

Scrapbook No. 39 February 1 1956

	Scrapbook No. 39 February 1 1956
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2.	Frank Starr re 25¢ "Rate"
3.	E. Willard Phippen re 3¢ 1851 cover Phila "SHIP"
4.	Dr. W.S. Polland Re Flag of Truce cover 3¢61 + 5¢ C.S.A. typo
5.	Jas. E. Berry Re 3¢ 1861 Rose & Pink
6.	E.B. Jessup Re 12¢ 51 Bisect 18¢ Rate – Caspary
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20.	Mrs. CeDora J. Hanus 5¢ 1861 August 5¢ 57 Henna
21.	Woodrow Westholm
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25.	A.E. Guenther Re – Sale of his collection by Fox
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29.	Wilshire Stamp Co. 157 Pli7
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33.	C.C. Hart Re 10¢ 47 KALAMAZOO
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39.	Mort Neinken Re Pl. 12. 61L12
40.	Mort Neinken 12¢ to Mexico Carrier
41.	Jack Molesworth 24¢ 1869 Cover topper two 3-¢ 69 covers
42.	Molesworth 12¢ 51 Bisect - ¼ - Canton Miss St Louis & Others
43.	Molesworth 10¢ 1847 Unused 5¢ 1857 cover
44.	Millard Mack 1869 cover to Italy FAKE

45.	Robt W Lyman 6¢ 1869 cover
46.	D.F. Kelleher 30¢ 1860 Cover 58¢ to France
47.	Thos parks Re Blocade Cover
48.	L.J. Heyman 1¢ 51 - PAPER?
49.	Livingston Ala Cover Data By Raymond Rowell

- 50 - 297
- 51 - 299
- 52 - 304
- 53 - 312
- 54 - 320
- 55 - 322
- 56 - 341
- 57 - 343
- 58 - 346
- 59 - 350
- 60 - 354
- 61 - 359
- 62 - 366
- 63 - 368
- 64 - 372

201 W. St. Louis Ave

Jan.30/56

Las Vegas -- Nev.

Stanley Ashbrook
rt Thomas -- Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Not so long ago I read your article about the 3¢ pink (US # 64). It is very interesting. I have a copy of this stamp and wonder if this is the shade you are mentioning in said write-up.

I don't know if you give opinions on stamps, altho I know my old friend Ernie Jacobs often sent you stamps for such reason.

I do not wish to impose on you since I know your correspondence is too crowded already, but should you do so for a fee or otherwise let me know and I send this item to you with return envelope for your convenience.

For years I have been a stamp dealer in Chgo. but am not very active anymore and now live here in Nevada. (during the winter)

I am a ready buyer for most anything pertaining to Nevada and in case you have a nice cover g Express or ghost town- I would appreciate a chance to see it.

Sincerely yours

Mendore Fairbairn

APS 6847

Feb. 2, 1956.

Mr. T. Reinhardt,
201 W. St. Louis Ave.,
Las Vegas, Nev.

Dear Mr. Reinhardt:

In reply to yours of the 30th, if you will send the stamp on to me I will be glad to examine it and there will not be any fee, unless you wish me to sign it on the back or give you a signed certificate. In such an event the fee would be \$5.00.

I rarely if ever run across any Nevada material, but recently I acquired several covers of Maricopa Wells A.T. It is my impression that these are very scarce and quite valuable. Are you familiar with such? (3¢ 1861 and 3¢ 1864 PINK envelope).

I hear from Ernie regularly. What a guy but not as young as in former years.

Sincerely yours,

201 W. St. Louis Ave
Las Vegas - Nevada

Febr.6/56

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Your favor of Febr.2 at hand I hasten to send you my cover with the 3/65.

I appreciate your promptness in answering me and thank you in advance for your kindness. I shall be satisfied with your opinion in this case.

Sorry but I am not familiar with Ariz. Territorial cancels. I do know that Maricopa Wells is one of the very early postmarks.

Next time you write to Ernie -please tell him I still think of his martinis. They are a great help if one wants to feel young once more.

Sincerely yours

Madore Peirce

Feb. 10, 1956.

Mr. T. Reinhardt,
201 W. St. Louis Ave.,
Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dear Mr. Reinhardt:

Herewith your 3¢ 1861 cover as per yours of the 6th. In my opinion, this is not the S.U.S. PINK, nor is it a very good "near pink" or a pinkish rose. It is true it does have a bit of a pinkish tint and years ago we were in the habit of calling stamps of this tint - the early birds of 1861 - Early prints of the Rose. It is my guess that the use of this cover was April of 1862.

I had a letter from Ernie Jacobs this week. Great old Ernie. Never was another like him.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Tel.: Bridport, 2603.

STONEHAVEN,
WEST BAY,
BRIDPORT, DORSET.

January 25 1956

Dear Mr, Ashbrook,

I feel very hesitant in writing you again ~~again~~ after your letter of last Spring in which you said you had no time these days to assist in such queries.

During In these months ~~months~~ I've been struggling along, and thanks to help from all sorts of good folk in the States, including perfect strangers, I've been able to make out the enclosed list of rates U.S to U.K. It is only roughly compiled, and I'm concerned only with the basic rates. Your Dept. of Records have most obligingly tried to help me too, but I fear they haven't been able to give me correct information.

Many people have referred me to you as being the foremost authority on Rates - and now that my book has been accepted for publication (I have to get all the mss in by next month) that is during March --- I'm very anxious to get my facts substantiated and thoroughly checked.

Would you please help me? I have been told that you charge a fee for your counsel, and I shall be very pleased to pay you whatever it is you charge; I can arrange payment through friends in Canada. Otherwise, you might like me to give you acknowledgement in my book? It is being published by a firm of publishers specializing on books connected with ships and shipping, and an associate of Harraps.

I look forward very eagerly to your reply, and hope you will be able to comply with my request.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Staff

Feb. 7, 1956.

Mr. Frank Staff,
Stonehaven,
West Bay,
Bridport, Dorset, England.

Dear Mr. Staff:

I have yours of January 25th and in reply, will state that I simply cannot spare the time to give you the data that you require but I will attempt to give you some assistance.

There was a very good book published some years ago entitled,

HISTORY OF THE U. S. POST OFFICE
to Year 1829

By Rich
and published by Harvard University Press -
Cambridge, Mass.

I suggest that you send for a copy. I believe it can still be obtained.

Herewith I am sending you a Government publication which contains some valuable data.

In the early part of the last century postage to Britain was domestic to port of departure. We had no postal treaty with G.B. until the one of 12/15-1848, effective in the U.S. 2/15-1849 - Rate was 24¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. - California and Oregon excepted. No triple rate permitted. This treaty ran to Jan. 1, 1868 when the rate was reduced to 12¢. On Jan. 1st, 1870 it was further reduced to 6¢ and became 5¢ when both countries joined the U.P.U. as of July 1, 1875. As of June-July the U.S. sent our first mail steamer to G.B. and Bremen - the rate from the U.S. was 24¢ plus U.S. domestic.

Re - items I have crossed with an X - I believe these referred to incoming mail rather than outgoing. In other words, a letter from Britain to the U.S. was charged with a ship fee of 6¢ if addressed to the port of entry. If beyond - then regular postage plus 2¢ ship fee. I never heard of any such a thing as 1¢ to the ship captain and 1¢ to the postmaster.

Re - 1839-1847 - 25 cents by non-contract steamer. I have no knowledge of this. Act of March 3, 1845 - rate of 24¢ - referred only to mail that might be sent in the future my ships under contract to the U.S. P.O.D. to carry mail to foreign countries. There was no provision for "no triple rate." Act of 1848 effective May 1845. How could such be possible. No such a thing as March 3, 1849 effective Feb. 15, 1849. This was the treaty of Dec. 15, 1848 effective 2/15/1849 - no 16 cents - but 24¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. with 59¢ from Oregon and California by way of Panama - New York or Boston to G.B. Effective July 1, 1851 - not June 30, 1851 -

#2. Mr. Frank Staff - Feb. 7, 1956.

24¢ but 29¢ from Calif. and Oregon - this 29¢ rate was in effect to July 1, 1863 when it became 24¢. In 1866 - rates were per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., permitting a triple rate.

I trust the above will be of some assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Stonhavan, West Bay - Bridport

Feb. 11. 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrooke -

I am so grateful to you for your letter and the book of U.S. Postal rates - you have explained many troublesome points to me - and I now see my way clear ahead -

No-one over here has the information, and what information I had put together, was gathered in, here and there by different people I wrote to in the States.

I was convinced that much of it was incorrect and ^{you} have been very helpful indeed in clarifying what was 'shaky'.

As regards the 25 cents rate by ^{ponier} 'British Contract Steamers' - I have 3 covers all showing Paid 25 cents plus the inland postage - Mr. Peterman of Caldwell N. J. has some too - and I know of others in this country - All have been carried by the ponier Steamships



Mr Stanley B Ashbrook
 P O Box 31
 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
 Fort Thomas
 Ky
 U.S.A

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:

J.W. Staff
 Stonehaven, West Bay
 Bridport ~~U.S.A~~ Dorset

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
 ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
 OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

↑ First fold here ↓

One cover in my collection: - the 'Br. Queen' of 1840 -
 Prescott. U.C. is mentioned 'Paris Steam boat Tax 25 cents
 Paris U.S. Postage 18 3/4 cts
 43 3/4

In this case it would not refer to the
 St. Lawrence Steamboat - !! Another estimate, then
 a sum of 1835 Paris 25 cts from New York - (no
 the bill me) | own another from Richmond Va
 will STEAM 25 plus the value postage of 1834 -

Yours sincerely - and again, many thanks
 Frank Staff

↑ To open cut here ↓

Feb. 15, 1956.

Mr. Frank W. Staff,
Stonehaven,
West Bay,
Bridport,
Dorset, England.

Dear Mr. Staff:

I am in receipt of yours of the 11th. I regret to state that I know of no U. S. rate of 25¢ sea plus U. S. domestic of the period prior to 1845. However, I note you mention several or more such covers which apparently show a charge of 25¢ sea postage, and that Mr. Wm. C. Peterman of Caldwell, N.J. has several such covers. I will write Mr. Peterman today.

Regarding the postage to be charged on mail to be conveyed to foreign, I quote as follows from the U. S. Postal Laws & Regulations, 1832 Edition - page 67 - Chapter XXXVII - Sec. 305 - quote:

"Mails to Countries Beyond Sea.

Sec. 305. When a letter is placed in a Post Office, to be sent to a seaport by post, and thence by ship to a foreign country the postage on it for the distance, it is to be conveyed by post, must be paid at the place of its reception, otherwise the letter is not to be forwarded.

306. Postmasters at sea-ports, will always receive letters that are offered for places beyond sea. The letters so received, together with those that come in the mail, addressed to foreign countries, should be marked with the name of the office, and the time of reception.

307. As soon as the Postmaster finds that a vessel is ready to sail, which will be convenient to carry them to the place of their destination, he will carefully examine all such letters, and see that there are none among them, destined to another place. He will then count them and enter their number in a bill made out in the Form No. 7. If there be few letters, and no bag for them furnished by the master of the vessel, they may be made into a bundle like a common mail, taking care to enclose the certificate with them, sealing the wrapper with the official seal. If a bag be furnished, the string is to be sealed with the office seal. And if there be many letters, and no bag furnished by the master of the vessel, the Postmaster will furnish one, and charge it to the Department.

308. For every letter received by a Postmaster at a seaport, to be conveyed to a foreign country, there shall be paid to the Postmaster one cent.--Act of 1825, Sec.34." (unquote).

The next edition of the "P.L. & R." was published in 1843, and on page 14 of the "Regulations" - Chapter 17, the above instruction is repeated almost word for word.

I have no record of any special ruling made by the U. S. Postmaster General whereby the British packet charge of a shilling could be prepaid at a

#2. Mr. Frank W. Staff - Feb. 15, 1956.

Post Office of origin in the U.S. but from the covers you cite there does appear to have been some such an arrangement but if so there was no law that I know of that authorized such prepayment and if there was a provision for same by the P.M.G. it would seem to me that it would be included in the P.L. & R. of 1832 or 1843.

Sincerely yours,

Feb. 15, 1956.

Mr. Wm. C. Peterman,
153 Westville Ave.,
Caldwell, N.J.

Dear Mr. Peterman:

I enclose a copy of a letter that I have today addressed to Mr. Frank Staff of England regarding covers from the U.S. to England showing payments of 25¢ plus U. S. domestic. If you have any such covers will you be so kind as to loan them to me at my expense for examination and recording? I will return same promptly.

Thanking you in advance,

Sincerely yours,

Feb. 1884

Dear Mr Ashbrook - I have just received your Airmail of Feb. 15 - Since writing to you I have obtained a little information about the 25 cent rate - It seems that the Steamers, in their advertisements of the time in different newspapers amount that letters would be carried again at a charge of 25 cents - But as to what sort of arrangement they had with the U.S. Post Office I do not know. For quite certainly, the 25 cents was collected by the P.O. In my list of rates - I intend to show this 25 cent rate and shall substantiate it by quoting an advertisement

which has come my way.

In the book of U.S. Postal rates you so kindly sent to me - I note on page 2, under the Act. of Feb. 20 '792 that 8 cents will be charged for every single letter passing by sea to and from the United States - - - - - in packet boats or vessels the property of, or provided by the United States - - - - - Doubtless the Records Dept. allotted this 8 cents to me from the same source.

However, I doubt whether this 8 cents was ever in force - because the only official



BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTER
AÉROGRAMME

Mr Stanley B Ashbrook

P.O. Box 31

33 N. Ft Thomas Av

Fort Thomas

Kentucky

U. S. A

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Sender's name and address:

Frank W. Stoll

Stonhaven

Westbay

BRIDPORT

(Dorset)

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

↑ First fold here ↓

Patrick's name at that time was the ~~Patrick~~
Falmouth Patrick?

I hope I have not misinterpreted this
paraphrase -

Many thanks for the 'speculation' you sent me
re. the letter to postmarkers, written in 1832
when the 1825 Act

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Frank Stoll

← To open cut here →

March 10, 1956.

Mr. Frank W. Staff,
Stonehaven,
West Bay,
Bridport,
Dorset, England.

Dear Mr. Staff:

On my return from a vacation of several weeks, I found your letter of the 18th.

My advice is to go slow on the 25¢ rate until a further investigation is made. Back in those days it is my understanding that the U. S. Postmaster General was not authorized by law to make any rate of postage, foreign or domestic, without an Act of Congress. I have searched the official records and have been unable to find any such a rate.

Mr. Peterman sent me three covers, one of 1841 - one of 1846 and one of 1847. All three show British postage due of "8" pence. I believe this proves that the sea postage was not paid. This makes me wonder if the charge was not postal but a private fee paid to ship captains? If so it was not a postal rate - thus my advice to go slow in publishing it as such.

Sincerely yours,

P.S.--I will be glad to loan you prints of Mr. Peterman's covers if you would like to see them.

S.B.A.

Stonehaven

West Bay

Bridport

March 17 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Many thanks for your letter - and

I don't mind telling you, I have been very cautious in the matter of the 25 cents rate. I have now obtained additional information. It was most certainly NOT an official U.S. postal rate, ^{but a private arrangement} and was in the nature of being an imposition, for, the steamships not being under any contract, it followed that all mail carried by them, even those rated the 25 cents, were subject to the British Ship Letter of 8d. The three fully paid letters which I possess are all charged with this 8d.

Thanks for your offer of the prints of Mr. Petermans covers; he has however, already described them to me - and I have seen others similar over here.

Yours sincerely
 Frank Staff

Handwritten notes:
 Mr. Petermans
 301. Thomas
 31
 301. Thomas
 31
 301. Thomas
 31



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
33 North Br. Thomas Ave
Fort Thomas
Kentucky

U.S.A

First fold here

Second fold here

Sender's name and address:

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

To open cut here

March 21, 1956.

Mr. Frank Staff,
Stonehaven,
West Bay
Bridport, England.

Dear Mr. Staff:

Your air letter of the 17th just received. I am enclosing copy of a letter that I had previously written to Mr. W. C. Peterman which expresses my views on this subject at this time.

You certainly did stir up a bit of postal history that has been of quite a bit of interest to several of my good friends as well as myself and I am sure you all thank you for calling it to our attention. I would like very much to see and photograph all covers that show evidence of the 25¢ payment on the face of the cover. If you will borrow and send me such covers so that I can photograph them I will reimburse you all the expense of forwarding, etc.

Sincerely yours,

March 23, 1956.

Mr. Frank Staff,
Stonehaven,
West Bay,
Bridport, England.

Dear Mr. Staff:

Further referring to the payment of a shilling per letter paid to non-contract ships for the transmission of letters from the U. S. to Great Britain, my good friend Eugene Jaeger has called my attention to references to this payment in the very fine book - "Steam Conquers the Atlantic" by David Tyler - 1939 - By D. Appleton - Century Co - New York & London. No doubt you are familiar with this very fine book.

Mr. Jaeger refers me to page 106 and to the footnote #18 on page 116, which reads as follows, quote: In addition they were paid 2 d. on letters out, and 1 x. on letters home by New York Post Office - Parliamentary papers. - 1846 - 563 - (15) - 25, p.20." (unquote).

May I suggest that you refer to the Parliamentary Papers as above and if you find anything especially interesting will you be so kind as to advise me.

Sincerely yours,

Tel.: Bridport, 2603.

STONEHAVEN,
WEST BAY,
BRIDPORT, DORSET.

April 19 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Your Airmail received this morning, and it certainly distresses me, for of course you would not have written so, had you known me. But you have presented the matter from your point of view and I now realize and appreciate how my behaviour in guarding this little 'secret' has appeared to you.

I was of course hoping that this, as well as one or two other little 'tit-bits' which I have gone to great deal of trouble to get, would appear fresh and virginal with the publication of my book.

But to remove any element of misunderstanding I will open up and explain briefly to you that this 25 cent rate was a charge imposed by the private steamship companies, collected by the U.S. Post Offices by arrangement with them. The right to receive letters for overseas existed by the Act of March 3 1825 - and this comes into the story too.

I can only say how sorry I am you had to write to me so.

Yours sincerely.

Frank Staff

P.S.

You requested me some time ago to send you photostats of the three PAID 25 covers which I have. (I now have two more, carried by Gt. Western).

Bridport is a very small town, and our local photographer once spoiled a cover through his ignorance some time ago when he worked on some matter for me - so that I'm unwilling to trust him with others. Dorchester, our nearest town is only 12 miles away, but we do not have a car, and with my present state of affairs I just haven't the time to get this done.

Perhaps you have read in the press of the 5 -6 months printers dispute we have had in this country? Costs are now going up, and I've had to re-arrange all my illustrations and part of my mss, in order to keep the proposed publishing price down. On top of everything else I've been confronted with innumerable queries with regard to certain copyright and a host of other matters apart from a terrific correspondence. And within 7 days I go abroad, so I really am very very busy. I hope you forgive me for not sending you prints of these covers. Normally, without the many things I have on hand, I would have ~~have~~ done so.

CAMBRIDGE TRUST COMPANY
HARVARD SQUARE
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS



February 13, 1956

Colonel Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Colonel Ashbrook:

Lester Downing and I spent a pleasant afternoon with our stamps Saturday last. We came across a cover, which I have recently acquired, and it puzzled us in regard to the postal markings.

Lester suggested that I send it to you to see if you could explain it to us. I was reluctant to bother you with this little matter, but he assured me that you would not feel I was imposing, which I sincerely hope is the case.

The 3¢ '51 appears to us to be superfluous -- are we in error? Any comments which you care to make in regard to it would very much be appreciated.

Cordial greetings from us both.

Yours very truly,

E. Willard Phippen
E. Willard Phippen

EWP:EG
Enclosures

Feb. 16, 1956.

Mr. E. Willard Phippen,
% Cambridge Trust Co.,
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Dear Mr. Phippen:

Herewith I am returning the 3¢ 1851 cover as per yours of the 13th. I feel rather certain that the 3¢ stamp was used on this cover as we see it. The color of the canceling ink matches that of the postmark and it has a genuine look regardless of the fact the stamp is not tied. This was undoubtedly a "Ship letter" brought into Philadelphia, and was over-weight - that is over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, hence there was a rate due of 3¢ and also the Ship Fee of 2¢, thus a due of 5¢ from the addressee. The addressor should have put two 3¢ stamps on his letter and two 1¢ stamps had he wished to prepay it in full.

It was nice to hear from you and whenever you have a little problem like this do not hesitate to write me. I might not be able to furnish the answer but I will try.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

(39-3)
(195-22)

D. B. BUDGFORD

Major & Prov. Marshall

Maj & P.M.

MATTHEW. E. HAZELTINE, M.D.
W. SCOTT POLLAND, M.D.
HOWARD HAMMOND JR., M.D.
ARNOLD A. NUTTING, M.D.
AUSTIN W. LEA, M.D.
JOHN H. CARR, M.D.

ALBERT BUILDING
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE GLENWOOD 4-2451

Dear Mr Ashbrook:-

2-13-56

Could you help me with this cover? It looks like a Prisoner of War cover from the South to the North, but I have no idea as to where it originated. Do you happen to know where D. B. Budgford, Maj. + P.M. served? It is such a nice item with the Old Point Comfort postmark, just catching the Confederate + U.S. Stamps, that I would like to put it in my Confederate collection.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

W. Scott Polland

FEB 16 56

GREEN

12 SEC F128

B741

B741

Examined by
A.D. Magruder
C. M. R. E. M.



Mrs. C. S. Bowen
Wickford

Care of Col ^{R.H.} Oulds
Com of Exchamps
Asst Sec of War
July 22, 1862

See
A95
23

R. J.

B741

BY DR POLLAN D SEE S. B. 39

W Scott POLLAND
ROSS, CALIF



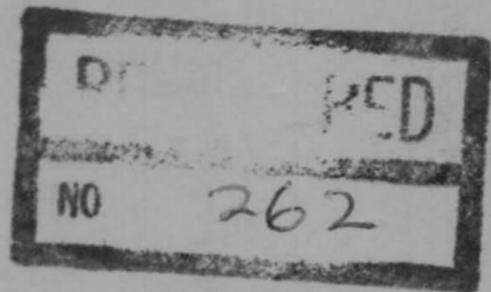
MR STANLEY B ASHBROOK

P.O. BOX 31.

33. N. FT. THOMAS AVE

FORT THOMAS

KY.





MASS

Feb. 17, 1956.

Dr. W. Scott Pollard,
Ross, Calif.

Dear Doctor:

Herewith your Flag of Truce cover which I believe is genuine in every way. I have no record of the "Major & Provost Marshall" who censored the letter but I think that I can obtain the data for you. Where he was stationed, etc. There is no C.S.A. postmark of origin for the reason that the letter was doubtless sent along with others under separate cover to Colonel Oulds. Northern relatives supplied prisoners with U.S. stamps for correspondence, hence I judge the writer put the stamps on himself.

I made a photograph and I will advise you later though it may be several weeks as we will probably be away from home on a trip for a week or ten days.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Photo
Mailed
To Him

FEB 19 1956

Feb. 17, 1956.

Mr. Thos. Parks,
3556 - 79th Ave.,
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

I have a C.S.A. cover before me that I thought would be of special interest to you. It belongs to a good friend who sent it in to me hoping I could give him some data on it.

It is addressed to a town in Rhode Island and has a 3¢ 1861 plus two 5¢ Confed Typos. The only postmark is Old Point Comfort Aug 14. No year date or any evidence of the actual year of use. No evidence of Confederate origin. In lower left is "Care of Col. Oulds - Com. of Exchange" - At left end is the following:

"Examined by
D.B. Budgford
Maj & P.M."

The two 5¢ Typos are a v. pair with the lower stamp just barely tied by the Old Point postmark. From the shade of the 3¢ 1861 I think the use must have been Aug. 14, 1863, but this color could well have been used August 14, 1864. No Confed postmark or any evidence of C.S.A. origin. Evidently it was sent under separate cover to Colonel Oulds. It is an envelope with nothing on the back. I will make a photograph and send you a print later.

If you can obtain any data regarding "BUDGFORD" and where he was located as a Major & Provost Marshall" I will greatly appreciate the favor.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Feb. 19, 1956.

Mr. Thos. Parks,
3556 - 79th Ave.,
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

Referring to mine of the 17th, I am
now enclosing a photo print of the cover mentioned,
which you may retain for your files.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

3556-79 th St, Jackson Hts, N.Y.

Feb. 22, 1956.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your two notes
& the photo of the prisoner cover.

Before I received the photo I
looked at the "Official Records".
No Budgford was listed.

Tomorrow I will look again
for Bridgford.

I have made a study of Old
Point Comfort postmarks for many
years, buying up all the cheap
ones I could find & keeping
tracings of ones I could not
afford to buy.

Herewith a chart, which
please keep with my compliments.
Some years ago I put a
study of Richmond postmarks
on a stencil & had Secy. Crigler

mimeograph it. The results were not very satisfactory so I have hesitated to do that again.

Tracing these in red makes them easier to compare with the postmarks.

You will note that I have put (2) opposite some. Cut corks were used at O.P.C. from Dec. 1863 to & well into 1866. I do not know when they stopped. I have some definitely 1866 & some "probables". Where I show (2) it is probably 1864 but no letters or "finders" notations" on the covers prove it.

I place your cork as Aug. 14, 1864 and have added it as I did not have this mark. In August 1863 only "targets" were used.

THOMAS PARKS
3556 79TH STREET
JACKSON HEIGHTS, N. Y.

Feb. 23, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

With further reference to your letter of February 17th, I find in the "Official Records," two references to two different men named "William Bridgford" but none to anybody named "D. B. Bridgford" or "D. B. Budgford." (No "Budgford" are named.)

Sorry.

In haste,

Thos. Parks

March 4, 1956.

Mr. Thos. W. Parks,
3556 - 79th St.,
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

Upon my return yesterday from a little vacation of two weeks I found yours of recent date, which accounts for this tardy acknowledgement.

Your letter will have my careful attention in the very near future.

With best wishes,

Cordially yours,

March 8, 1956.

Dr. W. Scott Polland,
1540 Fifth Ave.,
San Rafael, Calif.

Dear Doctor:

Again referring to your "Flag of Truce" cover, my good friend Tom Parks of Jackson Heights, N.Y., makes a specialty of Provost Marshall covers and I sent him a photo of your cover. He went thru the "Official Records" at the New York Library but was unable to find any reference to a D. B. BRIDGFORD or Budgford. He did find two references to a William Bridgford but no Budgford so your cover is probably signed by D. B. Bridgford.

The "Official Records" is supposed to have some record of almost every officer in the C.S.A. armed forces.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

1921 Franklin Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada
February 2, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I suppose the best way to introduce myself is to state that I have been a "long distance" pupil of yours for the best part of twenty years. I have been a stamp collector since the Washington Bi-Centennials were current and I progressed through the usual steps of a general collection in a one dollar album to an American album to a National album to specialised collections of U.S., Canada and Mexico in blank albums. My current specialties are the 3¢ 1861 and Nevada Postal History. Perhaps you have seen my name mentioned in the later category in "The Western Express".

When I say "long distance" I really mean it. If you recall the layout of the southwestern United States you know that if you draw a circle around Las Vegas with a five hundred mile diameter you will encompass nothing but mountains, sage brush and sand plus a few scattered, and sometimes, insignificant small towns. I can safely say that ninety nine per cent of the stamps, covers, albums and publications in my collection came to me through the mail. I have never seen a really worth while collection; I have never seen an exhibit; I have never talked to a really well informed collector and I have never seen any of the rarities of the philatelic world except through the pictures in stamp magazines and books.

I have to go along with Will Rogers when I say that all I know is what I read. You and Brookman and Konwiser and Sloan and Chase have been my principal teachers with a host of others as Associate Professors. Occassionaly I have been stumped by a technicality or perhaps a contradiction and with no one to turn to I have to wade through my reference books and sometimes never do get a satisfactory answer. A few years back I would write a letter to an expert in the field where my problem lay. Twice I was ignored and once I got back a very nasty letter from a very big eastern collector-dealer and since then I have kept my problems to myself. What's the saying? "Once burned, twice shy."

Recently however, I have been getting inquiries myself on Nevada Postal History and I have enjoyed the correspondence very much, even asking a few questions in return. Never once have I been refused in my search for information. In other words my faith in such things has returned. All of which is a rather long winded way of getting around to asking you a question myself.

As I stated before I am pretty well isolated out here in Las Vegas and all I know about stamps is what I read. But there is just so much you can find out from reading about certain aspects of the hobby and then you must turn to other sources.

I have been forming a collection of the 3¢ 1861 for about five years now. Most of my holdings come either from auctions in New York City or from Sam Paige in Boston. Some come from Sampson in Mass. I bought my first "Pink" at an auction held by Sy Colby. The second came from an auction held by Eugene Costales and the last came in a selection from Sam Paige. Now the point I wish to make is that each of the three dealers, to the best of my knowledge anyway, has a very good reputaion and I probably don't

have to add that none of the three match each other in shade or color. I can't recall at the moment what they cost me, but it was somewhere in the neighborhood of seventy dollars and as of right now it is money down the drain to me. And in spite of the hundred or so books that I have in my philatelic library I just can't decide which is which and what is what.

Ever since I started this 3¢ '61 collection I have looked to you at THE authority on that particular stamp. I felt that my conviction was secure when you were asked to give the history and opinion on that block of "Pinks" in the Waterhouse sale last summer. So now I will get to the point of my letter. What would you charge to look at a dozen or so copies of suspected "Pinks" and sign any that fit into that category?

Perhaps I am imposing or presumptuous....I really don't know and will not be disappointed if you tell me so. Frankly I am stymied and you are the only person I would trust to render an opinion. If you refuse I will have to turn to someone else, but then I will never be sure of the results. I enclose return postage for your answer.

Incidentally, before I close, I married a girl from Covington, Kentucky. Her maiden name was Haake (pronounced hockey). Several years ago I was talking to her father and the subject got around to stamps and somehow or other I mentioned your name and the fact that you were from Fort Thomas. Your name made him pause for a second and then he asked if you were in the brokerage business and I stated that it seemed to me that you were. He then told me that about 1921 or 1922 he was working for a shoe manufacturing company either in Cincinnati or Covington (I can't recall the exact details) and he had a secretary named Lishawa and that this Miss Lishawa married a man named Stanley Ashbrook from Fort Thomas. He stated that either at the wedding or shortly thereafter he met this Stanley Ashbrook. Is it possible that you are the same man?

I see now that I have taken up a good bit of space just to ask one question, but it is also true that this is sort of a "fan" letter so perhaps I will be forgiven.

Very truly yours

James E. Berry
James E. Berry

APS
BIA
WCS

Feb. 6, 1956.

Mr. James E. Berry,
1921 Franklin Ave.,
Los Vegas, Nevada.

Dear Mr. Berry:

I am in receipt of yours of the 2nd which I have carefully noted. In reply, I will be only too pleased to look over your copies of the 3¢ 1861 Pink for you and I can assure you in advance that any fees I charge will be modest.

