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of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues

October, 1966

Volume 18, No. 3

Whole No. 53


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of the U. S. Classic Postal Issues

October, 1966

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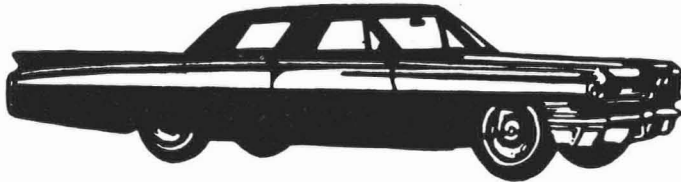
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William Woodbury Hicks

1896-1966

WILLIAM WOODBURY HICKS

1896-1966

William W. Hicks, or "Bill" as he was better known to all members of the Society, died August 9th at his home in Villanova, Pennsylvania, after an illness of some four months following a severe heart attack. He was born August 27, 1896 at Williamsport, Pennsylvania, was a member of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity at Syracuse University and was graduated from there in 1917. In 1924 Bill married Rosamond Sargent, the beginning of a happy and devoted family life which continued to his death. Surviving him are his widow, Rosamond S. Hicks and three children, Mrs. Richard P. Smith, William W. Hicks and Mrs. Curtis Hill.

From his connection with our Society, I believe there is scarcely a member who has not known Bill to some extent as he was the very life of the Society. Bill was RA #3 of the old Three Cent 1851-57 Unit and one of the founders along with Leo J. Shaughnessy, RA #1, Charles F. Pfahl, RA #2, Leroy C. Brown, RA #4, Tracy W. Simpson, RA #5, Stanley B. Ashbrook, RA #6 and Dr. Gerald B. Smith, RA #7. Bill was our first Chairman, as the head of the Unit was then called, and held that office from 1948 to 1953 and until May 1950 he also was the Editor of the Chairman's Chatter. He served as a Director from 1953 to 1959 when he assumed the duties of the Chairman of the Membership Committee. During these years a major share of the increase in prominence and influence of the Society had been due to his faithful efforts.

His interest in stamps commenced about 1936, first as a general collector, then to United States stamps only. Shortly thereafter he sold his collection but retained his collection of the Three Cent 1851's, to which he devoted his remaining years. He became greatly interested in the Railroad Cancellations of the United States from the 1830's through 1861, and with the passing of Chuck Remele, became the foremost authority on them, amassing one of the two finest collections of this material. His other interest in the Three Cent 1851's was the plating of the imperforate stamps, in which, under the tutelage of Dr. Carroll Chase, he became an expert.

His death is a great and irreparable loss to our Society and to the writer a great personal one. The friendship commenced when the writer first met Bill at the home of John Ayer, an old friend and a Director of the Unit, and was persuaded with much personal reluctance but persistence on the part of Bill, to assume the Editorship of the Chatter. From that time on our correspondence at times was almost voluminous. Summer after summer the writer would look forward to the few days which Bill would steal from his vacation in New Hampshire to spend at our home and meet a gathering of our local members.

To his widow and devoted family, we can only offer our deep sympathy and the hope that the beautiful memory of his many virtues will be a comfort to them in the years to come.

LLD

*"Borne on the breath that men call death, my brother's spirit
came,
E'en as he trod that day to God, so walked he from his birth—
In simpleness and gentleness and honour and clean mirth."*

THE 1847-'51 PERIOD

CREIGHTON C. HART, *Editor*

1847 Covers from Florida

CREIGHTON C. HART

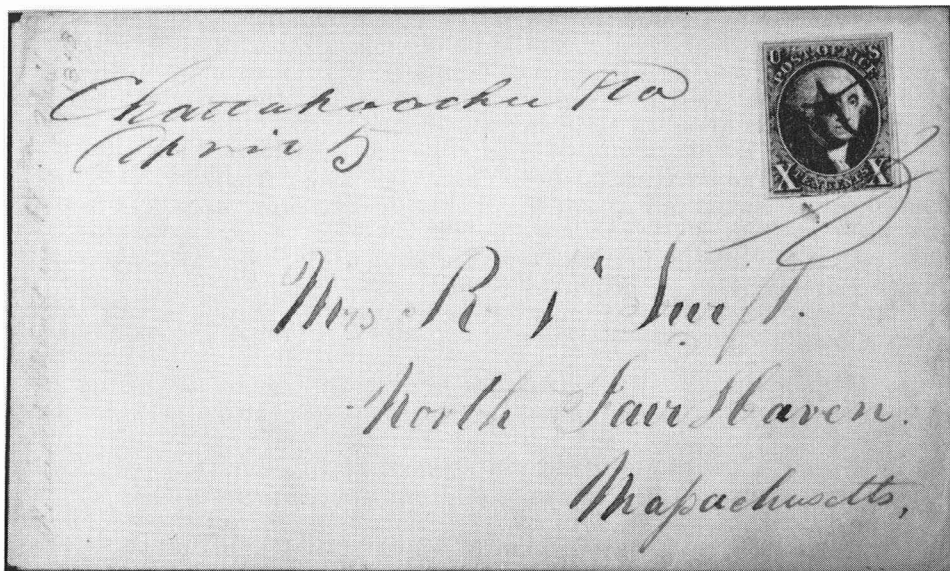
The fascination that our first issue of stamps has for collectors is heightened when the stamps are on cover. The 1847 stamps were issued for the utilitarian purpose of facilitating the mailing of letters, and the differences in engraving, impressions and shades of the stamps were of no concern to the public or to the post office department at that time. The correct rating of letters and the effective cancelling of the stamps were the primary concern of the post office. The selection of cancellers and the color of ink were left to the individual postmasters.

These postmarks, to which so little attention was then paid, now help us to reconstruct a postal history picture of that period. The known covers from Florida show that the '47's were used during a colorful period in that state's history. The Tallahassee postmaster at first chose the popular color green for cancelling the '47's. And what delightfully queer and colorful townmarks we find, such as the Indian names of Chattahoochee and Apalachicola in addition to Tallahassee. Long as these names are, the postmasters never abbreviated them. It must have been a much more leisurely life in Florida in the late 1840's than it is now. The several covers from Apalachicola have "F. Ty" in the postmark for Florida Territory. Florida achieved statehood March 3, 1845, but the postmaster at Apalachicola didn't bother to change his territorial postmark during the four years that the 1847s were valid for postage. Perhaps, this also reflects the casual living in Florida during the middle of the 19th century.

For historical color there is Ft. Jefferson which was under construction out in the Gulf from Key West, and this accounts for several covers postmarked from that small village. Ft. Jefferson is one of our still unfinished early coastal fortifications, and although unfinished, it was used by the Federals as a political prison for Southern sympathizers and Federal military prisoners during the Civil War.

There were about four times as many 5¢ stamps issued as there were 10s and all of the states except two received more fives than tens. As a result five-cent '47 covers are much easier to find from most states than tens. Not so with '47 covers from Florida. Florida is one of the two states to receive a few more tens than fives. A total of 4,600 tens and 4,500 fives were sent to Florida post offices. As a result, there are more ten-cent covers on my list than fives. The list of tens has grown to sixteen and my list of fives is only eleven. Of the eleven five-cent covers eight of these have two stamps to pay the ten-cent rate. This leaves only three covers with a five-cent stamp to pay the single rate for less than 300 miles.

Although I list a total of twenty-seven '47 covers from Florida, gem covers are unknown and even covers with very fine stamps are quite scarce. All of the Key West covers are pen-cancelled as are the covers from Madison and Tampa. Only a very few of the covers have stamps that were carefully cut apart to leave four margins. Because so many Florida covers show up with one or more of the frame lines completely missing, it is not unusual for fine copies on cover to bring quite high prices. The red oval postmarks on all of the Key West covers were so lightly inked that they are difficult to see and it is almost impossible to make out the words and date.



(Edward Ring Collection)

EARLIEST FLORIDA 1847 COVER

The earliest date on my list of 27 Florida covers is April 5, 1848. This envelope is from the extensive Captain R. N. Swift correspondence as are two other covers on the Florida list. Mrs. Swift carefully numbered each letter in sequence and noted the date it was received. This cover is numbered 25 on the back. Swift covers of later dates are usually numbered on the front at the left.

Stamps of our first issue were sent to five Florida towns and 1847 covers are known from each of these; Apalachicola, Jacksonville, Key West, Quincy, Tallahassee and Tampa. In addition covers are also known from Madison and Chattahoochee. Of the total of 27 covers, 11 are from Tallahassee and 5 each are from Key West and Apalachicola. The first supplies of '47's were sent to Tallahassee on Oct. 4, 1847, but no Florida covers are known used during that first year. Apalachicola also was sent a supply on Oct. 13, 1847, but the earliest Florida cover I list was mailed from Chattahoochee on April 5, 1848. Certainly an earlier one must exist.

The Tallahassee postmark is known in both green and black and there are enough covers for us to tell the approximate date the change occurred. The eleven Tallahassee covers on my list are as shown in Table I.

TABLE I

1. Sept. 18, '48 green Tallahassee (5¢)	7. Feb. 8, '51 black Tallahassee (10¢)
2. Jan. 21, '49 green Tallahassee (10¢)	8. Mar. 17, X green Tallahassee (10¢)
3. Aug. 29, '49 green Tallahassee (10¢)	9. Nov. 8, X green Tallahassee (10¢)
4. Nov. 4, '49 green Tallahassee (10¢)	10. Nov. 10, ? green Tallahassee (10¢)
5. Dec. 19, '49 green Tallahassee (10¢)	11. June 7, X black Tallahassee (5¢)
6. Jan. 19, '51 black Tallahassee (10¢)	

As will be seen from the above list, green was used in 1848 and 1849, then the list skips to 1851 with a change to black ink. Specialists in Florida postmarks know that the change came during 1850 but cannot pinpoint it any closer than that. Covers numbered 8, 9 and 10 above were probably postmarked in 1848 or 1849. The year dates of numbers 8 and 9 are not evident on the covers but number 10 was in the Rubel Auction and the

year of use might be determined if the cover could be examined. If the year of use is 1847 or 1850, it would be of considerable interest to Florida specialists. The year of use of cover number 11 is not evident on the cover but it is probably 1851 although it might be 1850 if the color change from green to black occurred as early as June 1850.

The three 5¢ covers and the one 10¢ cover addressed to Peekskill are all from the same correspondence. The cover dated April 27, 1852, is an example of an illegal late use of the '47 stamp. Our first issue was demone-tized as of June 30, 1851, and officially not valid for postage after that date. However, there are numerous examples known of illegal late uses of '47 stamps and nearly all of them were recognized as valid for postage.

