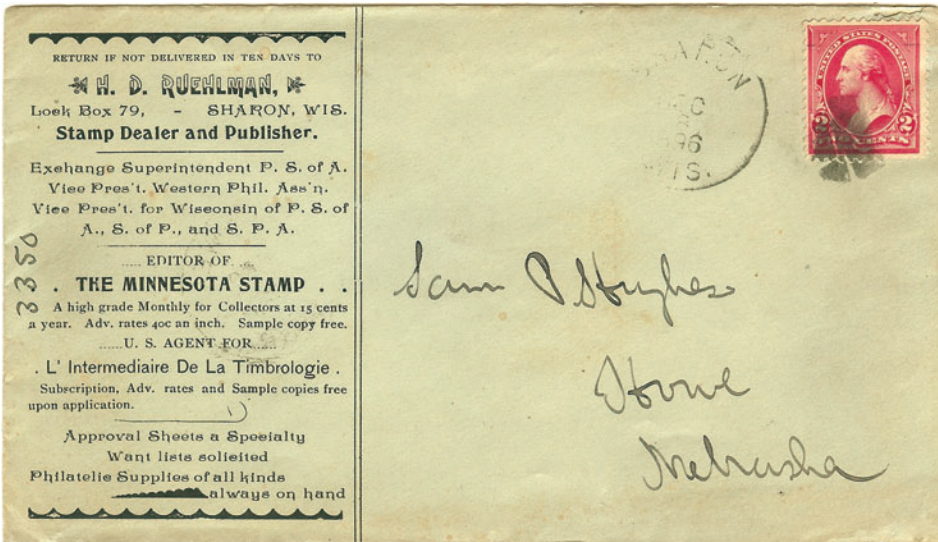


Figure 11-15. Cover from H. D. Ruehlman, Sharon, Wisconsin, December 8, 1896, with a list of his philatelic activities as a stamp dealer, editor and publisher.

South Dakota

South Dakota enters philatelic postal history by way of Brooklyn, New York. A Brooklyn stamp dealer, George J. Carter, mailed the cover shown in Figure 11-14 to "Mr. F. Pettijohn, Vermillion, S. Dakota." In 1899 the small city of Vermillion was celebrating its 40th anniversary. This attractive cover is franked with a 2¢ First Bureau stamp postmarked at Brooklyn on May 18, 1899, and bears Carter's striking corner advertisement, a wood engraving showing downtown Brooklyn and the Brooklyn Bridge.

Wisconsin

The cover shown in Figure 11-15, also franked with a 2¢ First Bureau stamp, is from H. D. Ruehlman of Sharon, Wisconsin, a stamp dealer and philatelic publisher. It was post-



Figure 11-16. Postal card (UX6) to the Bombay Philatelic Co. in Bombay, India, postmarked Appleton, Wisconsin, June 30, 1892. The message on the back requests large quantities of ½ and 1 Anna Indian stamps.

marked at Sharon on December 8, 1896. Ruehlman must have been “Mr. Philately” in Wisconsin in the 1890s. His corner card shows he was Exchange Superintendent for the Philatelic Sons of America, Vice President of the Wisconsin Philatelic Association, Vice President for Wisconsin for the Philatelic Sons of America, Sons of Philatelia and the Society of Philatelic Americans. In addition, he was the Editor of *The Minnesota Stamp*, which appeared for one issue in August, 1896.

To finish up the 1890s in the Midwest, I show one more unusual foreign destination. Figure 11-16 shows a 2¢ international postal card (Scott UX6) addressed to the Bombay Philatelic Co., Bombay, India. The message on the back reads: “Appleton, Wisc., U.S.A., June 29, 1892. Gentlemen, Please write and let me know at what prices you could furnish me with ½ anna and 1 anna in quantities of 1,000 each. B.L. Wendelborn, Appleton, Wis. U.S.A. (saw advertisement in P. J of A. June '92).”

In the 1890s, philatelic links among stamp dealers, collectors and publishers were routinely worldwide.

Part 12 – The 1890s in the West

In the 1890s philately was spreading to more of the west. The philatelic hub for the west remained San Francisco. In this decade, four more western states—Oregon, New Mexico, Utah and Washington—make their first appearance in the postal history record. Details on the earliest known use covers for these four states are presented in Table 9. I

Table 9 – Earliest uses New Mexico, Oregon, Utah and Washington, 1890s

State	Sender	City	Date	Reference
New Mexico	New Mexico Stamp Co.	Vaud near Eddy	9/11/1893	Figure 12-8
Utah		Box Elder	12/3/1894	Figure 12-10
Washington	Evergreen State Philatelist	Hartland	6/18/1896	
Oregon	Evergreen State Philatelist	The Dalles	6/6/1897	Figure 12-9

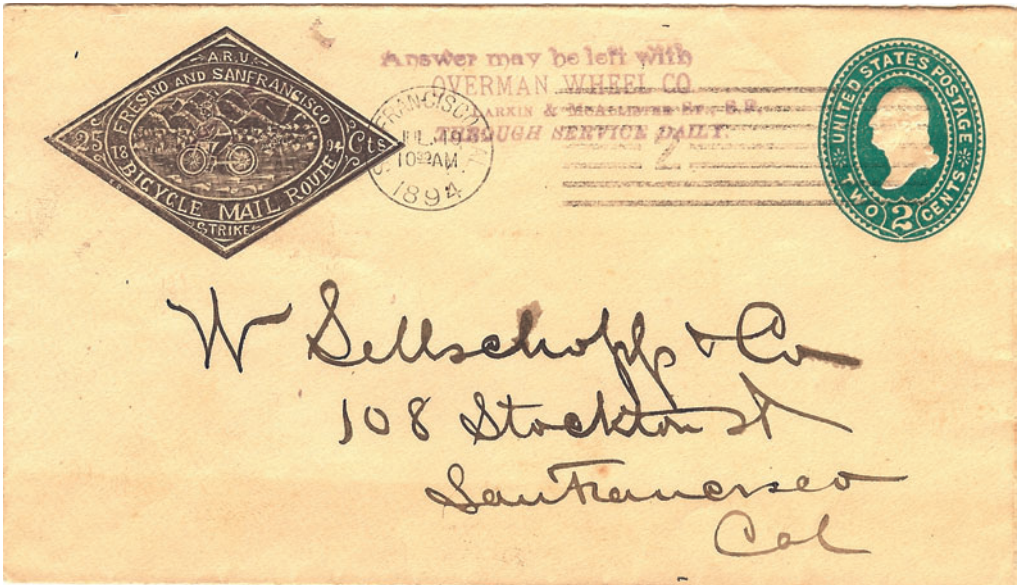


Figure 12-1. 2¢ green stamped envelope with a brown 25¢ Bicycle Mail stamp (Scott U311 and 12LU1, respectively) sent to stamp dealer W. Sellschopp, postmarked San Francisco, July 19, 1894 (last day of the bicycle service), and handstamped on the reverse “Victor Bicycle Messenger Service”.



Figure 12-2. Cover from Eugene Donze, engraver of the Bicycle Mail local, with a corner illustration showing a defaced Bicycle Mail stamp, sent from San Francisco on January 29, 1895 to stamp collector H. P. Atherton in Massachusetts.

have yet to record any 19th century stamp-collecting postal history items from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oklahoma and Wyoming. If there are any, I'd love to see them.