In stamp colors of a century ago one must not expect all specimens to be exactly alike. Age takes its toll and stamp colors are no exception. Weather conditions, damp storage places affect both paper as well as the ink and impression. The Rose and Pink colors of 1861 were used at a time when the country was engaging in a war and some materials were already beginning to become scarce. So it is quite to be expected that we would have Pinks, Near Pinks, Rosy Pinks, etc., etc. Many dealers who are perfectly honest might sell an inferior color thinking it was OK and a fine Pink. Others are not very careful.

I am personally acquainted with Samson, Paige, Colby and Costales, and consider them all as men of unquestioned honesty.

Yes, I am the Ashbrook who was in the brokerage business in Cincinnati for many years. I was born and reared in Covington and for some years I lived in Fort Mitchell. I lost my first wife in 1926 and your father-in-law is right because later I married Miss Mildred Lishawa, who is my right arm and is my valued assistant in all my philatelic activities. We have one son who will be 26 this summer and is a Lieutenant in the Navy and at present with his ship in the Mediterranean.

In the middle 1930's I retired from Business and since then I have devoted my entire time to philatelic research work.

Sincerely yours,

1921 Franklin Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada
February 10, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I have received your answer to my letter of the 2nd and am enclosing a selection of 3¢ 161's for your inspection and possible certification as genuine "Pinks". At first I thought I would send just the three copies that I had purchased as "Pinks" plus one or two others from my collection that seemed to match a couple of them, but after thinking it over I decided that since this would probably be the only time I would ever send you such stamps I might as well go all the way and send some that fall into what I would call the "near-pink" category. In this way I would never have to look at a page in my collection and wonder if this or that stamp might not be a "Pink".

I have read practically everything that you and Perry and Brookman have written on this stamp in recent years. I know about the white paper, the indistinct printing and the bluish tinge, but I believe that you would be the first to acknowledge that for an isolated collector like myself it is a most difficult problem to solve with any degree of finality. Therefore, if I am sending you a bunch of rose or rose-pink stamps please put it down as just one more example of how really futile it is to describe a color.

I am enclosing five covers, one pair and nine singles. I hope that I alone know which ones I got from which dealer, and for their sake as well as my own I am crossing my fingers that at least three of them come back marked "Pink". Even if I don't fare that well I won't hold it against ^{them} ~~me~~ for you pointed out that it is an easy thing to make a mistake about.

Very truly yours,

James E. Berry

CERTIFIED MAIL
No. 204766



LAS VEGAS
FEB 11 '56
NEV

U.S. POSTAGE
METER
305959
= 27 =

Las Vegas
1956

VIA AIR MAIL

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P O Box 31
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Feb. 20, 1956.

Mr. James E. Berry,
1921 Franklin Ave.,
Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dear Mr. Berry:

Herewith I am returning the 3¢ 1861 items contained in yours of the 10th. The delay in return was occasioned by the bad weather which we have been having - dark, cloudy, heavily overcast days with no sunshine and in such weather it is bad to try to examine delicate colors such as the Pink and Rose. However, it cleared up a bit yesterday and I was able to make a side-by-side comparison of each one of your stamps and I regret to inform you that there is not a PINK in the lot. In definitely deciding whether some stamps are the real pink or some of the pinkish rose I make a side-by-side comparison with my reference copies.

I picked out two off cover copies and one cover as the best in your lot - These are all what are in the class of NEAR PINKS. So that there might not be any dispute about the cover I signed it on the back, as the "deep pinkish rose."

My reference copies run as follows:

My number One "TINT" is

- 1 The Deep Pigeon Blood
- 2 The Pale " "
- 3 The Actual Pink

White or yellowish paper.

(Naturally the former is preferred).

I could lay any of your copies side-by-side with my No. 3 and if you were sitting beside me you could see the difference at a glance.

A lot of pale and deep near pinks do look pink or pinkish but they are actually in the Rose classification.

My fee for this examination is \$5.00 plus return postage of 49¢, total \$5.49.

Sincerely yours,

Charge

Gas E. Bover

5.00

PAID

MAR - 8 1956

Acc S.B. 39

P. 5

PAID

MAR - 8 1956

TREAS
BUREAU OF I

100TH ANNIVERSARY
UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS

INTERNATIONAL

1921 Franklin Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada
February 25, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I have just received your report on my 3¢ 1861s. Needless to say I am a little disappointed, but in all truthfulness I must admit that that your findings were not unexpected. I have mentioned several times that all I know about stamps is what I read, but all the time I have assumed that if I ever did see a real, true PINK that it would "jump" at me. None of those stamps "jumped" at me although I did take a second look at a couple of them. So much for that, maybe I'll have better luck another time.

Perhaps the best way I can lick this PINK problem is to ask you if you would sell me a nice copy should an extra one ever come your way. Either on or off cover.

And speaking of selling...I don't know how much, if any, you do, but for years I noticed your ads in several of the stamp publications asking for western material among other things. In one of my letters to you I mentioned to you that one of my hobbies was Nevada Postal History and for a long time I have been tempted to write to you asking if you ever came across any offers for this type (Nevada) of material. If you have any Nevada covers for sale I would certainly like to have a look at them. None of those multiple-rate Pony Express Covers though, for I am a man of moderate income and I don't want to hock the roof over my head for a fancy page in my collection.

My check is enclosed in payment of your fee.

Very truly yours,

James E. Berry

March 4, 1956.

Mr. James E. Berry,
1921 Franklin Ave.,
Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dear Mr. Berry:

Upon my return yesterday from a little vacation of two weeks I found yours of recent date, which accounts for this tardy acknowledgement.

Your letter will have my careful attention in the very near future.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

March 9, 1956.

Mr. James E. Berry,
1921 Franklin Ave.,
Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dear Mr. Berry:

Further referring to mine of the 4th, this will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 25th with check for \$5.00 for which please accept my thanks.

At the present I do not happen to have a 3¢ 1861 Pink for sale but should one come my way I will bear you in mind. I had a rather fine example sent to me yesterday for an eastern dealer for my opinion, but he conducts auctions and I suppose this copy will come up later in sasale. I will watch the auctions and advise you.

Re - Nevada material, I regret that I haven't a thing in that category at present. Have you ever done any business with E.N.Sampson? He is very reliable and frequently has Territorial and western covers for sale.

With every good wish -
Cordially yours,

MERCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

OAKLAND 8, CALIFORNIA

EDGAR B. JESSUP
PRESIDENT

February 14, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stanley:

Many thanks for your kind and thoughtful letter of February 5. It contained a great deal of good news, but I haven't time to discuss much of it here.

Naturally, Harmer and Ezra Cole are eager to get a final report on #576, and yours was good as far as it went, but I should like to ask you to follow through on the ultra-violet photograph you spoke of and give it a thorough treatment.

If you think the stamp has been removed and not placed on exactly right, I suggest you remove the one now on it, for you are the one person who can be trusted by all to put it back exactly as it should be. Then, too, it might divulge something on the cover under the stamp, but now out of view.

I am enclosing the cover and my check for the \$5 fee which you suggest. If it is more let me know.

This is really a nice piece, and quite an important cover, and I want to be absolutely sure it is right in every way. I see quite a few things about it that create suspicion and do wish I were in Fort Thomas so we could sit down and talk it over together. However, this will be very satisfactory.

I know that when you have made your customary thorough examination and then taken an ultra violet photo of the pair alone, and blown it up to 5 x 7, that you will have all of the facts pertaining to the cover.

Of course we will all be happy if it comes out with a clean bill of health, but you are the one man who is such a stickler for right and thoroughness in such an operation that I know

*Stamp
I would like you
to give # 577
a thorough treatment
please this also*

MERCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Page Two
February 14, 1956

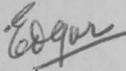
you will leave no stone unturned in your thorough search for absolute authenticity. I shall write to you again very soon.

Thanks for all you did on the last package and your fine comments about the good lots I purchased.

Regarding the Washington cover, the Doctor has passed away, long ago, and I have forgotten his name. I have been pursuing the man who got the cover from the doctor's widow over these many years, so I am really happy that beautiful California item is now in my collection, even though it was an expensive addition.

With every good wish, I remain,

Most sincerely yours



Edgar B. Jessup
President and
General Manager

EBJ:B

Photo

Fee 5⁰⁰
3

8⁰⁰

MERCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

OAKLAND 8, CALIFORNIA

February 1, 1956

EDGAR B. JESSUP
PRESIDENT

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stanley:

With the year-end activities here and the high pressure it has been so long since I have written to you that I have almost forgotten the subjects that are unfinished -- if any.

I must agree with you that the "monkey business" as you term it of getting that cover back from Moody and all the other things are certainly odd bits of evidence and someone knows there is something wrong. It seems impossible to me, in fact incredible, for a man to know there is something wrong but pretend it is right. If it is true there is something wrong with such an individual. Of course, I am sure that your letter to Moody was in such a tone that it plainly indicated where you stood with regard to the cover and with regard to the present owner. And, when it was so opened up, he did write in the vein that he did. However, I am sure from information I get elsewhere that they are not on good terms at all. Something drastic must have happened between them, which is quite understandable.

In another letter you asked why I backed such an enterprise. I do not exactly back them, and I do not underwrite them as individuals, but the Institution and its general purposes are on the right track. If philately is to amount to anything, and if those of us who have considerable at stake in it are to realize on such, something of that kind must be established some day and no doubt it will have to be by competent people. It is impossible for an Institution like that to start with such a staff and therefore it looks as though it must start as best it can and struggle along until it improves its personnel and its efficiency. A drastic shakeup is all right when you have plenty of money to back it, but they do not have plenty, and the party

MERCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
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February 1, 1956

you speak of as putting money into it and wanting to run it has not done so. I am close enough to it to know that, and I have never seen anyone involved in any way, shape or form in the administration of that organization who was not serious in his efforts and motivated by profound devotion and desire to serve all of philately. Maybe in misguided moments they do not do it, but every once in a while those things will come up anywhere. If someone would suggest a better plan I would be for it, but it seems it must be an organization so it would not face the inevitable hazard that so often comes to individuals.

Anyway, I have a lot of fun collecting and I do not want to get involved in those things very deeply. I think I am all right in the position I take and hold, but it has to be a process of waiting and watching until some improvement comes about or some drastic change comes about.

I have not written you since the Caspary No. 2 Sale, have I? I presume you have heard what I got out of it. My biggest disappointment was Lot 407. Do you know who got it? I put a couple of pluses on my bid but my bidder did not go too strong on that lot although he did on a good many others. He tried his best and that lot came rather early in the sale. Of course, toward the end it became necessary to increase bids or be out of it entirely. I wanted Lots 226 and 230 badly and got them both. I also wanted that Gadsden cover to match up with something I had (314) and I got that together with a few other small and unimportant pieces.

Lot
407
Went
To
Bob
Siegel
For
Dick
or
Baker

also got
751
793
599
408

The one item I did get, and for which my bidder went a long way above my bid (which was agreeable to me) was Lot 576. Of course I wanted the one preceding it and the one following very badly, but when I saw the latter written up in your service I had an idea it would go pretty high. However, I believe I was the runner-up on it.

Getting back to Lot 576, I have examined it closely and it does seem to me as though the "a" in Sacramento should plainly show on the stamp. Also some of the other letters. And the

MARCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
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February 1, 1956

"r" is entirely out of shape. The "C" in "Cal" is not normal at all, and in no way compares with the "c" in Sacramento which it does on other covers in my possession. In fact, I am a little bit shakey about this cover and I am therefore sending it to you and asking you to expertize it. If you are 100% sure it is OK in every way, please endorse it on the back and send me your bill.

The Chairman of the Expert Committee of the Western Cover Society went over it with me last night and we were pretty much in full agreement. He definitely believes it is a painted in job and when I told him I was going to send it to you before I paid for it, he said he did not mind if I told you what his views were. I do not know that any publicity has been given so far to the appointment of that Expert Committee, but Dr. Polland is the Chairman of it, and I happen merely to be a member, and, of course, our activity is limited to Western Covers as you can well imagine. Someone suggested a hookup between that and the Foundation and I told them I thought they should go it alone for a while to see how they got along. There is no fee, and no formality, or anything like that, but it is a service to fellow collectors and it will probably apply only to covers on which they can easily determine "impossible" and not on controversial subjects like this. To my way of thinking you are the last authority on an item of this kind. One thing we all know is that you will say just what you feel, what you see, and what you think -- regardless.

A funny thing happened with regard to that 24¢ '69 you expertized for Harry Keffler for which you billed him, or maybe I relayed it on to him. He claims that H. R. Harmer in London said if anyone was dissatisfied with an item he got, he would have to pay for his own expertization here. Do you think that is true? Harry passed the buck on to me for that. I merely said to him that I thought Harmer should stand it and he quoted the foregoing. It would seem rather an odd thing but I certainly did not want to send it to you or anyone else. I was satisfied it was bad and from the discussion we had already had it was rather obvious, but he was the one who

MARCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
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February 1, 1956

insisted, saying Harmer would have to have the condemnation from someone. I did not mind at all, for what you had told me before was worth far more than the fee and saved me from having an important fake in my collection, but I thought that was rather funny for either Harry, or Harmer, or both of them to say. I have no record of the charge here but I believe it was \$5 and I am enclosing that amount in my check along with what I owe you for two transparencies.

Things have certainly been happening since we exchanged letters and I cannot imagine why the time flies so fast. I feel very guilty about this neglect but one thing I wanted to tell you was that I finally got the early California cover from Washington. The October 1, 1851 cover with a strip of six of Plate I early 1¢ stamps -- and it is a beauty! Just imagine, that doctor in Washington beat me to the bid by \$5 in 1927 and I have been chasing it ever since -- and finally got it. That is the fun of the game, isn't it?

I have three files here full of correspondence which I have not answered but it is rather late to start in on some of it now. I am merely going to close this and enclose the cover to which I referred - the stamp and a half 12¢ bisect from Sacramento. I have another cover from Sacramento bearing just the bisect, and have other cancellations from Sacramento at the same period, but I am sure you have such also so you can make comparisons. The mark is not uncommon, but this one seems to be out of proportion and we all recognize the fact that the thickness of the stamp usually produces a clearer impression on the stamp than on the cover, but in this case it is extremely dim, in fact there is scarcely any impression. I shall be very eager to find out just what you think about it and what you see in it that I am sure I cannot see. I remember your saying that your strong lights, and lamps of different types would definitely show a painting job -- and you always seem to come up with the right answer on them even when they look perfect through an ordinary glass.

By the way, the final closing price on the 90¢ cover made those of us who were bidding \$3,000 or \$4,000 look perfectly silly, did it not? I figure that the cover was about \$2,500 and your

MERCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Page Five
February 1, 1956

report on it was about \$8,000. How do you balance it off?

No doubt the 2-1/2 12¢ to Europe reflected in a like manner.
The fellow who got it did get a dandy cover, didn't he?

I'll close now as it is very late and I hope time is found to
transcribe this letter early tomorrow so we can get it off
airmail to you.

With best wishes to you all.

next read
Sincerely yours

Edgar
Edgar B. Jessup
President and
General Manager

EBJ:B

*Another letter going today
with trunk in it*

Feb. 5, 1956.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup,
% MARCHANT
1475 Powell St.,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Edgar:

I was wondering why I had not heard from you for so long a period, but felt sure you were too busy to write.

Well, the Caspary second is past history and what a sale it was. First let me give you several facts. Mr. Rust never consulted me about the 90¢ 1860 cover and I had no idea that he would go after it. In fact, I thought Jack Dick would buy it though he too did not ask my advice. However, Bernard sent the cover to me last fall for my opinion and write-up and I guess he capitalized on the data I gave him. Perhaps the worst disappointed person was Em Krug. He really wanted this cover and he thought \$6,500 would get it for him.

Another point is this - I had no intimation of the lots you wanted or the ones you bought. I did not know that Ezra had any bids from you. There is no one I know who is as close-mouthed as Ezra. He never divulges anything to me and to anyone else in my opinion. Krug sat next to him at the sale and Em never knew where a single lot that Ezra bought was going. Ezra may have his faults but he never does any talking. He never tells me a thing nor gives me the name of any client of his. You have my word of honor on this and the same goes for Krug. He never tells Krug a thing.

Herewith I am returning the three covers that you enclosed. Here are some comments:

12¢ Bisect to Maine. I note you think(?) the use was July 1852. I wonder? I have a suspicion the use was 1853. What do you think? This cover is good as gold - genuine in every way.

12¢ Bisect cover to St. John - A rare cover - I authenticated it on the back for you - no fee - note my comment on the 1¢ 1851. Everything about this cover is OK.

12¢ Bisect cover - Caspary Lot 576. I made a very careful examination of this cover and in my opinion it is genuine - a triple 6¢ rate to New York. I carefully noted the points listed in your letter but I disagree - I believe the Sac. City postmark is genuine, both on the stamps and on the cover. Faint gray-black ink canceling a 12¢ 1851 is very apt to be as we see it on this pair. I believe it is possible that Caspary removed this pair and then replaced it and did not get it back in its proper place, as he did resort to such "monkey-business" as a number of covers in the sale are proof. As for example, the bisect strip of three to England. I wonder why he did such things? Was it to see if the stamps had defects? He was a very queer person - no doubt about that. I would bet a lot of his "unused o.g." 1847s are claned and regummed. Did he do this work or did he have someone do it for him? I have my own guess on this point.

But back to Lot 576. In my opinion, the cover is genuine and I have signed it on the back for you - no fee. I did not think it necessary to make a photograph by ultra-violet but if you still have any doubt about it, then return it

#2. Mr. Edgar B. Jessup - Feb. 5, 1956.

to me and I will make such a photograph and charge you \$5.00. This would be an enlarged 5 x 7 of the pair alone. If this is queer in any way it would mean a pair had been cleaned and put on this cover, because no one would use an unused pair and of course this was not a full pair with a half of one stamp cut off.

Re - Waterhouse 24¢ 1869 cover. When the Harmer firm sell lots with "extension" it means they will cancel a sale if convincing evidence is presented to justify same. They are of the opinion such an item is genuine, therefore, it is up to the buyer to prove they are wrong. It is up to the buyer to pay the expense of an examination. Keffer was merely the broker in the transaction and surely it is not up to the Broker to pay fees for examination of items he is commissioned to buy. I believe you will appreciate the fairness of the above. It is the accepted custom.

The Armitage cover. I do not know the facts re - the W. L. Moody - Colson row but there was a rumor that they had a dispute in the lobby of a Galveston Hotel and that Moody knocked the rat down. I am convinced that the effeminate Colson is "queer" and I can hardly imagine how anyone in that class could be honest or honorable. Why all the secrecy about that cover if he was sure it is genuine? And what a crime for the P.F. to issue a certificate stating it is genuine. You are one of the Trustees of the P.F. and you owe it to Philately to demand a full investigation and a repudication of the certificate that they issued on this cover. You should not stand idly by and permit such a thing to happen without the strongest kind of a protest. What does that bunch of NITWITS posing as EXPERTS know about such a cover as this? It is a joke and such stuff makes an absolute mockery of serious philatelic research work. I disagree with you entirely. It would be much better not to have any committee, than one composed of a bunch of amateurs who have no knowledge of many subjects they attempt to pass upon. It is criminal to issue certificates stating that Zareski's fakes are genuine. You should condemn such stuff in every way possible and you should enlist the help of other serious collectors who have large investments in their philatelic holdings. Here is Colson, a regular louse, chasing around with a fake cover and armed with a P.F. certificate stating it is genuine. Such a certificate has no more value than if it was signed by a corner newsboy. And your valued friend Louise Dale signs such things.

Re - the Caspary Sale -

Lot 407. According to my memo it went to "R.S." @ \$520.00. This was Bob Siegel. He buys for the Bakers in Indianapolis and he is as close as two peas in a pod to Jack Dick. I do not think the latter has much of an appreciation for an item such as this, whereas the Bakers go strong for anything rare such as #407. I am enclosing a photo print with my compliments of this cover and I can send you a slide if you would like to have one. Compared to other prices in this sale, this cover was a great bargain.

Lot 226. Top row pair -- Plate IV - It sold cheap. Congratulations. A rare pair and as rare as a pair of Type IA.

Lot 230. Also a nice strip and cheap. Note the plating description - "94-98 II" - I wonder which pane? Just imagine "Horsetown, Calif." Where was Fortgang and Neinken?

Lot 314. Congratulations on this. A double 10¢. I think the "Gadsen" covers are wonderful.

#3. Mr. Edgar B. Jessup - Feb. 5, 1956.

Lot 793. If you have any doubt about this, I will be glad to take a look at it.

Again 576. Not a paint job. The fakers cannot paint in any such a manner (to my knowledge).

I was delighted to learn that you eventually acquired the strip of six Plate One Early from the Washington Doctor. Is he still alive or did he die? I have even forgotten his name.

Thanks for your check for \$8.00.

With all good wishes -

As ever yours,

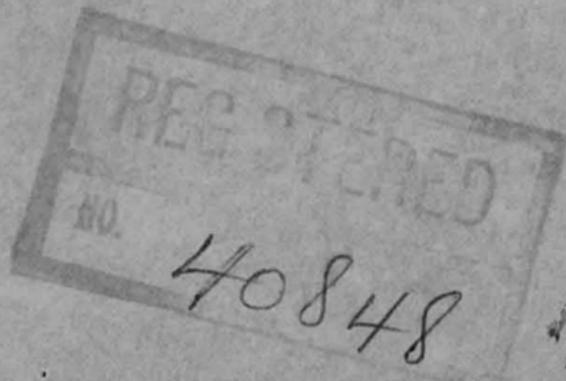
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MERCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.
1475 POWELL STREET
OAKLAND 8, CALIFORNIA



CORREO AEREO

REGISTERED

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

PAR 12
AVION

EDGAR B. JESSUP
1475 Powell St.
Oakland 8, Calif.

VIA AIR MAIL

Saturday -
Feb. 19, 1956.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup,
% MERCHANT
1475 Powell St.,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Ed:

Just a line to advise that I am in receipt of the 18¢ bisect Caspary cover and very carefully removed the pair from the cover by wetting the paper from the back and avoiding any moisture on the front of the pair. I made a photo by ultra-violet before removal. So far everything seems to be perfectly OK but I have not developed the plates. I wanted you to know that the face of this pair will not get wet so as to fade in the slightest degree the postmark on the stamps. I am inclined to believe this pair may have been off before and replaced as the sum seemed less inclined to loosen up than the genuine, however, on this point I may be wrong. Your cover will be mailed to you by slow Registered mail on Monday morning.

With regards -

As ever yours,

Feb. 19, 1956.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup,
% MERCHANT
1475 Powell St.,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Edgar:

Herewith your 18¢ cover. I have examined this as carefully as possible and I am convinced it is genuine in every way. I believe that the enlarged photos do not show any faking or monkey-business. Of course, it is grettable that the black ink of the Sac City was not intense black but we both know that that office used a pale gray black, hence the ink of the postmark on this cover is regular. I made three negatives by ultra-violet as you will note. The one of the piece of cover shows the removal of the pair and no sign of any removed marks underneath. The enlarged prints show (in my opinion) that the portion of the postmark on the cover is genuine. I studied each letter and these letters were handstamped, no question about that. They are not painted or retouched. I studied the letters "CITY" very carefully and while I thought I noted some peculiar points I am of the opinion everything is regular. I made three negatives and of one I enclose two prints - one a dark print, the other lighter. I also enclose three prints of the three covers.

Mildred and I plan to leave Tuesday for Norfolk and we expect to be gone ten days or possibly two weeks. In view of this, I dropped everything to make this examination for you rather than delay it until our return. Too bad we are unable to sit down side-by-side and discuss this 18¢ cover but were that possible I think we could see eye to eye on each point raised. Of course, I noticed the "C" of Calif. but I think the lower part was due to the strike. This cover cost you a lot of money but is there another 18¢ known? If so, I have no record of it.

Thanks for your check.

With best wishes -

As ever yours,

Feb. 13, 1956.

Dr. W. Scott Polland,
Albert Bldg.,
San Rafael, Calif.

Dear Doctor:

Yours of the 8th received.

I must confess that I am not familiar with the correspondence you mentioned, that is, I do not recall and record of it. It is possible I have seen covers from it but if so they failed to make any impression. I do not recall that Edgar ever called my attention to such a correspondence.

Re - the Caspary sale. Edgar sent me the Sacramento bisect cover and I made a very careful examination of it but I could not find sufficient evidence to condemn it. I wrote Edgar at length regarding it and no doubt by this time he has advised you. In my humble opinion Caspary did a lot of "monkey-business" with items in his collection. He removed stamps from covers and replaced them, and probably "monkeyed" with them while he had them off cover. I know full well that some of his "unused o.g." 10¢ 1847 were pen-cleaned with drug store mucilage. He was supposed to have been "very smart" and I am sure he was. I can hardly believe he would have bought mint forty-sevens unless he was quite sure they were "mint." Some people don't like "pencancels" - and much prefer "unused o.g." He could have been that way. He was not the great God in my opinion that some have pictured him.

Re - Lot 390 in the Siegel sale. I think this is quite an interesting cover and that it was quite a bargain. If not too much trouble will you please send it to me at my expense? I judge this was carried by W.F. messenger outside of the mail Via Nicaragua with the 6¢ rate paid. Quite a cover. I thought there were a lot of bargains in this Siegel sale. Quite some contrast to the fantastic prices of the Caspary.

Again re - the Siegel cover. No, I have no record of it and I do not know where all the material in the Siegel sale came from. Bob certainly digs up some nice things. With auction competition so keen I wonder how he does it. Harmer Rooke's sales are not what they were formerly. The Siegel sale demonstrated that there is a difference between items from a big name collection and one of no name. Edgar's Sac City bisect would not have brought \$400.00 had it been in the Siegel sale. It is my opinion that all the publicity about the "big prices" is very harmful to philately.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

MATTHEW. E. HAZELTINE, M.D.
W. SCOTT POLLAND, M.D.
HOWARD HAMMOND JR., M.D.
ARNOLD A. NUTTING, M.D.
AUSTIN W. LEA, M.D.
JOHN H. CARR, M.D.

ALBERT BUILDING
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE GLENWOOD 4-2451

Dear Mr Ashbrook:-

2-15-56

Thanks for yours of
the 13th. Enclosed is the Seigel Sole
cover. I personally prefer the covers
I got in this sale to those I missed,
by many dollars, in the Casparay sale.
What a build up!

If I am not mistaken, this
same cover sold many years ago in a
Harmer Roche auction for 155 - What
has happened to Gordon Harmer? H. R.
Harmer seems to be way ahead of all
of the auctioneers, but John Fox and
Seigel are better than Harmer Roche.
Of course John and Bob will pay retail
prices at times for good material.
I saw Edgar last Friday night,
also Lucy Simpson, Al Rowell, Tom
Brenner, Walter Fuchstad and a number

MATTHEW. E. HAZELTINE, M.D.
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of others, Edgar had the Sacramento
direct from the Caspary Mill, and as
you say, the stamp could have been
lifted and replaced. If so, Caspary did
a miserable job, resulting in the letters
being out of line and encroaching on
each other, where there should be a
small space, as between the edge of the stamp
and the envelope.

Phillips' remarkable collection of
Westerns was sold by his son to three
collectors in Los Angeles last month. The
boy got hard up for some cash and the
collectors were ready for him. Clifford and
Parker got the Express copies, Meyerson
got the Wells Fargo - 1500 different, and
tens - 800 different. Nice material, and
we are all going for ourselves up here in
that the boy decided to live in Los Angeles
rather than San Francisco. Oddly enough

MATTHEW. E. HAZELTINE, M.D.
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Most of the ^{best} Wells Fargo went from Meyerson
to a friend of mine in Pasadena by
the name of Stanley Herbuck. Herbuck
now has the finest collection of Wells Fargo
in existence, as I have been selling him
superb items for many years. In order
to acquire the best of the Phillips material
I helped him finance the deal. He obtained
about 200 new agencies in superb condition
from the 1500 that Meyerson bought.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Walter Polland

Feb. 20, 1956.

Dr. W. Scott Pllland,
Albert Bldg.,
San Rafael, Calif.

Dear Doctor:

Herewith the Wells Fargo cover to Hamburg. This is certainly a most interesting study. I made a regular photo of it and also color slides front and back. Here is some data regarding its passage that I used in making the photos.

This cover may have sold in a Harmer Rooke sale years ago as you state, but if so, I failed to make a record of it. What I have badly needed for years past is a couple of philatelic record clerks to keep track of all the items that I would like to have recorded. Many items that I did not think were of special interest years ago turned out to be very rare, etc.

Re - Edgar's 18¢ Sac City bisect cover. I have just finished making an exhaustive study of it and he will no doubt give you the details and show you the photo prints. After a stamp, and especially a pair, has been on a cover for many years, to remove it may result in minor shrinkage that makes it impossible to replace in its original position. This is especially true if the paper of the folded letter is very thin. I am positive there was no paint work in connection with this cover. Every bit of evidence proves this point.

Thanks for the data re - the sale of the Phillips collection. Very interesting. Incidentally, Edgar never gives me any information like this.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

(39-7)
(B-745)
(A95-27-32)

For Black & White
Photo — See B745

For Color Slides — See
A95-27 To 32

Front & Back

39-7

From
Siegel
Sale
2/1
1956
Lot
390

Adora J. Harris
R. D. #1 - Berwick, Pa.

February 9, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I thank you for your very nice letter received today with all the information that I need so much. I just haven't been able to buy some of the books that could help me. I do wish to tell you that we regret very much your not being able to go to Fipsel, but I am hoping that maybe we can make the trip to Fort Thomas some time soon.

But back to stamps again! Referring to the #12 cover - I should like to have it guaranteed and signed. I noticed that in the Caspary Sale Lot #449 - a cover of the same correspondence - which happens to be the first I've seen like mine.

I am also enclosing a #95 which I would like to have you examine. But first, I will tell you what has happened to date regarding it. It was offered to me to buy and at a normal price (not too low, nor too high) - I refused it without a certificate of guarantee and my dealer said he would gladly send it to the A. P. S. Expertization Service. My dealer did this and received a letter from Mr. Hoake saying the stamp and cancel were genuine and to send in the fee of \$8.00 for a certificate. This was

2.
also done; whereupon a letter was received from A. P. S. stating that the full committee could not agree, so no certificate would be issued. The stamp was returned and my dealer has given it ^{to} me after I asked them if I could send it on to you for your opinion.

I would like to believe it is genuine, naturally, since it makes a very pretty item but I don't want it at all if it's not O. K. Will you please sign it on the back if you are satisfied and then I can reassure my dealer, or not.

I also noticed a brown line running from lower right, vertically up the side of the design. What would this be?

There I go again asking so many questions so will close and await your reply. Please tell me how much I owe you, too, so I may send check.

Sincerely,
C. Dora J. Hamus

Feb. 14, 1956.

Mrs. C. Dora Hanus,
R.D. #1,
Berwick, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Hanus:

Yours of the 9th received and I am returning herewith your 5¢ 1856 cover to Halifax and also the 5¢ 1867 with the blue star. The 5¢ 1856 cover is OK - This was the rate by the Ocean Mail to Halifax and was only to the border. The "5" was the Nova Scotia postage due of 5 pence. By the land route the rate was 10¢ U.S. to destination. I have signed the cover on the back for you.
There is no fee.