My list of 1847 covers from Florida is short. The eleven 5¢ 1847 covers are as shown in Table II:

Table II

1. Apr. 9, 1848	red	Apalachicola to New York
2. Sept. 18, 1848	green	Tallahassee to New York
3. Dec. 8, 1849	black	Madison to St. Augustine
4. Apr. 2, 1850	red	Tampa to Tallahassee
5. Apr. 1, 1851	red	Quincy to Tallahassee
6. Apr. 27, 1852	red	Key West to Peekskill, New York
7. Jan. 10, X	red	Apalachicola to New York
8. Apr. 3, X	red	Key West to E. Haddam, Conn.
9. May 6, X	red	Key West to Peekskill, N. Y.
10. May 16, X	red	Key West to Peekskill, N. Y.
11. June 7, X	black	Tallahassee to Danville, N. Y.

The sixteen 10¢ 1847 covers are as shown in Table III:

Table III

1. Apr. 5, 1848	pen	Chattahoochee to N. Fair Haven, Mass.
2. Jan. 21, 1849	green	Tallahassee to ?
3. Aug. 29, 1849	green	Tallahassee to New York
4. Nov. 4, 1849	green	Tallahassee to New York
5. Dec. 19, 1849	green	Tallahassee to New York
6. June 6, 1850	red	Tampa to Tallahassee
7. Jan. 19, 1851	black	Tallahassee to N. Y.
8. Feb. 8, 1851	red	Key West to Peekskill
9. Feb. 8, 1851	black	Tallahassee to ?
10. May 15, 1851	red	Apalachicola to N. Fair Haven, Mass.
11. May 19, 1851	red	Apalachicola to N. Fair Haven, Mass.
12. Mar. 17, X	green	Tallahassee to N. Fair Haven, Mass.
13. Apr. 8, X	red	Key West to Essex, Conn.
14. Nov. 8, X	red	Tallahassee to N. Y.
15. Dec. 9, X	red	Apalachicola to Athens, Ga.
16. Nov. 10, ?	green	Tallahassee to Princeton, N. J.

Earlier in this article, the post offices that received a supply of the 1847s were given. It was stated that '47 covers are known from each of the five post offices. Included was Jacksonville which is not listed above among the known Florida covers. However, in the March 1932 issue of *Pat Paragraphs*, Elliott Perry wrote, "At Jacksonville the postmark has been noted used as a canceller in black. . . . The number of covers known to exist bearing 1847 stamps used from Florida is estimated at less than fifteen."

This article includes all the accurate information I have been able to assemble at this time although I am aware that there are several other Florida '47 covers about which I was unable to get detailed information. The important Florida philatelic exhibition FLOREX is to be held this fall and I hope this article will be timely enough to have owners of unlisted '47 covers from Florida report them to me. When this series of articles nears an end about 1972, it is planned to republish these articles on state

uses of the 1847 issue and include information forwarded to me after these initial articles have been published. My estimate of 1847 covers from Florida is 35 and I believe most of the unlisted covers have the ten-cent stamp.

St. Augustine is the oldest town in the United States but no '47 stamps were sent there. The Spanish originally settled here and there were many Spanish residents there while our first issue was valid. One of the above covers was sent to St. Augustine. It would be of major postal history importance if a '47 cover turns up sent to Spain from St. Augustine. So far no '47 covers are known addressed to Spain from the United States. There are many '47 covers addressed to France from the French residents of New Orleans, and to England from the English residents of New England. At present no '47 covers from Florida are listed addressed to any European country.

Do not expect to find '47 covers postmarked *Miami*. Although Miami is the most prominent city in modern Florida, it was only a very small Indian trading post outside of Ft. Dallas in the 1840s.

In 1957 the Palm Beach Stamp Club published *Florida Postal History and Postal Markings During the Stampless Period*, which is an excellent reference book for stamped covers up to 1855 as well as stampless. The handbook was sponsored by the Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs and inquiries about the handbook should be sent to Mr. Kenneth L. Rice, 940 Paseo Castalla, West Palm Beach, Florida.

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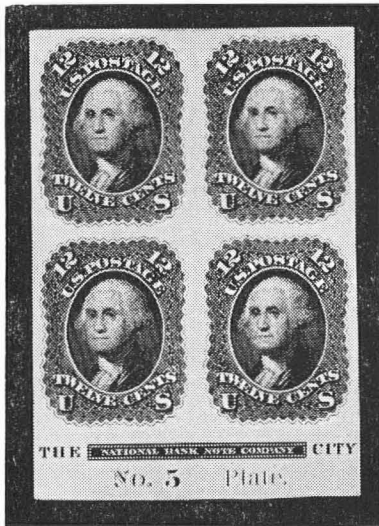
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1851-60 Seminars—A Correction

Mr. L. L. Downing, Editor of the *Chatter*, has requested that the following "adjustment" in reporting the Sipex seminars be made:

"The Editor of the *Chatter* wishes to apologize to both Harry T. Yeager and Thomas J. Alexander for an incorrect statement in which he credited Tom Alexander as being the speaker in the 3¢ 1851 Seminar on plating at Sipex. Harry was really the speaker and remarks credited to Tom Alexander really applied to Harry Yeager who well merited them. Your *Chatter* Editor regrets his misinterpretation of the report."

Although the *Chatter* comments that Ye Period Editor's notes concerning the plating of the top row of S-5 would be run in the next issue of the *Chronicle* it has been found necessary to hold this over for various reasons.



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THE 1851-60 PERIOD
TRACY W. SIMPSON, Editor



Earliest known Boulder, Colorado territory, handstamp, struck in an oily, watery brown ink with a matching target, most probably in 1861. The corner card illustrates the first building that the *Rocky Mountain News* was housed in, which was washed away during the flood of 1864. (Photograph by Jarrett)

Figure 1

Boulder, C. T. (Colorado Territory)

Issue No. 33 of the *Chronicle* described and illustrated a Rocky Mountain illustrated cover from the P. H. Ward collection that bore an indistinct circular townmark and S5. From context and count of number of characters, Mr. Ward reported this marking to be AURARIA K. T. Mr. D. L. Jarrett writes that he has covers from the same correspondence and among them is a similar cover, not only from the same correspondence but bearing the same corner card, and with a similar circular townmark which, however, reads BOULDER, C. T. Inasmuch as no authenticated circular townmark from Auraria has been reported, it now appears that the marking on the Ward cover, assumed to be "Auraria, K. T.," actually reads "Boulder/ C. T." Mr. Jarrett's cover is shown in Figure 1.

Mr. Jarrett also reports the existence of a 3¢ Nesbitt cover from the B. C. Pearce collection that bears a clear manuscript postmark reading "Boulder, N.T./ Oct. 10, 1860." This cover, illustrated in Figure 2, is addressed to the same person as were the Ward cover and also the cover

SYMBOLS USED IN THIS SECTION

To conserve space, the following symbols for the 3¢ stamp of the 1861-'60 issue are used according to the practice of specialists in this stamp for many years. The symbol is at left of hyphen, and its Scott's U. S. Specialized number or other designation is at right of hyphen. Postal markings are in black unless otherwise specified.
 Three cents: S1-10; S2-11 (incl plate 1 (late)) in orange brown; S3-25; S4-26A; S5-26.



(Photograph by Jarrett)

Collection of B. C. Pearce

This is the first reported usage of a Nebraska Territory town marking emanating from the small section of Nebraska Territory that was eventually included in Colorado Territory.

Figure 2

of Figure 1. This is noteworthy as being the first reported use of a Nebraska Territory town marking from the small section that was embraced by Colorado Territory when it was formed on February 28, 1861.

The confusing thing about the two covers with the *Rocky Mountain News* cornercards is that this newspaper was started in Auraria and continued after this became Denver City. Consequently, the assumption that the indecipherable postmark read *Auraria* was "ingenious but incorrect."

The 3¢ Stamp with Unofficial 12½ Chicago Perforations

Mr. D. A. Card is compiling information as to the plates from which these stamps were printed. Only a few are known, so it is not likely that many sheets were perforated and sent to Chicago (or perforated at Chicago). Any member who has a Chicago perforated stamp or cover is requested to notify Mr. Card of the plate from which it was printed; if the plate is not known, send the original by registered mail to Mr. Card who will plate it (no charge) and return promptly. Ye Section Editor's copy is from plate 3.

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Stampless "3 Paid" on Cover with Stamps

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

New Earliest Date for S3, Plate 8

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Relief-Roller Entry on Certain Plates for 1851-Issue Stamps

ELLIOTT PERRY R. A. #237

At the SIPEX Breakfast, May 29, 1966, I was asked to participate in a discussion of some phases of stamp manufacture in the classic period. Among the subjects was the use of one of the reliefs of the transfer roller as a guide relief to facilitate uniformity of vertical spacing. An abstract follows:

An extra relief on some transfer rolls for the 1851-60 issue served as a guide for making entries from the transfer roll to the plate. This was done so that the stamp designs in each vertical row would have the same alignment and be separated by the same gutter spacing as were the reliefs on that transfer roll.

On the 3-relief rolls the reliefs are known from top-to-bottom as C (or T), A, and B in that sequence. The stamp designs were so close together in the vertical rows that to transfer any horizontal row of designs, the roll had to make contact on the plate over a space about ten times the vertical distance between the stamps. When the top or bottom of any design—except the top of relief C or the lower edge of B—was being entered, the lower edge of C would be transferred into the upper edge of A and the lower edge of A would be transferred into the upper edge of B. Similarly, the upper edge of A would enter the lower edge of C and the upper edge of B would enter the lower edge of an A entry.

Relief C was used as a guide relief in the 3rd, 5th, and 7th horizontal B rows by setting it into the previous B entry. Whenever in making an A entry the roll happened to be rocked back far enough, the lower part of the adjoining B entry would be changed to appear as a C entry. That is, the "gash on shoulder" which is characteristic of the C relief sometimes would appear on entries in B relief rows. That is the real cause of the entries which Dr. Chase called "misplaces transfers" of the C relief on plates of the 3¢ stamp.

To enter the designs in the bottom (B) rows, relief A was set as a guide relief in each B entry in the 9th row. No position dot was needed.

Relief C on the 3¢ transfer rolls (called T on the 1¢ rolls), should always have been used to enter designs in the top row on any 1¢ or 3¢ plate. Similarly, relief B in the bottom row. When either of the other reliefs were used in top or bottom rows, part of an adjoining relief would be entered above the top row and/or below the bottom row. Such superfluous partial entry would have to be removed.

On 6-relief rolls the second relief (B) was used as a guide relief by setting it in each previous 6th (F) relief entry in the sixth horizontal row. Thus, the bottom four entries in each vertical row on a plate were from C, D, E and F reliefs, and no design was on the transfer roll below the bottom edge of the F relief.

On the 30¢ and 90¢ plates inaccurate setting of the guide relief produced double transfers in the upper part of 30¢ stamps in the 4th and 7th horizontal rows, and in the lower part of 90¢ stamps in those two rows. The 30¢ plate was entered bottom to top and the 90¢ plate top to bottom from four relief transfer rolls.