Now let's look at some of the interesting postal history material from 1890s for the West, alphabetically by state.

California

In July, 1894, there was a railroad strike which disrupted normal mail delivery in California. A local post using bicycle messengers was established to carry mail from Fresno to San Francisco. Figure 12-1 shows a 2¢ green stamped envelope with a 25¢ brown Bicycle Mail stamp (Scott U311 and 12LU1) sent to W. Sellschopp & Co. in San Francisco. Sellschopp was a well-known stamp dealer based in San Francisco. The envelope is stamped on the back “Victor Bicycle Messenger Service, Fresno and San Francisco, Fresno, Cal. Jul 17, 1894” in purple with a picture of a bicycle. The cover was postmarked with a San Francisco machine cancel dated July 19, 1894, the last day of Bicycle Mail service. While most of the mail carried by Bicycle Mail seems to have been commercial, Sellschopp sent several covers by Bicycle Mail on the last day and created a nice connection between philately and Bicycle Mail service.

Figure 12-2 shows another interesting connection between stamp collecting and the Bicycle Mail. This is a cover franked with a 2¢ large Bank Note stamp (213) postmarked at San Francisco on 29 January 1895 and sent to H. P. Atherton in Holyoke, Massachusetts, a well-known stamp collector still remembered for his 2¢ Black Jack collection. The corner card bears a reprint of a Bicycle Mail stamp (printed from a defaced die) and the name Eugene Donze, Santa Barbara, California. Donze was the engraver of the Bicycle Mail stamps. In one of the letters from this correspondence Donze offered to sell Atherton original Bicycle stamps for cash or in exchange for stamps he needed for his collection.

Figure 12-3 shows a registered letter sent by Georges Carion, “Philatelic Expert,” of San Francisco, to T. L. Green, Mount Olivet, Kentucky. The 4¢ double first-class postage and 8¢ registry fee was paid with 1¢ and 2¢ First Bureau stamps (Scott 264 and 267) on a 1¢ Columbian stamped envelope (U348). The San Francisco registry marking is dated October 7, 1897. A fair number of covers are known with Carion’s “Philatelic Expert” return address so it must have been popular to save them. Tyler’s *Philatelic Forgers* highlights Carion’s activities as a faker of foreign overprints and western express covers. The addressee, T. L. Green, is the stamp dealer and a country court clerk whose advertising envelope was shown in Figure 11-5.



Figure 12-3. Cover sent from San Francisco by Georges Carion, “Philatelic Expert” (and faker), to stamp dealer T. L. Green, Mt. Olivet, Kentucky, postmarked October 7, 1897.

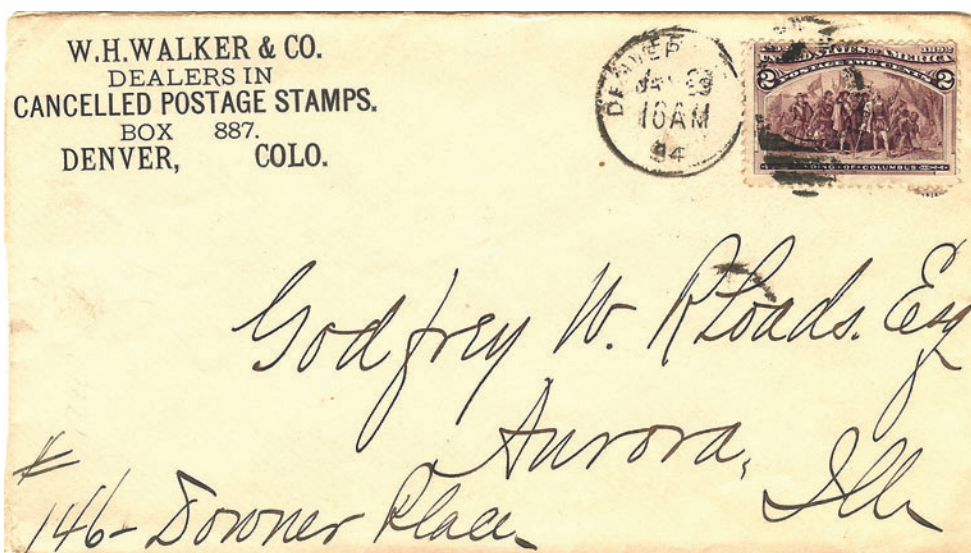


Figure 12-4. Cover postmarked Denver, Colorado, January 23, 1894, from stamp dealer W. H. Walker & Co.



Figure 12-5. Registered cover from the Hawaiian Stamp Co. to Philadelphia, postmarked Honolulu, April 24, 1894.

Colorado

There are not many philatelic postal history items from Colorado in the 1890s. Figure 12-4 shows a 2¢ Columbian cover, addressed to Illinois, from “W. H. Walker & Co., Dealers in Cancelled Postage Stamps, Box 887, Denver, Colorado.” The cover was postmarked at Denver on January 23, 1894.

Hawaii

Hawaiian stamps were very popular during the 1890s and many stamp collecting postal history covers have survived. The principal stamp firm in Hawaii in the 1890s was the Hawaiian Stamp Company of Honolulu. Figure 12-5 shows a striking cover created by the Hawaiian Stamp Co. and sent to E. J. Clinton in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on April

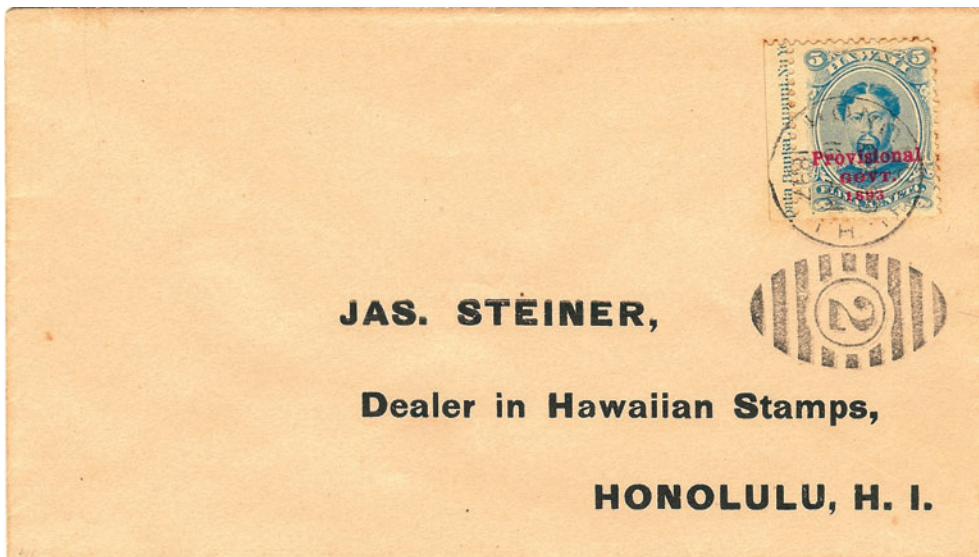


Figure 12-6. Printed return envelope to stamp dealer Jas. Steiner, franked with a Hawaii 5¢ ultramarine stamp (Scott 59), postmarked Honolulu, March 29, 1897.