Re - the 5¢ 1867(?). I do not like this star nor am I favorably impressed with the grill, but the latter may be OK. I could make a photograph by ultra-violet to see if there was any evidence of a removed cancelation. The fakers remove pen and other lightly struck cancels and apply their counterfeits and in most cases a photo by ultra-violet will show up the faking. This blue ink appears to me to be modern, not of the eighteen sixties. I believe it is an aniline as it shows thru the paper on the reverse. If I made a ultra-violet exposure I would have to charge you \$5.00 and it might be money thrown away.

Personally I do not think much of expert opinions by the Expert Committee of the N.Y. Philatelic Foundation. As far as 19th U.S. is concerned the majority of their opinions are pure guess-work which means they are wrong more times than right. I think even less of opinions by the A.P.S.

The crooks over in Europe spend a lifetime perfecting their fraudulent work. They have all the tools of modern science to assist them. Removing a cancelation and adding a fake is mere child's play. I have had a world of experience studying their work and their methods, and I am quite sure it is risky business paying fancy prices for off cover stamps with rare cancels. I would have to be awfully sure before I would pass a genuine a copy such as this 5¢ grill(?).
No fee, but you can if you wish, refund the return postage.

Sometime this spring or summer Mrs. A and I would like for Mr. H and you to pay us a visit. I believe you would enjoy browsing around in my work shop.

With kindest regards - Cordially yours,

8.10.64		9.29.64 9.30.64 10.2.64 10.4.64 10.6.64		12.23.64	
8.13.64		10.12.64		1.3.65	
8.14.64		10.21.64		1.12.65 1.22.65	
8.23.64		10.25.64 ?		1.25.65 1.31.65 2.6.65 2.7.65	
9.1.64		11.6.64 ?		2.7.65 2.12.65 2.13.65	
9.3.64 ?		11.2.64 11.10.64		2.18.65	
9.9.64		11.19.64		3.4.65	
9.14.64 ?		11.23.64 11.25.64		3.6.65 3.27.65	
9.23.64 ?		12.2.64 12.8.64 12.12.64		3.27.65 4.2.65 4.15.65 4.21.65 5.1.65	
9.28.64		12.16.64			

Feb. 20, 1956.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Can you give me some information on the following Valentine cover? It has two (2) 10¢ 1847 - postmarked New York Feb 18 - stamps canceled by the red square grid, and it is addressed to

Miss Juliet Whaley - Lakeville
Livingston Co., N.Y.

I am informed that with the enclosed valentine it weighs over one-half ounce.

Is this unique?

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

LAW OFFICES OF
KOENIG AND POPE
818 OLIVE STREET
ST. LOUIS 1, Mo.

DELOS G. HAYNES
(1887-1950)
LLOYD R. KOENIG
JOHN D. POPE III
IRVING POWERS
STUART N. SENNIGER
DONALD G. LEAVITT

FORMERLY
HAYNES AND KOENIG
TELEPHONE-CENTRAL 1-0109
CABLE ADDRESS
PATENT

February 17, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you very much for yours of the 15th. I'm sorry I wasn't early enough to acquire the Stark 1847 Valentine cover. I have written a "blind" inquiry to Harry Keffler on the off chance that he may still (or again) have it. However, if you should happen to have another in the future I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to buy it.

By a most peculiar coincidence, after writing you I was offered and promptly bought a large sized Valentine cover, including the enclosure, on which are two copies of the 10¢ 1847. Unfortunately it's not a fair but since it has been stated in print for a long time that Mrs. Diamond's example was the only one known with a 10¢ 1847, I suppose I shouldn't complain. It's postmarked New York, Feb. 18, the stamps are cancelled ^{and tied} with the square grid, and it's addressed to "Miss Juliet Maley, Lakeville, Livingston Co., N.Y." It weighs over 1/2 oz. since I put it on the scale.

We've been looking through our accumulation of information on 1847s but we don't seem to have any record of this cover turning up before so perhaps it's come to light just recently.

Sincerely,
John Pope

Feb. 20, 1956.

Mr. John D. Pope, III,
818 Olive St.,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Pope:

Just a line to acknowledge yours of the
17th.

Mrs. Ashbrook and I plan to leave to-
morrow and I am trying to clean my desk.

I will keep your letter before me and
see if I can find any record of the valentine cover
you recently acquired. I do not recall - offhand -
such a cover. If I have any record of it I will
advise you later.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Stan Dyk Mac Bride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

February 28th, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 No. Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

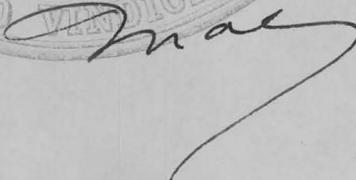
I've heard about that Valentine cover used with the two 10¢ 1847 stamps, - but that is all! I don't know who owns it or where it is, - and I certainly would like to know!

Yes, if it exists as reported, it is unique. The only other known Valentine use of a 10¢ 1847 is the famous cover which Mrs. Diamont owned and which was sold at a Barr & Company auction sale a couple of years ago. Harry Keffer bought that one at I think \$1,550., with me bidding him up on it. I have always understood it went to his prize customer Miss Katherine Matthies.

If you get any more information on this new one do keep me advised. Also, if you ever see it please photograph it and its enclosure and be sure I get prints.

My best!

Sincerely,



MacB/HK

P.S. Don't forget to send me a print of that 5¢ 1847 cover with the Augusta, Ga.-Confederate cancel.

March 9, 1956.

Mr. John D. Pope, III,
815 Olive St.,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Pope:

Re - yours of the 17th regarding your valentine cover with the two 10¢ 1847. I searched my records but the only valentine cover of which I had any record was the Mrs. Diamint cover with a single and long regarded as unique. I wrote my friend MacBride and he assured me that while he had heard that a valentine cover did exist with two 10¢ 1847, that he had never seen it and had no idea who owned such an item if it actually existed. He further stated that if such a cover existed it was undoubtedly unique. He stated that if I had any record of it he would like very much to have a photograph. I am sure I would also like to have a photograph. Would it be too much of an imposition to request you to send it to me so that I could photograph it?

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

March 22, 1956.

Mr. John D. Pope, III,
418 Olive St.,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Pope:

Here is a photo print of a valentine cover that belonged to MacBride some years ago. I thought perhaps you would like to have it for future reference. It is my recollection that the valentine was enclosed. A valentine cover with a R.R. must be most unusual.

Sincerely yours,

March 23, 1956.

Mr. John D. Pope, III,
818 Olive St.,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Pope:

Our letters crossed. Thanks very much for the photo prints of your unique valentine cover and enclosure. You have my word that I will not show this print to anyone. It was indeed kind of you to give me such a complete description. I do hope that you will give the A.P. an article on 1847 valentines and illustrate this beautiful cover.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

PUBLIC AUCTION SALES

APPRAISALS

PRIVATE SALES

HOLLYWOOD 9-5032

300

WILSHIRE STAMP COMPANY



Postage Stamps For Collectors

NEW ADDRESS
WILSHIRE STAMP
COMPANY
409 No. Larchmont Blvd. IA
LOS ANGELES 4, CALIFORNIA

MARCH 6, 1956

MR. STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. FT. THOMAS AVENUE
FT. THOMAS, KY.

DEAR SIR:

ENCLOSED HERewith PLEASE FIND FOUR COPIES OF THE 1857-61 1c. BLUE, AND TWO COPIES OF 3c PINK ON TWO COVERS (ONE PATRIOTIC); ALSO A 10c GREEN ON COVER.

WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR EXPERTISING THE 1c BLUES AS FOR TYPES, MARKING UNDER EACH STAMP WHICH TYPE IT IS; WE WOULD ALSO LIKE YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE 3c ON COVERS, IF THEY ARE #64 PINK. 10c GREEN FOR TYPE, AND IF POSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF THE RED CANCEL. ON THE COVER.

WE WILL REMIT ^{*four fee*} IMMEDIATELY UPON THE RECEIPT OF YOUR INVOICE. THANK YOU.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

WILSHIRE STAMP COMPANY

BY *[Signature]*

BG:NG

ENCLS: STAMPS TO BE EXPERTISED.

UNDER AUTHORITY OF
ROBERT E. HANNEGAN, POSTMASTER GENERAL

91

March 10, 1956.

Wilshire Stamp Company,
409-11 No. Larchmont Blvd.,
Los Angeles 4, Calif.

Gentlemen:

Herewith I am returning the items contained in yours of the 6th, as follows:

1¢ 1857 -- pair and two singles. Types noted on card, as follows:

Single - Type IV

" " V

Pair " V

3¢ 1861 cover. Patriotic soldier's letter. The stamp is not the Pink, but the Rose.

3¢ 1861 cover with the Blood Local to Pittsburgh, Pa. The stamp is not the Pink, but the Rose.

10¢ 1855 on Ladies Envelope. The stamp is the imperforate Type III. The cover is addressed to Oakville - Canada (West). The red marking is not a postmark but rather the U.S.-Canadian transit marking and reads, "U. STATES." The origin is in manuscript and reads, "CLARENDON Sep 8" (1856). Presumably New York State.

My fee for the above examination is \$3.00.

Sincerely yours,

H. SCHUYLER COLE
4700 WILLOW HILLS LANE
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

March 6, 1956
REGISTERED MAIL

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

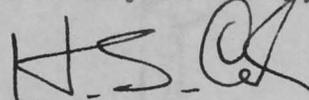
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Attached herewith is a strip of three of the 1¢ 1851's which I spoke to you about over the telephone today.

I assume that these are probably not Plate III, but I did notice evidence of surface plate cracks, which is one of the characteristics of this Plate. If these should, fortunately, turn out to be Plate III, I would appreciate having you sign them. If not, for my own information, I would like to know what Plate they are.

If you will kindly return these to my above address, with your bill, I would appreciate it very much.

Yours very sincerely,


H. S. Cole

C:D

att.

P.S. I noticed a small defect in the top of the right hand stamp. Otherwise, it looks sound.

March 8, 1956.

Mr. H. S. Cole,
4700 Willow Hills Lane,
Cincinnati 27, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Cole:

Herewith the One Cent 1851 H.S. of three as per yours of the 6th. I regret to inform you that this strip is not from Plate 3 but rather a "B" relief from Plate One Early. This is the typical pale blue of the majority of prints from that plate and I judge this strip, from the shade and sharp impression, was probably printed along about August or September of 1851. What you may have thought might be some surface cracks are doubtless fine plate scratches on the highly polished surface of that plate.

Aside from the small tear in the right hand stamp, I consider this quite a nice item because strips from this plate with full margins are far from common.

There is no fee for the above.

Sincerely yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. BOX 31
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Feb. 17th, 1956.

Dr. Clarence W. Hennan,
7602 Paxton Ave.,
Chicago 49, Ill.

Dear Doc:

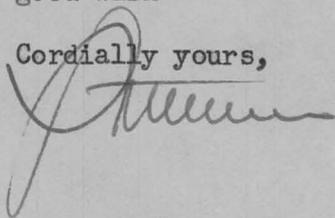
I am wondering if you saw an article by R. Salles of Paris that was read before a French Philatelic Society last May (1955). It was entitled, "The British Marks of Exchange with France." This had to do with the familiar "G.B. 1F-60c," the "ART 12" "ART 13" and a lot of others which he illustrated and described. I have a translation in English which I will be pleased to loan you in case you did not see it.

What about Chas. Jewell of London? Is he still alive and do you hear from him?

How are you?

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,



over

Dear Stan,

Yes, I saw the article by
R. Galles.

I heard from Jewel at
Christmas.

I am in the hospital in
bad shape.

Sincerely
Blair

x

CLARENCE HENNAN, M. D.

7602 Paxton Avenue

Chicago 49, Illinois



Mr. Stanley Ashbrook,

P.O. Box 31

33 North Fort Thomas Ave.,

Fort Thomas, Kentucky,

March 10 1956

Dr. Clarence W. Hennan Dies

ON February 28, 1956, *Dr. Clarence W. Hennan*, surgeon and stamp expert, passed away at Michael Rees Hospital in Chicago, at the age of 61, following a long illness. He was a 1917 graduate of the Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery, and was on the staff of the Jackson Park Hospital.

One of philately's great leaders, and a veteran collector, he will be much missed. He began collecting stamps about 1903, and soon turned to stamps related to Christopher Columbus. His Latin American collections, for which he had received many high awards in national and international exhibitions, grew out of this early interest. His particular fields were the stamps of Haiti, on which he had written a series of articles for the *American Philatelist*, and which will soon be published in book form; the Quetzal issues of Guatemala; and the classic issues of Costa Rica, Honduras, Dominican Republic, and Salvador, a group which he recently showed in NORWEX (Oslo, Norway, 1955), where he won the Grand Award in the Court of Honor, as well as in STOCKHOLMIA '55 (Stockholm, Sweden, 1955), where it was exhibited Hors Concours. Dr. Hennan had also entered these collections in the forthcoming FIPEX. His Brazil collection of the Dom Pedro issues was particularly famous, and he had formed several other noted collections, including one of the early Netherlands, which has been described as the largest in the world. His home city of Chicago was represented in his collections with Chicago Locals and Cancellations.

In addition to the *A. P.* articles, already mentioned, Dr. Hennan had writ-

ten many others for the philatelic press. He was a member of a number of philatelic organizations, with numerous honorary memberships. He had been a member of the *Collectors Club* of New York since 1925, and in 1953 was awarded the *Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award* by the unanimous vote of the Board of Governors of that organization. He was a Fellow of the *Royal Philatelic Society, London*; a past president of the *A.P.S.*; a founder member and president of the *Chicago Collectors Club*; a member and past president of the *Chicago Philatelic Society*, and a member of the *S.P.A.* He was also a member of the *Chicago Historical Society*, and past president of the *Chicago Society of Industrial Medicine and Surgery*.

Dr. Hennan had been a judge at many philatelic exhibitions in the U. S. and other countries, and otherwise had been active in the promotion of the hobby.

He had been ailing since April 1953, when he entered the hospital with a severe case of virus pneumonia, followed by complications, from which he had not recovered when a growth was discovered that proved to be cancer, and it was this which eventually brought death. Thus philately has lost another of her "greats."

Dr. Hennan is survived by his widow, *Kathleen*; and a son, "*Bille*," who is also a doctor; and a grandchild, *Judith Ann*. Burial from Corcoran's Funeral Home in Chicago took place Saturday, March 3rd, at Oak Woods.

UN Announces Last Day Sale of Certain Issues

THE U.N. Postal Administration has

1956 U. S. Issues

- Jan. 10—Staunton, Va.—7c Woodrow Wilson. (New Ordinary Series.)
 Jan. 17—Philadelphia, Pa.—3c Benjamin Franklin 250th Anniversary.
 Feb. 22—Mt. Vernon, Va.—1½c Mount Vernon. (New Ordinary Series.)
 Mar. 19—Paterson, N. J.—\$5 Alexander Hamilton. (New Ordinary Series.)
 April 5—Booker Washington Birthplace, Va.—3c B. T. Washington Centennial.
 April 28—New York, N. Y.—11c FIPEX Souvenir Sheet
 April 30—New York, N. Y.—3c FIPEX
 May 2—New York, N. Y.—6c FIPEX Air Mail Envelope
 May 4—New York, N. Y.—2c FIPEX Postal Card

* * *

The following stamps in the REGULAR SERIES will be issued, but date and place of sale have not been announced:

- 9c The Alamo
 10c Independence Hall
 20c Monticello

* * *

The following Commemoratives have been scheduled, but date and place of sale have not been announced:

- 3c Labor Day
 3c 200th Anniversary of Nassau Hall (Princeton University)
 3c Booker T. Washington Centennial
 3c Wildlife Conservation (three stamps)
 Pure Food & Drug Act 50th Anniversary

1956 U. N. ISSUES

- Feb. 17—3c and 8c I.T.U.
 Apr. 6—3c and 8c W.H.O.
 Oct. 24—3c and 8c U.N. Day
 Dec. 9—3c and 8c Human Rights Day

All Special Offers in Mint Condition

UNITED NATIONS, #12, full sheet \$12.00
 AUSTRIA: B11/29 @ 95c, B30/49 @ 95c, B50/56 @ \$1.90, B57/65 @ \$2.10, B66/70 @ \$1.85, B71/76 @ 65c, B77/80 @ \$1.40, B81/86 @ \$2.95, B93/98 @ \$4.20, B132/137 @ \$3.75, C1/3 @ \$1.30, C4/11 @ \$1.20, C12/31 @ \$7.25, B138/141 @ \$3.85.

Other earlier and later issues of this country gladly sent on approval or prices quoted.

ROTARIES—SYRIA, imperf. color changes—4 values complete @ \$4.25; sheets, color changes, 6 values @ \$14.75; together 10 @ \$18.50.

Now Listed for the First Time in Scott's 1956 Cat.
 SPAIN: 7LC2/3 @ \$2.00, 7LC4 @ 90c, 7LE5 @ \$1.30, 1L1/1L12 @ \$2.00, 14L13/28, 14LE1 @ \$5.00.

FREE DETAILS ON OUR NEW ISSUE SERVICE—the OLDEST ESTABLISHED IN AMERICA—ANY COUNTRIES ACCEPTABLE.

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299 Madison Ave. (41 St.) N. Y. 17, N. Y.

MINT BRITISH

SILVER JUBILEES

Australia	\$2.00	Great Britain	\$ 2.20
Barbados	1.90	Hong Kong .....	.75
Basutoland .....	.75	Mauritius	7.90
Bechuanaland .....	.75	Montserrat	2.50
British Guiana	1.40	Nauru .....	.75
British Solomon	2.25	Newfoundland .....	.70
Caymans	1.20	New Zealand	1.20
Falkland	1.20	New Guinea .....	.35
Gold Coast	2.50	Nigeria	1.25
Gilbert & Ellice	4.50	Niue	1.10

SILVER WEDDINGS

Great Britain	\$3.00	Nigeria	\$1.10
Morocco Agencies	2.00	North Borneo	2.75
Bahrain	4.50	North Rhodesia	3.50
British Honduras	7.50	Nyasaland	1.90
British Solomon	1.20	St. Vincent	3.15
Dominica	2.50	Sarawak	2.40
Falkland	12.50	Seychelles	1.05
Fiji	1.00	Somaliiland .....	.80
Grenada	2.90	Sierra Leone	3.50
Hong Kong	1.45	Singa ore	2.75
Mauritius	3.40	Trinidad-Tobago	5.25

Send stamped envelope for free price list of British Empire. For new issues try our service—all stamps on approval. References necessary.

Service charge of 25c fee

HERRICK STAMP

43 HERRICK DRIVE

Phone CEder

the Green Room of Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute, 312 Genesee

FEB. 25, 1956

MR. STANLEY B. ASHBROOK —

PAID 250

DEAR SIR —

PLEASE FOR GIVE ME FOR WRITING TO
YOU DIRECTLY CONCERNING AUTHENTICATION.

THE ENCLOSED ITEM HAS INTRIGUED ME
FOR QUITE SOME TIME. I AM UNABLE TO
IDENTIFY THIS STAMP BY ANY OF YOUR CHARTS
OR DESCRIPTIONS. IT SEEMS TO BE A COMMON
TYPE II BECAUSE OF RECUT TOP LINE — BUT, I
HAVE NEVER SEEN OR HEARD OF RECUT TOP
SCROLLS — IRREGARDLESS OF THE HEAVY
RECUTS I HAVE THE OPINION IT IS A LESS
DISTINCT TYPE IB. I CAN FIND NO EVIDENCE
OF PAINTING OR EXTENSIVE REPAIR AND DO NOT
BELIEVE IT IS A SKINNED PROOF.

WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR EXAMINING
THIS ITEM AND GIVING YOUR VALUED OPINION.
PLEASE BILL ME ACCORDINGLY.

MANY THANKS & BEST REGARDS

Ernest C. Owens

ERNEST C. OWENS
507 BOSTWICK DR.,
COLLEGE PARK, GA.

REFS:

BANK OF GA.

APS # 30860

SPA # 17961

3F '51-'57 UNIT #274

Form 3817
Rev. 8-53

Post Office Department

Received from:

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

P. O. BOX 31

33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE

FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed

to Mr Ernest C Owens
502 Bostwick Drive
College Park Geo

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

250

March 3, 1956.

Mr. Ernest C. Owens,
502 Bostwick Drive,
College Park, Ga.

Dear Mr. Owens:

Herewith your 1¢ 1851 as per yours of the 25th. I have been away from home for two weeks and found your letter on my return yesterday.

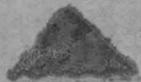
Your stamp has had the top margin added and the whole top part of the design is hand painted. This stamp is from Plate 2 and was a relief "B." If you have my One Cent book you can refer to an illustration of the Plate 2 - "B" relief. Put the stamp in carbon tetrochloride and you will note the added part at top. Whether this is an unused copy or a cleaned copy I am not prepared to state. To be sure one way or the other would require a photograph by ultra-violet ray and for such I charge \$5.00. I do not think your stamp would be worth this expense. May I add this comment? I think it is a great mistake to enclose stamps in any covering. The old ink and paper require air.

My fee for the above is \$2.50.

Sincerely yours,

PAID
MAR - 8 1956

PAID
MAR - 8 1956



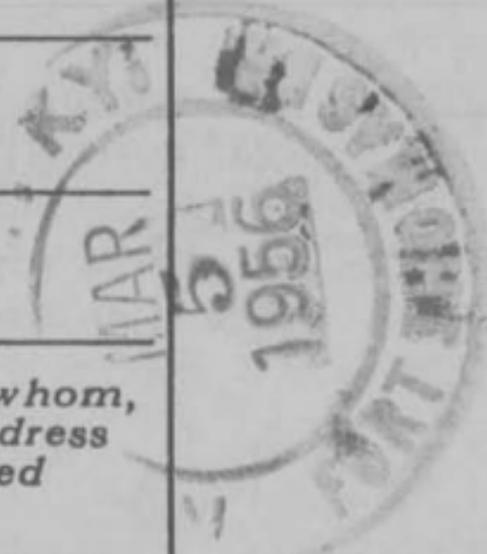
ERNEST C. OWENS
507 BOSTWICK DR.
COLLEGE PARK, GA.



MR. STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P.O. Box 31,
33 N. FORT THOMAS AVE,
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 511361

SENT TO	EZRA D. COLE	POSTMARK OR DATE
STREET AND NO.	NYACK, N. Y.	
CITY AND STATE		
<i>If you want a return receipt, check which</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>7¢ shows to whom and when delivered</i>	

POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:

15-cent certified mail fee

First-class or airmail postage

Either return receipt fee (*optional*)

Special-delivery fee (*optional*)

2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.



March 4, 1956.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack, N.Y.

Dear Ez:

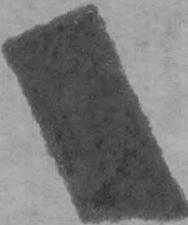
Just back from Norfolk with a mountain
of mail -- Here are the two covers as per yours of the
20th of Feb.

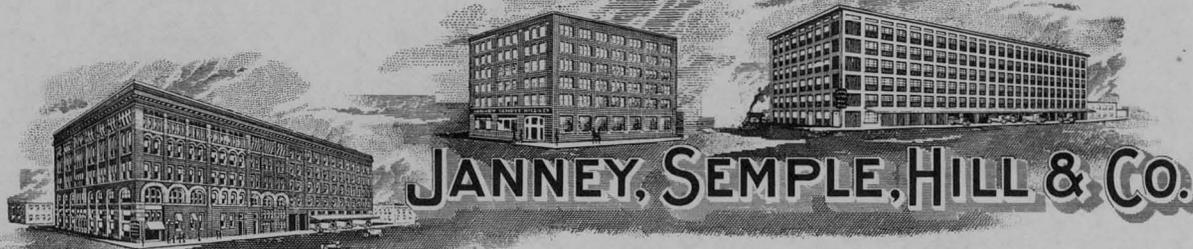
Did you note the "Way" is signed,
"Corning & Co." -- and glass was mentioned? What is
the manuscript town? Way 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ was 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ postage plus
1¢ Way Fee due.

The July 1, 1845 cover is nice -- I made
a photo. I believe the correction from "5" to "10"
was made Geneva N.Y. rather than N.Y. City. This is
odd for a receiving office to correct a rate. Is
Geneva over 300 miles from N.Y. City?

Regards.

Yours etc.,





JANNEY, SEMPLE, HILL & Co.

22-26 SECOND STREET So.
MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINN.



TRADE MARK

February 27, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave.
P.O.Box 31
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

As soon as the colored slide of the Caspary cover has been taken, please forward it to

H.R. Harmer, Inc.
6 West 48th Street
New York 36, New York

immediately. They intend to send it to their overseas client on arrival, and I don't want to lose the sale.

Yours truly,

Henry W Hill

H W HILL :s

HENRY W. HILL
HILLSWOOD, ROUTE 3
WAYZATA, MINNESOTA

2-24-56

Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O.Box 31
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave
Ft. Thomas, Ky

Dear Stan;

Here is the 4,300.00 cover I have written you about and taken a lot of kidding over.

Just the same if I can come out clean with a small profit I will buy any thing any time. Please take a color photo of it and return it as soon as possible.

If the sale is consumated, I shall take the proceeds and fly to Brussels to attend the Consul Klep Sale. I have everything in readiness, passport and all except smallpox shots and they will be easy to get before I leave. I am trying to convince Paul Rohloff to go with me. He has never been abroad and this would be good indoctrination for him to keep me company. I will be in Chicago the week of the 28th and will return home March 3.

My first 200 books are to be delivered to me tomorrow and as soon as I get them numbered I will send you one for your library. I like the looks of them. I know there will be some unfavorable comments from many quarters. However I have done my best, and with the work involved I doubt if I shall try again. I would appreciate any comments from you about it.

Here is another 100.00 bill. Put it to what use you want and dont try to return it.

Very Sincerely

Henry

VIA AIR MAIL

REGISTERED

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

P.O.Box 31

8205

33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave

Fort Thomas,

Registered

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ky



HENRY W. HILL
HILLSWOOD, ROUTE 3
WAYZATA, MINNESOTA



March 3, 1956.

H. R. Harmer, Inc.,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Attention: Mr. Fred T. Buck

Dear Mr. Buck:

At the request of Mr. Henry W. Hill of
Minneapolis, I am enclosing the 5¢ 1856 cover which
he purchased in the January Caspary sale, same being
Lot 7A55.

With my kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

March 3, 1956.

Mr. Henry W. Hill,
20-26 - 2nd St., South,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Henry:

Upon our return yesterday from our trip to Norfolk occupying two weeks, I found yours of the 26th and 27th, which accounts for this tardy acknowledgement. I am indeed sorry because of the delay and do trust it will not cause you any inconvenience.

I made color slides of the 5¢ 1856 cover and also regular in black and white. I will try and send a color slide as requested to Harmer as soon as possible but I fear there will be a delay in the processing of two to three weeks. The Eastman Co. are not permitted by Court action to process direct from consumer so I have to send my color films to the Cincinnati Store and they have the processing done, and I seldom get my slides back in less time than three weeks. Later on I am going to do my own processing and then there will be very little delay - however, such work requires about two hours per roll of 36.

Henry, this certainly is a wonderful cover and I am sorry you did not purchase the preceding lot which went to Cole. The two were to the same address and dated within a few days. They would have made a wonderful pair - a single and a double rate. I suppose you noticed that both of your pairs are from the bottom row, so I assume they were originally a block of four. I will see if this is true when I make prints and cut them up. I will make enlarged black and white of the pairs.

I note you may go over to the Klep sale. I think you would be wise to do so as he had some nice things and there will surely be some bargains, (I hope). He took my Service up to the time of his death and I sold him covers from the Brooks and Krug collections. I hope you can persuade Paul to go with you. Incidentally, his son lives in this country and I had a letter from him last month.

Henry, your book was here on my return. So far I have only had time to glance thru it but it is a fine piece of work and I sincerely congratulate you. Just as soon as I can get a bit caught up I will go thru it carefully. Thanks very much for the copy and also a million thanks for the hundred. It will come in mighty handy after all the expense of our vacation.

Later --At this point I talked to you on the phone and as requested I will forward the cover to Buck, care H.R. Harmer first thing Monday morning.

Please keep me advised re - anything you hear about Jack Dick.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

March 10, 1956.

Mr. Henry W. Hill,
20-26 - 2nd St., South,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Henry:

I enclose two prints herewith. I regret that these do not show the full margins of the pairs. This, because of the white against white envelope -- not enough contrast. Note my memos on the photo of the cover giving measurements of bottom margins.

I had a letter from Buck stating that the cover had been received.

So far I have not received a catalogue of the Klep sale.

With best wishes --

Cordially yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS

H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H · R · HARMER, Inc.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W. I.
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ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

7th March, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

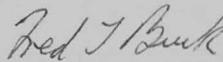
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Very many thanks for sending on to us at the request of Mr. Henry
W. Hill Lot 455 of the second Caspary auction - the 5c 1856 cover.

With best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.



Director

MHM/mm

WESTERN COVER SOCIETY

This is to Certify that

~~HONORARY~~ STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

is a member in good standing in this Society

Expires _____

Honorary Life Member No. 2

No. 2

M. C. Kathan Issuing Officer
President

Sunday, Feb. 5th 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

It is with pleasure that I inform you that at our last meeting you were elected to become an honorary member of Western Cover Society for life. Our constitution and by-laws provide that we can elect one person in any one year to become an honorary life member without dues. Since our organization, Henry Chaloner has been the only one so elected in recognition of the many services rendered to the Society so unselfishly. You have now become the second member so elected in recognition of your many contributions to philately in general and our field of collecting in particular.

We sincerely hope you will enjoy the privileges so granted and we assure you we value greatly your association with us. With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely

M. C. Nathan, President W.C.S.

Your Honorary life Membership Card enclosed.

Feb. 20, 1956.

Mr. M. C. Nathan,
President, Western Cover Society,
15 Manderly Road,
San Rafael, Calif.

Dear Mr. Nathan:

Your letter of the 5th was a most pleasant surprise and I can assure you that I feel highly honored and indeed most grateful. My thanks to the members of your Board, to you personally and to the membership in conferring an Honorary Life Membership in the Society upon me.

Sincerely yours,

sy
syvester colby
INCORPORATED
505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

296

united states stamps - covers - departments - revenues - accessories - auctions - philatelic literature - appraisals - departments - covers - united states stamps

February 17, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.
33 Nort Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas
Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Enclosed is a mint copy of No. 64, which was lot 37, in my February sale. Ezra and I, as well as some other people are confident it is okay. It would be with great reluctance if I had to send this stamp to the Foundation, since you know quite well what they do with colors. I am quite sure my customer will accept your okay.

Please send me your bill, for whatever charges may arise. Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

SYLVESTER COLBY, INC.

Sc
By
SC:lr
Enclosure
Registered

P. S. Just before seal~~ing~~ your letter, received an inquiry with reference to certain lot~~s~~ in our last sale. The customer has returned it to me, asking for an opinion as to wheather I considered it "untampered." It seems he feels that the slug seems to be a number which some one endeavored to remove. Since I was sending the pink to you, I thought I would include this for your opinion.