The facts stated above suggest that two questions should be investigated, as follows:

1. Which "misplaced transfer" (or double transfers) on a plate were caused by the use of a guide relief?

2. Do top and bottom row copies show evidence that a partial entry in either top or bottom margin had been made, on any of the plates on which relief A or B was used to enter any position in the top row, or an A relief in the bottom row of Plate No. 5 (late) of the 3-cent stamp?

A Plating Enthusiast Views SIPEX

EARL OAKLEY

Ed. note: Mr. Earl Oakley has sent the following notes concerning certain exhibits at SIPEX in answer to a request of Ye Section Editor.

Because of my interest in plating, Mr. M. L. Neinken's exhibits showing the plating of the 10¢ stamps, Plate 2; and, in part, his work on the 1¢, 10¢, and 12¢ stamps, both imperforate and perforated, were the outstanding exhibits in the show as far as I was concerned. Mr. H. M. Thomas had a lovely exhibit of 3¢ stamps, mostly marked for plate position.

Mr. Harold Levitt displayed some nice covers showing combination usage of U.S. and Hawaiian stamps.

A beautiful 7R1, early, in strip of three on cover was shown by Weill Brothers and, as I recall, Mr. Neinken and Mr. J. D. Baker also showed examples on cover. The Swiss Hirtzel exhibit showed an example of this stamp off cover (another example off cover was in my exhibit). Mr. Neinken showed the only complete recorded panes of the 1¢ imperforate—the left pane of Plate One Late and the right pane of Plate 2 (containing, of course, 99 R 2)—and also showed the only pane, perforated, from Plate Four (without imprint). He also showed the only recorded examples of imprint with FULL OR PARTIAL PLATE number from Plates 3, 4, and, I believe, 12 of the 1¢ stamps. The Hirtzel collection was replete with fine early material—blocks of the 5¢ and 10¢ 1847—blocks and covers of many other regular issues through the '60's, including a 90¢ 1857 (with other stamps) to the Orient. Also, the Hirtzel collection showed about 20 copies of the 90¢ 1861, both on and off cover.

Railroad Route-Agent and Station-Agent Markings

Compiled by W. W. HICKS, Associate Editor

Editor's note: This is the last material compiled by Mr. Hicks before his untimely death. Future listings should be sent to Ye Section Editor, until further notice.

Because of space limitations in *Chronicle* No. 52, illustrations A and D in that issue were not described. The station list for the Leeds & Farmington R.R. also was omitted. These are as follows:

Figure A, *Chronicle* 52. Reported by Mr. E. B. T. Glass, this marking reads VIA N.O. JACKSON & G.N. R.R. and is undoubtedly a directive applied by the sender so the letter would go by railroad instead of by steamboat. Compare the VIA JACKSON RR marking of *Chronicle* No. 49. Only a few such handstamped markings are known (see Remele page 105). The cover with this marking came from a "find" and has a copy of S5

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ted by the concentric-circle New Orleans townmark of 1860. It is addressed to Carrollton, Miss.

Figure D, *Chronicle* No. 52. CLEVELAND & TOLEDO R.R. This is reported by Mr. H. A. Meyer as well as Mr. W. W. Hicks. Both covers are addressed to the T. & C. R.R. office in Cleveland; neither appears to have gone through the mails. Perhaps this fact indicates interoffice use by the railroad, but if so, what is the meaning of the accompanying large "20".

The Cleveland and Toledo R.R. was formed in 1853 as a consolidation of the Toledo, Norwalk and Cleveland R.R. and the Junction R.R. that went from Toledo to Sandusky.

LEEDS & FARMINGTON R.R.; shown as Figure B in *Chronicle* No. 52. The station list, omitted from the last issue, is as follows: For 1859: Leeds Jc., Leeds Center; North Leeds; Strickland's Ferry; Livermore Falls; North Jay; East Wilton; West Farmington. The road actually did not enter Farmington proper until 1870, after an extension of 6.7 miles.

For this issue, *Chronicle* No. 53:

P.H.& FISHKILL R.R. 29 mm Black 1851-57 Figure E

Reported by Mr. L. L. Downing, this marking is smaller than the P-14 shown in the Remele book; also the letters *P* and *H* are closer to the adjacent letters, and there are no periods after *P* and *H*. This new marking is assigned No. P-14b and the one now bearing this designation in the book is reassigned the number P-14a.

N20-a NORTHERN R.R. This marking is now reported by Mr. Wm. Wyer as in red, used in the 1847-51 period. It has been formerly listed only in blue or green.

W7-b WILMINGTON & RALEIGH RAILROAD Mr. Wm. Wyer reports this in blackish brown, which is an entirely new color for this postmark, being quite unlike any other listed color.

Newly Reported Domestic Postal Markings

References to USPM in the *Chronicle* refer to the Unit-sponsored book, *U.S. Postal Markings, 1851-61 and Related Mail Services* by Tracy W. Simpson.

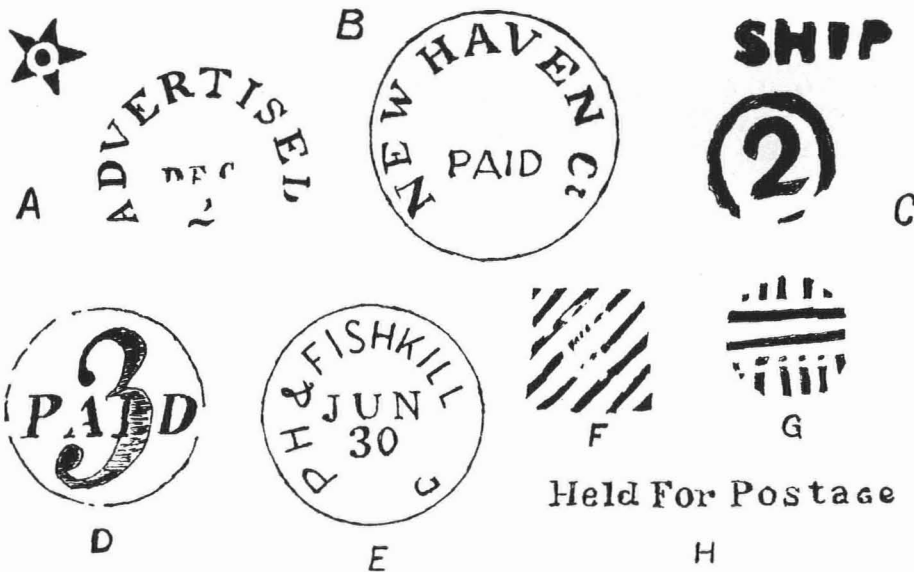
<i>Illustration No.</i>	<i>USMP Schedule</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Used with</i>	<i>Reported by</i>
A	A-27	ADVERTISED (arc 28mm) also with small star-and-circle applied at Lowell, Mass. What is the significance of the star? Someone has written on the cover "This is a carrier marking." However, perhaps it indicates address-see unknown, and to advertise the cover if nobody applied for it. A similar cover shows the star but not the ADVERTISED.	S5	J. A. Farrington
B	A-8	New Haven, Ct/PAID C-33 (no date) used on prepaid circular to West Attleboro, Mass., and forwarded by applying a second 1¢ stamp. Mr. Farrington writes, "The first forwarded circular I've seen."	1¢ type V	J. A. Farrington

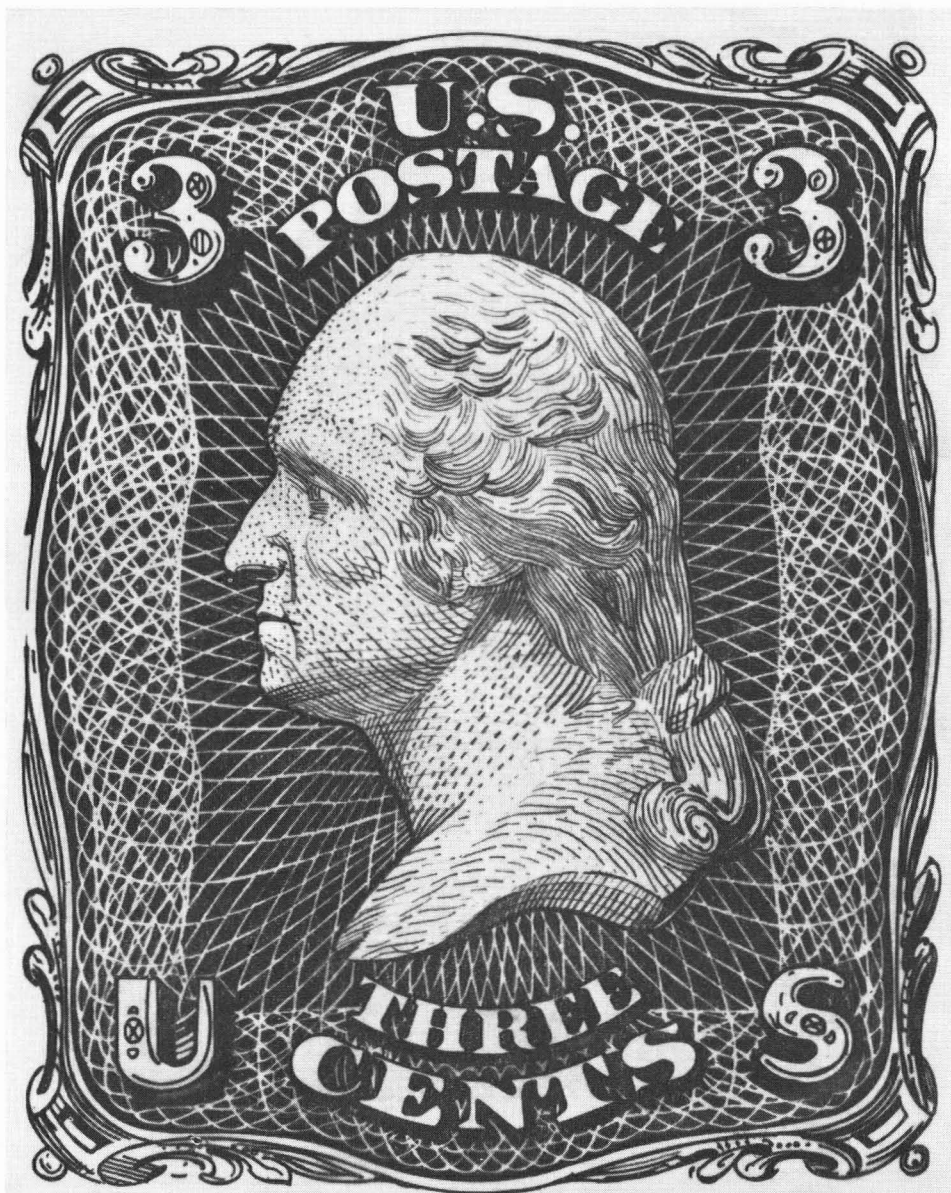
(continued)

<i>Illustration No.</i>	<i>USMP Schedule</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Used with</i>	<i>Reported by</i>
C	A-19	SHIP (20 x 5) and encircled "2", on letter from Venezuela addressed to Massachusetts, postmarked at Philadelphia. The "2" indicates "due" for the ship letter fee, even though the 3¢ prepaid the domestic postage.	S2	L. R. Campbell
D	A-8	See text for explanation.		T. W. Simpson
E	A-11	P. H. & FISHKILL R. R. C-29 See report in Mr. Hicks' section	S2	L. L. Downing
F	A-13	Brilliant green square grid (17mm)—Town of origin desired	S1	D. A. Card
Not illus.	A-8b	NEW BRUNSWICK N.J./D/3 PAID (Str)	S1	R. A. Ritsch
Not illus.	A-2	WATERVILLE/D/—OHIO—C-28	U-10	H. C. Greene
Not illus.	A-2	BENTON/D/—TENN—C-28	U-10	H. C. Greene

The preceding two markings have lines adjacent to state designation, thereby qualifying them for minimum ornamentation.