Figure 12-7. Printed return envelope to stamp dealer A. W. Dunning, Los Angeles, with five different Hawaiian stamps, postmarked Honolulu, March 7, 1894.

24, 1894. The Hawaiian 2¢ stamped envelope has three different 2¢ stamps and a 5¢ stamp (Scott U11, 56, 65, 66 and 76, respectively). The 13¢ postage paid the 5¢ rate to the United States and the 8¢ registry fee.

Another stamp dealer in the Hawaiian Islands was James Steiner. Figure 12-6 shows a cover he prepared and serviced using a printed return envelope. The 5¢ ultramarine Kamehameha stamp with “Provisional Govt.” overprint (Scott 59) was postmarked March 29, 1897.

Philatelic covers were also created for mainland stamp dealers. Figure 12-7 shows a very colorful cover on a printed return envelope to Los Angeles stamp dealer A. W. Dun-



Figure 12-8. Registered cover from Hawaii to the New Mexico Stamp Co., “Vaud near Eddy,” New Mexico. This 5¢ blue stamped envelope (U12) with two black 10¢ stamps (61) was postmarked in Honolulu on September 11, 1893.



Figure 12-9. Cover to Michigan from R. W. French, Publisher, *Evergreen State Philatelist*, postmarked The Dalles, Oregon, June 27, 1897.

ning. The cover has five different Hawaiian overprint stamps (55, 57, 61, 65 and 66) and was postmarked at Honolulu on March 7, 1894. Unfortunately there is no return address so we do not know who posted this for Dunning.

New Mexico

The earliest philatelic cover I know of for New Mexico has a Hawaii connection. Figure 12-8 shows this attractive registered cover from Honolulu, addressed to the New

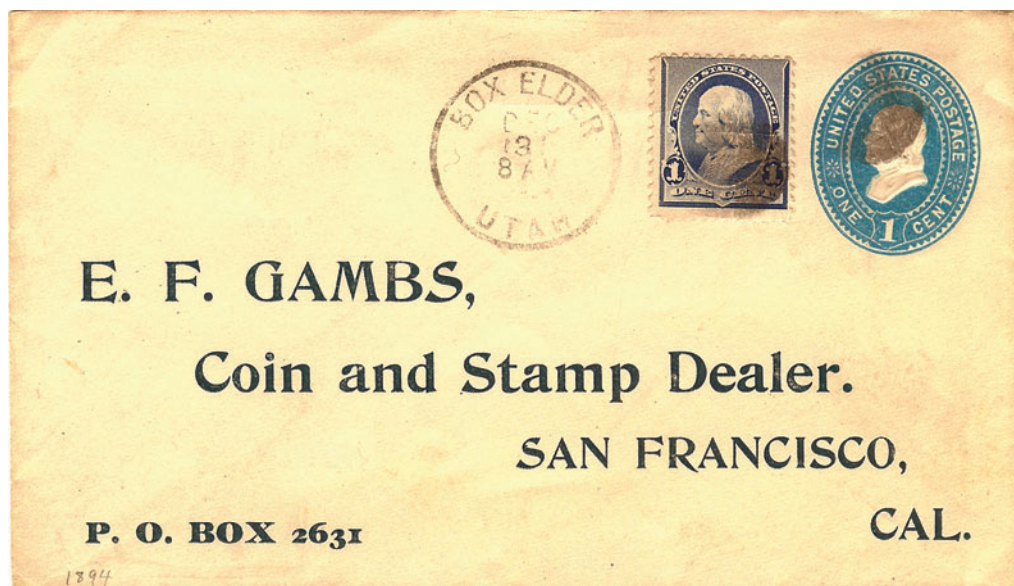


Figure 12-10. Cover postmarked Box Elder, Utah, December 3, 1894 to stamp dealer E. F. Gambs in San Francisco. Box Elder was a remote post office in northwest Utah that operated for just 12 years in the late 19th century.

Mexico Stamp Co., “Vaud near Eddy,” New Mexico. In 1893 and 1894 there was a post office in Vaud, Eddy County, which is in sparsely populated southeastern New Mexico. This 5¢ stamped envelope (Scott U12) with two Hawaiian 10¢ overprint stamps (Scott 61) was postmarked “SEP 11 1893” at Honolulu and bears a San Francisco registry marking, dated September 20, 1893, on the reverse.

Oregon

The *Evergreen State Philatelist* was published from 1894 to 1900, first in Hartland, Washington and then (in 1897-98) in The Dalles, Oregon. As indicated in Table 9, covers from this publication constitute the earliest known philately-related covers from both states. Figure 12-9 shows a cover to Michigan, franked with a pair of blue 1¢ Franklin first bureau stamps (Scott 264), sent by R. W. French, publisher of the *Evergreen State Philatelist*, postmarked The Dalles, Oregon, June 6, 1897.

Utah

The only 19th century philatelic postal history item I am aware of from Utah is shown in Figure 12-10. This is a 1¢ stamped envelope (Scott U294) with a 1¢ small Bank Note stamp (Scott 219) paying the 2¢ first-class rate on a printed return envelope to “E. F. Gambs, Coin and Stamp Dealer, San Francisco, Cal.” The cover is postmarked Box Elder, Utah, Dec. 3, 1894. Box Elder is a sparsely populated county in northwestern Utah which had a Box Elder post office from 1883 through 1895.

Washington

The earliest philatelic postal history cover I am aware of for Washington is a cover with a corner card for the *Evergreen State Philatelist* postmarked at Hartland, Washington on 18 June 1896, from the era in which this periodical was published in Hartland. A companion *Evergreen State Philatelist* cover from The Dalles, Oregon is shown in Figure 12-9.

Part 13 – The 1890s in the U.S. Territories, Conclusion

The Spanish-American War in 1898 resulted in the U. S. acquiring several possessions: Cuba, Guam, the Philippines and Puerto Rico. The earliest recorded stamp-collecting covers from these U.S. territories date from 1899. I know of 1899 covers from three territo-

Table 10 – Earliest uses Cuba, Guam and Puerto Rico, 1890s

Territory	Sender	City	Date	Reference
Puerto Rico	A. O. Tillman	Ponce	4/17/1899	Figure 13-04
Cuba	Boston Stamp Co.	Havana	8/7/1899	Figure 13-01
Guam	Makins & Co.	Marianas	9/11/1899	Figure 13-02

ries: Cuba, Guam and Puerto Rico. These are listed in Table 10. I have yet to see any U. S. philatelic postal history items from 1898 or 1899 from the Philippines. Now let's look at the postal history material from 1899 for these three territories, discussed alphabetically.

Cuba

The earliest U.S. postal history item I am aware of from Cuba while a U. S. Territory is the cover shown in Figure 13-1. On this cover, the 1¢ through 10¢ Cuba overprints of 1899 (Scott 221-226) totaling 25¢, are postmarked Havana, Cuba, August 7, 1899 on a pre-printed return envelope of the Boston Stamp Company, Boston, Massachusetts. Obviously this was created as a philatelic souvenir, but it counts as a cover showing U.S. philatelic activity in Cuba.