S

296

March 8, 1956.

Mr. Sylvester Colby,
505 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Sy:

I have been away from home for two weeks on a little vacation and found yours of the 20th of February on my return yesterday. I note it was mailed the day we departed.

Re - the 3¢ 1861 - No question but what this is the PINK and a very fine example for a mint copy - and I do believe it is unused o.g. We very seldom see an unused o.g. PINK in as good a color as this copy. I examined each perf under my binocular and I do not think my eyes fooled me in any particular. Too bad it has a slight crease.

Re - the 1¢ 1857 - This is a Type II from Plate 12 - early impression showing the ink film - "grainy" plate. There is no question but what there has been some "monkey-business" - an attempt to clean or else a cleaned copy with added postmark - I doubt the latter - I did not make a thorough investigation as the stamp is not worth the time and expense. I could make a photo by ultra-violet to definitely determine but this would cost you \$5.00 and it is not worth the fee.

I am only charging you \$2.50 plus return postage on the above - total \$2.96.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

syvester colby
INCORPORATED
505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

united states stamps - covers - departments - revenues - accessories - auctions - philatelic literature - appraisals - departments - covers - united states stamps

March 7, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.
P. O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas
Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Thank's very much for taking care of the two items for me. My check in the amount of \$2.96, is enclosed.

My customer is desirous of securing the beautiful description authenticating the 3c pink put in a letter. Would it not be possible for your to photograph the stamp and attach it to a letter using just your second paragraph. Naturally, I will pay any additional charges.

Hope you had a nice vacation.

Best regards,

SYLVESTER COLBY, INC.

By *Sy*
SC:lr

* C. could you put it on or use the enclosed proof of the cut we used?

March 5, 1956.

Mr. Sylvester Colby,
505 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Colby:

Herewith the 3¢ 1861 as per yours of recent date. I am pleased to inform you that this copy, illustration of which is attached hereto, is unquestionably a very fine example of the PINK in unused o.g. condition. I made a very careful examination of this particular copy. I believe that we very seldom find an unused copy in as fine a tint of this stamp.

Sincerely yours,

March 12, 1956.

Mr. Sylvester Colby,
505 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Sy:

Yours of the 7th received with check for \$2.96 as per mine of recent date. I will see if I can make a good photograph of what you wish and report later. The half-tone proof of the stamp is very faint and it is a question whether I can bring out enough in a photograph of it to be adaptable for another engraving.

Sincerely yours,

syvester colby
INCORPORATED
505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

united states stamps - covers - departments - revenues - accessories - auctions - philatelic literature - appraisals - departments - covers - united states stamps

March 14, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.
P. O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas
Kentucky

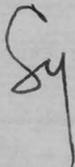
Dear Stan:

We did not want you to photograph the cut we sent you, but use the cut in place of a photograph. If this cannot be done, we will submit the stamp so that it can be done in the regular manner.

Best regards,

SYLVESTER COLBY, INC.

By
SC:lr



A note from

~~A. MILLER~~

MAR 16 AM

Dear Stan -

Just what I wanted.

Hope my last letter did
not confuse you. Everything
is okay.

Enclosed is \$200

and stamps to cover
postage.

Many thanks

Sy

sylvester colby
INCORPORATED
505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

March 4, 1956.

Mr. Emerson C. Krug,
3008 - 13th Ave., South,
Birmingham, Ala.

Dear Em:

We drove in from Lexington Saturday A.M. before the P.O. closed and I found a bundle of mail waiting for me. Your registered came at noon. We had a fine trip - nice weather - no trouble and a fine four days visit with Stan Jr. Dorsey and you will have to see the marvelous pictures he took - simply beautiful - Greece - the Holy Land, etc.

Here is your 10¢ '47 cover. I examined it very carefully and it is okay - a former Sampson cover - Costales and Fox bought the Sampson collection in 1948 as you will recall. The 10¢ paid the postage to Boston - It had to be prepaid - This was not a stampless as the latter would have had a marking of PAID. This is unquestionably genuine - 10¢ to Boston - over 300 miles - I even checked the dates - I made a slide for you - signed the cover on the back and added a special signed memo. You obtained this very cheap. Quite a nice cover.

I will carefully note your letter with the Fox prices later.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Return
Postage Due

Adora J. Hanus
R. D. 1 - Berwick, Pa.

February 23, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I want to thank you very much for your opinion of the 5⁴ 1867 with blue star cancel. I appreciate your frankness and agree wholeheartedly that it is indeed risky to purchase rare fancy cancels off cover, not only risky, but to my mind rather foolish. I am refunding return postage as you suggested.

At the same time, I am enclosing another job for you - Scatts #57, I believe. However, I must have picture and certificate of guarantee. Could you also tell me, what my chances are of obtaining a better copy?

I am also enclosing a pretty badly beaten-up copy of #28 which I am holding as a color variety for checking only - my question naturally is - do you say this is henna brown? I bought a copy of the henna brown from the Caspary Sale and its color is not quite as deep and rich as this.

Thank you for your kind invitation to browse around in your work shop - I'm very anxious to do just that! Sincerely,
Adora Hanus

Return Postage

March 3, 1956.

Mrs. C. Dora J. Hanus,
R.D. #1,
Berwick, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Hanus:

Upon our return yesterday from Norfolk I found yours of the 23rd of Feb., which accounts for this tardy acknowledgment. We left home on the 21st.

Regarding the two stamps that you enclosed and which both are returned herewith.

Stamp marked #57 O 5¢ 1861 - First Design. I suggest that you send this to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation and obtain from them a certificate. They will subject the copy to a very thorough examination and they are capable of passing on a copy such as this. Later I would like to have you advise me regarding their opinion and I will then let you know if I agree with same. This copy has a closed tear at bottom. I believe the best way to obtain a better copy is to watch the auction sales.

5¢ 1857 #28. Your copy is the Henna or Indian Red. I consider this copy an excellent example of the real color. This shade does vary quite a bit as some copies are very near the red brown, others are much deeper and richer. Yours of course is much different than the average red brown.

There is no fee for the above but you can reimburse me for the return postage.

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,



E. Dora J. Hannus.
R.D. 1
Berwick, Pa.

REGISTERED

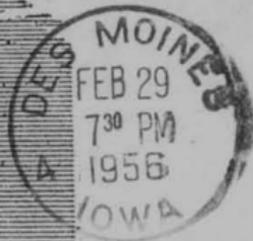
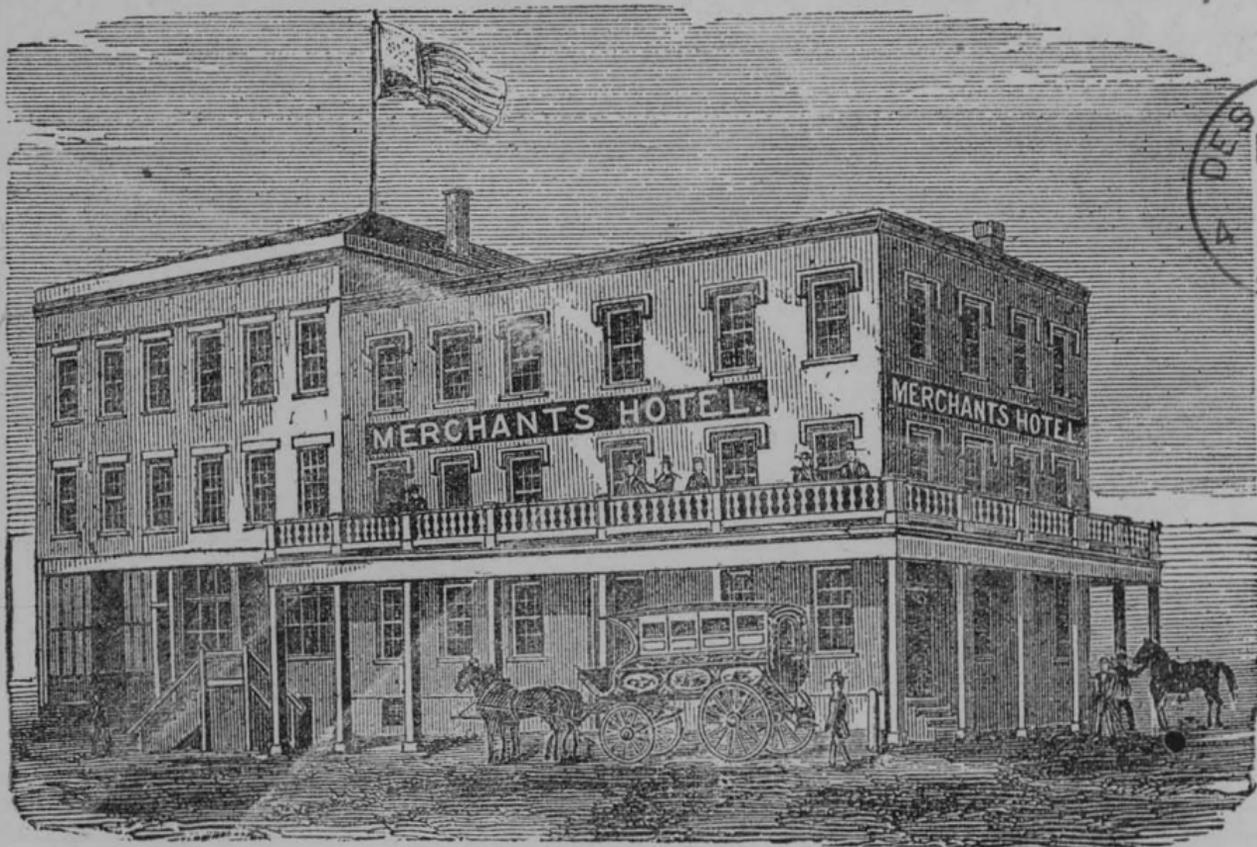
105



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31

Fort Thomas, Kentucky





Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas
Kentucky

Woodrow Westholm, 1605 Thompson Ave., Des Moines, Iowa



AFFILIATED WITH FEDERATION OF IOWA STAMP CLUBS

Des Moines, Iowa
February 29, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your consideration in the matter of the use of your drawing, incorporated in our insignia. Again, I assure you there was no intention to plagiarize. We would have regretted, very much, the necessity for changing our emblem as it has been so well received and has established IPHS in the minds of those whom we serve.

As I stated in the bulletin in which we announced your membership, we are indeed gratified by the association of your name with our organization. However, we hope that you shall find it possible to lend even more value to that association by the submission of articles or information pertinent to our interests.

My present plans are to attend a portion of the A.S.D.A. show in Chicago this weekend. I expect to enjoy a renewal of friendships there as there are many collectors with whom I have not the opportunity to visit except at such meetings. Among those whom I might expect to find there are my friends Horace Poole, Henry Hill, Roland Hustis of Milwaukee, Milt Heitman of Marengo, Iowa and Paul Rohloff.

I am pleased to receive your letter of appreciation for the booklet sent you by the Council Bluffs Savings Bank. Our member, Arthur J. Rogers, worked closely with the bank in preparation for their centennial, and was instrumental in promoting a cacheted cover for the occasion. The bank was very considerate in sending this expensively prepared booklet to all IPHS members.

Yours very truly,

Woody
Woodrow Westholm, Secretary

March 4, 1956.

Mr. Woodrow Westholm,
1605 Thompson Ave.,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Westholm:

Upon my return yesterday from a little vacation of two weeks I found yours of recent date, which accounts for this tardy acknowledgement.

Your letter will have my careful attention in the very near future.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.Y.



C.S.A.
A.R.A.
B.N.A.P.S.

Jack E. Molesworth
Philatelic Dealer and Broker
102 Beacon Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

March 13, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 North Ft Thomas
Fort Thomas, Ky.

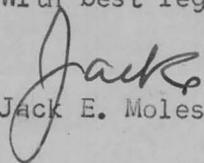
Dear Stan,

Enclosed is an item which has just been turned down by the P.F. but which I am positive myself is the true pink, #64. It would appear to me that they are perpetuating the mistake which they made on the Waterhouse Pink blocks.

I would therefore greatly appreciate your opinion on this stamp either agreeing with the P.F. or refuting their opinion and agreeing with mine that it is the true pink.

Please advise your fee in replying and I shall remit promptly as usual. Incidentally this item was turned down along with five others at the last meeting and in every single case, in my judgment, the P.F. was dead wrong. It would appear that the loss of Caspary's counsel and also more recently that of Usticke who has moved to the Virgin islands has left them with no well qualified U.S. expert, either on the board or as a member of the ASDA dealer's advisory committee which I understand has been consulted on practically every items submitted since its establishment over a year ago.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/p
encl

March 15, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon Street,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Herewith the 3¢ 1861 unused o.g. copy as per yours of the 13th. I am pleased to inform you that this is quite a fine example of the stamp listed in the S.U.S. as #64 - unused PINK, and I doubt if the #64 exists today in unused o.g. condition in any finer example of the color. This copy shows the paper a bit yellowed with age and in my opinion, this does effect to somewhat the tint. In other words, if the paper was white the tint would be a bit better, however, this is PINK and it is not a near PINK, PINKISH Rose or other so-called "near pink" examples.

I examined this stamp very carefully in excellent daylight and laid it alongside my reference copies for comparison, copies I have used some forty years. I even called Mrs. Ashbrook's attention and she was in perfect agreement with my finding. I mention this as the female eye is said to be more accurate on colors than the male. Be that as it may I do know that her eye for color work is very very proficient.

Sincerely yours,

March 15, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon St.,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Earlier this week, I examined a 3¢ Pink - unused - o.g., for Sy Colby - I enclose photo of the opinion - I judge he is going to offer his stamp in an auction and will use this photo. His stamp was mint as I recall - I thought at first that your stamp was the same as the perfs are so very similar, as you will note. Apparently both stamps came from the same sheet. Do you know anything about his stamp? Please treat this as confidential.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.Y.



U.S.A.
A.R.A.
B.N.A.P.S.

Jack E. Molesworth
Philatelic Dealer and Broker
102 Beacon Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

March 16, 1956

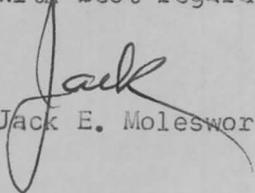
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft Thomas Ave
Fort Thomas, Ky

Dear Stan,

Enclosed is a very interesting cover included in a collection which I am figuring and hope to buy. However, before paying a big price for an item like this I would appreciate your opinion as to authenticity, origin, rarity of usage, etc.

Please advise and I shall remit promptly as usual. If possible, an air-special reply will be appreciated.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/p
encl

Jack E. Molesworth

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

REGISTERED

820,101
820101

Mr. Stanley B.
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

VIA AIR MAIL

SPECIAL DELIVERY



March 19, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon St.,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Herewith the 10¢ 1847 cover as per yours of the 16th. This did not reach me until late Sunday afternoon. Perhaps the storms were responsible for the delay.

I have known this 10¢ 1847 cover for some years. It was formerly in the Gibson collection and was Lot #24 in the Gibson Sale by Ward on June 14th, 1944. It was sold to Meroni @ \$130.00.

Ward described the cover in the catalogue as follows:

"#24 - 10¢ gray black tied to envelope with black circular "Steamship 10" which is repeated on envelope. Letter enclosed dated "Steamer Golden City, Nov. 20, 1850" and mailed at Acapulco. Addressed to Templeton, Mass. Letters from finder and Perry accompany lot (Photo 2)." (unquote)

I suppose bidders were suspicious of the cover because it sold so low. Such a price was low even in 1944 for such an item because as far as I am aware the cover is unique, that is, if there exists another 10¢ 1847 with this "Steamship 10" marking I am not aware of it. This marking was the type that was applied at New York City and in my opinion it was not in use during the life of the 1847 stamps.

Ward mentioned an enclosure but there is none with the cover at this time. This seems a bit strange and I wonder if there is any significance? The reason is this - This use was supposed to be from Acapulco in November 1850 and from the "Steamer Golden City." This steamship was not launched until January 1863, so there must have been something wrong about the letter that was supposed to be enclosed. Perhaps this is the reason it is not with the cover at present.

This steamship marking is well known on stampless covers, especially from Cuba but if it was used before 1855 I have no record of such a use.

I suppose it is possible that the strike on the 10¢ 1847 is genuine but if so then the use was probably in the late eighteen-fifties.

Ward mentioned that letters from the "finder" and Perry (Elliott?) accompany the lot. Where are they? I imagine that Elliott Perry sold the cover to Henry Gibson.

I made an enlarged photograph of the stamp by ultra-violet but I have not developed the plate at this writing. I will advise you later if it shows any trace of a former cancel removed.

For reasons stated above I regret that I cannot authenticate this cover as genuine in my opinion.

Sincerely yours,

March 19, 1956.

Mr. Charles F. Meroni,
1414 Monadnock Bldg.,
Chicago 4, Ill.

Dear Chuck:

In the Gibson sale in June 1944 Lot #24 was a 10¢ 1847 tied to a dark buff ragged envelope by a black circular "Steamship 10." The envelope was addressed to Templeton, Mass. You purchased the cover for \$130.00.

This cover was submitted to me yesterday by Jack Molesworth for my opinion. Herewith I am enclosing a copy of my reply. I am wondering if you remember the cover. From Ward's description in the Gibson sale catalogue I judge that Perry obtained the cover from the "finder" and sold it to Henry Gibson, but the letters mentioned by Ward are missing. I also note that this cover was not in your sale by Fox in 1952. If you can give me any information concerning the cover I will treat same as strictly confidential.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

See 39-23

CARLTON HILL
BENJAMIN H. SHERMAN
CHARLES F. MERONI
J. ARTHUR GROSS
DONALD J. SIMPSON
M. R. CHAMBERS
RICHARD J. SCHWARZ
ANTHONY R. CHIARA
JAMES VAN SANTEN
CHARLES M. LINDROOTH
RICHARD M. S. MANAHAN
LEWIS T. STEADMAN

FREDERICK E. PAESLER
EBEN O. McNAIR, JR.
HERMAN J. GORDON
JOHN H. SHERMAN
OTTO R. KRAUSE
VAN METRE LUND
LLOYD L. ZICKERT
HENRIETTE MERTZ
ROBERT A. SPRAY
WILLIAM C. STUEBER
HARRY E. BURKE

HILL, SHERMAN, MERONI, GROSS & SIMPSON
THE FIRM OF CHARLES W. HILLS

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW

1414 MONADNOCK BUILDING

53 WEST JACKSON BLVD.

CHICAGO 4

March 20, 1956

CHARLES W. HILLS, SR. 1897-1950
CHARLES W. HILLS, JR. 1913-1943
FOREÉ BAIN 1895-1928
ALEXANDER C. MABEE 1911-1949

PATENT AND TRADE MARK
LAW EXCLUSIVELY

CABLE ADDRESS-HILLSFORD, CHICAGO
TELEPHONE HARRISON 7-7160

WASHINGTON OFFICE
MUNSEY BUILDING
1329 E STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stanley:

I have your letter of March 19, 1956 and after having noted the comments, I hasten to answer it.

You inquire about events that happened over twelve years ago and while I have checked my correspondence, I have not been able to find anything on the subject. I do recall, however, that there was one cover that I bought when I attended the Gibson sale that was a 10¢ 1847 with a steamship marking and I believe it may be the one you refer to. Anyhow, as I recall the situation, after the sale I received an inquiry from a dealer in New York stating that he was interested in buying the item at the sale but had inadvertently passed it up and asked me if I would be willing to sell it and, if so, to put a price on it. I was not taken too much with the condition of the cover so I put a price on it and, as I recall, received a prompt reply from the dealer stating he would take it. I cannot, for the life of me, remember the name of the dealer. It may have been Spencer Anderson as I was frequently in correspondence with him at that time.

However, I am not even too sure that the cover you mention was the one as I also recall buying, in the Gibson sale, a 10¢ 1847 with a Canadian target cancel which I disposed of. In those days I was not as familiar with postal markings as I am now and naturally assumed that if material came from an outstanding collection, such as that of Mr. Gibson, it would be genuine. Certainly if I had retained the item, it would have been sold along with the balance of my collection when Johnny Fox sold the same. Therefore, I am quite certain this item was disposed of shortly after I bought it. I frequently accommodated dealers when an item particularly did not intrigue me and I felt I could use the money to better advantage to buy something else that I wanted still more for my collection.

I have no recollection of whether the letter at the time included an enclosure or not. All I know is that immediately following the Gibson sale, I gave Mr. Ward my check and took the material with me as I was going back up to Washington.

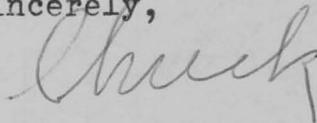
The Gibson sale stands out in my mind as it was the first big auction I ever attended and I also recall that I was quite chagrined with the dressing down that Mr. Ward gave Mr. MacBride for his poke bids and practically ordered him from the sale.

I am sorry that I cannot be of more help to you, Stanley, but so much as "gone over the dam" since then that it is difficult for me to recall what happened, especially as the cover was only in my possession a short time.

I am planning to attend the big New York exhibition and wonder whether you likewise plan to attend. I am also exhibiting in a number of different classes including, among others, Confederate Postal History.

Hoping that you and Mildred will get a chance to go to the New York show and with my kindest personal regards, I remain

Very sincerely,



CFM/dg

March 22, 1956.

Mr. Charles F. Meroni,
1414 Monadnock Bldg.,
Chicago 4, Ill.

Dear Chuck:

Thanks very much for yours of the 20th re -
the 10¢ 1847 cover with the circular "Steamship 10"
marking. I appreciate all the information that you
gave me and later I will send you a photo of the
cover and some further data.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

March 19, 1956.

Mr. Elliott Perry,
P. O. Box 333,
Westfield, N.J.

Elliott:

I enclose copy of a letter I have today written Jack Molesworth re -- a cover that he submitted for my opinion. It refers to a cover that was lot #24 in the Gibson sale by Ward that you apparently obtained this cover from the finder and sold it to Henry Gibson.

Any information that you can give me on the cover will be treated as strictly confidential as I would like to have same for my own use.

Yours of the 19th came just before I left home on a two weeks vacation and since my return I have been so swamped with correspondence that I have not had the time to reply.

Sincerely yours,

~~March~~ March 21, 1936



Stan:

I don't recall selling Henry Gibson any 10c 1847s except from the Ackerman collection, and don't recall the Acapulco cover as having been Ackerman's. Unfortunately my records of the Ackerman collection are somewhat scattered and it will be such a tight squeeze to meet our commitments for FIPEX that I cannot search the records now.

However, I do have some recollection that a long time ago, perhaps thirty years, someone (in New England?) submitted a cover which might be the Acapulco. Buff envelope with 10¢ 1847 and black circular Steamship 10, but no enclosure. The finder's story seemed credible.

I could not explain the use, probably because I knew then that the rate from Mexico was 30¢, and it is my recollection that if the cover was wholly authentic it was such a freak as may be occasionally found in original correspondence but would be questioned or condemned if seen under a dealer's showcase.

I don't know who the finder was, but he was no one well known to me. If I kept a copy of the letter which accompanied the lot in the Gibson sale the copy is buried somewhere in my files and I would hardly know where to find it.

My recollection now is that the envelope had no enclosure, yet something about it, or in the finder's story, indicated that it came from Mexico. Hence if the 10¢ rate was correct, the date must have been after the 1847 stamps were invalid.

To the best of my recollection I did not buy the cover and heard nothing more about it until your letter came this morning, unless I noticed it in the Gibson sale. He may recall from whom he obtained it.

Before the Gibson sale A.F.L. instructed me about some items he wanted and told me to buy anything I wanted. He intended to bid on only one item himself (and didn't get it). After the sale he went thru my purchases and selected those he wanted. I kept the others and there were not very many. You were at the sale and know what happened. All my purchases were paid for with my own check to Walter Scott. I am sure I had no bid on the Acapulco cover.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elliott Perry".

March 23, 1956.

Mr. Elliott Perry,
P.O.Box 333,
Westfield, N.J.

Elliott:

Thanks very much for yours of the 21st.

Do not go to the trouble to look up any old records on that 10¢ 1847 cover. Later I will send you a good photograph of it and you can keep the item in mind. If the strike on the stamp tying it to cover is genuine, then the use was surely not during the life of the 1847 stamps because I don't believe that marking was used before 1855. Is that your impression? If the cover is genuine then it is surely a 10¢ '47 that was used long after demonetization. I was unable to satisfy myself that the strike on the stamp was perfectly good but perhaps it is.

Chuck Meroni bought the cover in the Gibson sale, and advised me this week that to the best of his recollection someone wanted it very badly after the sale and he let them have it. He could not remember who it was.

There is no proof that the envelope had any relation to an origin at Acapulco. At any rate, I do thank you for the information that you gave me.

Yours etc.,

39-23
PHILIP H. WARD, JR.
ARCHITECTS BUILDING
17TH AND SANSOM STREETS
PHILADELPHIA 3

March 22, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

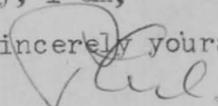
Dear Stan:

I have your letter of the 19th together with a copy of a communication of the same date addressed to Molesworth.

If I stated that the Perry letter as well as other letter were sold with the cover I am quite confident I made delivery. What may have happened to the communications later on I cannot say. If the Perry letter was used there is no doubt but what Gibson bought it from Perry. I do not recall the exact cover at this time, but had every reason to believe it was good, otherwise I think it would have been held out.

I do not have any records of the usage of the "Steamship 10" insofar as dates are concerned, although I have had dozens of stampless covers showing this marking as well as the one of "20" denomination. I am quite confident the cover was not even questioned before or during the sale.

Regretting I cannot give you any further details as to its history, I am,

Sincerely yours,


PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

March 29, 1956.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,
Architects Bldg.,
17th & Sansom Sts.,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Phil:

Please note copy of a letter that I wrote Molesworth today, which is self-explanatory. This refers to a cover which he submitted to me for an opinion. You will note it was a Gibson cover, Lot #24 in the Gibson sale in 1944. You will note that I did not state it is bad but rather that on account of the points I mentioned, I was unable to state that in my opinion it is genuine.

I am wondering if you remember the cover and can give me any information regarding it. This for my own satisfaction only.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

March 23, 1956.

Mr. Emmerson C. Krug,
3008 - 13th Ave., South,
Birmingham 5, Ala.

Dear Em:

I thought this letter to Molesworth would be of some interest to you. You can return it at your convenience. Look up the illustration in the Gibson sale. Was this a cover with a 10¢ '47 used long after demonetization? If so, then it is a valuable cover. But was it? That is the \$64.00 question.

Ezra advises he is leaving today for a ten days vacation but he failed to state where he was going. If his left hand is ever aware what his right is doing it would not be thru any fault of his. I suppose you have heard all the gossip about Jack Dick. I could tell you a lot that is not ogssip but facts.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

April 18, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon St.,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Re - yours of the 16th. I would not be willing to sign the cover because in authenticating such an item a full explanation should accompany it. I think the cover could be written up and published in Stamps or some other publication and all the facts given. This would satisfy the most skeptical. To merely sign the cover on the back would not be sufficient to carry much weight.

Very truly yours,



Jack E. Malesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

April 5, 1956.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your various communications on the "10¢ 1847 Steamship" cover. This certainly has been an intriguing item for me and I hope for you also. As I now see it, for very understandable reasons you would not care to authenticate the cover as genuine, but also these reasons are such that you would not care to state that the stamp was definitely never used on this cover and the cancel has been faked. If this conclusion is incorrect please let me know.

As I now see it, the contents of the letter prove that this usage must have been in 1863 and therefore the 1850 date on the letter enclosed must have been altered from 1863 by someone since the time it was originally found. Also, the "Steamship 10" marking and the 10¢ rate would have been appropriate for 1863 but not for 1850. Also, the 10¢ 1847 had been demonetized in 1851 and would therefore not be good for postage in 1863. Also, the stamp has a pen marking that I gather you feel has been partly cleaned off, though in view of its being readily visible to the naked eye it would appear to me that it may have just faded somewhat as the entire cover shows considerable aging.

I would also gather that as a result of the lifting of the stamp which indicated that it had adhered to the cover for some time in view of the aging of the stamp and the cover which was unaged beneath the stamp, you found no evidence to conclude that the "Steamship 10" marking which ties the stamp to the cover was necessarily or even probably spurious. Therefore, I am wondering if you might agree that the following could be a possible explanation for the enigma? The thrifty Yankee New England lady who wrote the letter on November 20th., 1863, had in her possession one or more (the finder's letter indicates another cover with a 5¢ 1847 on it) 1847 stamps which she knew had been demonetized years before. However, being a thrifty Yankee (believe me I have seen quite a bit of this since I have been in New England) and being quite a distance from the United States she thought the stamp might go through unnoticed and pay the postage to Boston. She therefore placed it on the letter when it was mailed in Acapulco, Mexico, but in transit it was noticed, pen cancelled, and then at that or some later ^{spot} struck with the black "Steamship 10" marking which was I presume, "Due" notation. Sometime after the letter was originally discovered, either its original finder, (who incidentally mentions in his letter that he had other numerous letter from the same correspondence but all of later dates that were evidently sent by steamer), or some later owner of the cover who had enough knowledge to see that the date of the letter was inconsistent with the years of usage of the 10¢ 1847 ~~and therefore~~ thought he would remove this discrepancy! Though admittedly a guess, this appears to me to be the most logical explanation I can conceive. If it is correct, there would be nothing wrong with the cover but rather only the date on the letter enclosed would have been spurious. It would therefore be a usage of the 1847 years after it had been demonitized, at which time it was of course not recognized and the letter sent "Due 10". I shall look forward with interest to your comments on this hypothesis.

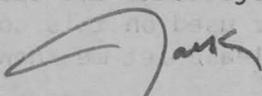
(over)

Since your analysis of this cover doubtlessly took considerable more time and effort than when you originally wrote the first time suggesting a fee of \$4.00, I assume that a higher fee would probably be in order so shall be glad to remit whatever fee you would now care to suggest.

It will be of course quite all right for you to write this cover up in your "Special Service".

Enclosed is a U. S. #29 on a cover to which I do not believe it belongs. Your comments will be appreciated and also enclosed is a 10¢ 1847 which checks out fine as an unused copy under my ultra violet lamp so I would greatly appreciate your examination and comments on it also. If you feel an ultra violet photo is necessary to determine whether or not it may have been cleaned, please feel free to go to that expense and I shall be glad to stand it.

With best regards,



Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/vf

April 11, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon St.,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Re - the "Steamship 10" cover. I made a number of photographs of this cover and I will send you prints later.

I carefully noted your comments regarding it to which I will reply.

Yours etc.,

April 11, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Under separate cover, I am today sending you some photos of the 10¢ 1847 Steamship cover and I enclose herewith a revised bill for my examination. Please note the large photo by ultra-violet of the date-line on the letter that was suppose to accompany this envelope. Also note the print of the "Pan & San" cover of September 1851, proving that this marking was used that early.