Not illus.	A-8a	DANVERS MASS./ (stock str.)	U-10	T. W. Simpson
G	A-13	Danvers, Mass. L7-16	U-10	T. W. Simpson
H	A-27c	Held for postage 46x3½	S5	T. W. Simpson





The illustration of the three cents 1861 stamp is not an enlarged photograph, but a drawing of the stamp, done by R.A. Roger B. Cotting. These are two major uses for this drawing—to illustrate a collection of the stamp, and to use as a means of identifying plate varieties and copying such for illustration. Mr. Cotting has made available two types of printed copies of his drawing. They are available from him at 20¢ each for prints in rose-brown color on stock suitable for album mounting, and at 10¢ each in black and white for drawing off plate varieties, plus 25¢ for packing and handling on orders under \$2.00.

The illustration shown is about 80% size, the drawing being on 8½ x 11" paper. Needless to say, Mr. Cotting has made his drawing available at cost in the usual fine tradition of the Society. Orders should be sent to Mr. Cotting at P. O. Box 271, Fairbanks, Alaska.

THE 1861-'69 PERIOD

RICHARD B. GRAHAM, *Editor*

In *Chronicle* No. 49, there appeared a part-page of plate varieties of the 3¢ 1861 stamp. Apparently, the mode of presentation and the whole idea was successful as an experiment inasmuch as reports of new varieties and confirmation of those shown are still coming in. A further attempt at developing the method of presentation is included in this issue. However, we don't wish to pass over the efforts of George Hargest here in developing, with our printer, a satisfactory technique of producing the illustrations in No. 49. Further refinements will be attempted in this issue, and whether these will be an improvement or not will only be determined when the issue appears.

Several other subjects covered in recent *Chronicles* have produced reports of further data or interesting items, as follows:

Current Articles

It is an accepted fact that the *Chronicle* is no place for long articles, with the possible exception of those so technical or so specialized in our field that the philatelic press in general would not be too interested in running them. Consequently, this section will from time to time call attention to articles in other publications and also accept reports and comments thereon.

At present, attention is called to an article of the Period Editor's on Federal Occupation of the Seceded States, now running in the last and continued in the next *Postal History Journal*. Also appropriate to this period is the series of articles by R.A. Mrs. Arthur C. Lane on the *Harry F. Allen Collection of Black Jacks*, now running in the *American Philatelist*, with Elliott Perry as a consultant. In this same publication, Mr. Norton D. York's monthly column "The Reason For," is often of interest to 1861-69 collectors, and his discussion of the so-called U.S. "First Designs" in the August 1966 issue of the A.P. furnished much data new to the Period Editor.

Chicago Double Circle Postmarks with Letters

R.A. Richard Edmond queries concerning a "standard" double circle (approximately 31 mm.) marking of Chicago, Illinois with a peculiarity. Instead of a year date, the slugs in the usual position for such read "R.A." Referred to Mr. Richard McP. Cabeen for an answer, we are informed that such letters were used in Chicago datestamps approximately between Sept. 15 and Nov. 15, 1863 and that other combinations such as "G.A.," "S.B." and "X," exist. No satisfactory reason for their usage has been discovered, as noted in the write-up on these in Mr. Cabeen's *Standard Handbook of Stamp Collecting*.

There is some possibility that these markings may indicate Chicago collection districts. This can only be determined by securing more data. Such data must be in the form of either corner cards, return addresses or enclosed letters which give the Chicago street address from which the cover originated.

Will anyone having any cover with the data noted please report it to either Mr. Cabeen or the Period Editor?

BRATTLEBORO

Scott #5X1

5c Buff
Slight Defect

\$475.00

**TRANS MISS.
\$1.00 BLACK**

Scott #292

Mint O.G.
Blk. 4, Defective

\$600.00

U.S. #121

30c 1869

Used Blk. 4 — V.F.

\$125.00

U.S. #36

12c Black

Blk. 12, Unused
No Gum

\$475.00

PROVIDENCE

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V. F. O. G.

\$775.00

U.S. #459

2c Carmine

Mint Pair V.F.

\$70.00

Used Pair V.F.

\$70.00

U.S. #211BC

2c Pale Red Brown

Horiz. Pair
Imperf-Between

\$250.00

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U.S. C13-15**Graf Zepps**

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Lightly Hinged

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U.S. C23A
6c Blue & Car.

Imperf. Horiz.
Full Sheet
Slight Gum Crease

\$1700.00

U.S. #99**24c Gray Lilac**

Mint Blk. 4, O.G.
Centered Left

\$750.00

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Top PL # Blk. 6

V. F. O. G.

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U.S. #RG132**\$1000 Gray**
Silver Tax

V.F. Used

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U.S. #37**24c Lilac**

V.F. on Cover

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V. F. O. G.

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Occupation Usages

(See Chronicle No. 51, pages 25 and 26)

This subject has aroused a good deal of interest, and there are several additions and corrections to make. Mr. Elliott Perry points out that we failed to include any mention of the two Delmarva counties of Virginia in our notes. These are Accomack and Northampton counties and several but not all the towns therein are listed with names of postmasters in the 1862 and 1863 lists of postoffices. In these lists, a postmaster's name indicates the office was then or had been operating as a Federal office; no listing of a postmaster's name meant the office had been suspended.

Portsmouth, Virginia should be added to the list.

The Dayton, Tennessee listing is erroneous and should be deleted, and Shelbyville, Tenn. and also Franklin, Tenn. (probably) should be added to the list, according to Mr. Scott Gallagher, and confirmed by the Period Editor.

Mr. Philip E. Baker removes the question mark after Little Rock in the original list by showing us a cover with a Little Rock c.d.s. dated Nov. 18, 1864. Mr. Baker adds Fernandina, Florida to the list with a cover bearing a large double circle Fernandina marking of Oct. 27, 1863.

The Border States

Mr. Roy C. Mitchell reports, among other items, a Rolla, Missouri usage of April 4, 1863 on a patriotic and most probably a soldier's letter as the cover is addressed to Illinois. This reminds us that covers of war date from Missouri towns other than St. Louis and St. Joseph are not common. It also points out, of course, that covers from the border states of Missouri, Kentucky, to a lesser extent, Maryland, and from the portion of Virginia that became West Virginia all have their points of interest and are worth reporting and recording.

Plate Varieties of the 1861 Stamps

In *Chronicle* No. 49, there appeared a plate illustrating four purported plate varieties of the 3¢ 1861 stamp. In Plate II in this issue, several more such varieties are shown. At this time, the Period Editor has little idea as to how these will appear, as an adaptation of the method used previously in illustrating these varieties is being attempted. The previous method did a fine job, in our estimation, but was somewhat expensive. So, considering this research to enhance philatelic research, it is hoped that the drawings illustrated will make the varieties clear.

The plate shows two varieties, one well known, on the 10¢ 1861 stamp and continues the sequence of 3¢ varieties started in *Chronicle* #49, which included "A" through "D." As attempted previously, only the portion of the stamp is shown upon which the variety appears, this idea apparently being one which "got through" to readers very well.

The 10¢ varieties:

A. The plate illustrates four successive stages, (a) through (d), being a purely arbitrary and convenient selection, of the well known "tag" variety (through "Postage") of the 10¢ stamp. It is known on both plain and grided stamps, and occurs in many stages, both more and less prominently than is shown here. The variety has been subject to some question as to how it happened, but is almost certainly a transfer roll variety, due to the frequency and numerous stages in which it appears. The probable cause is that a small fragment of metal became lodged in this area during the making of the transfer roll. The area concerned would be depressed on the transfer roll and raised on the plate. A small metal shaving which became broken into frag-

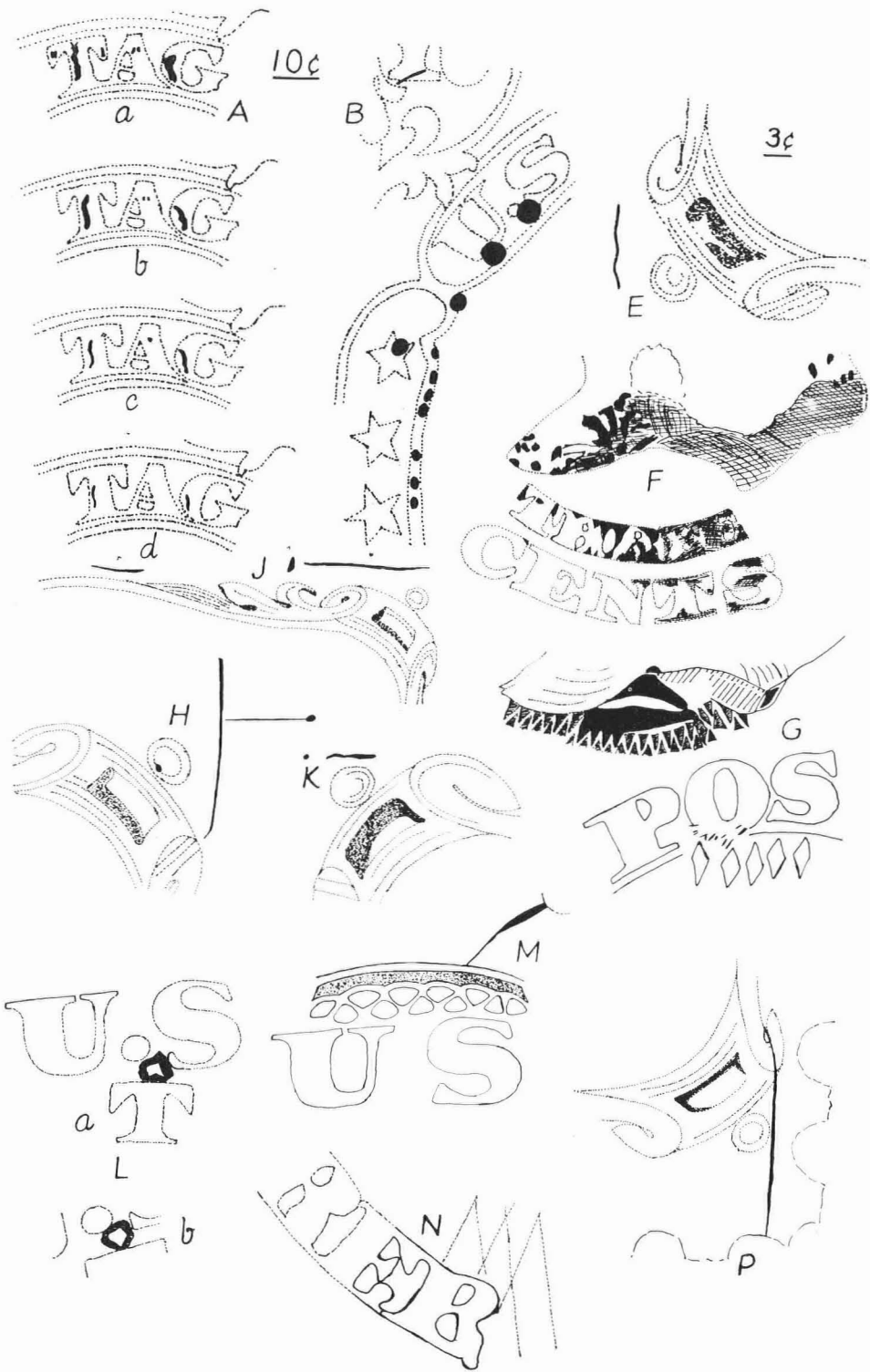


PLATE II

(See Chronicle No. 49 for Plate I)