Guam

The earliest U. S. postal history item I am aware of from Guam while a U. S. Territory is shown in Figure 13-2. On this cover the 1¢ and 5¢ Guam overprints of 1899 (Scott 1 and 5) are cancelled with blue ovals of tiny squares with a star in the center and a small



Figure 13-1. Preprinted return envelope, postmarked Havana, Cuba, 7 August 1899, to the Boston Stamp Company, Boston, Massachusetts, franked with U.S. stamps overprinted for Cuba (Scott 221, 222, 223, 224, 225 and 226).



Figure 13-2. Preprinted return envelope, postmarked Marianas, 11 September [1899], to Makins & Co., San Francisco, with U.S. stamps overprinted for Guam (Scott 1 and 5).



Figure 13-3. Preprinted return envelope, postmarked San Luis D'Apra, Guam, December 9, 1899, to Makins & Co., San Francisco, with Guam overprints (1, 2 and 5).

“MARIANAS 11 SET” circular date stamp on a preprinted return envelope of a stamp dealer, Makins & Co., 506 Market Street, San Francisco. On the back are postal markings of Yokohama (“18 Sep 1899”) and San Francisco (“Oct 9, 1899”). In the upper left corner of the front is a hand stamped “#17”. This cover was one of a series of 25 covers prepared for Makins.

Later in 1899, the firm had another series of 25 covers made for them. Figure 13-3 shows a Makins & Co. return envelope with 1¢, 2¢ and 5¢ Guam overprints of 1899 (Scott 1, 2 and 5) tied by a San Luis D'Apra, Guam, two-line handstamp dated “Dec. 9, 1899”. On



Figure 13-4. Registered cover, postmarked Ponce, Puerto Rico, April 17, 1899, to stamp collector and dealer H. E. Deats, Flemington, New Jersey.

the back is a “Mil. Stat No. 1 Manila Dec. 16, 1899” marking and a San Francisco receiving marking dated January 20, 1900.

Puerto Rico

The earliest U.S. postal history item I am aware of from Puerto Rico while a U. S. Territory is shown in Figure 13-4. A.O. Tillman used 1¢ and 2¢ Puerto Rico overprints of 1899 (Scott 210 and 211) and a regular U.S. 10¢ stamp (Scott 282C) on a 5¢ Columbian entire envelope (U350) to send a registered letter, postmarked Ponce, Puerto Rico, April 17, 1899, to stamp collector and dealer Hiram Deats of Flemington, New Jersey. (Deats’ philatelic career is discussed in more detail in Part 9.)

On the same day, Tillman sent Deats another registered letter bearing 1¢ and 5¢ Puerto Rico overprinted stamps on a 10¢ Columbian postal envelope, thus confirming the philatelic nature of these covers.

Another interesting cover from 1899 is shown in Figure 13-5. It is a “Soldier’s Letter” from F. M. Barney to the Columbian Stamp Company in New York City. A 2¢ Puerto Rico overprint stamp (Scott 211) paid the postage to the United States. Next to the stamp is a black “Las Marias Certificado Puerto Rico” registry handstamp. Handstamps on the reverse show that this cover was mailed at Military Station No. 4 in San Juan, Puerto Rico on May 17, 1899 and that it arrived New York on May 30.

Conclusion

I have now explored what I know of the postal history of U.S. stamp collecting in the second half of the 19th century. In this 40-year period, stamp collecting and dealing spread from the northeast to the midwest, south and west. All but six states and one territory are



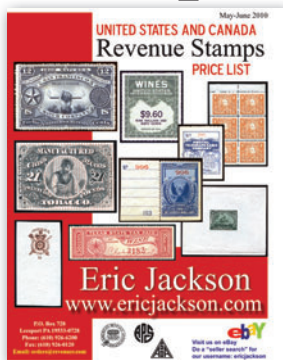
Figure 13-5. Soldier's Letter from F. M. Barney to the Columbian Stamp Co., New York City. A 2¢ reddish carmine U. S. stamp overprinted "Puerto Rico" (Scott 211) paid the postage to New York on May 17, 1899.

represented. The six states for which no 19th century material is recorded are Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oklahoma, West Virginia and Wyoming. The missing territory is the Philippines.

While the data presented here is the result of diligent research, I have just scratched the surface. Certainly there is much more to learn about this interesting subject and several readers have already provided me with new information about the postal history of philately in a number of states. I encourage readers to let me know more about other postal history items that document the spread of stamp collecting across the United States. I plan to provide an update involving all this new information, including new earliest uses for various states, in an article planned for the *Chronicle* sometime in 2011.

I wish to thank Herbert Trenchard for his invaluable help over the years, providing information about early philatelic covers from many states and tracking down auction information using his peerless collection of auction catalogs. Michael Laurence provided important editorial assistance to make these articles more readable and postal history oriented. The Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries and the Philatelic Foundation provided illustrations for a number of the covers discussed in this series. Notwithstanding their help, and the help received from several others, the errors and omissions in this article are solely my responsibility. ■

The Great Classic U.S. Revenue Stamps Are Here.



In our bi-monthly catalog or on our website.
Call or email for the free catalog...or visit it on our site.

Eric Jackson

P.O. Box 728 • Leesport PA 19533-0728
(610) 926-6200 • Fax: (610) 926-0120
Email: eric@revenueer.com



www.ericjackson.com

COMING SOON.

• Our First Extensive Mail/Internet Sale •

In the tradition of America's great philatelic mail sales in past decades, Kelleher will introduce in the New Year spectacular **MAIL & INTERNET AUCTIONS**. Thousands of lots of specialized, "in-your-price-range" U.S. and worldwide stamps & covers.

• Our Special Winter Public Auction •

Now being scheduled to take place at a major national stamp show in early 2011, our next huge **PUBLIC AUCTION** will feature a broad range of material from important specialized collections—including the full range of United States classic stamps & postal history, plus a significant array of worldwide 19th & 20th century specialized material.

Get on our mailing list! Call, email or write us today.

Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC

• Since 1885 / America's Oldest Philatelic Auction House •



Boston Office
20 Walnut Street • Suite 213
Wellesley, MA 02481

781.235.0990 • Fax: 781.235.0945

info@kelleherauctions.com

www.kelleherauctions.com

Administrative Office
4 Finance Drive • Suite 100
Danbury, CT 06810

203.297.6056 • Fax: 203.297.6059



ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, EXPRESS MAIL TO GREAT BRITAIN

DAVID D'ALESSANDRIS

With the commencement in 1840 of Cunard Line service between Boston, Halifax and Liverpool, nearly all mail between New Brunswick and Europe was routed through Halifax, Nova Scotia. This remained true in 1848, when Cunard added service between New York and Liverpool, with calls at Halifax in both directions, thus providing weekly service to Halifax during most of the year. In 1850 the New York to Liverpool steamships stopped calling at Halifax, leaving New Brunswick with transatlantic service via Halifax just once every two weeks. However, a correspondent in New Brunswick could save roughly a week of transit time by sending European mail to New York for the Cunard steamers, using a fast connection to New York provided by the Boston to St. John steamboat lines.