Re -- the analysis that you suggested. I suppose it is anyone's guess as to what actually happened but I think that all the evidence in the case seems to indicate the following:

First. That the contents of the letter prove that this letter was not written in 1850 but rather in 1863 and that the "1863" was changed to "1850" for the purpose of enclosing it in this envelope.

Second. I really do not know if the "Steamship 10" envelope was used as late as 1863, or whether that old stamper was still in use at the New York P.O.

Third. I believe that the 10¢ '47 stamp was on this envelope when it reached the New York P.O. but it was not recognized and the cover marked as unpaid Due 10. Whether this was because the stamp had been pencanceled or because the use was after June 30, 1851 will perhaps never be known. At any rate there was no such a thing as a "Steamship 10" rate prior to July 1, 1851. That much is certain. I am disposed to conclude that the cover may have been used in the early fifties and that it had no enclosure and one was fixed up for it by changing 1863 to 1850. I believe this opinion of mine is practically in agreement with the last three lines of your letter of the 5th. I believe that my ultra-violet photos dispel any doubt that the 10¢ stamp was not used on this cover or that the postmark on the stamp is fraudulent in any way.

I may write this cover up in a Service Issue and if I do, it will be along the lines as above. Incidentally, what do you suppose the P.F. would have done with this cover? Do you suppose there is anyone on that Committee who has the slightest knowledge of an item such as this?

I note in the closing paragraph of your letter you stated that you had examined the 10¢ '47 "unused" under your ultra-violet. "Mr." Zareski is a pretty smart chap. I have been informed by a friend in Paris who has a line on the faker and knows his methods, that Z. uses an "ultra-violet" and uses methods to leave no trace. It is a very simple matter in the present day to remove cancels from the 10¢ '47 and leave no trace. I think there were very definite traces on the copy that I returned to you today. Personally, I want nonpart of an "unused" 10¢ '47 and I

#2. Mr. Jack E. Molesworth, April 11, 1956.

refuse to handle any such things.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.Y.



C.S.A.
A.R.A.
B.N.A.P.S.

99-23

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

February 1, 1957

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Box 31
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan,

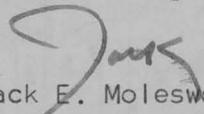
I trust you will recall the enclosed 10¢ 1847 cover with "Steamship Ten" marking which you examined back in March and April of last year. The last letter which you wrote concerning this cover and which contained your final conclusions was dated April 11, 1956. In that letter you specified three conclusions with respect to it. In the third you stated that you believe the 10¢ 1847 stamp was on this envelope when it reached the New York Post Office, but that it was not recognized and that the black "Steamship Ten" marking represents a postage due notation. You also stated that you believed your ultra-violet photos dispelled any doubt that the 10¢ stamp was not used on this cover or that the postmark on the cover is fraudulent in any way.

I know have a buyer for this cover who has read and digested your April 11th letter and is also familiar with your other feelings with respect to this cover and the circumstances surrounding it. He has agreed to buy the cover at a very good price, but asked that I have you sign the back to verify the one fact that this stamp was originally used on the cover and that the "Steamship Ten" cancellation is genuine. Since this is the opinion you have expressed on it in your letter, I sincerely hope that you will agree to place such on the reverse of the cover. If you feel you should also put some qualifying comments such as were included in your April 11th, letter, please feel free to do so as long as they are not of a nature which would tend to cast doubt on the cover and therefore preclude my selling it as a genuine item as I have represented it to be to this prospective buyer.

I shall greatly appreciate your assistance on this item and shall be glad to pay you an additional fee for the service of signing the reverse in any amount that you feel appropriate as it does enhance its salability for me.

I have finally decided to try and do something to correct the situation at the Philatelic Foundation and I frankly feel like David attacking Goliath. However, my initial probing letter which evidenced a dissatisfaction with certain opinions of the P.F. was received with such serious consideration that I am motivated to pursue the matter further in hopes that I may be able to somehow convince the hierarchy they are actually unqualified to render opinions in certain fields of U. S. stamps and that as a result they should refrain from rendering any opinions in those fields or should secure the services of the only people that do have sufficient expert knowledge in those fields to render an authoritative opinion. It will be fun trying even if nothing comes of it. Enclosed is a copy of a letter I have written to the Foundation today ~~and~~ ^{and} which I hope may sufficiently shock them in a constructive sort of way ~~and~~ ^{and} at the same time, the seeds of a clean-up ~~are as a result planted~~. How long it will take them to germinate will be another matter.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

(over)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re - cover with U. S. 10¢ 1847 tied by "STEAMSHIP 10"
Addressed to "Miss Jennie E. Gates, Templeton, Mass. U.S."

After a very careful examination of this cover it is my opinion that the cover is genuine in every respect, which means that this stamp was used on this cover as we see it now, that it had not been previously canceled and that the N.Y. Steamship markings are both genuine. It is my opinion that the stamp was used after demonetization and that recognition of it at New York was refused, thus 10¢ due. Steamship 10 indicating (1) Source of receipt at New York by Steamship - i.e. - a mail contract ship - (2) "10" - 10¢ postage due.

Photographs made by ultra-violet which I made showed no previous cancelation.

There is no evidence showing when this cover was actually used or that an enclosure was the original letter.

Stanley B. Ashbrook

Feb. 12, 1957

Feb. 12, 1957.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon St.,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

I apologize for the delay in returning the 10¢ 1847 Steamship cover which is enclosed herewith. I have signed this on the back as genuine and I enclose a memo which can accompany the cover. I think that you will agree that I made an exhaustive study of this item and that my final opinion cannot be questioned in any way.

I enclose a memo of my fee.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

March 4, 1956.

Mr. John A. Fox,
173 Tulip Ave.,
Floral Park, N.Y.

Dear John:

Some gossip reached me recently which was most disturbing. It was somewhat to this effect - that John Fox was no friend of mine - that in a crowd he voiced very strong criticism of me and made light of opinions I expressed on items from time to time, in fact, spoke very critically and disparaging of me. Now I suppose there is not a word of truth in such gossip but if there was any basis whatsoever, that the stuff had been greatly exaggerated. I was quite upset at this gossip because I have been quite confident that of all my friends(?) in New York City I had none who was a stauncher friend than John Fox. I suppose I am subject to criticism if a finding that I make is contrary to another's opinion and I am aware that I should not feel a bit chagrined. I am fully conscious that I am not perfect and am not always right. I would be a perfect damn fool if I had any illusion that I was right nine times out of ten or perhaps less. I would not be human if I never made an error in items that I examine. However, I am honest and sincere and when asked for an opinion I will give what I think regardless of what adverse effect that my opinion might have on friend or foe.

I like to lay all the cards face up on the table and if I have anything on my chest I like to get it off and as soon as possible, hence this letter about a matter which has been most disturbing.

With best wishes -

As ever yours,

JOHN A. FOX

173 Tulip Avenue • Floral Park • New York • FL 4-4636

=====
AUCTIONS • APPRAISALS • RETAIL • WHOLESALE • STAMPS • COVERS • ACCESSORIES

March 8, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 4th. I am very much disturbed by what you tell me. First of all, it is a damn lie! Over the years I have sought your advice countless times. To my knowledge, I can not remember one instance where I did not follow your advice. Many times your opinion saved me from selling something which might have proved embarrassing in the future. I sight as an instance, the 5¢ stamp withdrawn from the Meroni sale. In view of this, I do not possibly think that I would express an opinion other than that of great admiration.

I have constantly made the remark in public gatherings that you were the best thing that has happened to the stamp trade. I have also made the remark that by the issuance of the books you have written (and particularly the volumes on the 1¢ '51 issue) you have lined the pockets of the American stamp dealer with gold. I have always respected and had faith in the fact that no matter how friendly you are with a person, you give him an honest opinion. Of course, it might not be what he expected to hear for it might be an adverse opinion on an item he paid good money for. However, the opinion was what was sought, whatever the result.

If you are guilty of any crime it is one that I also bear, that of losing your temper and flying off the handle before thinking things out. I sight the incident I had with Jack Fleckenstein.

I have heard conversations in various groups recently about your problem with a letter allegedly mailed by you. I have purposely refrained from discussing it so as not to be mis-quoted. I do not know all the details, but I am prejudiced in your favor and if there is anything I can do to help would appreciate your letting me know.

As to the people who said I voiced strong criticism of you and made light of your opinion, I would face them any time and can honestly deny their accusations.

JOHN A. FOX

173 Tulip Avenue • Floral Park • New York • FL 4-4636

AUCTIONS • APPRAISALS • RETAIL • WHOLESALE • STAMPS • COVERS • ACCESSORIES

Stanley B. Ashbrook

March 8, 1956

I, too, am concerned over this for I thought you knew how much I valued your friendship and the admiration I have always had for your research. Would appreciate hearing from you.

Trust that all is well with Mildred and you. With kind personal regards from Virginia and myself,

Sincerely,


JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ew

March 11, 1956.

Mr. John A. Fox,
173 Tulip Ave.,
Floral Park, N.Y.

Dear John:

Thanks for your good letter of the 8th. I felt absolutely sure that the whole bit of gossip was devoid of any truth and that it was just another case of someone trying to start some trouble. Your assurance that it is all a lie confirms 100% my first impression, so it is all water over the dam and we will forget the whole thing.

I note your remarks about a fiery temper. You know John, I doubt if such a thing is bad, in fact, I hate a wishy-washy person, one who has no guts and lets people run all over them. I am perfectly conscious I fly off the handle at the drop of the hat but it is generally with people for whom I have damn little use, people like Colson, Rich, Konwiser and similar rats. One is better off to have such lice as enemies rather than friends. So I suggest that if we both are quick tempered that we feel proud of the trait rather than to feel a bit sorry about it.

Re - the forged letter. I suggest that you read the Editorial in Linn's Weekly issue of March 5th by George Linn - Also his remarks about International Jurors, etc.

Mildred joins me in our very best to Virginia and you.

As ever yours,

March 12, 1956.

Mr. A. E. Guenther,
638 Audubon Ave.,
Mt. Lebanon,
Pittsburgh 16, Pa.

Dear Mr. Guenther:

This letter is confidential and any expression you give me will be treated as such.

I have just been glancing at some of the prices realized at your sale by John Fox on the 29th and it seemed to me the prices were in very marked contrast to some of the fantastic figures realized at the Caspary sale in January. May I inquire if you were perfectly satisfied with the figures? Was your material in such poor condition that no higher prices were realized? I am just curious, having no other thought in mind. So much has been written about the high prices for stamps in recent months that I wondered if everyone who had any got the idea that their material was worth Caspary prices? The prices realized at the Fox sale on Feb. 29th surely does not bear out such a supposition.

Don't answer any of my queries if you think any or all ^{ARE} ~~or~~ none of my business.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

HARMER, ROOKE

& CO., INC.

GORDON HARMER
PRESIDENT

—
AUCTIONS
APPRAISALS

PHILATELIC
AUCTIONEERS

560 Fifth Avenue
NEW YORK 36. N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS
PHILATORS, NEW YORK

—
TELEPHONE
JUDSON 2-0164

March 14, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N.Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

We know these are the pink but there is some doubt about their being the pigeon blood. If they are, would you be good enough to state this and sign them on the back?

Thank you and please let us know your fee and postage expense when you return them.

Sincerely yours,

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.

BY:

Donald J. Amato

DD:t

2 covers enclosed

March 18, 1956.

Hermer Rooke & Co.,
560 Fifth Ave.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Attention: Mr. Donald D'Amato

Dear Mr. D'Amato:

Herewith the two 3¢ 1861 covers as per yours of the 14th. I note both are SEP 23 (1861). Rather odd.

I am pleased to inform you that the WESTERLY R.I. cover is a very good "PIGEON BLOOD" whereas the "Bethel, Ill." is the S.U.S. "PINK." This examination in good daylight alongside of my reference copies by direct comparison.

Perhaps in my published articles you note my mention of the paper of the PINK copies, that is, paper somewhat yellowed with age and paper that had retained its whiteness. I think these two copies are fairly good examples. For example, the "Westerly" on white - the "Bethel" on a yellowish or muddy colored paper. I believe that the Bethel is a very good PINK and it is possible that originally it was a Pigeon. However, in classifying these "tints" we have to go by what they are at present rather than what they were originally.

I have signed the Westerly on the back as a Pigeon and my fee for this is \$3.50.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Memorandum

HARMER, ROOKE & CO.

Philatelic Auctioneers

560 FIFTH AVENUE

New York 19, N. Y.

LOngacre 3-3335

March 22, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed find check for \$3⁵⁰. Your remarks on the differences in the "PINK" and "PIGEON BLOOD" colors are quite enlightening. I feel sure that now I will be able to classify them correctly when and if I spot another.

Thanks so much,

Donald D'Amato.

Postage enclosed (.52)

HOOD & HOOD
26 BEDFORD STREET
FALL RIVER, MASS.



Air Mail

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

LAW OFFICES
HOOD & HOOD
26 BEDFORD STREET
FALL RIVER, MASS.

PRESTON H. HOOD

PRESTON H. HOOD, JR.

March 7, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

In January of 1955 my cousin, William O. Sweet of Attleboro, sold to Philip G. Rust of Thomasville, Georgia, a major portion of his stamp collection, as you know. In connection with that sale a Mr. Molesworth of Boston is now claiming a commission - altho Mr. Molesworth was never, according to Mr. Sweet, in any way retained by him or indeed is even known to him.

The person who was engaged to sell the collection was Daniel F. Kelleher of Boston and we have had quite a bit of correspondence and conversation with him. Recently he suggested that we get in touch with you to see what you could tell about the matter particularly concerning Mr. Rust and when and how he was first interested in the sale.

Were you the one who brought the matter to Mr. Rust's attention and if so do you recall the date? Do you know how or when or where Mr. Molesworth came into the picture? We should greatly appreciate whatever you can tell us about the case so far as it came within your personal knowledge.

We are in no way seeking to deprive anyone of a proper and legitimate commission but neither are we inclined to pay a wholly extraneous and unknown and unjustified claim. And based on our present information this claim of Molesworth would appear to be wholly without foundation.

Needless to say we will deeply appreciate any facts and information you can give us, and thank you in advance therefor.

Very truly yours,

Preston H. Hood

PHH/md

March 11, 1956.

Mr. Preston H. Hood,
% Hood & Hood,
26 Bedford St.,
Fall River, Mass.

Dear Mr. Hood:

Replying to yours of the 7th.

I have no actual first-hand knowledge concerning the purchase of Mr. Sweet's collection by Mr. Rust. It is my understanding that Mr. Rust knew about Mr. Sweet's collection, was interested in acquiring it intact and to this end he was furnished with a description of it by Mr. Kelleher, but he made no commitment to anyone to purchase it for him. It is also my understanding that he made a trip to Attleboro, met Mr. Sweet and made arrangements to purchase the collection, provided I would authenticate as genuine all the items in the collection. I made a trip to Attleboro in March 1955 for that purpose and went over the collection and signed each item as genuine in my opinion.

I have absolutely no information whether Mr. Sweet commissioned Mr. Kelleher or anyone else to find a buyer for his collection, and as far as Mr. Rust is concerned, he certainly never employed me to purchase the collection for him.

Very truly yours,

Copy
Sent
Phil Rust

LAW OFFICES
HOOD & HOOD
26 BEDFORD STREET
FALL RIVER, MASS.

PRESTON H. HOOD

PRESTON H. HOOD, JR.

March 29, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

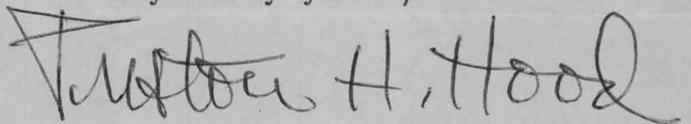
Dear Mr. Asbrook:

Returning to my office after a short absence, I find awaiting me your letter of March 11 concerning the Sweet stamp collection, and want to thank you for your courtesy in writing and for the information conveyed.

We do not know at this stage what it will amount to but we do want to get all available facts and information and consequently appreciate what you have written.

Again expressing our sincere thanks, I remain

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Preston H. Hood". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Preston H. Hood".

PHH/md

GEORGE UNDERWOOD, JR.

9 HAMILTON AVE.

AUBURN, NEW YORK

March 10th. 1956

Mt. Stanley Ashbrook.,
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:- Recently the two "Stampless Covers" enclosed came into my possession and I sent them to my good friend Robert A. Siegel, of New York City to have him translate the meaning of the various postmarks. He suggested that I send them to you as he apparently was not able to get the information promptly. Please note that I realize you have a FEE for doing this and I am willing to pay same. Both covers originated in Rastatt - Karlsruhe. One has only the Rastatt Post Mark and the New York-U.S.??? Nov. 28. and a large 25. Also a 2 in circle. The other has 11 Postal Markings. I figure this cover was mailed in Rastatt June 19th., reached Frankfurt on the 20th., and Bremen on the 21st. The year may be 1866? . The Hamburg Packet Postal Marking is dated June 23rd. Then something must have happened for the next dates are July 8th., and July 28th.. I desire to know what the 2 in circle., the 5/10 means. In fact what all the Post Marks mean. Have looked in all the old directories for Mr. Joseph Unser and checked at our County Clerk's office to see if he owned any property with-out success. As these covers came from a man by name of Durnford now dead I cannot trace where he obtained them. Postage is enclosed for your reply. I trust that you will find my request in order. It seems to me that years ago we had some correspondence over the 1st 1851 etc. I have your books.

Sincerely.,

George Underwood
George Underwood.

PS I SUPPOSE THE BLUE PENNUL
MARKS WERE PUT ON BY POST OFFICE
ROUTING CLERKS

Post Office Department

Received from:

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

P. O. BOX 31

33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE

FORT THOMAS, KY.

One piece of ordinary mail addressed

to Mr George Underwood

9 Hamilton Ave

AUBURN N.Y.



THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

March 15, 1956.

Mr. George Underwood,
9 Hamilton Ave.,
Auburn, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Underwood:

Replying to yours of the 10th, I am returning your two covers herewith. I note that one is postmarked, "Rastatt 19 JUN" (1866), so for a certain reason I will explain later, it is possible that the other was also a use in 1866, viz., 15 NOV. These are what are known as "depreciated currency covers."

Regarding the "19 JUN." This was sent unpaid by "Hamburg Mail," the rate being 15¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Hamburg's share of the 15¢ was 12¢, the U.S. share was 3¢. You will note the "Hamburg" marking is "JUN 23" and the "12" is the debit of that office to the U.S. P.O.D. The letter arrived at New York on "JUL 8" - and the postmark has a "15" at the top and a "23" at the bottom. These are the postage due figures. The top 15 was the sum payable in gold or its equivalent, the "23" if the addressee had none and had to pay in paper. You will doubtless recall that gold was quoted at quite a premium during the war and for a number of years after the long struggle. If the addressee paid in paper (or its equivalent) he was paying at the rate of 153 for gold. All of this because under our postal treaties in force at that time with foreign countries, quarterly settlements had to be made in gold or its equivalent, hence if the P.O.D. collected in paper and with paper had to buy gold to settle foreign obligations you can appreciate the loss that would have been sustained. In New York there was the "Gold Exchange" where gold was traded in the same as other commodities on other exchanges. The daily price of gold was the basis the P.O.D. used on incoming mail from foreign countries with whom we had treaties. I suppose that gold was quoted around 153 in July of 1866. It appears that the addressee could not be located when the letter arrived at Auburn and it was advertised on July 28. Advertised letters were subject to a fee of 1¢

The above will explain the meaning of the wording in the New York postmark, viz, "15¢ or 23¢ in U.S. notes." The marking in upper left corner are German and I do not know their meaning. I do not know the meaning of the blue pencil and pen marks.

Regarding the other cover. I judge this was November 1866 because it looks as though gold was a bit higher. Here the postage of 15¢ was due @ 25¢ in paper (notes), thus gold had climbed to around 166. I am sure you have heard of "Black Friday" = in 1869, when a corner was attempted in gold. The New York marking on this cover reads, "NEW YORK - NOV 28 25 - U.S. NOTES." It seems this letter got by without the Bremen or Hamburg exchange marking debiting the U.S. P.O.D. with "12"¢ in gold.

My fee for an analysis such as this is \$3.50 for the two covers.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE UNDERWOOD, JR.
9 HAMILTON AVE.
AUBURN, NEW YORK

March 17th., 1956.

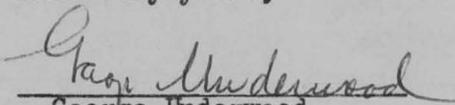
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook.,
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

Your very informative letter in answer to my inquiry arrived last Saturday. Thank you very much. It gives me a very clear picture of the troubles our POD had after the Civil War. Especially so since I am again reading the three books "SEWARD in WASHINGTON". Enclosed is my check to cover your fee which I think most reasonable.

As to the markings on the envelopes - the 2 in circle and the 5/10 I will write the Western Stamp Collector and they may be able to dig up the information. If my memory does not fail me "Black Friday" was September 24th., 1869 when as you say some persons tried to corner the "Gold Market" and might have succeeded if our Treasury Department had not stepped in to the picture. Again many thanks for the time and effort you gave my inquiry.

Sincerely yours,


George Underwood.

March 26, 1956.

Mr. George Underwood,
9 Hamilton Ave.,
Auburn, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Underwood:

Thanks very much for yours of the 17th with
check for \$3.50.

Re - "Depreciated Currency covers." Over the
years I have accumulated quite a bit of data on this
phase of our postal history and perhaps someday I will
be able to put it into shape for publication. It is
indeed a most interesting subject and I have no re-
collection that an article on such covers has ever
appeared in print. It extends down thru the years to
the time of "the resumption of specie payments" which
was quite a milestone.

Sincerely yours,

**WILSHIRE STAMP COMPANY***Postage Stamps For Collectors*

7758 SUNSET BOULEVARD

LOS ANGELES 46, CALIFORNIA

MARCH 15, 1956

MR. STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. BOX 31
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KY.

DEAR SIR:

WE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF MARCH 10TH WITH THE EXAMINED STAMPS. ENCLOSED HEREWITH IS OUR CHECK FOR \$3.00 COVERING THE EXAMINATION FEE. THANK YOU.

WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR OPINION ON THE ENCLOSED STAMPS: 1c (1851) ONE PAIR & 5 SINGLES; 10c - TWO SINGLES; 3c - ONE PAIR; 1857 ISSUE - 1c TWO SINGLES; 10c - ONE PAIR, THREE SINGLES AND ONE MARGIN BLOCK OF 4 OF THE 1c, UNUSED; ONE #66?; ONE COPY OF #10X2.

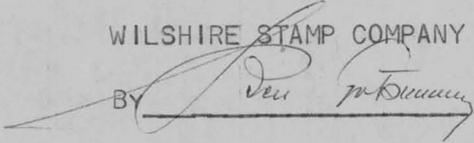
PLEASE MARK RESPECTIVE TYPES BELOW THE STAMPS ON THE SHEET. THANK YOU.

WE WILL REMIT YOUR FEE UPON THE RECEIPT OF YOUR BILL.

LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU, WE REMAIN

VERY TRULY YOURS,

WILSHIRE STAMP COMPANY

BY 

BG:NG

ENCLS.: AS LISTED ABOVE.

March 19, 1956.

Wilshire Stamp Co.,
409-11 North Larchmont Blvd.,
Los Angeles 4, Calif.

Gentlemen:

Herewith the items contained in yours of the 15th.

Re - the following:

One Cent 1857 - Plate 7 - Type V - block of 4. Positions
81, 82, 91, 92R7. This is a nice item and if it is for
sale I would like to buy it because I think it was severed
from a block that I have, consisting of 61, 62, 71, 72R7.

The Providence 10¢. This is a counterfeit.

The 3¢ 1861 - You had marked as #66. I will be glad to
show you a copy of the trial color #66 - the Lake if you
are not familiar with the shade.

I am charging you a bulk fee of \$4.00.

Sincerely yours,



WILSHIRE STAMP COMPANY

Postage Stamps For Collectors

7758 SUNSET BOULEVARD

LOS ANGELES 46, CALIFORNIA

MARCH 29, 1956

MR. STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. Box 31
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KY.

DEAR SIR:

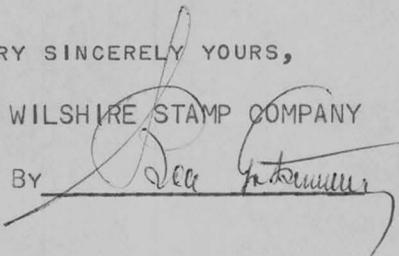
THIS IS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER OF MARCH 19TH, TOGETHER WITH THE STAMPS, THAT WE HAVE SENT FOR YOUR OPINION. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

THE 1c 1857 BLOCK OF 4, THAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN, WILL BE INCLUDED FOR SALE IN OUR NEXT AUCTION, TO BE HELD ON JUNE 5TH; WE WILL MAIL THE CATALOGUE OF THIS SALE EARLY IN MAY.

THANKING YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR PROMPT ATTENTION, WE REMAIN

VERY SINCERELY YOURS,

WILSHIRE STAMP COMPANY

BY 

BG:NG

ENCL.: CHECK FOR \$4.00.

COTTON FIBRE
ENGLISH BOND

April 4, 1956.

Wilshire Stamp Company,

409-11 No. Larchmont Blvd.,

Los Angeles 4, California.

Gentlemen:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the
29th with check for \$4.00.

Be sure and send me a catalogue of your June
sale. Is it too late for me to send you a few items
for the sale?

Very truly yours,

April 4, 1956.

Mr. Morris Fortgang,

114 East 84th Street,

New York 28, N.Y.

Dear Morris & Mort:

The owner of the block of four - Plate 7 -
8LR etc., has just advised me that the block will
be offered at auction in June and that he will advise
me later. I will advise you both.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

WILSHIRE STAMP COMPANY
409 NORTH LARCHMONT BLVD.
LOS ANGELES 4, CALIFORNIA



OR ADDRESS



MR. STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. Box 31
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KY.



MAIL

DEAR SIR:

THANKS FOR YOUR LETTER OF APRIL 4TH. SORRY, IT IS TOO LATE TO INCLUDE ANY MATERIAL IN OUR JUNE SALE, AS WE ARE ALREADY GOING TO PRESS WITH THE CATALOGUE FOR THAT SALE.

WE WOULD BE VERY GLAD TO HANDLE FOR YOU THE SALE OF ANY MATERIAL, WHICH YOU WOULD CARE TO SELL, IN OUR SEPTEMBER, 1956 PUBLIC AUCTION SALE.

THE CATALOGUE OF OUR JUNE AUCTION WILL BE MAILED TO YOU EARLY IN MAY.

LOOKING FORWARD TO BEING OF SERVICE TO YOU, AND IN THE MEANTIME, WITH KINDEST REGARDS, WE REMAIN

VERY TRULY YOURS,

Ben S. Sumner

4-10-56.

CARLTON HILL
BENJAMIN H. SHERMAN
CHARLES F. MERONI
J. ARTHUR GROSS
DONALD J. SIMPSON
M. R. CHAMBERS
RICHARD J. SCHWARZ
ANTHONY R. CHIARA
JAMES VAN SANTEN
CHARLES M. LINDROOTH
RICHARD M. S. MANAHAN
LEWIS T. STEADMAN
FREDERICK E. PAESLER
EBEN O. McNAIR, JR.
HERMAN J. GORDON
JOHN H. SHERMAN
OTTO R. KRAUSE
VAN METRE LUND
LLOYD L. ZICKERT
HENRIETTE MERTZ
ROBERT A. SPRAY
WILLIAM C. STUEBER
HARRY E. BURKE

HILL, SHERMAN, MERONI, GROSS & SIMPSON

THE FIRM OF CHARLES W. HILLS

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW

1414 MONADNOCK BUILDING

53 WEST JACKSON BLVD.

CHICAGO 4

March 20, 1956

CHARLES W. HILLS, SR. 1897-1950
CHARLES W. HILLS, JR. 1913-1943
FOREÉ BAIN 1895-1928
ALEXANDER C. MABEE 1911-1949

PATENT AND TRADE MARK
LAW EXCLUSIVELY

CABLE ADDRESS-HILLSFORD, CHICAGO
TELEPHONE HARRISON 7-7160

WASHINGTON OFFICE
MUNSEY BUILDING
1329 E STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

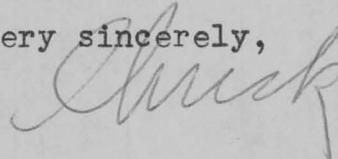
Dear Stanley:

I am enclosing three covers, one with a 5¢ 1851 issue and each of the others with that issue in combination with a 10¢ 1851 issue, as I thought you might like to note them in your records. They are on letters that are all part of the same correspondence and were purchased by me recently in a French auction. Enclosed is a self-addressed and stamped envelope for you to return them to me after you have noted them.

You will recall that in my sale by Fox, there was one of these covers that I bought from Gordon Harmer which you classified as being a "phoney". I believe the enclosed covers are all okay as they were used at the proper time. The single copy was used to pay the U.S. postage with the foreign postage unpaid. Each of the other two were used subsequent to the treaty date and prepaid the 15¢ postage rate. I hope I am correct in my analysis as, in my opinion, this combination is much scarcer than the 5¢ and 10¢ 1847 due to the short time that these imperforate stamps could be used in this combination prior to the issuance several months later of the perforated issue.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely,



CFM/dg
Encls.

March 22, 1956.

Mr. Charles F. Meroni,
1414 Monadnock Bldg.,
Chicago 4, Ill.

Dear Chuck:

Herewith the three covers as per yours of the 20th. I was pleased to see these and I made color transparencies of them. Of course, all three are as good as gold. You are quite correct - covers showing the treaty rate of 15¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. paid by a combination of the 5¢ 1856 plus a 10¢ 1855 are, in my opinion, much more scarce than is generally supposed and especially is this true when the 10¢ happens to be a Type I. Your cover shows a superb copy - fresh, early impression of that stamp.

Re - the cover with the 5¢ 1856. The correct term for this payment is, the "U.S. Internal of 5¢ under the U.S.-British Postal Treaty of 1848." It is the "U.S. Internal" - not a domestic - not a rate - not a shore to ship. Note the marking "G.B. LF 60C". This is only found on covers from the U.S. to France, during the three months period of January, February and March of 1857. It was provided for in the Anglo-French Treaty of September 1856, effective about Jan. 1st, 1857. Thus covers with the 5¢ and showing this "Treaty mark" are much scarcer than those used during 1856 and without it. This is quite a nice stamp on this cover.

One more point about these covers. Two of them were despatched from Boston by Cunard mail ship - one from New York by the same line, this the 5¢ cover from New York on Feb. 18, 1857. The Cunard sailings at this period were every other Wednesday from Boston and New York. In 1857 Feb. 18 fell on Wednesday. The 15¢ cover with New York May 19 was sent up to Boston for the sailing of Wednesday, May 20, 1857. The other 15¢ shows Boston Aug. 26 which was Wednesday.

Again thanks for the look and examination.

With best wishes from Mildred and I to Mrs. Meroni and you.