ments could have become lodged in this area and when transfer of the design to the plate was attempted, gouged out areas of the plate which should have been left untouched. Of course, during the printing process, these "gouges" held ink and hence printed, just as did the other intentional depressed portions of the plate, or at least, such is our theory.

The changes or "stages" apparently stemmed from the wearing away of portions of the bits of metal lodged in the transfer roll as successive positions were entered. This must have been a relatively slow process, judging from the large percentage of these varieties seen. Courtesy of C. E. Taft.

B. This is probably not a true plate variety, except for a small line diagonally across the "1" of "10". The remainder of the dots, varying in size as they do, could be ink spatter from printing or, as prominently as they appear, could be from other causes which could be classified as "plate variety." Other examples of this variety, if they occur, should prove or disprove this, as the position should show the diagonal line across the foot of the "1" of "10." Reported by R. B. Graham.

The 3¢ varieties:

Variety "D", shown in *Chronicle* #49, has been confirmed by a second copy submitted by Mr. Walter McKean, unless we have two nearly identical varieties to contend with here. The illustration of "D," as shown in *Chronicle* #49, was not quite square with the page, being slightly "tilted" to the left. On the actual stamp, the line through the ball is nearly horizontal. This is the case with the variety shown us by Mr. McKean, although it is of a different stage than the variety illustrated. The second report of this variety indicates it to be on a cover, used on May 16 (year unknown) from Paper Mill Village, N.H., and the stamp killed with a star cancel.

E. Drawing by C. E. Taft of a variety of #65 on a cover from Lykens, Pa., Apr. 10, 1867. Dr. Taft, who discovered this item, calls it a minor plate crack.

F. A somewhat indefinite variety, submitted by Mr. Charles J. Starnes. The stamp, a 3¢ 1861, is on a cover from Red Bluff, Cal. to New York, endorsed "Via steamer," which indicates usage after July, 1863. The variety may or may not be plate damage. The stamp is a rather pale shade and it is difficult to determine just what does appear in the design. The sketch indicates a possible mixture of plate damage plus poor wiping, or a possible depressed or low point in the plate which tended to blur the print by holding a film of ink over the whole area.

The illustration is not complete, but shows dark areas throughout the lower portion of the bust and through "Three Cents."

G. This may be the same position as shown in "F", but if so, is much better defined. There are actually two varieties in this position. These are shown transposed in the plate, as obviously, the word "postage" is at the top of the stamp. The stamp is a late usage of No. 65, on a pen cancelled cover, source unknown but dated, apparently, Oct. 30, 1869. The stamp, however, is a nice rose, more indicative of 1861 or 1862 use by its shade, according to C. E. Taft, who owns this cover. The "O" of postage was retouched quite roughly, and an apparent low spot in the plate which did not enter well, at the lower edge of the bust, was also apparently gouged out somewhat.

H. Reported by Mr. Walter McKean who also reports a confirming copy on a 3¢ grill used from Northfield, Minn., although the variety shown was on a copy of No. 65. This is probably tool damage, and the corner shown also includes the residue of a layout line connected to a position dot. This variety is, obviously, in the U.R. corner of the stamp.

J. Reported by R. B. Graham on a cover from Danville, Ky., Jan. 5, 1863. Probably a crack, due to irregularities, although the crack could have stemmed from a layout line. The crack is above the U.R. corner and appears again above the center of the stamp.

K. Reported by C. E. Taft. Crack above U.L. ball of ornament. On a cover from Hartford Center, Conn., Mar. 23, 1866 (?). The stamp has a very weak position dot at U.R.

L. Shown here are two probable examples of the same variety, in slightly different stages. The upper item, submitted by Mr. David T. Skowland, shows more clearly. The other example was submitted by Dr. Taft, who comments, "In my opinion, this is a minor plate flaw caused by a bit of metal being embedded in the plate. It was high enough to be wiped so that it did not print, but the height of the particle caused ink to collect around it just as if it were a recess on the plate."

M. A tool gouge, from above the "S" of "U.S." to the edge of the perforations Found by C. E. Taft on a cover from Newark, Ohio, May 11, 1864.

N. An example of the common "THREB" variety, drawn for us by Dr. Taft. These occur in various stages and are apparently due to a breakdown of the metal of the second "E" of "THREE," wherein some of the plate becomes worn or falls

out and a rather irregular "B" is formed from what was the "E." These are probably more a product of plate wear or other action than a variety existing from plate manufacturing.

P. Submitted by C. E. Taft. A scratch at L.R., on a copy of #65, probably in an 1862 shade.

All the drawings shown were made from the actual stamps showing the varieties and were done by C. E. Taft, using a camera lucida attachment on a microscope. Confirming copies of any noted may be submitted to either Dr. Taft or the period editor, although additional copies of examples already confirmed or well known are not necessary unless they show other points of interest.

Mails Suspended

In *U.S. Postal Markings, 1851-61*, Schedule A-26, Plate 21, Mr. Tracy W. Simpson illustrates the oval marking "Mails Suspended," and (page 114) comments:

This marking is known on covers bearing 1861 stamps, but a cover has been seen addressed to Lynchburg, Va. from Churchtown, Pa., bearing an uncancelled 3¢ 1857 stamp. If this is a genuine use, the marking is includable in the list.

Some months ago, R.A. Mr. Robert W. Wiseman reported a cover bearing the oval marking, "mails suspended" on a cover with 3¢ 1861 stamp tied by a star killer with accompanying c.d.s. of Glen Falls, New York, date not known. The same or at least a very similar marking is known on several other covers, including one addressed to Confederate territory and mailed at the Federal postoffice at Nashville, Tenn. This is the one thing in common with all covers bearing this marking; all are addressed to people in territory then held by the Confederacy.

The cover described by Mr. Wiseman is, as he pointed out, that illustrated on page 92 of Mr. Earl Antrim's book, *Civil War Prisons and Their Covers*. Mr. Wiseman suggested that these covers were possibly hand-stamped with the "Mails Suspended" marking at some location such as an exchange point, and were then returned. At the time, the Period Editor made no comment because there was no information available.

Now, Mr. John O. Johnson reports to us a paragraph in the 1862 Postmaster-General's Report which certainly explains the intent of this marking as well as indicating the probable point of application to have been the Dead Letter Office at Washington.

The entire text of the paragraph follows:

LETTERS TO AND FROM REBEL STATES

In consequence of the suspension of postal communication, the following letters, not embraced in the above aggregate of dead letters, were received and disposed of at the dead letter office from the 1st of November, 1861 to the 1st of November, 1862, viz:

Forty-six thousand, six hundred and ninety-seven (46,697) letters, written in the loyal States and directed to States under insurrectionary control. These letters, when susceptible of restoration, were stamped *mails suspended* (editorial italics) and returned to the writers.

Three thousand, one hundred and ninety-eight letters from sections of the country subject to rebel control, and addressed to persons in the loyal States. The greater portion of such letters were forwarded to their destinations.

Thirteen-thousand, four hundred and sixty-three foreign letters, directed to localities in this country with which postal communication is discontinued. Letters of this class were stamped "mails suspended," and returned to the countries where they originated.

Of the three classes of dead letters noted, those from the South which were forwarded can only be identified by content, postmarks of origin

and date and then only by inference. However, both classes marked "mails suspended" can easily be identified and the Period Editor does not recall seeing any letters of foreign origin so marked. Reports of any of these would be much appreciated. In this connection, it is assumed that the marking was in use both before and after the period of Postmaster-General Blair's report, so this would seem to validate the use noted by Mr. Simpson in his book.

Re-uniting Cover and Contents

Mr. David L. Jarrett submits the following cut and remarks:
"An example of a UNION PACIFIC R.R. postmark that was struck in Wyoming territory. The enclosure is headed 'Coal Banks 20 Miles from Cheyenne', dated 'Sunday Eve Decr 7th, 1867,' and mentions that 'Cheyenne is our nearest town and our postoffice.'



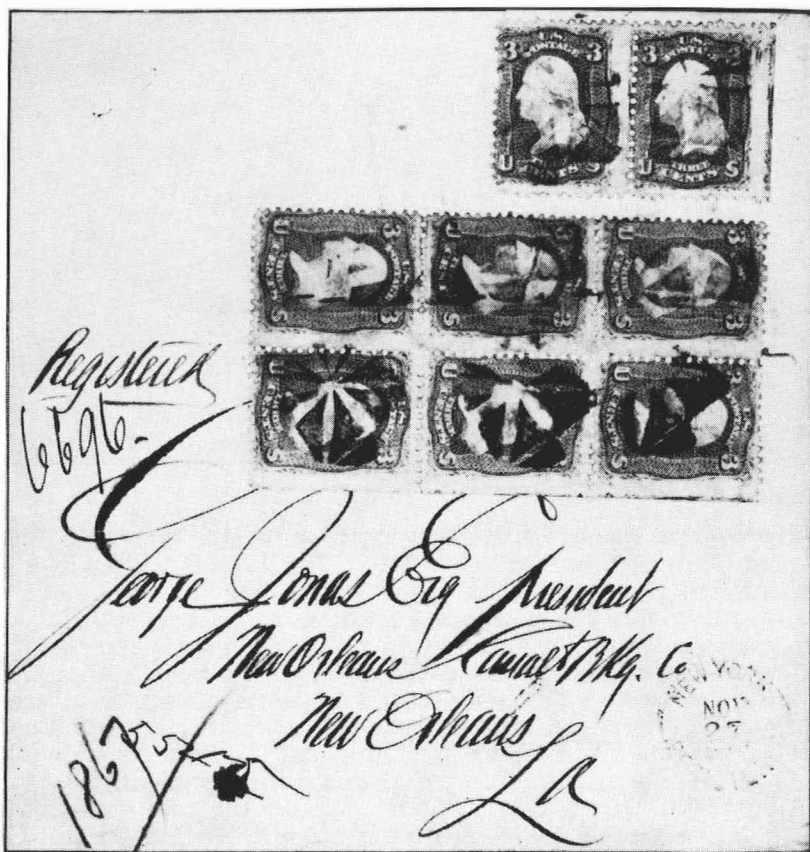
If the present owner of this cover writes to Mr. Jarrett at P.O. Box 1486 Grand Central, New York City 10017, Mr. Jarrett will make a gift of the enclosure to the owner. The owner must state the remainder of the address on the cover, which does not show in the photograph."