As background, beginning in 1850, mail from New Brunswick to Great Britain could be sent via the United States subject to an additional 2½d New Brunswick "currency" (2d sterling) United States transit charge. The rate at this time via Halifax was 1 shilling 3d currency (1 shilling sterling). The rate via the U.S. was 1 shilling 5½d currency (1 shilling 2d sterling). In 1854, the rate to Great Britain via Halifax by the Cunard Line was reduced to 7½d currency (6d sterling). Mail sent via New York on the Cunard Line was then rated 10d currency (8d sterling), comprised of 7½d (6d sterling) plus 2½d (2d sterling) U.S. transit. Mail sent by an American packet from New York continued to be rated 1 shilling 5½d currency (1 shilling 2d sterling). In 1860, with New Brunswick's conversion to decimal currency, the 10d rate via the U.S. became 17¢.

There was an additional option available to correspondents in St. John, New Brunswick, who did not post a letter at the New Brunswick post office 15 minutes before the advertised sailing time of the Boston to St. John steamboat line. Foreign mail could be handed as loose letters to the United States route agent, known as a "Steamboat Letter Carrier," on board the Boston to St. John steamboat, at the dock in St. John.¹ Beginning in 1853, Steamboat Letter Carriers were authorized to carry mail to St. John. (Before that date, the Steamboat Letter Carriers had operated only domestically between Boston and Eastport, Maine.) The following notice was published in the *New Brunswick Courier* to announce the new service:²

Notice to the Public

Arrangements have been made with the Postmaster General of the United States, under which MAILS will in future be forwarded to and from this City and BOSTON, PORTLAND and EASTPORT, by the Steamer *Eastern City*, and in charge of Mr. Benjamin M. Flint, who has been appointed Steam Boat Mail Carrier under the United States Post Office Department.

The Regulations will be precisely the same as those under which mails are at present conveyed by Colonel Favor, in the *Admiral*.

Until further notice therefore: Mails will be closed for one or other of the above-named Steamers on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY mornings and Letters to be thus forwarded must be posted at this Office fifteen minutes before the time advertised for the departure of the Boats, after which time none can be received; but Col. Favor, on board the *Admiral*, and Mr. Flint, on board the *Eastern City*, will be prepared to take charge of loose letters, from the time of closing at this Office until the Boats leave.

The Rates of Postage chargeable on Letters thus forwarded are the same as by the land route, viz: Six Pence currency or ten cents the half ounce, to all parts of the United States except California and Oregon; and nine Pence currency or fifteen cents to the latter places. The prepayment of this postage will be optional, and may be made by affixing Postage Stamps but not less than the whole postage, or an equivalent amount of postage labels can be taken. It must be borne in mind, however, that loose letters forwarded in charge of Colonel Favor or Mr. Flint, cannot be pre-paid in money—they must either be prepaid by affixing Postage labels, or be forwarded unpaid.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, J. Howe, PMG,

St. John 23rd July 1853

Loose letters deposited with the Steamboat Letter Carriers received “Express Mail” route agent markings.³ There were four express mail markings used in St. John, with the large circular “COLONIAL EXPRESS MAIL” marking (see the covers in Figures 1, 2 and 4 below) being the last marking introduced.

Loose letters addressed to the United States and handed to the Steamboat Letter Carrier at the dock in St. John, New Brunswick, were treated as having been mailed in New Brunswick, despite bypassing the New Brunswick post office. Such letters were rated 10¢, the treaty rate between New Brunswick and the United States, rather than 3¢ as prepaid domestic letters or 5¢ as unpaid domestic letters. Loose letters addressed to Great Britain, however, were uniformly treated as having been mailed in the United States. They were rated at 24¢ per half ounce, the U.S. letter rate to Great Britain. For these letters the U.S. rate to Great Britain was actually higher than the rate from New Brunswick. (As noted above, the rate for letters from Canada to Great Britain by closed bag via the United States was 10d currency—17¢—if carried by British packet; these loose letters never entered the New Brunswick postal system, incurred no New Brunswick postal charges, and bear no New Brunswick postal markings.)

Loose letters sent to Great Britain by the St. John express mail route are a fascinating group of covers, not only for the remarkable adhesive frankings on two of them, but also for their postal rates. Five loose letters sent to Great Britain by the Boston to St. John steamboats have been recorded. Details of the five covers are presented in Table 1.

Date	Franking	Destination	Reference
July 6, 1858	9, 11, 12(4)	Glasgow	Figure 1
Nov. 22, 1858	stampless	Glasgow	Sanderson-Montgomery, pg. 259
May 23, 1859	24, 26, NB 2(2)	Liverpool	Figure 2
Sept. 10, 1860	stampless	London/Norwich	Figure 4
Aug. 26, 1861	65(8), one missing	Liverpool	Siegel sale 685, lot 762

Table 1. Loose letters to Great Britain by St. John express mail

The earliest of the recorded Colonial Express Mail covers to Great Britain, shown in Figure 1, survives as a front only. The letter from which it was cut, addressed to Glasgow, Scotland, was handed to the Steamboat Letter Carrier on the *Admiral* on July 6, 1858. The cover was franked with a striking array of U.S. imperforate stamps: a 1¢ 1851 blue Type IV (Scott 9), a 3¢ 1851 dull red (11) and two horizontal pairs of the 5¢ 1856 Jefferson (12). Endorsed “via New York,” the cover was carried from St. John to Boston by *Admiral* then sent overland to New York, where it caught the Cunard *Persia*, which departed New York on July 7 and arrived at Liverpool on July 17.

The cover shown in Figure 2 is even more interesting, because of its mixed franking of New Brunswick and United States stamps. This cover was previously discussed in the CAPEX ‘87 Special Issue of the *Chronicle*.⁴ The cover is franked with two New Brunswick



Figure 1. Cover front of loose letter to Glasgow, handed 6 July 1858 to the Steamboat Letter Carrier on board *Admiral* at St. John, New Brunswick. The 24¢ treaty rate from the U.S. to Great Britain (19¢ credit to England), is here prepaid by two pairs of imperforate 5¢ 1856 Jefferson stamps and 1¢ and 3¢ 1851 imperforate stamps. Ex-Frederick R. Mayer Collection, image courtesy of Richard Frajola.

6d 1851 olive-yellow stamps (Scott 2), a United States 3¢ 1857 Type II dull red (26) and a 1¢ 1857 Type V stamp (24). The New Brunswick 6d stamps each were equivalent to 10¢, so the cover is franked with the equivalent of 24¢ postage, as was the cover in Figure 1.

The Figure 2 cover entered the mails as a loose letter handed to the Steamboat Letter Carrier at the dock in St. John, New Brunswick, where it was struck with a Colonial



Figure 2. Loose letter to Liverpool, May 23, 1859, handed to Steamboat Letter Carrier on board *Admiral*, at St. John, New Brunswick. Letter franked with a combination of New Brunswick and United States stamps to prepay the U.S.-Great Britain 24¢ treaty rate. Image courtesy of Warren S. Wilkenson and Charles G. Firby Auctions.



Figure 3. Stampless letter to Liverpool, March 11, 1859, prepaid at the 10d currency rate and sent by closed bag from New Brunswick to Great Britain via the United States and British packet transatlantic service from New York.

Express Mail datestamp of May 23 [1859]. It was carried by *Admiral* to Boston and then routed overland to New York. The cover was endorsed “per Royal Mail Steam Packet New York to Liverpool.” This endorsement was observed, with the cover being carried on Cunard’s *Persia*, departing New York on May 25 and arriving at Liverpool on June 4, 1859.