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Again re - the 5¢ Internal. Strange to relate we very seldom see a "double 5¢ Internal." Such would be a piece of mail over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. but not over 1 oz. A cover with two times the internal paid by a 10¢ 1855 is extremely rare and I certainly would like to see the "internal" paid by a pair of the 5¢ 1856, or any other combination of the imperforate stamps. Also don't expect to see a 3 x 5¢ as there was no such a thing under the treaty as a triple rate at this period - the internal was 5¢ - 10¢ - 20¢ - etc. - no triple. Just very interesting points to bear in mind.

S.B.A.

CARLTON HILL
BENJAMIN H. SHERMAN
CHARLES F. MERONI
J. ARTHUR GROSS
DONALD J. SIMPSON
M. R. CHAMBERS
RICHARD J. SCHWARZ
ANTHONY R. CHIARA
JAMES VAN SANTEN
CHARLES M. LINDROOTH
RICHARD M. S. MANAHAN
LEWIS T. STEADMAN

FREDERICK E. PAESLER
EBEN O. McNAIR, JR.
HERMAN J. GORDON
JOHN H. SHERMAN
OTTO R. KRAUSE
VAN METRE LUND
LLOYD L. ZICKERT
HENRIETTE MERTZ
ROBERT A. SPRAY
WILLIAM C. STUEBER
HARRY E. BURKE

HILL, SHERMAN, MERONI, GROSS & SIMPSON

THE FIRM OF CHARLES W. HILLS

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW

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53 WEST JACKSON BLVD.

CHICAGO 4

March 23, 1956

CHARLES W. HILLS, SR. 1897-1950
CHARLES W. HILLS, JR. 1913-1943
FOREE BAIN 1895-1928
ALEXANDER C. MABEE 1911-1949

PATENT AND TRADE MARK
LAW EXCLUSIVELY

CABLE ADDRESS-HILLSFORD, CHICAGO
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WASHINGTON OFFICE
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1329 E STREET, N. W.
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Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

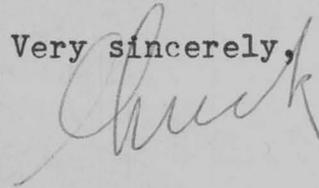
Dear Stanley:

I am indeed appreciative of the promptness with which you returned the three 5¢ '51 covers to me and your thorough analysis of their postal significance. You sure have an amazing knowledge of early U.S. postal history.

I do not have too much in the way of the 5¢ '51 issue although I was fortunate enough to buy several of the strips off cover in the Caspary sale. That man was fantastic from the standpoint of his ability to get together such choice as well as scarce Philatelic properties.

Thanking you again for your courtesy and kindness and with best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely,



CFM/dg

3-23-56

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for yours of the 20th.

Edgar certainly has a remarkable memory for covers. He also has a reference file with photographs and clippings about covers that interest him. I am always amused by his bringing out a photograph made 10 - 15 years ago of some cover which I have bought in an auction, and which he has failed to spot. He acts like a little boy whose pet puppy has run away, but finally came back home. When the Caspary cover with the strip of 6 - Photo IE from Sacramento, Cal came on the market, he was quite excited, but kept telling me that he knew of an earlier and better one, and that he was trying to get it. Just about the time of the sale he told me he had obtained it, and would show it to me, but I have never seen it. He also needed the cover with the 10¢ Type IV from Downeville, but of course could not pay the price.

Hindes system of besting the income tax people was worked out by his attorney, and approved by the U.S. Treasury Dept. It could only be used by individuals in very high brackets, in fact the higher, the better. Briefly it works something like this; if you are in a 90% bracket, and wish to give to a charity or an institution, acceptable to the income tax authorities for tax deductions, for every \$10 given, it still costs you \$1. If you gave \$10,000 away, it still costs the individual \$1,000, because, if he had kept the money, he would have given \$9,000 to the Government and have \$1,000 for himself. If he had happened to buy \$10,000 worth of stamps, and decided to give these instead of money to an institution, and they were willing to accept same, and providing the stamps had been appraised by competent experts as being worth \$10,000, he could claim the same deductions, as if it were money, and he would still be out a net of \$1,000, although he had made a gift of \$10,000.

Now let us assume that after purchasing the \$10,000 worth of stamps he keeps them a year or two, perhaps longer and is able to get them appraised at \$11,000; then he gets a credit for tax purposes of \$11,000, when he makes the gift and theoretically the collection has cost him nothing, because if he had kept the original \$10,000 he would have had to pay the Government \$9,000 and would have had only \$1,000 for himself, which he has given away when he donates the collection, but on the appraisal of \$11,000 he picks up an extra thousand for himself; so he is now even. For every thousand he gets above \$11,000 in appraisal values, he makes that much money for himself. If he can get the collection appraised at \$15,000, he has picked up \$4,000 for himself, etc.

Now in order to maintain some control over the collection, he makes an agreement with the institution receiving the collection that they will not sell the collection until his death, and that during his lifetime he will be appointed curator of the collection and that at any time he may as he desires have up to 20% of the collection in his possession for the purpose of adding new material to it.

Although eventually the collection leaves the family vaults, there are very few instances that I know of, that this becomes a very important matter. Few sons or widows or heirs are interested in the collection for itself, but only in its monetary value. Thruout the lifetime of the owner, he may control and enjoy the collection as he sees fit, give money or equivalent value to his favorite college or charity, and in the end have it sold back to the world of collectors upon his death. Meantime he can do it for nothing, or in fact make a little money on the deal, providing he buys wisely year in and year out and has it appraised wisely.

(over)

Sincerely

(signed) W. Scott Pollard

P.S.--Hides talks about this freely, so see no reason not to use the information, if you desire, providing no names are mentioned.

MATTHEW. E. HAZELTINE, M.D.
W. SCOTT POLLAND, M.D.
HOWARD HAMMOND JR., M.D.
ARNOLD A. NUTTING, M.D.
AUSTIN W. LEA, M.D.
JOHN H. CARR, M.D.

ALBERT BUILDING
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE GLENWOOD 4-2451

3-23-56

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

Thanks for yours of the 20th.

Edgar certainly has a remarkable memory for covers. He also has a reference file with photographs and clippings about covers that interest him. I am always amused by his bringing out a photograph made 10-15 years ago of some cover which I have bought in an auction, and which he has failed to spot. He acts like a little boy whose felt puppy has ~~run~~ away, but finally come back home. When the company over with the strip of 6 - Plate I E from Sacramento, Cal came on the market, he was quite excited, but kept telling me that he knew of an earlier and better one, and that he was trying to get it. Just about the time of the sale he told me he had obtained it, and would show it to me, but I have never seen it. He also needed the cover with the 10-14 Type IV from Downsville, but of course could not pay the price.

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Now let us assume that after purchasing the 10,000 worth of stamps he keeps them a year or two, perhaps longer and is able to get them appraised at 11,000; then he gets a credit for tax purposes of 11,000, when he makes the gift and theoretically the collection has cost him nothing, because if he had kept the original 10,000 he would have had to pay the government 9,000 and would have had only 1,000 for himself, which he has given away, but on the appraisal of 11,000 he picks up an extra thousand for himself; so he is now even. For every thousand he gets about 11,000 in appraisal values, he makes that much money for himself. If he can get the collection appraised at 15,000, he has picked up 4,000 for himself etc.

Now in order to maintain some control over the collection, he makes an agreement with the institutions receiving the collection that they will not sell the collection until his death, and that during his lifetime

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SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA
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He will be appointed curator of the collection and that at any time he may as he desires have up to 20% of the collection in his possession for the purpose of adding new material to it.

Although eventually the collector leaves the family vaults, there are very few instances that I know of, that this becomes a very important matter. Few sons or widows or heirs are interested in the collection for itself, but only in its monetary value. Through the life time of the owner, he may control and enjoy the collection as he sees fit, give money or equivalent value to his favorite college or charity, and ⁱⁿ this end have it sold back to the world of collectors upon his death. Meantime he can do it for nothing, or in fact make a little money on the deal, providing he buys wisely year in and year out and has it appraised wisely.

Sincerely
Matthew Polland

P.S. Under talks about this July, so see no name not to ask
(over)

The repetition, if you desire, providing no
names are mentioned.

WSP.

Feb. 20, 1956.

Mr. J. E. Rasdale,
505 East Walker St.,
St. Johns, Mich.

Dear Joe:

Here is a photo of a 10¢ 1847 that was sold in the Caspary sale last month. You will note that the stamp is tied to cover by a square grid of a type that was used at New York during the life of the 1847 stamps. I have no record that the Kalamazoo office ever used this square grid. All the markings on this cover are in red - in a bright vermillion. Do you know whether a square grid was used at Kalamazoo? I am a bit suspicious about this cover. It could have been a stampless sent unpaid with 10¢ due to which some faker added a 10¢ '47 (that had been used at New York), and he painted the "tie" on the cover. I seriously doubt if this is what happened but I would like to know if a cover or covers are known used at Kalamazoo with a square grid. The Detroit office used a square grid but as far as I am aware, not during the life of the 1847 stamps. Fred Schmalzreidt recently advised me that his earliest record of the square grid at Detroit was in the spring of 1853.

The Caspary cover was Lot 152 in the sale and sold @ \$420.00. I judge that this high price was realized solely on the feature of a New York type square grid used at an office other than New York.

I am not sure whether the red ink of the grid is exactly the same color as the postmark and the "10" but I believe the match is very good.

We are leaving tomorrow for Norfolk and expect to be gone ten days, so there is no hurry for reply, to this letter. Any information you can give me will be greatly appreciated.

With best wishes -

Sincerely yours,

Copy to
J.G.Fleckenstein

Feb. 20, 1956.

Mr. Philip G. Rust,
Route 5,
Thomasville, Ga.

Dear Phil:

I quote as follows from a letter from Creighton Hart dated the 17th, quote:

"Re: Survey: In addition to learning that certain '47 covers are scarce from some states, I have learned that one value of the '47 issue may be common from certain states but the other value very scarce. For example, New Jersey covers with a 5¢ are common, (my list includes 23) but the 10¢ is damn scarce (my list only 1). The only covers I list from Florida have a 10¢, Missouri received 47,000 5¢ but I have found only one cover that bore a single 5¢. I believe most of the 5¢ were used to pay a 10¢ rate." (unquote)

I think this sort of data that he is compiling is rather interesting and of value.

Mildred and I are leaving tomorrow for Norfolk and we will probably be away until the 5th.

Re - that Caspary Kalamazoo square grid. I never heard of this town using a square grid. I hate to question a cover that is probably as good as gold - but I wonder if this was an unpaid stampless to which some joker added a 10¢ '47 that had been used at New York. Any guess on your part?

Best wishes -

Cordially yours,

March 12, 1956.

Mr. Bernard Harmer,
% H. R. Harmer, Inc.,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

Re - Lot 152 in the January Caspary sale. Perhaps you noticed that I gave this cover a write-up in my current Service Issue and furnished a photograph. I did this on purpose and my remarks on the last page of my Issue was prompted by this cover. I am very suspicious of this item for several reasons. First, and foremost, is that the stamp is in an odd place, for example, had this been a stampless, the place the stamp occupies would have been the logical place for it. Second, I never saw another use of this square grid at Kalamazoo and I have been unable to locate a single student of Michigan postal history who is familiar with such a use at that office. What I suspect is that this was a stampless cover to which some faker added a 10¢ 1847 that had previously been used at New York City.

I suggest that you call the attention of Mr. Buck and Mr. Bloch to this letter and I would like to know what the three of you think of my suspicion. Further, can Mr. Hart, the buyer and present owner, obtain a refund if the three of you feel that he would be justified in requesting same in the event I so advised him?

In connection with the above, my good friend Fred Schmalzriedt, a very prominent attorney in Detroit, has specialized in Michigan covers for years and in my opinion he is the best posted student in the country on Michigan Postal markings. It hardly seems possible to me that Mr. Schmalzriedt would not be familiar with a square grid if one was ever used at that office.

I trust my suspicion is entirely groundless and that proof of the genuineness can be established. In the meantime, an old-time Michigan dealer has informed me he does not believe the cover is genuine.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.
KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

March 15, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

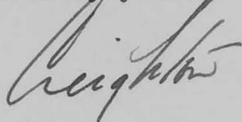
My trip to New York was delayed until next week and your letter of March 12 has been forwarded to me from there.

I appreciate you writing Mr. Harmer about the Kalamazoo cover and naturally I hope that you will find the cover genuine, because it represents an extremely unusual use of the New York square grid which is exceedingly interesting from a postal history standpoint.

Mannel Hahn on page 23 of his book on "Postal Markings of the United States '47" says that the New York diagonal grid may have been used elsewhere. I do not know where he got his information.

I am returning the Kalamazoo cover to you so you may re-examine it. My display at the Fipex will include a cover from 33 of the 35 areas to officially receive supplies of the 1847s and the covers displayed from each area will be selected because of their uniqueness and I have planned on displaying the Kalamazoo cover as the representative cover from Michigan. I have several weeks before the display has to be ready but, of course, I would like to know as soon as possible what your decision is.

Sincerely yours



C. C. Hart

CCH/mlw

P.S. I'll keep your letter to Harmer confidential. I'll be interested in their reply.

Re cover: The cover is probably genuine with a Kalamazoo grid or a fake. However, the townmark + 10 major have been stamped at Kalamazoo without cancelling the stamp. & the letter routed from K - to Lockport via N.Y.C. On arrival there the postmaster noticed the stamp uncanceled

connected with the N.Y. girl. Probably this didn't
happen. Do you think the girl in this stamp is
identical or nearly so with the N.Y. girl? i.e. same
number of bars and same size square, etc. If it's
a fake it's an excellent one. If you want to
"lift" the stamp, it is ok with one of Hamner
does not object. "It's the story behind the cover
that makes it interesting."

March 27th, 1956.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

I have not had any reply from Bernard Harmer re -
the 10¢ 1847 cover which I am now convinced is a fake,
and I believe that I could easily prove this to be a
fact. The ink of the postmark is entirely different
from that of the grid on the stamp and the painted tie
on of same on the cover.

At this late date I do not know if they will
take it back or not but perhaps on my recommendation
they will do so. It is worse than poison itself for an
auction firm to make a refund of this nature.

Kindly advise if I should hold the cover or return
it to you or to Harmer.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

RESERVE PLAN, INC.
922 WALNUT STREET
KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

March 29, 1956

Mr. Bernard Harmer
6 W. 48th Street
New York 36, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Harmer:

In the second Caspary sale I purchased a 10¢ 1847 cover cancelled with a red square grid from Kalamazoo Michigan. I submitted it to Mr. Stanley Ashbrook for his opinion on its genuineness and he advises me that it has a faked cancellation on the stamp and he thinks he can prove it.

I realize that the period for returning misrepresented items for refund has passed but I feel sure that neither the executors of the estate nor you will want me to keep it and I want to return it. I delayed sending the cover to Mr. Ashbrook for his opinion partly because of the holiday season but principally because I felt that for an item to be ex-Caspary was almost synonymous with it being genuine. I'd appreciate it if you will explain my request to the executors or if you prefer, I will be happy to write them direct.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Ashbrook and also to Ezra Cole, who acted as my agent at the sale.

Yours very truly

C. C. Hart

cc Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Mr. Ezra Cole

ESTABLISHED 1928

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.
KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

March 29, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

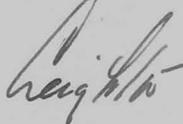
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Re Kalamazoo cover: Please hold this cover. I am writing Bernard Harmer today and I will advise you when I hear from him.

Re Augusta, Ga. 5¢ 1847: I have a copy of Mr. MacBride's letter to you of March 26. The only reason Mr. Boggs ever gave me for not giving a certificate on this cover is because the P.F. were not sure the state was Pa. and not La. More later after I check further on the 1861 or 1862 date.

Re Sperati counterfits: In Chicago I purchased from Elmer Stuart three Sperati counterfits, a 10¢ '47, a 5¢ N.Y. and a 10¢ confederate rose. Would you like to see them. Do you have any way to mark them indelibly to show they are works of Sperati? If so, I'd like them so marked. I want to keep the 10¢ '47 but will sell the other two if you know of a collector who hankers for one.

Sincerely



C. C. Hart

CCH/hh

PLAZA 7-4460

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 3-6481

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS

H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H · R · HARMER, Inc.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

~~32 EAST 57TH STREET~~
~~NEW YORK 22, N. Y.~~

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W. I.
AND 2b CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

AT OUR NEW ENLARGED GALLERIES
6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

Mr. C. C. Hart
Suite 1020 Commerce Building
922 Walnut Street
Kansas City 6, Missouri

3rd
April
1956

Dear Mr. Hart:

This acknowledges your letter of March 29th regarding Lot 152 from the Caspary Sale of January 16-18, purchased by Ezra Cole.

As concerns the authenticity of the item, you state that Mr. Ashbrook advises you that it has a faked cancellation. Neither in his "Special Service" where he discusses the item nor in a letter to me does he express so strong an opinion. Rather he states that no example of this particular grid has yet been found as emanating from Kalamazoo which as I see it merely makes it impossible to confirm genuineness rather than state that it is faked.

On the question of the returning of the item, when Mr. Ashbrook wrote me a while ago that there was some doubt over the item due to the absence of confirmatory material I immediately approached the Estate to ascertain their views in the event a definite adverse opinion was obtained.

They advised me very definitely that, in their opinion the "Conditions of Sale" gave ample opportunity to buyers to obtain opinions and that if no action was taken in this direction they would not hold themselves responsible once they had received payment.

On our part you will appreciate equally that we offer these auction terms, as agents, for the protection of buyers and it is obviously their obligation to advise us within the times specified that they wish to obtain opinions so that we do not make payment to the Estate.

These "Conditions of Sale", by the Attorney of the American Stamp Dealers' Association, were prepared to protect the vendor, the buyer and the auctioneer. We are happy to abide by them and equally must ask buyers to do the same as ob-

viously as agents we cannot accumulate a responsibility through the years amounting to tens of millions of dollars.

Very truly yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Director

BDH:E

CC: Mr. S. Ashbrook
Mr. Ezra D. Cole

P.S. Just to clarify one minor point. From our point of view Mr. Cole did not act as your agent as the billing was not in your name but in his. He is the legal purchaser of this lot.

3 Slides \$4⁵⁰
charged

April 5, 1956.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

I am today in receipt of the copy of the letter from Bernard Harmer re - the Kalamazoo cover. Comment by me would be superfluous. I am returning the cover herewith.

I remember a case where a questionable cover was submitted to the Philatelic Foundation Expert Committee in January. They did not render a certificate until the following May.

I am enclosing three color slides. These prove that the grid on the stamp is in an entirely different ink than that was used for the postmark and "10" both in composition and shade. The ink of the latter was a sticky mixture and left an outline around the letters. The ink of the grid was a thin composition and did not leave any outline.

It is my opinion that this was a stampless cover - sent unpaid, to which some faker added a 10¢ 1847, which had been used and canceled at New York City. It is my opinion that the Kalamazoo Post Office never used a square grid such as this.

I am charging you for the three slides herewith. I made others but they have not been processed as yet.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Enclosed:
3 slides
A97 - 35 - 36 - 37
@ \$1.50 each.

April 5, 1956.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

Re - the enclosed letter about the Kalamazoo cover. I would prefer that you do not show it to Harmer, but I have no objection if you quote from it to Harmer and Cole. Nor do I have any objection if you show the three slides to them.

When I receive a letter, I reply as promptly as possible. I think plain decency demands an acknowledgement. Under date of March 12th, I wrote a very nice letter to Bernard Harmer about your cover. I never received any acknowledgement whatsoever. For this reason I will not write him about the copy of the letter he sent me.

I intend to write up this cover in my May 1st Service and brand it as a fake and I will emphasize the fact that Harmer refused to make a refund to you. Thus buyers should beware.

I believe I sent you a copy of the letter I sent Harmer dated March 12th. Who in all the world could have passed on this cover any sooner than I did? Do you think any of those "Experts" on the P.F. Committee would have the slightest idea whether this cover was good or bad?

I tried to save you the cost but it looks like I failed.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

April 6, 1956.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack, N.Y.

Dear Ezra:

I suppose by this time you are back home.

Please treat the following as confidential. I made a very exhaustive study of the 10¢ 1847 Kalamazoo cover in the Caspary sale that you bought for Mr. Hart. There is no question but what it is a fake and I advised Mr. Hart of this fact. On March 12th, I wrote Bernard Harmer that I suspected the stamp was not used on this cover. He never had the decency to reply to my letter, hence I am not writing him further about the matter. When I receive a letter I reply as soon as possible, provided the letter is not from some screwball. Mr. Hart wrote Harmer that I had informed him the cover was a fake and that he would return it. I suppose Bernard sent you a copy of his reply to Mr. Hart.

It is as plain as day that the ink of the grid is not the same as that of the Kalamazoo postmark or the rate marking "10." Incidentally, I did not base my opinion on the fact that this is the only cover I have ever seen with a 10¢ 1847 canceled with a square grid at Kalamazoo, though I consider this a point to be considered. I furnished Hart with color slides which prove the difference in the composition of the ink.

I suspected this cover was bad from the time I first saw it but I had to be careful in voicing an opinion until I was sure of my ground. If it was good I did not wish to cast any suspicion on it to damage its value. I wrote it up in my Service for the sole purpose of trying to obtain information, but I inserted a notice at the end of the Issue, warning readers that just because I described an item in an issue must not be taken for granted that I considered the item genuine. I had this cover in mind. I communicated with various authorities on Michigan postal markings and no one I contacted had any data re - the use at any time of a square grid at the Kalamazoo post office.

In my opinion this was a stampless cover sent unpaid - hence the rate stamp - to which some crook added a 10¢ 1847 stamp which had previously been used and canceled at New York City - To "paint" the tie was a very simple matter. This trick is something that is not new in the faking of covers as you well know. If this cover was genuine, the stamp would have shown prepayment and also the rate, so it would not have been necessary to show the rate by the rate "10" marking. I am conscious this point in itself proves little but it is something to consider. What does prove that the cover is bad is the two inks and their composition. One was a thick sticky substance used for the postmark and rate mark "10" and is a bright vermillion. The other, used for the grid was a very thin substance - not stocky or at all like the other - Further, tests show it is the orange red, the same as used at New York.

The above is for your information in case you discuss this cover with Harmer,

#2. Mr. Ezra D. Cole - April 6, 1956.

Block and Buck, but I do not want you to show this letter to them.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H·R·HARMER, Inc.
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W. I.
AND 26 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

4th
April
1956

Dear Stan:

With further reference to your letter of March 12th concerning Lot 152 from Caspary Sale Two, I was in communication with the Caspary Estate who advised me that they do not wish to create a precedent by accepting responsibility for any item which is subsequently turned down where the purchases has not, on his part, carried out the requirements of Condition of Sale V.

It is of course extremely difficult to express an opinion on the item in question as one is not so much proving that it is bad but being unable to supply any confirmation that it is good. I believe that this is a long time acquisition of Mr. Caspary's as there appears to be no record of it in any of the big sales that have taken place in more recent years and if this is correct, it is rather peculiar that somebody went to the trouble of placing a stamp which is excellent on its own behalf on a cover when there was not too much premium applying to covers back in those days.

With kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard.

Director

BDH:E

April 7, 1956.

Mr. Bernhard D. Harmer,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

I am in receipt of yours of the 4th, re - the 10¢ 1847, Kalamazoo cover. There is no question in my opinion that the stamp was not used originally on this cover. I was suspicious of this cover from the beginning but I had to be careful of any adverse expression pending my investigation. I purposely gave this cover a write-up in my March 1st Service Issue, hoping I could bring to light some facts, but at the end of that Issue I inserted a memo to the effect that because I discuss an item must not be construed in all cases that I consider it genuine.

I made a number of enlarged color slides of the postmark, the grid on the stamp and the rate stamp "10" and I believe that it is as plain as day that the ink of the grid is not the same as that of the Kalamazoo postmark or the rate marking "10." Incidentally, I did not base my opinion on the fact that this is the only cover I have ever seen with a 10¢ '47 canceled with a square grid at Kalamazoo, though I feel sure this is an important point to be considered. I contacted a number of collectors who are students of Michigan postal markings and not one of them had ever seen a cover showing use at Kalamazoo of a square grid. However, I certainly did not consider this proof conclusive that the cover was bad.

In my opinion, this was a stampless cover sent unpaid and rated "10" due, hence the rate stamp, to which some crook added a 10¢ 1847 stamp which had previously been used and canceled at New York City. To "paint" the "tie" was a very simple matter. This trick is something that is not new in the faking of covers as you are well aware. I am sure I am.

If this cover had been genuine, the 10¢ stamp would have shown prepayment and also the rate, so it would not have been necessary to show the rate by the rate "10" stamper. I am conscious that this point in itself proves little but it is something to consider. In my opinion, what does prove that the cover is not genuine is the difference in the two inks, both in composition and color. The ink of the postmark and "10" was a thick sticky substance, and was a bright vermillion. The other ink used for the square grid was a thin substance - not sticky or at all like the other. Further, my tests show that the ink used on the 10¢ stamp is orange red, the same as used at New York.

Because I purposely gave the impression in my March Service Issue that the cover was not questioned, I will have to give the facts as I see them unless there is an objection on the part of Mr. Hart or you. If so, I will delay such a write-up until later.

It is my opinion, that the Caspary Estate should refund to Mr. Hart the purchase price of this cover. I believe that they are honor-bound to do so. I am

#2. Mr. Bernard D. Harmer, Spril 7, 1956.

not of the opinion that the buyer of an expensive item should be the one to prove beyond a question of a doubt that the item he purchased is genuine. That should be up to the seller and I believe that any Court of law would take this view. Further, I wonder if an auction firm or its principal could name rules regarding an auction sale that would be contrary to law? I refer to the rule you published, viz: "provided that such claim is received by H. R. Harmer, Inc. within a period of twenty-one days from the date of the auction." It is not always possible for an expert or an expert committee to give an opinion within that length of time. I remember a questionable cover that was submitted to the Philatelic Foundation Expert Committee some years ago in January and they did not give an opinion until the following May.

If the Caspary Estate refuses to make a refund to Mr. Hart, I believe a very bad precedent will be set. I cannot believe that they will do such a thing.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Copy to
C.C.Hart
Ezra Cole
E.C.Krug

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.
KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

April 6, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Box 31
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

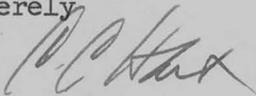
The Jackson, Mississippi and Kalamazoo covers have been received.

Re Kalamazoo: I do not intend to go into this further until I see Ezra in New York and talk with him. I'm glad you are going to write up this cover in your May issue of Special Service and I'm so angry now, I wish you would do the same in a widely circulated stamp magazine stressing Ex-Caspary, a fake, - Harmer refuses a refund - buyers beware. However, it might hurt future sale prices and result in eliminating the very slight chance that philately might benefit from the Caspary estate. I wonder what the P. F. would say if the cover were submitted to them. I'm tempted to do so, but won't.

Re Jackson, Miss: H. R. Harmer sale April 11th, Lot 395 is a Jackson Miss. The stamp does not look tied. However, same grid as on mine, also in red. If it has a year date, would you opinionize favorably? I'm wiring Harmer for year date, if any, on both lots 395 and 396.

Sorry to send this special delivery but maybe I can have your answer by Monday. I hope your sleep is not disturbed.

Sincerely



C. C. Hart

CCH/hh

P.S. I'm seriously considering exhibiting the Kalamazoo at the Fipex as a Michigan cover. I think it might be of interest to collectors because of your findings.

P.S. (2) Jackson received 400 10¢ October 17, 1847 and 400 more '50-'51.

Also supplies of the 5¢.

C.C.H.

April 7, 1956.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

I am just in receipt of your Air Special of yesterday.

Re - the Kalamazoo - what we want to do is to get your money back so I suggest that you return the cover to Bernard Harmer, together with the three slides that I sent you as soon as possible. I believe I can persuade him to refund to you the purchase price. It would not be possible for Ezra to do anything in my opinion. We must work direct with Bernard. I do not think he can afford to refuse my advice in this matter. Please don't submit the cover to the P.F. I wonder what I could do or say to convince you that an opinion by that group is not worth the paper used.

I noticed Lot 395 in the H.R. Harmer sale of Apr. 11th. I would have to carefully examine this cover before I could express an opinion. Year use and nature of the "tie" would be important factors of course.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

April 7, 1956.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

I had a letter today from Bernard Harmer regarding my letter to him of March 12th. I thought you would be interested in my reply.

If my slides - such as the three I sent you - fail to convince them the cover is bad, then there could only be one conclusion, viz., they do not wish to be convinced.

I believe I will get you a refund.

Regards.

Cordially yours,

April 7, 1956.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack, N.Y.

Dear Ezra:

At long last I had a letter from Bernard relative to the letter I wrote him March 12th. I enclose herewith a copy of my reply.

Yours etc.,

April 7, 1956.

Mr. Bernhard D. Harmer,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

I am in receipt of yours of the 4th, re - the 10¢ 1847, Kalamazoo cover. There is no question in my opinion that the stamp was not used originally on this cover. I was suspicious of this cover from the beginning but I had to be careful of any adverse expression pending my investigation. I purposely gave this cover a write-up in my March 1st Service Issue, hoping I could bring to light some facts, but at the end of that Issue I inserted a memo to the effect that because I discuss an item must not be construed in all cases that I consider it genuine.

I made a number of enlarged color slides of the postmark, the grid on the stamp and the rate stamp "10" and I believe that it is as plain as day that the ink of the grid is not the same as that of the Kalamazoo postmark or the rate marking "10." Incidentally, I did not base my opinion on the fact that this is the only cover I have ever seen with a 10¢ '47 canceled with a square grid at Kalamazoo, though I feel sure this is an important point to be considered. I contacted a number of collectors who are students of Michigan postal markings and not one of them had ever seen a cover showing use at Kalamazoo of a square grid. However, I certainly did not consider this proof conclusive that the cover was bad.

In my opinion, this was a stamless cover sent unpaid and rated "10" due, hence the rate stamp, to which some crook added a 10¢ 1847 stamp which had previously been used and canceled at New York City. To "paint" the "tie" was a very simple matter. This trick is something that is not new in the faking of covers as you are well aware. I am sure I am.

If this cover had been genuine, the 10¢ stamp would have shown prepayment and also the rate, so it would not have been necessary to show the rate by the rate "10" stamper. I am conscious that this point in itself proves little but it is something to consider. In my opinion, what does prove that the cover is not genuine is the difference in the two inks, both in composition and color. The ink of the postmark and "10" was a thick sticky substance, and was a bright vermillion. The other ink used for the square grid was a thin substance - not sticky or at all like the other. Further, my tests show that the ink used on the 10¢ stamp is orange red, the same as used at New York.

Because I purposely gave the impression in my March Service Issue that the cover was not questioned, I will have to give the facts as I see them unless there is an objection on the part of Mr. Hart or you. If so, I will delay such a write-up until later.