The Section Editor is much in favor of the idea attempted by Mr. Jarrett here—the reuniting of a cover and its contents. Certainly, this is one of those cases where the contents add a great deal of both interest and monetary value to a cover. In the past, separation of covers and contents has often been done for reasons as simple as "the cover wouldn't lie flat on the page". Yet, contents often "make" a rather mundane cover into a fascinating postal history item. This is probably the case with this cover. The 1867 date is nearly two years before the Union Pacific and Central Pacific construction came together at north of the Great Salt Lake on May 10, 1869. At the time the cover was mailed, it had been only months before that Sioux Indians had killed several Union Pacific surveyors in Wyoming and attacked grading crews so regularly that the shovelers had to work within grabbing distance of their stacked rifles.

So, this cover undoubtedly has quite a story and yet this story is not at all apparent without the enclosure.

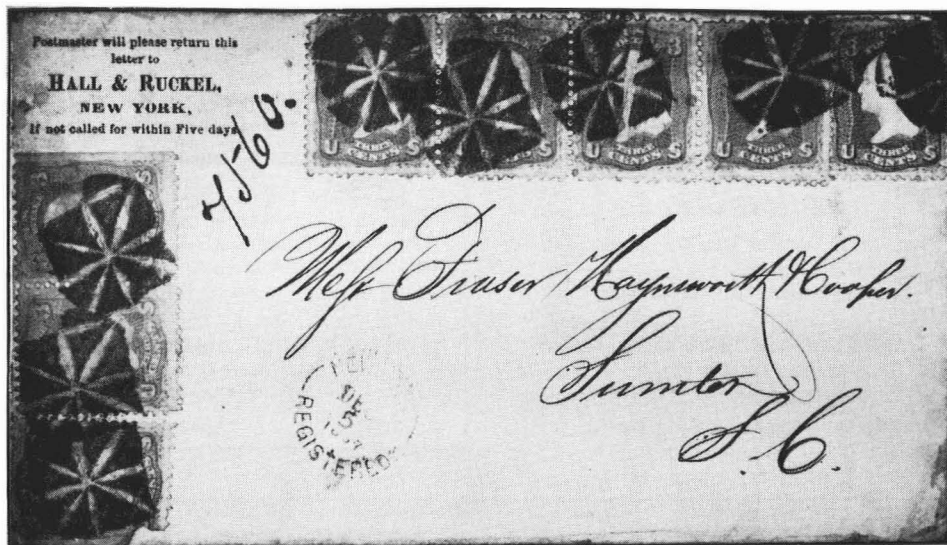
Registration

The Act of March 3, 1863 (12 Stat. 704-707), effective July 1, 1863 "increased the fee for registration of valuable letters to not exceeding 20 cents on every such letter or packet." This quotation is from the pamphlet *United States Domestic Postage Rates, 1789-1956*, P.O.D. publication 15, issued in 1957 (?). Previously, from inception of the registry system in 1855, the fee had been 5¢. The Postmaster General's order (Vol. 65, p. 231—probably of the P.O.D. order books) of January 1, 1869 reduced the registered letter fee to 15 cents, effective that date. In a pamphlet entitled "*Regulations Respecting the Registration of Letters*," published by the Postoffice Department in January, 1867, the statement was made that all registration fees were to be prepaid by stamps, and "As the registration fee is to be prepaid by stamps in all cases *hereafter*, no entry need be made in the column headed registry fee." In quoting this pamphlet in an article in the *13th American Philatelic Congress Book*, Mr. Donald MacGregor cited the latter statement as being evidence that previously, registry fees were not prepaid in stamps.



This registered piece is dated Nov. 27, 1867. The 24 cents in stamps is assumed to have paid the registry fee of 20 cents plus 3 cents postage, with a one cent overpayment; however, since this is a piece of a larger cover or package, there may have been additional stamps.

This idea has always been subject to dispute, although most students of the period including the Period Editor believe that stamps were not required until in 1867. The subject has been extensively explored for the period prior to 1861 but little has been found referring to later periods. Would any reader of the *Chronicle*, possessing covers with registration fee prepaid by stamps of the 1861 period, and mailed prior to 1868 please advise the Section Editor of the details? From such reports we expect to learn two things; what was the earliest date of prepaid registration in 1867 after the Postmaster General's order and also if registration covers wholly prepaid by 1861 stamps earlier than 1867 do exist.



Cover from Hall and Ruckel (of Match and Medicine fame) to Fraser, Hayworth & Cooper. This is a very early "Paid in Stamps" registered cover, December 5, 1867. The year date was used in this design of registry cancel in New York only in 1867. In 1866 a different design was used and in 1868 the year date was eliminated.

Mr. Roger B. Cotting has submitted photos of two most interesting early registration covers, this having been prompted by an early New York registry marking illustrated on page 66 of *Chronicle* No. 49. The two covers were mailed at New York just a week apart and, as Mr. Cotting points out, the sequence of numbers indicates that only about 100 letters a day were then registered at New York.

Mr. Cotting's captions, as the covers are mounted, tell the story very well. According to Mr. MacGregor's article, the earliest 1867 registered cover bearing stamps prepaying the registry fee was from Ypsilanti, Michigan and was dated July 3, 1867. The next earliest cover recorded at that time was in December, 1867 from New York, so Mr. Cotting's November usage is certainly an extremely early usage. Just why the long gap between the publication date of the pamphlet and the earliest evidence of implementation of its directive is not known.

Bibliography

United States Domestic Postage Rates, 1789-1956, U.S. Post Office Dept. publication No. 15.

History of the U.S. Registry System, Donald MacGregor, article in *Thirteenth American Philatelic Congress Book*, 1947.

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THE TRANSATLANTIC MAILS

GEORGE E. HARGEST, *Editor*

American Packet Mail to France During the "Three Months Period"

In *Chronicle* No. 38, pages 7 and 8, the rate to France by American packet, via England, for the period, January 1 to April 1, 1857, was reported at the "split" rate of a required prepayment in the United States of 21¢ per half ounce and a collection in France of 5 decimes per 7½ grammes. A cover showing the markings attributed to this rate is illustrated on Plate I of *Chronicle* Issue No. 39, illustration 23, submitted by Dr. de Wasserman of Brussels. This cover shows a prepayment of 24¢ (3¢ overpaid), a "NEW-YORK/AM. PACKET/JAN/3" marking in red, a "currency" or "tray" marking, "GB/40c" in black, a French exchange office marking, "ETATS-UNIS PAQ. AM./A. CALAIS D/18/JANV./57" in black, and a characteristic French "5" in black, indicating that 5 decimes were due. At the time this was presented, April, 1961, it was the only cover known possessing these markings.

During this three months period there were only five American packet sailings, as shown in Table I. Not only were there few sailings during this period, but the new arrangements between Britain and France created a 10¢ differential between the American and British packet rates; 21¢ by British packet and 31¢ by American packet, the sea postage by British packet being only 6¢ as compared to 16¢ by American packet. This difference was enough to discourage the use of the American lines.

Recently, four additional covers bearing these markings have been brought to the attention of this editor. Our period editor, Tracy W. Simpson, reports a cover franked with a strip of six and a single of the 3¢, 1851. The American packet mark shows the date of January 17th (by the *Ericsson*) and an "ANGL./AMB. CALAIS" French exchange office marking with date of February 2, 1857. All other markings are the same as those appearing on Dr. de Wasserman's cover. This is the only cover bearing these markings and also bearing stamps known to be in the United States.

Walter Hubbard of London (RA 479) reports a cover franked with a pair of 10¢, type II, and a 1¢, type II, of the 1851 issue and bearing a New York packet marking dated January 3rd, the same date as that shown on Dr. de Wasserman's cover (by the *Baltic*) and, hence, all markings are identical with those presented on that cover.

Table I

Arrived in N. Y.	Vessel	Sailed from N. Y.
	Collins Line	
	Baltic	1/3/57
1/13/57	Ericsson	1/17/57
1/23/57	Atlantic	1/31/57
2/6/57	Baltic* UP	2/14/57 Dns
3/5/57	Atlantic**UP	3/14/57 Dns
2/25/57	Ericsson	3/14/57
	Ocean Line	
1/20/57	Washington	2/21/57

UP—Sailing scheduled at New York Customs House.

Dns—Did not sail.

* Fitting of watertight compartments, dry-docked February to August.

** Fitting of watertight compartments, dry-docked March to April.

This editor has a stampless cover also bearing the date of January 3rd and markings identical with those presented on the de Wasserman and Hubbard covers.

Our secretary-treasurer, Melvin W. Schuh, also has a stampless cover bearing the date of March 14th (by the *Ericsson*) on the last trip before the treaty.

The 9¢ Rate to France

August 1, 1874—December 31, 1875

MILLARD H. MACK

Between January 1, 1870 and July 31, 1874 the United States had no postal treaty with France and consequently a letter could not be sent wholly prepaid directly to France. It could be sent partly prepaid and partly collect (the French collecting their internal postage) or by way of England it could be sent partly prepaid (to England only) or fully prepaid using the facilities of the Franco-British Postal Treaty.*

After many months of negotiations an agreement was finally reached between the United States and France and a postal treaty was finally signed at Washington on April 28, 1874 to become effective on August 1, 1874. The Universal Postal Union went into effect July 1, 1875; but France did not join until January 1, 1876; hence the United States-French Postal Treaty of 1874 was only in effect from August 1, 1874 until December 31, 1875, inclusive.

The rates under the new treaty were as follows:

On letters from the U.S. to France —9¢ per 15 grammes (½ oz.)

On letters from France to the U.S. —50 centimes per 10 grammes

It will be noted that letters were rated by grammes rather than by ounces, but the United States Post Office charged postage in ½ ounces and note also that the single weight rate in France was 10 grammes compared to 15 grammes in the United States.

Prepayment was optional but on unpaid letters in the United States an additional 5¢ was chargeable, and in France an additional 25 centimes. Regarding insufficiently paid letters, any part payments were to be recognized and subtracted from the full postage chargeable including the additional amounts.