This item is part of a known correspondence between St. John and Liverpool, from which a plausible explanation for the mixed franking can be inferred. Susan McDonald noted that she had recorded five other letters in this correspondence dated between March 11, 1859, and August 26, 1859, with letters being sent as close as three days apart.⁵

Figure 3 shows a March 11, 1859, letter from the correspondence mentioned by McDonald. Like the Figure 2 cover it was prepaid (but in cash, not with stamps) and endorsed “per Royal Mail Steamer via New York.” However, this letter entered the New Brunswick postal system and was sent at the more favorable 10d rate between New Brunswick and Great Britain via British packet from the United States.

Writing about the Figure 2 cover, McDonald speculated that the sender intended to have the letter sent prepaid at the 10d rate by the New Brunswick post office. The sender apparently arrived at the post office after the mails had closed, but was able to take the letter to the dock and hand it to the Steamboat Letter Carrier on the *Admiral*. While the sender could prepay the letter at the post office in cash (as with the prepaid stampless cover in Figure 3), loose letters at the dock had to be prepaid with stamps or sent unpaid. The sender likely applied the two New Brunswick 6d stamps in an attempt to prepay the British one shilling rate (the equivalent of 24¢), not recognizing the depreciation of New Brunswick currency against the pound sterling. McDonald speculated quite reasonably that the Steamboat Letter Carrier most likely provided the 4¢ in United States stamps, or accepted the 4¢ and added the stamps in Boston.⁶

Acceptance of New Brunswick stamps to prepay the treaty rate to Great Britain may have been a misapplication of New Brunswick’s practice of allowing mail to United States destinations to be prepaid with United States stamps. This may have been tolerated because mail between the United States and New Brunswick could be sent paid or unpaid and there



Figure 4. Unpaid loose letter handed to Steamboat Letter Carrier at the dock in St. John, New Brunswick, September 10, 1860. Rated for the 24¢ U.S.-Great Britain treaty rate, 1 shilling due, 5¢ Boston debit to Great Britain for British-packet transatlantic service. Redirected from London to Norwich.

was no accounting of postal revenue between the countries. Each country kept the postage collected on prepaid letters from that country and on unpaid letters to that country. A letter from New Brunswick to the United States bearing only United States stamps was essentially an unpaid letter from New Brunswick on which the postage that would be due in the United States was prepaid.

This logic for the New Brunswick post office's practice did not justify the Steamboat Letter Carrier's and the New York exchange office's acceptance of New Brunswick stamps to pay of all or any part of the rate from the United States to Great Britain. This is because the United States had to account to Great Britain for part of the 24¢ treaty rate but New Brunswick did not account to the United States for postage it received. Under the United States-United Kingdom treaty, the United States received 5¢ for inland postage, the party providing the transatlantic packet service was entitled to 16¢, and Great Britain received 3¢ for inland postage. Since the Figure 2 cover was treated as prepaid and was carried on a British packet, the United States credited Great Britain 19¢ (16¢ sea postage, plus 3¢ inland) despite having collected only the 4¢ paid by United States stamps, since none of the postage paid by New Brunswick stamps could be credited to the United States.

Figure 4 shows a third Express Mail cover carried to Great Britain. This unpaid stampless letter was handed to the Steamboat Letter Carrier at the dock in St. John, New Brunswick, where it was struck with a Colonial Express Mail, Sep 10 [1860] datestamp. It was carried by the steamer *Admiral* to Boston, marked with a 5¢ Boston debit to Great Britain for British packet transatlantic service and then routed overland to New York. Not endorsed for a specific transatlantic routing, it was carried on Cunard's *Africa*, departing New York on September 12, 1860, and arriving at Liverpool on September 22. Marked for 1 shilling due, the letter was redirected from London to Norwich. As no forwarding postage is indicated, it was probably forwarded under separate cover.

Given the scarcity of transatlantic covers from New Brunswick sent via the United States, it is no surprise that only five express mail covers to Great Britain have been record-

ed. Moreover, because of the desirability of the Colonial Express Mail marking, it is unlikely that there are many more examples buried unrecorded in collections. The additional cost to send these covers as loose letters at the dock, compared to the rate via Halifax (12½¢) or through the New Brunswick post office (17¢) also helps to explain their scarcity. ■

Endnotes

1. For a detailed description of this mail service, see David D'Alessandris, "Boston to St. John Steamboat Mail," *Chronicle* 201, pp. 8-20; *Chronicle* 202, pp. 109-16; and *Chronicle* 203, pp. 167-86.
2. C.M. Jephcott, V.G. Greene and John H. M. Young, *The Postal History of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 1754-1867* (Toronto: Sissions Publications Ltd. 1964), pp. 206-07.
3. *Ibid.* pg. 207.
4. *Chronicle* 134 (May 1987), pp. 144-45.
5. *Ibid.*, pg. 145.
6. *Ibid.*

LETTER TO NEW ZEALAND "VIA BRINDISI" IN 1880

COLIN TABEART

Note from the Section Editor: Well-known maritime postal historian Colin Tabeart, twice recognized for articles in the Chronicle by the Susan M. McDonald award, has used his expertise on mails to Australia and New Zealand to establish the actual routing of the cover illustrated by Bob Watson in the Foreign Mail section of the August 2010 Chronicle. In addition, he informs us of available on-line sites for sailing data from contemporary newspapers that he used to support his routing conclusion. The Australian and New Zealand web sites may be used at no cost while the London Times site is a subscription site, but available by membership in numerous libraries. Tabeart's book, Australia New Zealand UK Mails to 1880, published in 2004, will soon be followed by a second volume extending the period from 1881 to 1900.

With reference to Bob Watson's excellent article in *Chronicle* 227 (August 2010), I have endeavoured to construct the passage of this letter from Newburyport to Auckland using three newspaper files currently available on the Internet.¹ I have come to the conclusion that, although the letter was originally routed through London to go via Brindisi and Melbourne, in fact it actually re-crossed the Atlantic and travelled via San Francisco after all. My rationale is as follows:

We have two definite dates on the cover: New York 2 March [1880] and Auckland 4 May 1880. Any routing must conform to those dates. The next mail for the United Kingdom left New York on 4 March by the Inman Line steamship *City of Montreal*.² She was reported as arriving in the Mersey [Liverpool] on 15 March³—probably dropped her mails at Queenstown the day before, which would have arrived in London at the earliest on 14 March. The Brindisi mails had left London on 12 March and arrived in Melbourne on 19 April, as related by Mr. Watson. So there could not have been a connection with this Brindisi mail. The mails for New Zealand by this 12 March Brindisi route left Melbourne on 21 April by the steamship *Ringarooma*, heading for The Bluff, New Zealand [bottom of the South Island].⁴ She arrived at The Bluff on 26 April at 0730,⁵ so these mails would have arrived at Auckland well before 4 May. Thus at both ends of the "via Brindisi" route we have a discontinuity. The next mail via Brindisi did not leave until 26 March, so what was the London Post Office to do? Incidentally this mail did not arrive in Melbourne until 4 May so could not have reached Auckland by the same date.⁶



White Star Line (British) steamship *Germanic* entering a United States port, flying the American and White Star Line flag on the masts and the British flag at her stern. This vessel operated on the North Atlantic route between May 1875 and September 1903.