It is my opinion, that the Caspary Estate should refund to Mr. Hart the purchase price of this cover. I believe that they are honor-bound to do so. I am

#2. Mr. Bernard D. Harner, April 7, 1956.

not of the opinion that the buyer of an expensive item should be the one to prove beyond a question of a doubt that the item he purchased is genuine. That should be up to the seller and I believe that any Court of law would take this view. Further, I wonder if an auction firm or its principal could name rules regarding an auction sale that would be contrary to law? I refer to the rule you published, viz: "provided that such claim is received by H. F. Harner, Inc. within a period of twenty-one days from the date of the auction." It is not always possible for an expert or an expert committee to give an opinion within that length of time. I remember a questionable cover that was submitted to the Philatelic Foundation Expert Committee some years ago in January and they did not give an opinion until the following May.

If the Caspary Estate refuses to make a refund to Mr. Hart, I believe a very bad precedent will be set. I cannot believe that they will do such a thing.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Copy to
C.C. Hart
Ezra Cole

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

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RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

17th
April
1956

Dear Stan:

This acknowledges with thanks your letter of April 7th regarding the Kalamazoo cover.

Whilst obviously the possibility that the cover is not genuine exists, I do not feel that the arguments against it are sufficient to definitely state that it is bad. Is there absolute proof that

1. Kalamazoo did not have a square grid?
2. Lockport did not have a square grid?
3. For some peculiar reason the cover travelled uncanceled via New York where it was cancelled and thence to Lockport?

I think it is agreed that Postmasters were instructed that in any instance where a cover arrived with a stamp uncanceled they were to cancel it, officially by a pen-cancellation, but actually often by any grid or postmark that was handy.

Quite obviously you are at liberty to write in your Special Service your views on the cover but if you state that the item is definitely bad and I am able to get a satisfactory opinion to the contrary, an awkward position can arise.

Dealing with the responsibility of the Caspary Estate in connection with this item, I think you are wrong in assuming that they are honor-bound to refund. They have instructed me to sell certain stamps and I have agreed to sell these stamps under the conditions of sale which are printed in each catalogue. Any purchaser who wishes to buy these stamps must obviously buy these under the same conditions of sale and must accept these conditions of sale as being fair and reasonable to all parties. Mr. Cole is of course aware that on occasions it is impossible to obtain an opinion within 21 days of an auction and it is general knowledge that this

period is extended where we have been advised that an opinion is being obtained but it is not received by this time. On numerous occasions we have held up payments to a vendor for several months awaiting the final decision on an item and no harm has come from this as no payment has been made to the vendor.

In this instance however I received no advice from Mr. Cole, no advice from Mr. Hart and no advice from you until sometime after the Estate had been paid.

This is unfortunate but under the conditions of sale no responsibility can be attached to the Estate and nor do I feel can any responsibility be attached to ourselves as this is an extremely difficult item and there is no question of carelessness or lack of judgment on our part. We have exercised, we feel, throughout the Caspary and in fact all our sales, reasonable care and attention in describing of items and we believe that that is as far as our moral and legal obligation requires us to go.

As an aside I would point out that in the fine art field items are sold "as is" and the moment the hammer is knocked down the purchaser is responsible for the lot, irrespective of whether it is genuine or a rank forgery. In the absence of any law suits against such outfits as Parke-Bernet Galleries, who are not invincible in knowledge, quite obviously even their stringent terms would stand up in a court of law. Much more so therefore would ours where reasonable time is given to purchasers to make whatever checks they wish to make.

Concerning your final paragraph, the refusal of the Estate to make a refund is not setting a precedent but continuing a normal procedure. If they had decided to make a refund this would set a precedent which could get them into the ridiculous position where, after the complete Estate had been closed and all funds passed to charity, claims could be made against it with no monies available to pay these claims. This is a position that the Caspary Estate, and in fact no Estate, can possibly get into and as invariably Estates are sold through auction, obviously in the past this position has not occurred.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard .

Director

BDH:E

CC: Mr. C. C. Hart
Mr. Ezra D. Cole

ESTABLISHED 1928

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.
KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

May 2, 1956

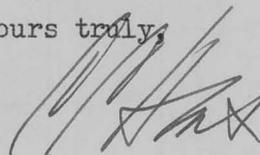
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Street
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed, find a letter from Bernard Harmer, concerning Lot 152 from the Caspary sale. Apparently, he did not send you a copy of this letter and after you have read it, I'd appreciate your returning it to me.

I leave, tomorrow afternoon, for New York and will be gone a week.

Yours truly,



C. C. Hart

CCH:ER

Enc.

Mr. C. C. Hart
Suite 1020 Commerce Building
922 Walnut Street
Kansas City 6, Missouri

30th
April
1956

Dear Mr. Hart:

This acknowledges your letter of April 16th and the return of Lot 152 from the Caspary sale of January 16-18.

As I believe I previously advised Stanley Ashbrook, I had already been in touch with the Executors and they have advised me verbally that they wish to adhere to the conditions of sale which they consider fair to all parties and that they do not wish to be obligated ad infinitum for items sold in the Caspary sales.

I am however writing a further letter to the Estate and I enclose a copy of it herewith.

Very truly yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

(signed) B.D.Harmer

Director

BDH:E

Enclosure

CC: Mr. Ezra Cole

Mr. George Murnane
% Cleary, Gottlieb, Friendly & Hamilton
52 Wall Street
New York, N.Y.

30th
April
1956

Dear Mr. Murnane:

Lot 152 from the Caspary sale Two of January 16/17/18 which sold for \$420 has been returned to me by the party for whom an agent purchased it with a statement that Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook, a recognized expert, considers that the letter is not genuine.

The stamp is perfectly genuine but the opinion is that it did not originate on the cover to which it is now attached and that the postmark "tying" the stamp to the cover is fraudulent.

The parties involved did not apply for any extension of time to obtain such an opinion and of course in view of this the stamp was considered as sold firm and the Estate was paid one month after the auction. Subsequently correspondence took place between Mr. Ashbrook and myself and the owner, Mr. C. C. Hart and myself and on April 16th the cover was finally returned. At the beginning of this correspondence I raised with Mr. Ward of Cleary, Gottlieb, Friendly and Hamilton the question of whether in this instance the Estate wished to cancel the sale subject to sufficient confirmation that the item was not genuine and I was advised verbally by Mr. Ward that it was not their desire to so do.

I would now appreciate further confirmation to this question and a written reply so that I have on record the exact views of the Estate in this matter and presumably any further instances that might occur as the sales progress.

Sincerely,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Director

BDH: E

May 4, 1956.

Mr. Bernard D. Harmer,
6 West 48th Street,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

Please pardon this tardy acknowledgement of yours of recent date re - the 10¢ 1847 cover, Lot 152 in the January Caspary sale.

I believe that the attorneys for the Caspary Estate are all men of very high calibre and I feel sure that if they were assured that by no possible chance can that cover be genuine that they would not wish to accept Mr. Hart's money. I also feel that if you advised them to make the refund that they would not refuse your request.

Mr. Hart is a great friend of mine and a gentleman. In addition he is a very ardent and enthusiastic collector and student. For the mere trifling sum of some four hundred dollars I would regret to see any sour feeling creep in in his collecting activities. I am sure that you will do your best to have the matter satisfactorily adjusted because I believe that you are that sort of a fellow.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

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RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

14th
May
1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Many thanks for your letter of May 4th addressed to Bernard, who is away from the office for a few days and not expected back actually until the latter part of this week.

I feel that this is a letter that he should reply to personally and therefore would ask you to be kind enough to await his return for an answer.

With best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.



Director

FTB:E

Jan. 8, 1956.

Mr. Karl Jaeger,
2106 Ellington Road,
Columbus 12, Ohio.

Dear Karl:

Re - your cover with the 44¢ rate and U. S. credit of 34¢. I rather imagine this was a 2 x 22¢ rate by Bremen or Hamburg steamer, and that the U. S. share was 5¢ per single rate - thus U. S. 10¢ plus the 2 x 17¢ credit made the 44¢ charge. I note that a rate of 22¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce by "Bremen or Hamburg mail" applied to the following cities and countries in 1857-1858 -

To Altona
" Baden
" Frankfort
" Saxe-Coburg
" Wurtenburg
" The Two Sicilies

I neglected to make a photograph of your cover Saturday, so if it is not too much trouble will you send it down to me at my expense and I will return it without any delay.

Sincerely yours,

P.S.--As I mentioned, the 34¢ credit marking on this cover is most unusual and apparently I have no previous record of it.

SCHWALENBERG 6/18

HAMBURG PKT CR
"34"

BUCKLEB

HAMBURG TH & T

16 Jun 58

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No 511368

SENT TO

Karl Jaeger

POSTMARK
OR DATE

STREET AND NO.

2106 Ellington Rd

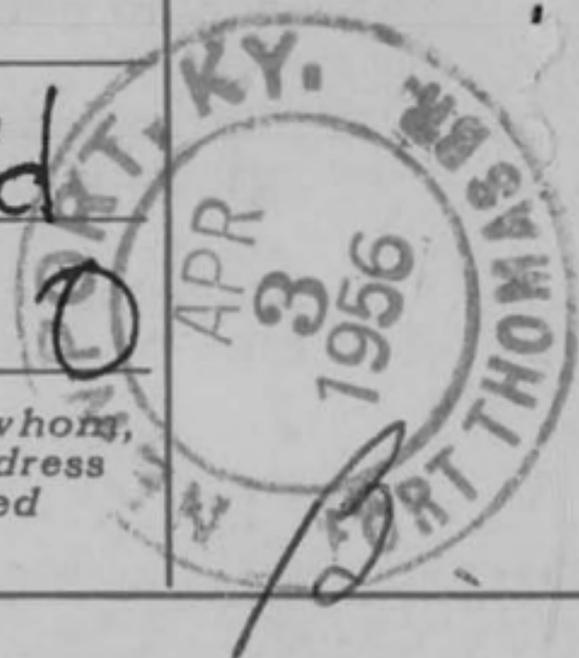
CITY AND STATE

Columbus (12) O

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:

15-cent certified mail fee

First-class or airmail postage

Either return receipt fee (*optional*)

Special-delivery fee (*optional*)

2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.

3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.

4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.

5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

April 3, 1956.

Mr. Karl Jaeger,
2106 Ellington Road,
Columbus 12, Ohio.

Dear Karl:

I am in receipt of your registered package of the 31st. I would like very much to go over all the covers in this collection and give you an explanation but I simply haven't the time. To do such a bit of work would be virtually the same as authenticating covers and for such I charge a fee of \$3.50 to \$5.00 and up ~~per~~ cover, depending on the value of same. I believe that my OK on a cover adds more value to the item than I charge, hence the fee. If you want me to go ahead with this work I could only agree to do it as time would permit, that is, a certain amount of covers each week. You can advise.

Herewith I am returning the 44¢ rate cover to Germany by Hamburg Packet. This was a double 22¢ rate to a town by the name of "SCHWALIENBERG" in the small principality of "LIPPE" - sometimes called, "LIPPE-DETMOLD" - in northwestern Germany. It was one of the German States. The 1859 quotes this rate as follows:

"German States - By Bremen
or Hamburg Mail 22¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz."

The New York "foreign postmark" shows a credit of "34" or 34¢. This was 2 x 17¢. The single "17" was a credit to Hamburg plus carriage beyond to Lippe. I am not quite sure but I believe it was 10¢ plus 7¢ - or on each 22¢ single - 10¢ to Hamburg plus 7¢ to Lippe, leaving the U. S. 5¢ per single, on mail conveyed by a Hamburg mail ship. I had no previous record of this New York marking and only one record of a cover showing the 22¢ rate. I believe such scarcity of covers is due to the fact that the great majority of mail to the German States at that time was sent by "Prussian Closed Mail" at a rate of 30¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. There were two sailings per week by that route. The above bears out the data given in my letter of Jan. 8th last.

With best wishes - Sincerely yours,

April 5, 1956.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

Herewith the 10¢ 1847 cover with postmark of Jackson, Miss. to New Orleans. I regret that I cannot authenticate this for you, because there is no evidence whatsoever (in my opinion), that this 10¢ stamp was actually used on this cover. I suppose it is possible that it was, because the letter was prepaid by a stamp, but there is no evidence of year use, as the folded letter has been torn in such a way as to destroy such evidence. One wonders if this cover had a 3¢ '51 or even a 3¢ '57 and such a stamp was removed and this 10¢ stamp substituted. It is true that the ink of the grid resembles that of the postmark but this is very slight evidence on which to base an opinion.

Were any 1847 stamps sent to Jackson, Miss.?

With regards -

Cordially yours,

46
06
20
72

April 2, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Please excuse this short note written in haste but I am anxious to send it to you, that I may receive information and guarantee of the enclosed "cover" as soon as possible.

I realize it is an imposition to ask for this in such a rush as I know you are busy and must receive many such requests! However, I would like to use the "cover" in my exhibit at Reading, Pa. and that is starting April 13th. I am also enclosing a check to pay for your fee and I hope enough more to pay the postage I already owe you and to return this air mail - special delivery!

I have been told very little about the enclosed "cover", it was sold to me by my own dealer, who has always

been very honest and forthright in his dealings - however, I don't know where he was able to obtain this cover. I believe it must be quite rare, - I haven't seen this cancellation on #28 before and I would feel much easier if you look it over for me and guarantee it, if possible. (Possibly, it rates a photo?)

Regarding the 5[¢] 1861 Sample Design which you returned to me and asked if I would let you know what someone else would say and then you would tell me what you thought - I received photo and guarantee certificate today from the A. P. S. Expert Committee for it - designating it as "Settle" #57.

In the meantime if you could tell me about the "Bison" 1¢, Calif. cover, cancellation, color of stamps, and mode of transportation I will be very happy.

Sincerely,

Adora J. Hamus

R. D. #1
Berwick, Pa.

April 6, 1956.

AIR MAIL
REGISTERED

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mrs. C. Dora J. Hanus,
R. D. #1,
Berwick, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Hanus:

Your Air Registered arrived late this afternoon but I will not be able to register this cover back to you before Friday morning.

I have known of these Bison covers for some ten years. I made quite an investigation of them in years that followed and while nobody seems to know why the marking is on such covers, all students of "Westerns" that I have contacted are of the opinion that the Bison marking has no postal significance.

For example, the Bison is known only on covers addressed to members of the Price family of East Chester - Westchester Co., New York and on covers principally from Yreka, Calif. Covers of the same period in 1857 and 1858 are known addressed to other people and places but none have the Bison. I think this is rather significant and indicates that the marking was not applied at the Yreka Post Office.

I am enclosing a photo of one of the Price covers with a 10¢ 1857 used in 1857. I also have a photo of your cover that I made nine or ten years ago. I also enclose a photo of a folded letter addressed to "J. G. Bennett" (James Gordon Bennett) of the New York Herald. This was dated in 1850 and was from "Joseph W. Gregory", the founder of Gregory's Express. Here we have a strike on a letter of 1850 and on a number of other covers used seven or eight years later. This led me to conclude that the Bison was not applied at sources in California but probably by someone connected with the Price family at East Chester. I got in touch with the New York dealer who purchased the "find" from a member of the Price family about ten to twelve years ago. He had no explanation for the presence of the "Bison" on the correspondence and the person who sold him the "old covers" knew nothing about it. All the "Yreka" covers addressed to "Mrs. Price" did not have the Bison.

Re - the "J. G. Bennett" cover. I was informed that Mr. Bennett was connected with the Price family and that there were other covers addressed to him in the Price family correspondence. If you bought this cover because of the Bison marking you made a mistake in my humble opinion.

Re - the cover itself. The stamps are the 5¢ 1857, Type I Henna, but what I call an intermediate shade, that is, about 40% red brown and 60% Henna or Indian Red. In other words, a Henna shade but not a fine example of that beautiful color. If you have a typical Red Brown, lay one of these four stamps alongside of the red brown and you will note the difference, the two pairs being more Indian. I wonder sometimes if the Red Brown should not be called "Reddish Brown" and the Henna - Brownish Red. This cover is rare because it has two vertical pairs of the Henna to pay double or 2 x 10¢ rate from California in 1857. A vertical pair of the Henna is rare on cover - two pairs on one cover is even more so. Please return to me the

#2. Mrs. C. Dora J. Hanus - April 5, 1956.

two photo prints herewith as I lifted them from my reference files.

I am charging you a fee of \$5.00 for authenticating the within cover, also return postage of \$1.27. I believe there was due to me for return postage of 46¢ on March 3rd. This makes a total of \$6.73. I hand you herewith 27¢ to make up the \$7.00 check that you sent to me.

If you would like to have a photo of your cover I can supply a print at \$2.00 or a color slide @ \$1.50.

I note you received a certificate from the A.P.S. Expert Committee, stating your stamp was the #57.

I almost overlooked your last query re - your cover. This letter traveled the "Ocean Mail Route" via Panama. From Yreka Via stage to San Francisco - by steamer to Panama City - by rail across the Isthmus - by steamer to New York City, etc. May I inquire if you have a copy of my two-volume book on the U. S. One Cent 1851-57? This contains data that would prove very valuable to you.

My kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 511371

SENT TO

Ralph Hottman

POSTMARK
OR DATE

STREET AND NO.

439 Race St

CITY AND STATE

Cincinnati (2) Ohio

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:

15-cent certified mail fee

First-class or airmail postage

Either return receipt fee (*optional*)

Special-delivery fee (*optional*)

2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

April 6, 1956.

Mr. Ralph Hoffman,
439 Race St.,
Cincinnati 2, Ohio.

Dear Ralph:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 5th.

Re - the cover to France. The strip of three is the U. S. 5¢ 1857, Type I - Red Brown, S.U.S. #28. The folded letter was from New Orleans, June ? 1858, forwarded to New York and from there by American Packet direct to Havre, France. From New York on Saturday, June 26, 1858. This was a letter that did not weigh over $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce. The New York marking is what is known as the New York Foreign Mail. It has PAID at the top and "3" at the bottom. This "3" was the U. S. credit to France of 3¢ under the U.S. - French postal treaty of 1857. It was credit to France for her "internal" postage from Havre to French destination. There is a French postmark on face in purple which is known as a French receiving mark. It reads, "ET. UNIS. SERV. AM. D." - date in center and at bottom "Havre" - which meant "From the U. S. by American Packet into Havre. The letter such as "D" following the "AM" indicated the postal clerk handling this letter. French back stamps indicated route to destination. The cover is genuine in all respects.

Re - the 2¢ New Orleans. The stamp is a counterfeit and, of course, the New Orleans postmark is fraudulent.

Inform your client that the above data is with my compliments and that there is no fee.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Hotel New Yorker

THIRTY-FOURTH STREET AT EIGHTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

March 27, 1956.

Dear Stan:

At Bob Siegel's last Sale, March 22, 1956, I purchased Lot 114 illustrated opposite page 12 in the auction catalogue. This cover has your signature on the back so I know that you have seen it. This is a beautiful cover. *WF on U41 with 3 10¢ 1861's to Germany*

Bob forwarded me the writeup of the previous owner from which I quote "This cover was mailed in 1862, at which time the rate to Germany via 'Prussian Closed Mail' was 28 cents if prepaid and 30 cents if unpaid. This particular rate had become effective October 1, 1861".

My question Why did the former owner place the year of use as 1862 instead of 1861? There are no yeardate markings anywhere on the cover. In the illustration you can plainly see all marks on the face of the cover. On the reverse is one mark in black "AusC N 3 11 12". I take these numerals to indicate Dec 11 which isn't unreasonable as a receiving date.

The sailing date Nov 1 is good for either 1861 or 1862. What was the date the sailings were changed from 1,11,21 to 3, 13, 23?

Certainly as of November 1, 1861 these 10¢ envelopes and 10¢ stamps were available on the Pacific coast. Does it not seem more likely that the mistaken rate would be made one month after a new rate ^{was} in effect rather than 11 months afterwards?

Where was Tauer in Germany?

I also bought Lots 167 and 176. On Lot 167 there is no postal mark indicating a town of origin. Are the heavy black crosses a mark of a particular town such as Yokohama? The pair of 5s on 176 are a beautiful color.

If it is more convenient write your reply on the bottom or reverse of this letter and return. Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Dave

P.D over

Siqal Sale

As I looked at Lot 120, the marking looked familiar. I hunted up a cover with 5 and 10¢ '57 posted Sept 14, 1859 sent per Africa with the same New York "6" and "16" and Short Paid". Why "Short Paid"?

I also have a cover with 5 and 10¢ '57 posted New York Oct 1860 per Arabia which has a red "New York Paid 12" and a large P. D. in heavy rectangle. Is this the correct rating? and did the New York postal employee use the wrong handstamp when he used the black "6"? Incidentally all these covers are to France.

I also find a Caspary item Lot 718 which has a New York "3" mark similar to illustrated Lot 692. My cover has a Feb N. Y. date in 1861. Can you straighten me out as to the differences?

April 2, 1956.

Mr. J. David Baker,
3909 North Delaware St.,
Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Dave:

Replying to yours of the 27th!

Re - Lot 114 - Siegel sale of March 22nd last. I seem to recall that cover and if my memory serves me correct, it was a Harold Stark cover. It is not really important whether 28¢ or 30¢ was paid as after the "28¢ prepaid" became effective, some people went right on paying the old 30¢. By Prussian Closed Mail. What is odd about this cover is why 40¢. It is my recollection that the writer was under the impression that the rate was 10¢ from the West Coast to New York and 30¢ from New York to Germany. I seem to have a faint recollection that this was a Stark cover that I sold to Lehman who in turn sold it to Jack Bick. I suppose you know that the material in this sale belonged to Jack Dick. If you will send the cover to me, I may find evidence that will give me a lead to determine if it was a Stark cover and for whom I authenticated it and when. I have no record of a town by the name of TAUER, nor any town that seems to fit that spelling. I note the New York postmark has a "7" credit. This meant that the correct rate was 30¢ or 28¢, hence there was an overpayment and as stated above the writer must have had the impression the rate was 30¢ from New York or 40¢ from California.

Re - Lot 167. I have no recollection of this cover and I am not familiar with the cross marks on the 10¢ stamps. The cover may be OK but I advise you to send it to me. I judge my name is not on the back.

Re - Lot 176 - Funny thing about this. I had a letter from Krug stating he got Lot 176. He must have typed the wrong lot number.

Re Lot 120 - also odd. Krug wrote me that he bought this cover. I know all about this cover as it came up several years ago (perhaps more) in a sale by a gyp(?) outfit in New York by the name of the United Stamp Co., as I recall. The writer thought the letter (to France) was not over $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce, hence only required 15¢ - but the New York Post Office found it was a double, i.e., over $\frac{1}{4}$ oz - not over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. - hence stamped it as "Short Paid" (as per a treaty provision) - and rated the letter as entirely unpaid with 30¢ due in France, thus France marked it with "16" or 16 decimes due - approx. 30¢. The New York p.m. is in black - a debit marking - a debit of 6¢ to France for 2 x 3¢, the U. S. Internal, on an unpaid letter. Rates had to be wholly paid. No partial payments were permitted. It was all or none. Your query was this the correct postmark? The answer is yes.

Re - your cover of Oct. 1860 with a 5¢ and 10¢ 1857. Yes, the rating is correct. The "12" in the postmark is the U. S. credit to France of 12¢. Our share of this rate was only 3¢. It was a letter of not over $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. This because the letter was conveyed from the U. S. frontier at the expense of France, either by "Er Pkt" or "French Pkt."

Re - Lot 718 in the Caspary sale. The "3" credit indicates that this letter was conveyed to France by an "Amer Pkt" or at the expense of the U.S. P.O.D., hence on this $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce letter our share was 12¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce and 3¢ was the French share.

#2. Mr. J. David Baker - April 2, 1956.

I imagine there is an octagon shape French receiving postmark in purple on this cover which reads, "ETATS - UNIS - SERV - AM - D" date in center and at bottom "Havre." Is this correct?

With regards to Hugh and you -

Cordially yours,

Champion Pants



Manufacturing Co., Inc.

SALES OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS, CHAPANTS, N. Y.

April 2nd, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

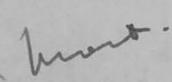
I am enclosing herein a cover of a vertical strip of three from plate 12, types I, II, ~~III~~. According to your book this can only occur on positions 61-71-81L12. However, the vertical spacing between the two rows appears to me to be narrower than that of the first and second rows of the left pane of plate 12.

Is it possible that this is 62-72-82L12? The notations on the back of the cover are mine.

This appears to be a use in the Confederacy. However, I don't understand how the notations across the envelope got under the stamps. Would appreciate your comment.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,


MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:HL
ENC.

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 511369

SENT TO

Mr. MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

STREET AND NO.

49 WEST 23rd. STREET

NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

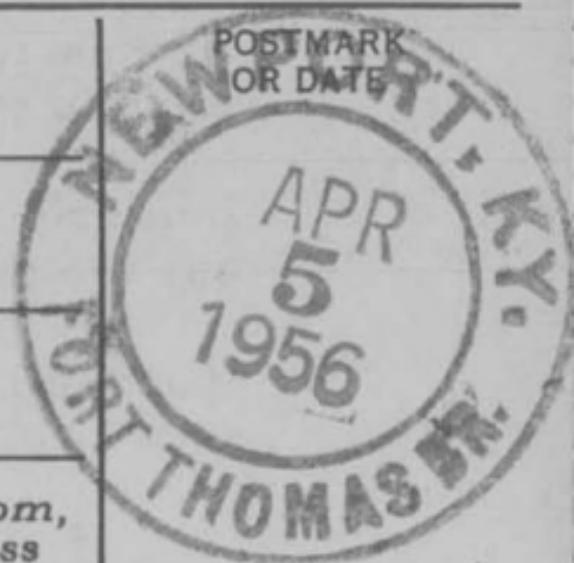
CITY AND STATE

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:

15-cent certified mail fee

First-class or airmail postage

Either return receipt fee (*optional*)

Special-delivery fee (*optional*)

2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.

3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.

4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.

5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

April 5, 1956.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Herewith the 1¢ 1857 Plate 12, cover as per yours of the 2nd. This is some cover!!! I can assure you that it is 61112 - 71112 - 81112, and as you know, to obtain a vertical of these types, the strip has to come from but one place on the plate. This strip has to be these positions. It is my guess that this strip is unique because there are comparatively few Plate 12 covers in collections.

I enclose a H.S. of 3 - imprint position 41112 etc. priced @ \$50.00 - also a photo of 51112 - 52 - 53 which please return. You will note that the spacing on your strip is correct.

What a town - "Speir's Turnout - Ga." - I made a notation that this town(?) is in Jefferson Co., Ga. I wonder if another cover exists showing this postmark? Yes, this date is March 29, 1861. Georgia seceded on Jan. 18, 1861 and joined the Confederacy on Feb. 4, 1861. The state considered itself out of the Union but the Washington Government never took that view. U. S. stamps were in use in the seceded states until June 1, 1861.

The writing at the left end is up to the strip but there is no writing under the strip. This letter was apparently from Louisville which is also in Jefferson Co. but mailed at Speir's Turnout.

A most interesting cover.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Enclosed:
Your cover
H.S. of 3 - plate 12 Imprint - Price \$50.00
Photo 51112 - 52 - 53 - to be returned.

Mr. MORTIMER L. NEINKEN
49 WEST 23rd. STREET
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

CERTIFIED MAIL

Dear Mort

Here with the 14 1857 Pl. 12.

Cover as per yours of the 2nd.
This is some power !!!

I can assure you that it is
61L12 - 71L12 - 81L12, and as
you know to obtain a vertical
of these ~~three~~ types the strip has
to come from but one place on
the plate. This strip has to be
these positions. It is my guess
that this strip is unique because
there are comparatively few
plate 12 cover in collections.

~~And further~~ I enclose a
H.S. of 3 - in front position
41L12 etc priced @ \$50⁰⁰ also
a photo of 51L12 - 52 - 53

Which please return. You
will note that the spacing

On your stamp is correct.

What a town —
"SPEIR'S TURNOUT - GO" — ?

MAILED MAIL
I made a notation that this town (?) is in Jefferson Co Geo. I wonder if another cover exists showing this postmark. Yes this date is March 29 1861. Georgia seceded on Jan 18 1861 and ~~it~~ joined the Confederacy on Feb 4 1861.

The state considered itself out of the Union but the Washington Government never took that view. U.S. Stamps were in used in the Seceded States until June 1 1861.

The writing at the ^{LEFT} end is up to the strip but there is ~~now~~ no writing

under the strap. This letter
was apparently from Louisville
which is also in Jefferson
Co but mailed at Speer's
Rumant.

A most interesting cover
With Regards
Cordially

Enclosed
green Cover

H.S. of 3 - Plate 12 Imprint Price \$50.00

Plats 51L12 - 52 - 53 - To Be Returned

Champion Pants



Manufacturing Co., Inc.

SALES OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS, CHAPANTS, N. Y.

April 13th, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan,

I am enclosing herein check for \$50.00 to pay for the strip of 3 from plate 12 which you sent me. I haven't had a chance to check this further, but I have a block, 11-12, 21-22 L12 with full sheet margin, and it seems to me that the spacing on this block was much narrower than the spacing on the cover. Incidentally, in the same purchase with the Spiers Turnout, Ga., there was a cover with a strip of 3 type 5 stamps with the manuscript cancellation Cotile, La., dated May 31st, 1861.

A I read your article with interest, and of course it is a good article, and presents the facts in such a way that a good collector should certainly understand it. However, I disagree with you absolutely on the very last paragraph of the article. I believe that stamps from plate 6 were issued to the public.

May point out that the plating on plates 8, 9 and 10 of course are complete. On plate 7 the only missing positions are 12R7 (although I think I have a record of this position) and 36, 44, 59, 79, 84, 89 L7. I have two "E" relief stamps, one of which is undoubtedly 84 and the other 89, but I don't know which is which.

We believe that if plate 6 was issued, the stamps were all type 5. As to the left pane of plate 5 in the six rows in which we have the type 5 positions, the plating is now all complete, the last position which was plated was 23L5. Therefore, any horizontal pair or strip that cannot be plated into the plates mentioned above must come from another plate. I have at least three horizontal pairs, and perhaps more, which neither Morris or I can plate into any of the above plates. I also have one top row single which neither Morris or I can plate, as it has a definite plating mark. Therefore, it is my contention that these pairs which we cannot plate must come from plate 6.

So far I have been unable to form any kind of reconstruction. I am hoping that some day I will have some luck. I shall advise you further of any progress I make in this matter.

Champion Pants



Manufacturing Co., Inc.

SALES OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS, CHAPANTS, N. Y.

-2-

I am herein enclosing the cover with the six singles from plate 2 including 99R2 perf, also the block of four from plate 3. I would ask you as a special favor to see that I get these back promptly, as the block of 4 has already been mounted in the collection, and I also want to mount the cover before FIPEX. Do you think you could possibly fix up the cover a little bit? I don't think the envelope should be reduced in size, because in my opinion this would spoil the cover altogether.

I am also enclosing herein a 5¢ 1857. What would you call this shade? Do you think this stamp is worth \$31.00?

I am registering the enclosed for \$500.00. I feel it is worth a good deal more. Would ask you to register the material for the same amount when you return it to me.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:HL

ENC.

P.S. I paid \$75.00 for the 99R2 cover and \$60.00 for the block.