The treaty established the following exchange offices and routes of transmission:

- (1) By way of French mail-packets from New York to the offices of Paris, Brest, or Harve.
- (2) By way of packets of the Hamburg line from New York to the offices of Paris, Harve, or Cherbourg.
- (3) By way of England from Boston, or New York to Paris or Harve, or the traveling offices from Paris to Calais or Lille to Calais. Mails by this route were closed through England. It should also be noted that the North German Lloyd Line was at this time under contract to Great Britain.**

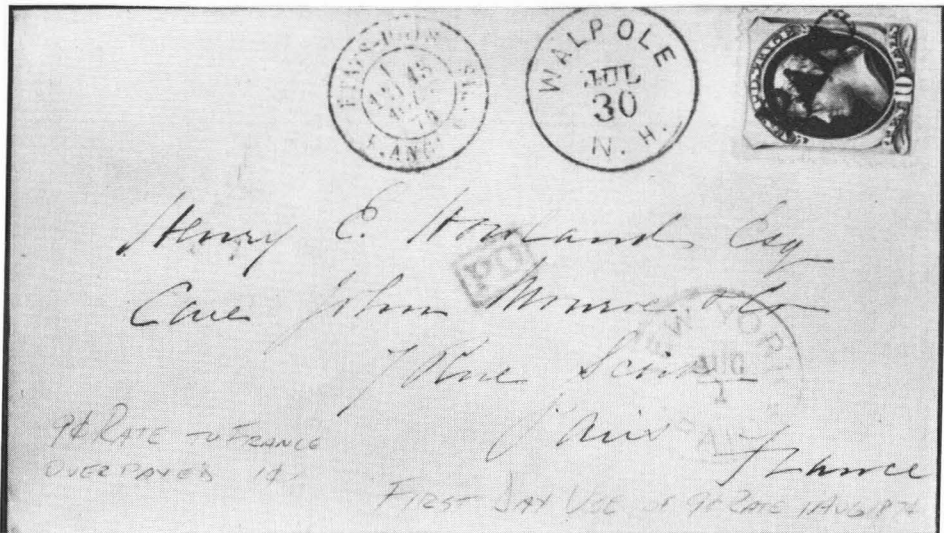
The three routes listed here (1) Direct to France via French-packets, (2) via Hamburg-American line, and (3) via England, are indicated in the descriptions of the covers given below.

The 1874 Treaty provided for registration of letters with a fee of 10¢

* These rates have been admirably explained by Mr. Hargest in a series of articles in *Stamps Magazine* in April, 1964.

** This information taken from Mr. Hargest's article in *Stamps Magazine*, August 15, 1964.

on mail from the United States and a fee of 50 centimes on mail from France to the United States. Prepayment of the postage plus the registration fee was compulsory.



(3)

(Kaplan Collection)

Figure 1

Figure 1 shows a First Day of Use of the 9¢ rate—the cover is franked with a 10¢ Banknote, thus it is an overpayment of 1¢. The Walpole, New Hampshire cancellation is dated July 30, 1874 and the New York cancellation is August 1, 1874 (3).

This is indeed a wonderful cover and it is one of many 9¢ rate covers in the collection of Seymour Kaplan of Mohegan Lake, New York. Mr. Kaplan was kind enough to permit me to use photos of many of his covers for this article and his cooperation is greatly appreciated.



(3)

Figure 2

Figure 2 shows another early use of the 9¢ rate from the same correspondence as Figure 1. This cover, too, is an overpayment of one cent. Evidently the letterwriter was unaware of the new rate and continued to frank his mail with the 10¢ Banknotes which he had probably grown accustomed to using because 10¢ had paid postage to the French frontier via the direct route, as well as the fully prepaid rate, via England, prior to August 1, 1874 (3).



(3)

Figure 3

(Kaplan Collection)

Figure 3 is a gorgeous cover, also from Mr. Kaplan's collection. The cover is franked with three copies of the 3¢ Banknote—the correct postage for the single weight rate. The New York handstamp is dated September 1, 1874 and the stamps are tied by two strikes of a New York Foreign Mail Cancel. The notation on the left-hand side of the cover indicates that Munroe & Company forwarded the cover to Russia and that it was received on September 7/19, 1874. The double date is because Russia was still using the Julian calendar. September 7 old style was equivalent to September 19 in the Gregorian calendar (3).

Figure 4 illustrates the 9¢ rate paid by a 6¢ and a 3¢ Banknote from Boston to Paris on September 21, 1874 and then forwarded with a 15

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Figure 4

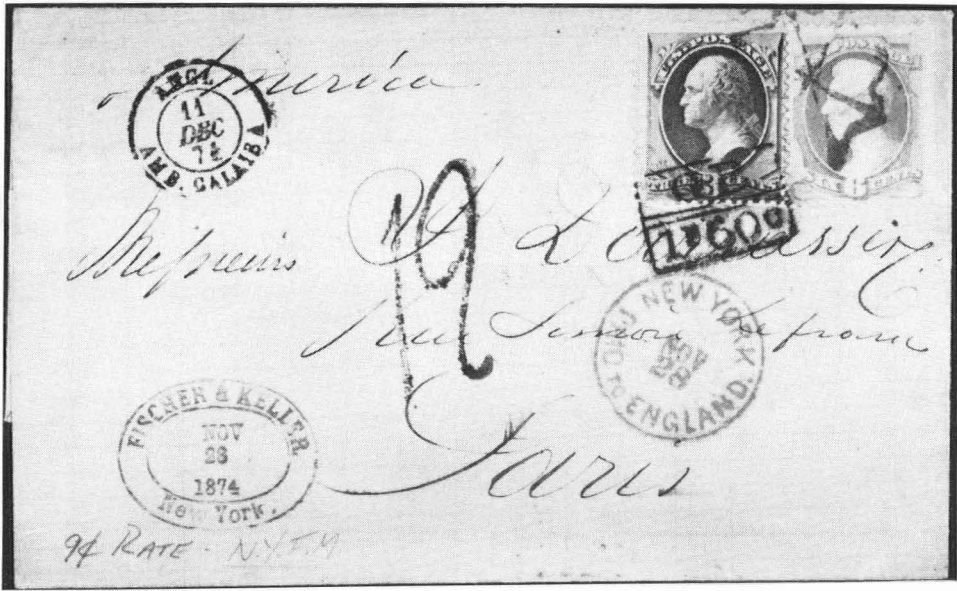
centimes French stamp, undoubtedly placed on the cover by Munroe and Company, the forwarder. This cover is in the Kaplan collection and is a fine example of a multiple country franking in addition to illustrating the uncommon 9¢ rate (3).

Figure 5 shows a cover franked with a 7¢ and a 2¢ Banknote from New Orleans, La. to Tourcoing, France on October 28, 1874. This franking is much scarcer than three of the 3¢, or a 6¢ and a 3¢ of the Banknotes (2).



(2)

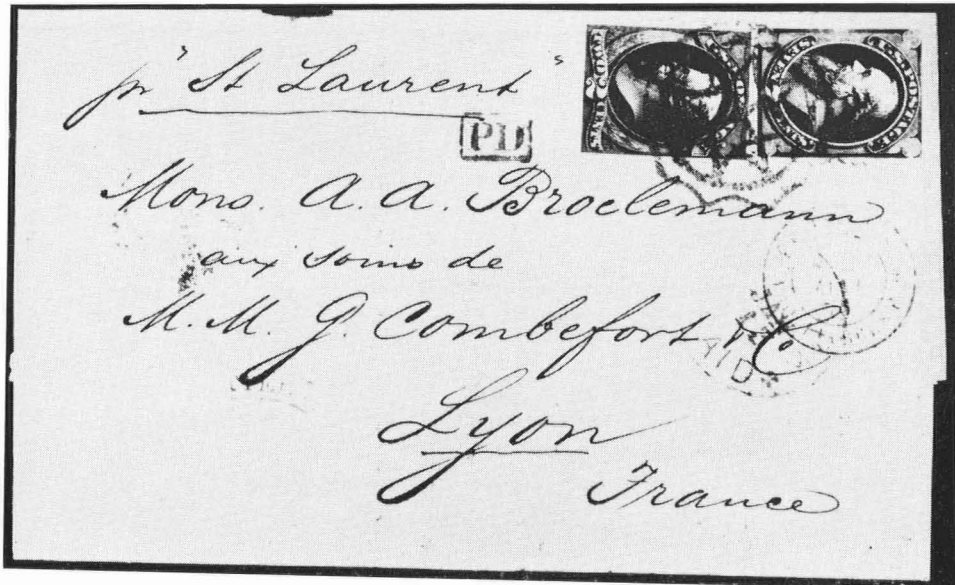
Figure 5



(Kaplan Collection)

Figure 6

Figure 6 shows another interesting cover from the Kaplan collection, franked in this case with a 6¢ and a 3¢ Banknote. This cover went from New York to Paris and is dated November 28, 1874. For an analysis of this cover I am indebted to Melvin Schuh of Worcester, Massachusetts. The writer paid the 9¢ rate to France (fully prepaid). For some unex-



(3)

Figure 7

plained reason (an error of the New York office?) the letter went by British open mail. Upon arrival in England, it could not be included in the U.S.-French mail because this passed in closed bags through England. Although "Paid to England" another error was made in the English sorting and it must have been sent along with another class of mail to France on which sea postage had not been paid. Probably this was a mail from the Caribbean, since mail to France from this area carried the "GB/1F60c" marking until the Universal Postal Union rates became effective. Thus the letter received the same marking and the prepayment was ignored.

Figure 7 shows a cover from New York to Lyon, France, dated January 13, 1875, and franked with a 7¢ Stanton and 2¢ Jackson tied by a New York Foreign Mail Cancel (1).

(This article will be completed in Chronicle No. 54)

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Sailings of the North Atlantic Steamship Company

GEORGE E. HARGEST

After the Collins line failed in early 1858, its remaining fleet consisting of the steamships *Atlantic*, *Baltic* and *Adriatic* were laid up in New York for more than two years. Early in 1860 the newly organized North Atlantic Steamship Company chartered the *Atlantic* and the *Adriatic* and placed them on the run between New York, Cowes and Havre. That the Company was successful in securing a short-term mail contract is disclosed by the annual report of the Postmaster General for the year ended July 1, 1861 which lists the contract packet lines used in conveyance of the mails and the value of the postage carried by them, as follows:

By United States mail packets

Of the New York and Havre Steamship Company	\$105,057.58
Of Vanderbilt's European line	56,894.16
Of the North Atlantic Steamship Company	41,706.25
Total	\$203,657.99

The first edition of the *U.S. Mail and Post Office Assistant* appeared in October 1860. Since it was the custom of this paper to report to subscribing postmasters the dates of departure and the destination of the various contract mail packet lines sailing from New York or Boston, one

would expect to find listed the sailings of the North Atlantic Steamship Company. However, no listing by that name appears in any of the editions of that publication. It should be noted, however, that editor Holbrook reduced the name of each line to a single word, such as, *Hamburg*, *Bremen*, *Havre*, *Cunard*, and so forth. Therefore, the question is raised as to what single word was used to designate the North Atlantic Steamship Company?