The letter having arrived in London on 14 or 15 March, the Post Office decided that the quickest route was to send it back to the United States to catch the next mailing via San Francisco. This mail left Queenstown on 26 March by the White Star Line steamship *Germanic*, arriving in Auckland on 4 May 1880 from San Francisco [12 April] by the steamship *Australia*.⁷ The Post Office was actually quite right to do so: to have awaited the next sailing via Brindisi would have meant a significantly later date of arrival in Auckland since that mail did not arrive at Melbourne until 4 May.

As a footnote, had New York decided to send the letter via San Francisco in the first place, or had the writer perhaps been better informed, the letter would have left San Francisco on 20 March and arrived in Auckland on 9 April, per *City of Sydney*.⁸ The writer would have saved money and the recipient would have received his letter almost a month earlier. Lesson: the most expensive route is not necessarily the best!

Before anyone asks why there was no San Francisco marking on this cover, the reason is that mails from the United Kingdom to New Zealand and Australia by this route crossed the United States in closed mails. ■

Endnotes

1. *The Times* (of London): <http://infotrac.galegroup.com/galenet>; New Zealand Newspapers Past: <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>; Australian Newspapers: <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au>
2. *The Times*, 5 March 1880
3. *The Times*, 16 March 1880
4. *Melbourne Argus*, 22 April 1880
5. *The Star*, 26 April 1880 [Newspaper of Lyttelton, NZ]
6. Colin Tabart, *Australia New Zealand UK Mails to 1880* (Fareham, England, the Author, 2004).
7. *Ibid.* pg. 338.
8. *Ibid.*

KRISTAL KARE, INC.

Protective Pouches

For Philatelists, Numismatists, Ephemerists,
Archivists, Collectors and Savers.

**The clear, strong, inert, dimensionally stable
film we use is DuPont's "Mylar"* Type D or
equivalent**



KRISTAL KARE, INC.
P.O. Box 396
Hicksville, NY 11802

- Pouches for philatelic covers.
 - Pouches for exhibit pages.
 - Folders & Pouches for document preservation.
- kristalkar@aol.com
516-822-2562
www.protectivepockets.com

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. 144 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.

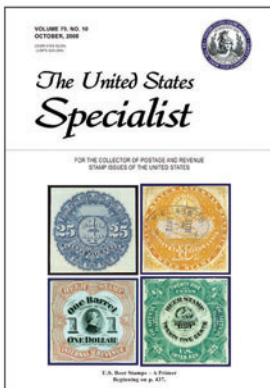
Leonard H. Hartmann

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



United States Stamp Society

The premier society specializing in the
postage and revenue issues
of the United States and U.S. administered areas.



The United States Specialist

USSS Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 6634
Katy, TX 77491-6634

www.usstamps.org



*Durland Standard
Plate Number Catalog*

ANSWER TO PROBLEM COVER IN CHRONICLE 226

Our problem cover in *Chronicle 226*, shown here as Figure 1. was a 2¢ black-on-buff international postal card (Scott UX16) mailed at Honolulu on 9 January 1900, transiting San Francisco on 17 January on its way to Henry, Illinois. It was marked at Honolulu with the violet “T 10 CENTIMES” handstamp in the lower-left corner, indicating an insufficient prepayment of 2¢. It was marked at San Francisco for collection of 8¢ by a black “U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 8 CENTS” handstamp, also at lower left. The year date in the Honolulu circular datestamp shows only the left side of the last zero, but 1900 is substantiated by the San Francisco arrival marking. The questions posed were: Why was this initially rated as short paid, and why was it marked for 8¢ postage due in San Francisco, since this does not coincide with the Honolulu due marking?



Figure 1. Problem cover from *Chronicle 226*, a 2¢ international postal card mailed at Honolulu on 9 January 1900, transiting San Francisco on 17 January. The questions were: Why was it rated short paid at Honolulu (“T 10 centimes”) and why was it marked for 8¢ postage due (“U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 8 CENTS”) in San Francisco?

In the absence of response from readers after two issues, the solution is provided by your editor as follows: The U.S. card franking wasn’t recognized in Hawaii. Even though Hawaii was annexed in 1898, full control didn’t occur until it became a Territory on 30 April 1900. Hawaiian stamps continued to be valid through 13 June 1900. Thus, Hawaii handstamped the card “T 10 CENTIMES” insufficiently prepaid in the lower-left corner, treating it as an unpaid postal card. But San Francisco treated it as an unpaid letter at the 5¢ UPU rate. The handstamped “U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 8 CENTS” represented the 5¢ international rate, doubled as a penalty to 10¢ due, with 2¢ credit given for the card franking.

The *U.S. Postal Guide* for April 1876 makes mention of this peculiar situation (in “Rulings of The Post Office Department”) as follows: “When a postal card is rendered un-mailable by reason of a violation of the rules governing their transmission in the mails, they become ‘matter to which no specific rate of postage is assigned,’ and therefore subject to letter rates of postage under sec. 156, p. 65, Postal Laws, edition 1873.” This was also the position of the UPU from 1891 through 14 June 1897: “Post Cards not prepaid were henceforth subject to the rate of postage for letters not prepaid.” (*U.S. International Postal Rates, 1872-1996*, Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz and Henry W. Beecher). While the latter does not apply, I have been unable to find a change to the U.S. 1873 policy, which most likely applied here. The card carried an interesting message regarding an outbreak of plague.

ANSWER TO PROBLEM COVER IN CHRONICLE 227

Our problem cover last issue generated much more response. The cover is shown here as Figure 2. This is a stampless folded letter to San Francisco with manuscript “pr Mail Steamer from New York” at top, a red “BOSTON JUL 3” circular datestamp, a matching “PAID” handstamp and a red crayon “18” cents rate marking. The questions were: What rate is represented here and how long was it in effect?



Figure 2. Problem cover from *Chronicle* 227, a stampless folded letter from Boston to California with a red crayon “18” cents rate marking. The questions were: What rate is represented here and how long was it in effect?



Figure 3. Cover comparable to Figure 2, but struck with a red a Boston handstamped “18 CENTS” rating marking, unlisted in Blake-Davis.

Answers were provided by the following Route Agents: Mark Schwartz, Len Piszkiwicz, Ronald J. Stauber and Geoff Dunlop. The unanimous verdict: this was a triple-rate letter weighing between one and one and a half ounces at the prepaid rate of 6¢ per half ounce for mail travelling over 3,000 miles. This rate was in effect from July 1, 1851 (Act of Congress, March 3, 1851) through March 31, 1855, when the Act of Congress of March 3, 1855 (effective April 1) increased the coast-to-coast rate to 10¢.

A manuscript "18" is listed and illustrated as marking 581 in the Blake-Davis handbook *Boston Postmarks to 1890* (pages 126-127), where it is noted as appearing in red-brown crayon on a cover dated 3 July 1852. Since that's the date that appears on our problem cover, we surmise that Figure 2 is the source of the Blake-Davis listing.