There is listed as U.S. contract packets an *American* line with sailings from New York for Southampton and Havre. Since, at that time, there was no line known by that name and by accounting for all other lines listed in the report of the Postmaster General, it is suspected that the word *American* was used to designate the sailings of the North Atlantic Steamship Company. These sailings are listed in the *U.S. Mail* on the following Saturdays: October 6, 1860; November 17, 1860; December 29, 1860; and March 9, 1861.

The *New York Shipping and Commercial List* during these years was published on every Wednesday and Saturday. In a section headed "Vessels Up" it listed under the port of destination all vessels in New York harbor that were preparing to sail and the announced date of departure. These were often announced weeks before the sailing date so a number of issues would carry the same announcement. The last edition before sailing also included the hour of departure. There was also a list of ship arrivals and clearances. The following is a list of all the sailings of this line together with other information appearing in the published listing:

- April 14, 1860 *Adriatic* Capt. Comstock Pier 41, North River
Agent, W. H. Wickham
- July 14, 1860 *Adriatic* Capt. Comstock Pier 41, North River
Agent, I. P. Stephens
- October 6, 1860 *Adriatic* Capt. Comstock Pier 41, North River
Agent, I. P. Stephens
- November 17, 1860 *Atlantic* Capt. Gray Pier 41, North River
Agent, I. P. Stephens
- December 29, 1860 *Atlantic* Capt. Gray Pier 41, North River
Agent, I. P. Stephens
- March 13, 1861 *Adriatic* Capt. Maury Pier 41, North River
Agent, Howland & Aspinwall

There were several discrepancies between announced and actual sailings. On November 21, 1860 it was announced that the *Adriatic*, Captain Comstock commanding, would sail on December 29, 1860. This announcement was continued in subsequent editions until that of Wednesday, December 26th, when the *Adriatic* was replaced by the *Atlantic*, Captain Gray, commanding. The edition of December 29, 1860 shows that the *Atlantic* was to sail at 12 m. Undoubtedly, many letters carried on this voyage of the *Atlantic* were endorsed to go by the *Adriatic*, the late change not having been noted. On January 2, 1861 it was announced that the *Adriatic* would sail on April 6th, Captain Comstock to command, but this was shortly changed to March 9th, Captain Maury commanding. The March 9th edition, however, shows the sailing date changed to March 13th with a departure time of 8 a.m. Clearance papers were issued on March 12th.

Dr. Robert de Wasserman reports a cover carried by the *Adriatic* on its second voyage for the Company. It was posted in Philadelphia on July 13, 1860 addressed to Lyon, France. It bears three 10¢, type II stamps of the 1857 issue and is endorsed, "Pr Adriatic, N/York to Havre." The Philadelphia exchange office marking (USPM, A-23b, No. 11) shows a double rate credit of 6¢ for direct service to France. The blue octagonal Havre receiving mark shows arrival at Havre on July 24th which is ten

days after date of sailing—a very fast run for 1860. This cover is illustrated as Figure II. It should be noted that this is only the second reported cover showing French mail direct routing from the Philadelphia exchange office.¹

The author has in his collection a cover posted in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. on July 13 (1860) endorsed "By the Adriatic" and addressed to Paris. It is a single rate letter prepaid by single copies of the 12¢ and 3¢ of the 1857 issue. Strangely, it bears no exchange office marking and no credit to France. It does, however, bear a blue octagonal Havre receiving mark which is identical with that previously discussed. Considering the rarity of covers endorsed to the *Adriatic*, it is indeed unusual to find two that were included in the same mail.

While the *Adriatic* was on its last voyage for the North Atlantic Steamship Company, it was announced that it had been sold to the Galway line. During 1861 the *Atlantic* was taken over by the War Department to be used as a troop transport. As an aside, the *Baltic* had been laid up in New York even since 1858. She, also, was taken over as a troop transport and participated in the first overt act of the Civil War by assisting the steamer *Isabel* in the evacuation of Major Anderson's garrison from Fort Sumter. J. G. Foster, Captain of Engineers, put it laconically in his report to the Secretary of War:²

April 14—The "Isabel" went over the bar, and placed the whole command on board the steamer "Baltic," which started for New York.

April 17—Arrived in New York.

¹ The first cover was reported by Melvin W. Schuh, see *Chronicle* No. 35, p. 7.

² Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1861.

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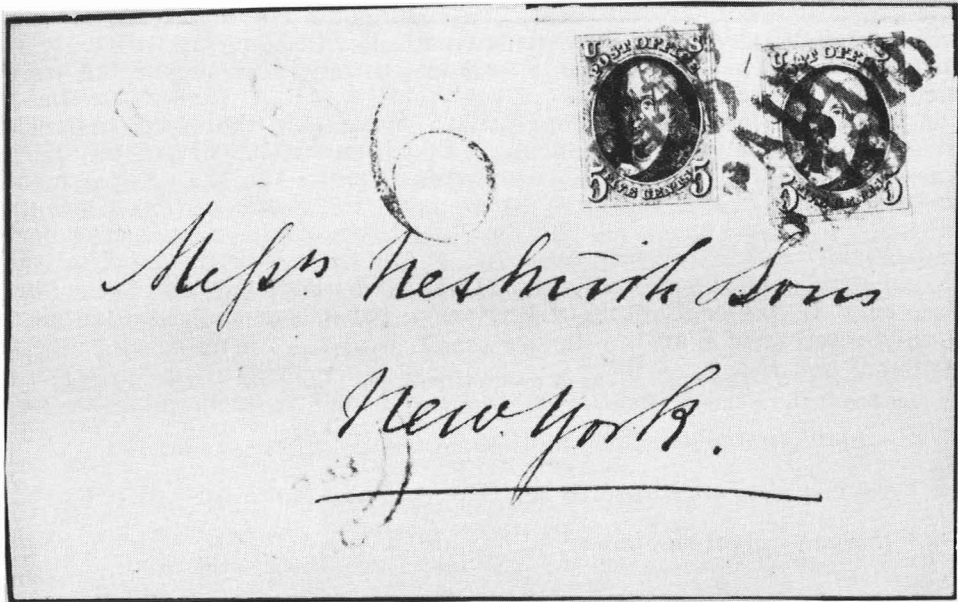
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Answer to Problem Cover Presented in Issue No. 53

The photograph above shows the cover restored as nearly as possible as it probably appeared prior to the removal of the stamp. The lower left hand postmark is a red "Quebec, April 6, 1853." The cover is back-stamped Montreal, April 8, 1853, in red.

The red "Canada" is there to show the origin of the letter. The "6" is to show the amount of postage and it is black to indicate it is an unpaid letter. When it arrived in New York, the New York Postmaster recognized the late, illegal use of the "47" stamps, and cancelled them with a curved PAID of New York.

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Problem Cover for this Issue

This time, our cover is presented by Robert A. Paliافتo. The cover bears a Black Jack plus a 3¢ 1861 on a cover addressed to Mrs. George W. Hughes, West River, Maryland. The cover was postmarked Sept. 17 at Taunton, Mass., both stamps being tied by the red town date-stamp. From the receiving notation on the cover, the year was 1865.

QUESTION: Why the 5¢ rate? Since both towns are located on rivers, would the extra 2¢ pay a ship fee or is it just a case of a 2¢ overpayment?

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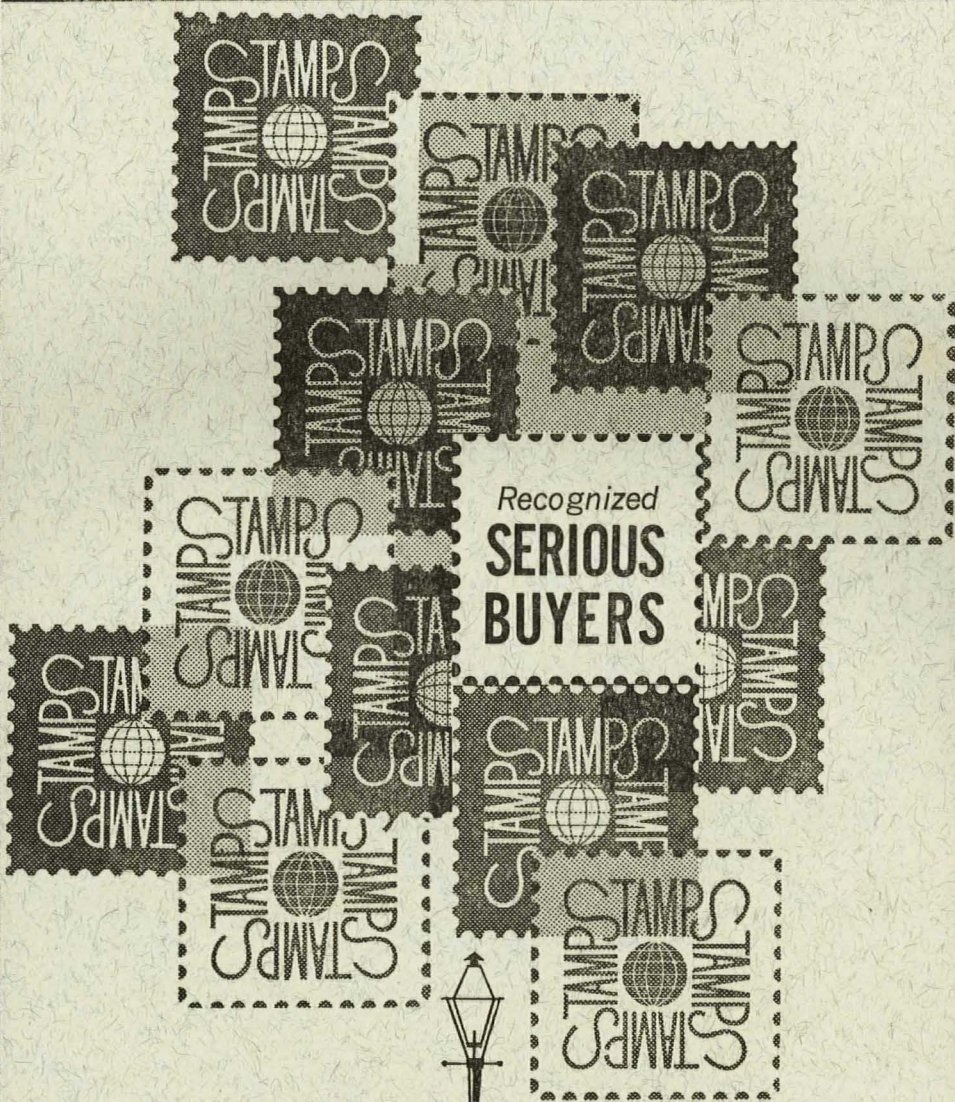
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