A Boston handstamped "18" also exists in a similar use, unlisted in Blake-Davis. This is shown as Figure 3. Both the Figure 2 and Figure 3 covers currently reside in the collection of Route Agent Schwartz, whom we thank for sharing these images.

Additional historical information was provided by Ron Stauber, who wrote that the addressee, Albert Dibblee, was a notable San Francisco citizen who arrived there in 1850, had substantial economic losses in 1851, but remained in the shipping business and was also in the mercantile business with Charles W. Crosby, who died in 1853. Dibblee was also a politician and large land owner.

PROBLEM COVER FOR THIS ISSUE



Figure 4. Problem cover for this issue. Card mailed from London in 1895, rated for collection of 6¢ postage due, paid by the 5¢ Bank Note postage due stamp and a Bureau of Engraving 1¢ due stamp. Why was this rated insufficiently paid?

Figure 4 illustrates a card mailed from London in 1895 that was rated for collection of 6¢ postage due, which was paid for by the addition of a 5¢ Bank Note Postage Due stamp and a Bureau of Engraving 1¢ Postage Due stamp. The question is: Why was this rated insufficiently paid? ■

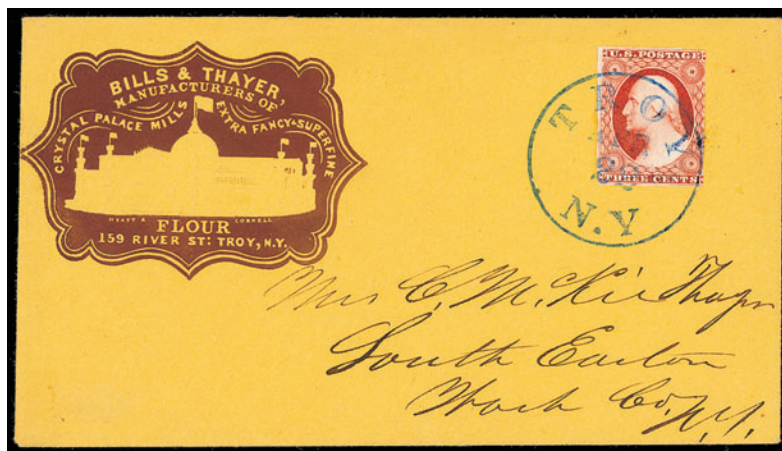
ADVERTISER INDEX

Matthew Bennett International.	354
Michael I. Casper Rare Stamp Auctions.	304-305
Columbian Stamp Company Inc.	353
Freeman's (Global Philatelic Associates)	333
H. R. Harmer, Inc.	Inside Front Cover
Leonard H. Hartmann	388
Heritage Auction Galleries.	302
Eric Jackson.	380
Kelleher Auctions.	380
Kristal Kare, Inc.	388
Matthew Kewriga.	359
James E. Lee	298
Philatelic Stamp Authentication and Grading (PSAG).	330
Stanley M. Piller & Associates	334
Regency-Superior	323
Rupp Brothers	300
Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions.	Inside Back Cover
Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.	297, Back Cover
Spink Shreves Galleries	344-345
United States Stamp Society.	388

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

United States Postal Service, Form 3526: Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation. 1. Publication Title: *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*. 2. Publication Number: 0560-680. 3. Filing Date: 22 September 2010. 4. Issue Frequency: Quarterly. 5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 4. 6. Annual Subscription Price: \$27.50. 7. Complete Address of Known Office of Publication: % Dwayne Littauer, P.O. Box 750368, New Orleans, LA 70175. 8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office: % Dwayne Littauer, P.O. Box 750368, New Orleans, LA 70175. 9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor. Publisher: None. Editor: Michael Laurence, 324 East 41st St., Apt. 1001-C, New York, NY 10017. Managing Editor: None. 10. Owner: The U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Inc., % Dwayne Littauer, P.O. Box 750368, New Orleans, LA 70175. 11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees and Other Security Holders: None. 12. Tax Status: Has not changed during preceding 12 months. 13. Publication Title: *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*. 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data: August, 2010. 15a. AVERAGE NUMBER OF COPIES EACH ISSUE DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS: (a) Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run): 1,244. (15b.) Paid Circulation: (15b.1) Mailed Outside County: 1,087. (15b.2) Mailed In County: 0. (15b.3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails: 0. (15b.4) Paid distribution by other classes of mail through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail): 157. (15c) Total Paid Distribution: 1,244. (15f) Total Distribution: 1,244. (15g): Copies Not Distributed: 0. (15h) Total: 1,244. (15i) Percent paid: 100%. 15a. NUMBER OF COPIES OF SINGLE ISSUE PUBLISHED NEAREST TO FILING DATE: (a) Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run): 1,200. 15b. Paid Circulation: (15b.1) Mailed Outside County: 1,093. (15b.2) Mailed In County: 0. (15b.3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails: 0. (15b.4) Paid distribution by other classes of mail through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail): 157. (15c) Total Paid Distribution: 1,250. (15f) Total Distribution: 1,250. (15g): Copies Not Distributed: 0. (15h) Total: 1,250. (15i) Percent Paid: 100%. (16) This information to be published in the November, 2010 issue of the publication. (17) Signed (x), James A. Allen, Business Manager.

The finest collections are built with passion and precision.



Sold \$4,750



Sold \$52,500

Sold in our April 2009 Sale. Prices realized do not include the 15% buyer's premium.

Please visit our website at:
www.rumseyauctions.com

email: srumsey@rumseyauctions.com

Schuyler
Rumsey
Philatelic
Auctions

47 Kearny Street
San Francisco
California 94108
t: 415-781-5127
f: 415-781-5128



Lilly 1967



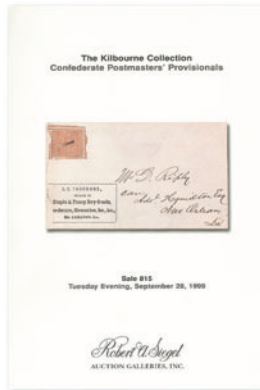
Kapiloff 1992



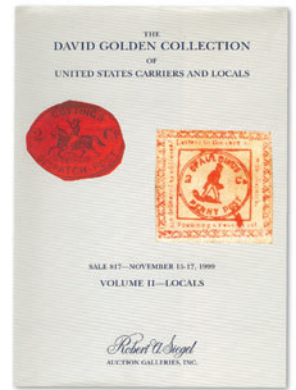
Honolulu Advertiser 1995



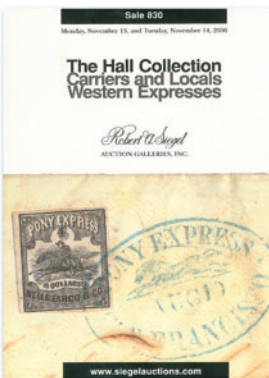
Zoellner 1998



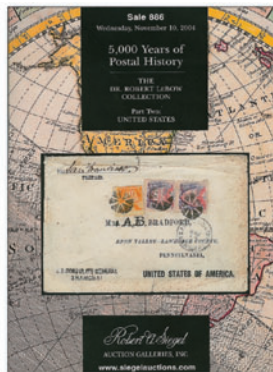
Kilbourne 1999



Golden 1999



Hall 2001



LeBow 2004



Scarsdale 2006

Great collections have one name in common.