April 17, 1956.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Yours of the 13th. Herewith I am returning the 1¢ '51 Plate 3 block, the 99R2 cover and the 5¢ 1857. Here are some remarks:

5¢ 1857 - Type I. This is the Indian Red or what the S. U. S. calls the Henna. Mrs. Hugh Clark changed the name from the former to the latter and I thought she should not have done so. She was one of those bossy females who thought she knew all the answers. Your copy is an exceedingly good example of this color. There is the real red brown - and also the real Indian Red - and there are in between shades. Your copy is not one of the latter but an excellent example. I certainly do think it is worth \$31.00 or more.

1¢ 1851 - Plate 3. I have been so busy I have not had time to check the plating but feel sure it is okay. I will do so later. Has Morris seen this block? I made a photograph and will send prints to you both later.

99R2. I would not exhibit this in this shape. I do not think a rare stamp on such a poor cover is at all attractive. If I owned this cover, I would remove the 99R2 and exhibit it as a single of a very rare stamp. In the shape it is at present it would appear very little different from the other five copies. Too bad these came from different positions, too bad they were not a block of six or even four. I did not make a photo of the cover but merely the two stamps 90R2 and 99R2.

Re - my article in STAMPS. In my remarks about no stamps from Plate 6 I was influenced to the opinion of Morris, and by the fact that I had no evidence whatsoever that any stamps were ever issued from this plate. We have seen records of imprints from all the other plates but no Plate 6 imprint. No center lines copies. If there are stamps that Morris or you have not been able to plate, it is my opinion that they are stamps from some of the plates 5, 7, 8, 9 or 10, rather than Plate 6. In time they will be plated. This I feel quite certain. I gave a lot of thought to the subject - no Plate 6, and I came to the final conclusion that Morris was right. I have no regret for what I stated in my article and if I had to write that part over today I would not change a word of it.

Re - your cover with the three Type V stamps used from Cotile, La. on May 31, 1861. Mort, this is sure a nice item. As you know, the C.S.A. P.O.D. took over on June 1, 1861, so your cover is a last day. Will you please send it to me so I can photo it? I would like to show prints to MacBride and Weatherly. Any objection?

Thanks very much for your check for \$50.00.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Champion Pants



Manufacturing Co., Inc.

SALES OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS, CHAPANTS, N. Y.

April 20th, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

Herein enclosed is the Cotile, La. cover.

When I wrote you the other day I wrote from memory. I gave you the date as May 31st, 1861. However, the date is May 30th, 1861. I am sorry I misinformed you about the date.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:HL

ENC.

April 23, 1956.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Herewith the Cotile, La. cover of May 30, 1861.
Thanks very much. In my opinion, the grid on this
strip is a fake. It is an odd design and of foreign
make. The ink is much too modern. This was a pen-
canceled strip to which some faker added this grid.
I have a faint recollection that I have seen it before
on faked covers. It would be odd indeed if Cotile
did not have a postmark but did have a canceling device.
Do you not agree?

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Champion Pants



Manufacturing Co., Inc.

SALES OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS, CHAPANTS, N. Y.

April 18th, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan,

Enclosing a cover strip of three showing part of the imprint. I am quite sure that this is 51-52-53L9. I am not too sure of the dating, but through a green filter I feel quite sure it is September 15th, 1859. If so, isn't it the earliest use from plate 9? I would appreciate your looking at this cover and returning it to me just as soon as possible.

Just received your letter and I will send the Cotile, La. cover to you tomorrow.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Mort

MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:HL
ENC.

April 22, 1956.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Herewith your cover with the imprint strip. The strip is 5119 etc., no doubt about that. I enclose a similar off cover strip priced at \$20.00. Note the needle dots in the "0" of "ONE" on 5219. Strange how such fine dots registered. I doubt if this use was 1859 but rather it was 1860. This cover was from Gen'l J. W. Denver and was either to his mother or his wife who was in Wilmington. I have a year by year record of Gen'l Denver and am familiar with his handwriting. I do not believe he was in Washington in 1859 but was there late in 1860. Take another look and see if you do not think the year is 1860 rather than 1859. In addition, this does not look like an early impression. The earliest record from Plate 9 is Sep. 29, 1859, a cover owned by Morris. If Morris and you are positive the enclosed cover is 1859, return it to me and I will make a very thorough examination of it.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Enclosed: (over)

H.S. of 3 - 1¢ 1857
Imprint of Plate Number 9
Price \$20.00

Champion Pants



Manufacturing Co., Inc.

SALES OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS, CHAPANTS, N. Y.

April 25th, 1956

Plate 9 Strip
[] [] [] returned

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

In reference to the strip of three which you sent me with the imprint from Plate 9, I am sorry I have to return it. I have so much of this material that I don't know where to put any more.

As regards the cover ^{Plate 9} which you believe may be 1860, I might say that it puzzled me when I first looked at it. These stamps are mottled something like medium impressions from plate 7. I never saw any Plate 9 stamps before this that showed this mottling. However, when I see Morris I will go over the cover with him and will let you know what conclusion we come to as regards the date.

I received your memo as regards Gen. Denver, but haven't had a chance to read it yet.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Mort.

MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:HL
ENC.

April 27, 1956.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Re - your vertical Brick Red strip. I see no reason to question this, the New Orleans p.m. looks okay to me and the red at upper right is doubtless the New York. I suppose this was the regular 15¢ rate N.O. to France via New York. I do not think it necessary to make a photo by ultra-violet but if you wish same return the strip to me. I charge \$5.00 for such.

In Siegel
Sale 4/19
Lot 283

This will acknowledge return of my Plate 9 strip with imprint - positions 5LL9 etc. I sent this to you because it is an exact duplicate of your Gen'l Denver imprint strip. What did you mean that you have so much material like this? Is that not a gross exaggeration? This is a beautiful used strip of three with wide sheet to left showing imprint and Plate No. 9. I am positive that items like this are far from common, and I never had very many items and I am sure Chase didn't, because when I was studying the Type V plates years ago I borrowed every 1¢ Type V imprint that he owned and photoed each one. Now Mort, you know darn well that 1¢ 1857 imprints that show the actual plate number are not common. One cannot have too many such items, believe me.

Again - re- your Denver cover. It was of course Plate 9, and it was as stated above, an exact match of the imprint strip I discussed above. I believe I gave some good reasons why it was an 1860 use in my opinion rather than 1859. I again suggest you consult Morris regarding it.

Re - your Carrier cover to Mexico, I suggest you show this to Elliott Perry, as it might be something he would like to include in his Carrier book. The chances are he will not agree with my opinion but that is to be expected as Elliott never agrees with anyone except Elliott Perry. This may be an exception. I will be glad to furnish him with a photo print or if you do not care to take it up with him I will be glad to write him about it.

I am charging you a fee of \$5.00 to authenticate the cover.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

April 28, 1956.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Re - cover to Vera Cruz
10¢ 1857 Type V - H.P. 1¢ 1857 - Type V
From New Orleans May 11, 1860

I made a very careful examination of this cover and I am of the opinion that the stamps were used as they are at present on this cover. I am convinced there was no other stamps on this cover - no stamp to the left of the 1¢ pair.

The rate to Mexico was by U. S. steamship, not to Mexican destination but to the frontier, hence the "6" Mexican postage due. The 10¢ rate was the U.S. "Steamship" rate of 10¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. as per the Act of March 3, 1851. There was no such a thing as a 12¢ rate to Mexico, hence why the extra 2¢?

In my opinion, this was prepayment of the 2¢ Carrier fee in New Orleans - viz - 2¢ fee for letters by carrier to the New Orleans post office for "letters to be sent out of town." (See the Ashbrook One Cent 1851-57 book, Vol. 2, Carrier chapter by E. Perry.

Whether it was permissible to prepay this fee by U. S. postage stamps at New Orleans in 1860, I do not know, but it is my opinion that it was. At any rate, this pair of 1¢ originated on this cover and I feel sure the intent was to prepay that 2¢ fee.

I do not recall that I have ever seen a similar item, hence, in my opinion, this is surely a very rare cover, possibly unique.

I made a photograph and I will send you a print later.

Sincerely yours,

May 11, 1956.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Herewith I am enclosing a photo print of your 10¢ plus 2¢ cover from New Orleans to Mexico. I quote as follows from a letter from Elliott Perry, dated May 8th:

"Yours of the 4th. Neinken showed me the N.O. cover at the FIPEX banquet. When I got home I looked up the N.O. section of the Carrier Chapter. So far as appears from any records I have found there was no collection fee on mail letters from 1851 until the Act of April 1860 when the fee was one cent. So in this N.O. to Mexico letter of 1860 the two 1¢ stamps could not have prepaid a collection fee before April and would have overpaid a 1¢ fee after April 3rd, if they were affixed with intent to prepay carrier service to the N.O. Post Office. You may omit the photo.

Of course the writer of the letter may have thought there was a 2¢ collection fee, because the delivery fee on mail letters prior to April 1860 was two cents, and added the two 1¢ stamps by such error." (unquote)

I think the second paragraph of the above is correct provided the first paragraph is correct, and no doubt it is, that is, if one agrees with Perry's interpretation of various acts of Congress pertaining to mail handled by carriers.

In my opinion, your cover shows 10¢ postage New Orleans to Mexico plus 2¢ prepaid for carrier service to the N.O. Post Office. I feel sure that was the intent of the writer and there is not a thing in evidence that the 2¢ did not pay such a fee any more than a 3¢ plus 1¢ cover has any evidence that the 1¢ did or did not prepay Carrier Service to the P.O. I knew Perry would not agree with my analysis because Perry never agrees with anyone but Perry. He knows all the answers and his solution of any philatelic problem is final - the last word. Well, as far as I am concerned, I don't go along with such damn foolishness but it is okay with me if anybody else makes such a choice.

I suggest you read his Carrier Chapter in my Volume 2 - the part relating to the Carrier System at New Orleans.

Your cover bears a date of May 11, 1860. The Act of April 3, 1860 - stated in substance: "Fixes the rate on drop letters delivered by carriers at 1 cent each." This is neither a Drop letter nor was it delivered (to any address) by Carrier. Rather it is a letter for the mail, that is, a letter going out of town and the writer thought the rate was 2¢ - How do we know the Act of April 3, had gone into effect on May 11th, 1860? Perhaps it had but did it have any bearing on your cover?

Elliott is very inconsistent - He has always insisted that the Carrier delivery fee of 1¢ at New York could not be prepaid - that such a thing was not recognized by Post Office authorities. I have long contended that if a collection fee could be prepaid that it was silly to assume the postal officials did not permit prepayment of

#2. Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken - May 11, 1956.

the delivery fee - Perry has long contended that a delivery fee had to be paid in cash on delivery of the letter. No use arguing with him so I don't do it any more.

If you wish to accept Perry's analysis it will be perfectly okay with me Mort, because I haven't the slightest objection if anyone differs with any interpretation of mine.

I am sending a copy of this letter and a print to Morris.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 15, 1956.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

I received the following note from E. Perry, dated May 10th, quote:

"Correction. Date in my letter regarding New Orleans cover of Mort Neinken should be Act of June 15, 1860 (effective July 1st) for mail letters, (and including city letters), and not the Act of April 1860 which applied to local (city) letters only.

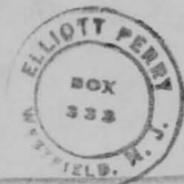
"Delivery" in the June 1860 Act meant delivery (collection) to the post office as well as delivery from the post office."

In reply I advised him that I had no record of such an Act of Congress. Not in Luff or any Government publication that I have on postal legislation.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

May 10, 1956



Stan:

A Correction. Date in my letter regarding New Orleans cover of Mort Neinken should be Act of June 15, 1860 (effective July 1st) for mail letters, (and including city letters), and not the Act of April 1860 which applied to local (city) letters only.

"Delivery" in the June 1860 Act meant delivery (collection) to the post office as well as delivery from the post office.

As ever,

Elliott Perry

POST CARD
MAY 15 1956

Mr Elliott Perry
P.O. Box 333

Westfield N. J.

Elliott Perry Re-opens of the 10th. I
am not familiar with an Act
of June 15 1860, effective July 1st
1860. No mention in Luff.

Yours Etc



Jack E. Molexworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

April 6, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

Enclosed are three 1869 covers for your opinion. I believe the 24¢ paying part of a 34¢ rate to Peru is o.k. and a nice cover. I believe both of the 30¢ ones are bad. The small cover appears to have a black "Due" marking and I can see no evidence that it even originated in the U.S. The second one appears to be a 15¢ rate cover, with a 3¢ credit to France and 12¢ to the U.S. so apparently it went by American ship direct to a French port. However, I would appreciate your signature on the back of the 24¢ if you agree it is o.k. and also your brief comments on the other two. Advise you fee when returning and I shall remit promptly.

These came indirectly from abroad and a wire must be sent by Tuesday evening saying I'll take them or they are bad and are being returned. Therefore, if my own conclusions on them are correct, just process them in the normal manner and I'll assume the 24¢ good and the two 30¢ bad and wire accordingly. However, if perchance the 24¢ should be bad or either of the two 30¢ ones good, please wire me collect immediately upon receipt of this letter which should be sometime Tuesday as I'll get this off the first thing Monday morning.

I gather some of the prices in the Klep auction were in the Caspary category. My agent who was Bob Lyman seemed to think that the American buyers were really hoodwinked and taken over the coals by Ballasse and his auctioneer who together with the European Stolow brother apparently had them all boxed in and took full advantage of the difficulty of the American buyers understanding the bidding in French by pushing them up when there was no competition. Lyman claimed they took over 30 bids from him to push Weill up when he hadn't even raised his hand. He complained in French to no avail as no one else seemed to know what was going on and didn't understand his objections either. From my observations of Henry Hill's bidding at the Caspary sale, comments I heard on the Continent, and his actions in this Kelp sale, he appears to be a first class Sucker on some of the things he buys! Apparently also, Zareski had made some nice contributions to Klep's collection and I gather Klep trusted his European sources, but had all material from U.S. sources thoroughly checked so he was stuck easily with the clever Zareski items. Zareski incidentally attended the Klep sale and bought some items in it. You will see his signature on the enclosed 24¢ cover which according to Lyman is definitely in its favor as he never puts his signature on any of this own work.

Best regards,
JEMC

April 11, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon St.,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Re - yours of the 6th with the three 1869 covers.

34¢ rate to Lima, Peru from San Francisco, July 30, 1869. In my opinion, this cover is genuine in all respects. The rate was 34¢ and the credit of 24¢ to the British is correct. In fact, all points concerning this cover are correct, the credit, the S.F. magenta p.m. - the British Panama etc. This is a nice cover. 24¢ 1869 plus 10¢ 1867.

30¢ Rate cover to France. Small cover to Paris with a 30¢ 1869 - By French Packet "5 FEVR 70" - 8 decimes Due. In my opinion, this cover is fraudulent, i.e., this 30¢ stamp was not used on this cover originally. The letter was from New York as per the red New York postmark on face with "FEB 5." It is my opinion a 10¢ 1869 was removed and this 30¢ substituted. The date of the New York postmark is the same as that of the French, viz., "FEB 5" - this is because the letter was placed aboard a French mail ship in New York harbor. The U. S. rate was the Steamship rate of 10¢. The "8" decimes "due" in France was the French rate from the U. S. frontier to French destination. There was no 30¢ rate in February 1870 unless it might have been a 3 x 10¢, but the "8" decimes is ample evidence that this letter did not weigh over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce at New York.

30¢ 1869 cover addressed to "Madame Anchier(?) Paris, France. In my opinion, this cover is fraudulent, that is, this 30¢ stamp was not used on this cover. The faint New York postmark is "APR 16" and the credit marking is "3." This credit applied to a 15¢ rate by Amer. Pkt. direct to France. In 1869 there was no sailing of an "Amer. Pkt." to France on "APR 16." The Paris marking on back was torn and doctored to make it appear that the use was "69." I do not like the looks of the faint New York postmark and believe it possible that it is a fake.

Sincerely yours,



Jack E. Molesworth
Philatelic Dealer and Broker
102 Beacon Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

April 16, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Firt Thomas Ave
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your wire on the 24¢ 1869 cover which I very much regret is no longer available. Colonel Judd, of Dalton, Georgia, has been in town all week and after I wrote you on April 12th he was in the office and I showed him the cover as something I felt he would appreciate the beauty of, but not thinking it would be something he would care to buy. When he inquired as to the price I quoted \$550 and to my surprise, he took it. For your sake, I'm sorry it turned out that way as I would have been pleased to send it along to you at \$500 net. I hope you will understand.

Your letter of the 11th further on the 10¢ 1847 cover pretty well ties the matter up as far as I can see and I am in complete agreement with your analysis on it. I think the letter should be divorced from the cover since it probably did not go with it originally and if it did, being tampered with, can only serve to cast unnecessary doubt on the cover.

I gather you have no doubts as to the authenticity of the cover itself, separate from the letter, and wonder therefore if you would be willing to sign the back of the cover that it is in your opinion genuine? From your comments on the cover I believe such would be in accord with your expressed opinion. I'd be glad to return the cover if you would be willing to sign it. I would of course file the letter away and not even mention it when offering the cover.

With best regards,

JEM/p

April 6, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

Enclosed are three 1869 covers for your opinion. I believe the 24¢ paying part of a 34¢ rate to Peru is o.k. and a nice cover. I believe both of the 30¢ ones are bad. The small cover appears to have a black "Due" marking and I can see no evidence that it even originated in the U. S. The second one appears to be a 15¢ rate cover, with a 3¢ credit to France and 12¢ to the U.S. so apparently it went by American ship direct to a French port. However, I would appreciate your signature on the back of the 24¢ if you agree it is o.k. and also your brief comments on the other two. Advise your fee when returning and I shall remit promptly.

These came directly from abroad and a wire must be sent by Tuesday evening saying I'll take them or they are bad and are being returned. Therefore, if my own conclusions on them are correct, just process them in the normal manner and I'll assume the 24¢ good and the two 30¢ bad and wire accordingly. However, if perchance the 24¢ should be bad and either of the two 30¢ ones good, please wire me collect immediately upon receipt of this letter which should be sometime Tuesday as I'll get this off the first thing Monday morning.

I gather some of the prices in the Klep auction were in the Caspary category. My agent who was Bob Lyman seemed to think that the American buyers were really hoodwinked and taken over the coals by Ballasse and his auctioneer who together with the European Stolow brother apparently had them all boxed in and took full advantage of the difficulty of the American buyers understanding the bidding in French by pushing them up when there was no competition. Lyman claimed they took over 30 bids from him to push Weill up when he hadn't even raised his hand. He complained in French to no avail as no one else seemed to know what was going on and didn't understand his objections either. From my observations of Henry Hill's bidding at the Caspary sale, comments I heard on the Continent, and his actions in this Klep sale, he appears to be a first class Sucker on some of the things he buys! Apparently also, Zareski had made some nice contributions to Klep's collection and I gather Klep trusted his European sources, but had all material from ~~the~~ U. S. sources thoroughly checked so he was stuck easily with the clever Zareski items. Zareski incidentally attended the Klep sale and bought some items in it. You will see his signature on the enclosed 24¢ cover which according to Lyman is definitely in its favor as he never puts his signature on any of his own work.

Best regards,
Jack.

April 6, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

Enclosed are three 1869 covers for your opinion. I believe the 24¢ paying part of a 34¢ rate to Peru is o.k. and a nice cover. I believe both of the 30¢ ones are bad. The small cover appears to have a black "Due" marking and I can see no evidence that it even originated in the U. S. The second one appears to be a 15¢ rate cover, with a 3¢ credit to France and 12¢ to the U.S. so apparently it went by American ship direct to a French port. However, I would appreciate your signature on the back of the 24¢ if you agree it is o.k. and also your brief comments on the other two. Advise your fee when returning and I shall remit promptly.

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Best regards,
Jack.

April 11, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon St.,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

I wired you at 9 P.M. last night as follows:

"YOURS DID NOT ARRIVE UNTIL EIGHT THIRTY TONIGHT
BELIEVE THE TWENTY MAY BE GOOD BUT DON 'T LIKE
THE THIRTIES. WILL MAIL BACK WEDNESDAY."

Herewith the three 1869 covers. You will note that I signed the 24¢ cover as genuine on the back. Is this for sale and at what price?

Re - the Klep sale. No wonder Europeans think that all Americans are perfect damn fools who toss money around like it was treash. Belasse is about as slick as they come and it would be foolish to even suppose that the Klep sale was on the level. The only nice thing about it was the illustrations in color, otherwise the catalogue was terrible. I entered a strong protest against the use of my name without my permission and he took offense at my protest. It is too bad we have to have any contacts with such crooks.

All the publicity about high prices is most harmful to the best interests of serious philately. I think it is deplorable.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.Y.



C.S.A.
A.R.A.
B.N.A.P.S.

Jack E. Molesworth
Philatelic Dealer and Broker
102 Beacon Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

April 12, 1956.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your wire and prompt reply on the 1869 covers. Your opinions on them was exactly as I expected it would be. Enclosed is my check for \$27.00 to cover your fee on those covers, the 10¢ 1847 off cover, the 5¢ 1857 cover and the 10¢ 1847 "Steamship 10" cover. On this latter cover, as previously indicated, if you feel the additional work put in on it merits a fee in excess of the \$4.00 one originally suggested, I shall be pleased to send more on it if you will so advise.

I just noted a comment in the April 14th. issue of "Stamps Magazine" based on a report sent them by Brookman which would imply he had no idea of the situation he was in and even went so far as to commend two people who were giving him and the other American buyers the needle. I bought the strip of three 10¢ Bears which was supposed to be pelure paper but based on the price paid have my doubts that it is such, though my lots have been tied up in customs due to the foolish manner in which Balasse shipped them contrary to my instructions, so I have not yet had a chance to examine the lots. I may have trouble getting my money back on it if it is not the pelure. Speaking of high prices, some of those in the H.R. Harmer sale yesterday were truly fantastic. When I see a realization of \$240.00, well over double catalogue, on a lot like #513 which has obviously been reperfed to make it almost perfectly centered, such only serves to reinforce the contempt I have for many condition conscious philatelic buyers whose ignorance in such matters as reperfing, regumming, and cleaning is utterly appalling.

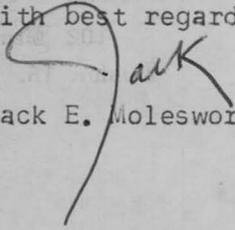
I was sure the 5¢ 1857 on cover was no good and sent it along to you only so that I could say that you had seen it when returning it since many philatelic auctioneers seem to think all dealers are as ignorant as they are and yours is one opinion few have the courage to question.

On the 10¢ 1847, my examination of the ultra violet photo you sent submitted, shows no evidence whatsoever to me of any pen marks or cleaning and I would therefore greatly appreciate a comment from you elaborating as to why such is obvious to you. I have no axe to grind for this copy, but for my own education would like to have a few more details on the basis of your opinion on this copy. Possibly I am a bit naive in expecting to see traces of the actual pen cancellation in such a photograph or definite evidence of cleaning before concluding that the stamp is not unused. Of course, if the paper were a white bleached appearance such would also imply cleaning to me, but this copy is rather well aged with no such evidence. Also, why did you suggest the stamp be soaked in very hot water? This I have done, but the purpose you had in mind in so suggesting escapes me. If you have seen this copy before it does not come from me as I purchased it as lot #26 in the March 27th. Harmer, Rooke auction. They will probably want the P.F. to see it before accepting its return so I shall probably send it there myself.

(over)

Will you be making it to Fipex? I shall have a booth there myself during the entire show.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/vf

P.S. The 24¢ 1869 cover is costing me \$400.00 and I would be glad to send it along to you at \$500.00 net if you think you can move it. I probably won't have a chance to get it out myself until Monday so if I hear from you by then it should still be on hand.

April 14, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon St.,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

This will confirm my wire of last night as follows:

"YOURS TWELVE PLEASE SEND ME THE TWENTY FOUR
SIXTY NINE STOP THINK I CAN USE IT REGARDS."

I will reply to your letter later.

Sincerely yours,

April 15, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon Street,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Again referring to yours of the 12th. This will acknowledge receipt of your check for \$27.00. I believe this included all fees up to date with the exception of the increase I made of \$3.50 in the fee on the "Steamship 10" cover. Thanks very much.

Belasse Sale. I will be interested in the outcome on the strip of St. Louis pelure, so keep me advised. So far I have not received a full list of the prices.

H.R. Harmer Sale 4/11/56 - Lot 513 - From the illustration I doubt if I would suspect any reperfing. Did you think the left side was wrong? The present day "fixers" are so clever at this sort of work that some of them can do as good a job as the original. I have little doubt they can fool me.

10¢ 1847 "Unused." I believe that I mentioned that some of the "cleaners" including Zareski work under lamps and aim to clean without leaving a trace. The copy you submitted did not show any outlines of pen marks but "cleaners" do not confine themselves to pencanceled copies. It is my opinion that your copy was probably a lightly struck red or black - perhaps the latter. Note the nose - under left eye - smears under the left X - the "P" and "O" - Perhaps I would have a hard time as a witness in court proving this was a cleaned copy but I believe that it is. I thought the whole general appearance indicated the use of some strong cleaning fluid.

Re - the back of the stamp. I suggested a bath in real hot water to see if any cement had been used to fill up some thin spots. I think a stamp such as this should be soaked in very hot water and then cleaned with a fine camel hair brush before a thorough examination is made. I hesitate to do this, because it might disclose a serious damage that was not apparent before the bath and I would not care to be accused of damaging a stamp in the examination. Of course, I realize you would never make any such an accusation but there are others who would. Evidently the smart boys were afraid of this stamp because unused 10¢ 1847's don't sell at \$70.00 and I wonder if Harmer Rooke would have passed this out @ \$70.00 if they really thought it was unused and as described. This is certainly a wonderful game - everyone is so damn honest.

No Jack, I will not attend Fipex. I can spend my time at home to so much better advantage.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,



Jack E. Molesworth
Philatelic Dealer and Broker
102 Beacon Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

April 20, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your note of the 18th indicating your feelings with regard to signing the 10¢ '47 Steamship cover. I can see your position very well and believe an article on the cover as you suggest would be the best idea. You have my permission to write such an article on the cover at any time you may care to do so as well as using it in your special service. Please add the \$3.50 additional due on that cover to your bill on the enclosed items and I shall send one check to cover all.

See
39
p
23

Enclosed are four items from the "Klep" auction on which I would appreciate your opinions, plus a banknote cover showing a domestic 22¢ rate which I do not completely understand, and would appreciate your comments on it.

The other four items are as follows: St Louis Bear Strip of three, supposed to be Pelure Paper, what is your opinion? Strip of ~~3~~ Three 1¢ 1851's which it would appear are from the sixth row of Plate four, relief "F", possibly position 55-57R(?), and presumably ty IIIa's, the right copy looks like it could be a Ty Ic. Your typing appreciated.

Also enclosed is a 5¢ New York used from Boston tied by a Grid that I don't recall having seen used from Boston before. The cover is addressed to the same address as other known used from Boston but the name has also apparently been cut out and re-drawn in very cleverly. The fourth cover is an interesting $\frac{1}{4}$ of a 12¢ 1851. It looks as if it might be genuine, but why the 6¢ rate? Your comments and signature on those you feel are genuine would be appreciated.

I'll send this Air Special and presume you will be able to get them back to me before VI leave for FIPEX next Friday, Apr 27th.

With best regards,

Jack
Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/p
encl

In My Opinion These Stamps Were Not Used
Originally On This Cover - There Is No
Evidence That This Was A Registered OF 3¢
plus 15¢ or 6¢ plus 15¢. The Ink On The Stamps
Is Different From That Of The Postmark. SBA.

A101
7-8

A 804

Green

13 Sec

F128

Apr 22

1956

April 22, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon Street,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 20th received with enclosures as stated.

Re -10¢ Steamship cover. What I had in mind was that you write an article for "Stamps" about the cover. You have all of my data and you have my permission to use it provided you do not use my name. I will furnish photo prints. I simply haven't the time at present to prepare articles.

Bank Note cover. I enclose a special memo regarding this, which gives my reasons why I do not think this cover is genuine.

St. Louis V.S. of 3 - 10¢. Jack, I am not an authority on these stamps and I am sure your opinion would be as good as mine. I am not charging you a fee so take the following for what it is worth. I think this is a strip of 11X5. I don't know why anyone would call this "Pelure Paper" but of course I may not know Pelure Paper when I see it.

One Cent 1851. H.S. of 3, off cover. Plate 4. Relief "F" - 6th row - positions 55R4 - 56R4 - 57R4, Types from L to R are IIIA - IIIA - IIIA (See One Cent Book).

5¢ New York used from Boston. In my opinion this stamp was not used on this cover originally. I fail to find any evidence that it did and the tie to cover is certainly not convincing. I believe this was originally a stampless cover sent prepaid. If this cover was supposed to have been used during 1845 - 1846, Boston did not have a round grid at that time, and if the cancel is supposed to be a round grid it certainly don't look like any that was used at Boston in 1847 or 1848. I doubt if anyone would suggest this was a use as late as 1849.

12¢ 1851 "Bisect" - $\frac{1}{4}$ used from Canton, Miss. to New Orleans. I have known this cover for many years and in my opinion, it is as good as gold. I have endorsed it on the back. This was a double rate of 2 x 3¢. The Canton P.O. apparently ran out of 3¢ stamps - the writer used a 3¢ envelope and knowing his letter was over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, instructed the P.M. to charge his box with the deficient postage. I judge it was the P.M. himself who put on the $\frac{1}{4}$ stamps and made the notation. I enclose a photo print of this cover that Chase had made along about 1913, when the cover was first discovered. It is my recollection that he wrote an article about this particular cover for the old Philatelic Gazette at that time. There were also 6¢ bisects used from Canton at the same time in the B.C. correspondence and I have photos of them. The P.M. used a quarter of a 12¢ because the writer had used a 3¢ envelope. This cover may be unique for all I know. It is unquestionably good in my opinion.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Re - cover with Bank Note stamps - National - 7¢ plus 15¢ - from Lincoln, Neb. on May 16, addressed to Richmond, Vermont, with corner card of Clifton Hotel. In my opinion, these stamps were not used on this cover originally. I do not think this was a 7 x 3¢ rate with 1¢ overpay and there is no evidence that this was a registered of 3¢ plus 15¢ with 4¢ overpay or 2 x 3¢ plus 15¢ with 1¢ overpay. I do not believe that the black ink of the cancels is the same as that of the postmark. I have known cases where higher value Bank Notes with same cancels were removed from large Court House covers and placed on smaller covers that had originally had a 3¢ green.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

April 22, 1956.

April 11, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon St.,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Re - yours of the 5th with the 5¢ 1857 cover and the 10¢ 1847.

5¢ 1857. In my opinion this stamp was not used originally on this cover. Apparently a 3¢ 1861 stamp was removed and this 5¢ stamp was substituted. It is my opinion that this type of postmark was not in use at the Amherst post office during the life of the 1857 stamps.

10¢ 1847. This stamp has every appearance of having been cleaned. I made a photograph by ultra-violet and enclose print herewith. I believe this print speaks for itself. In my opinion this is not an unused copy.

I noted the back of this copy and suggest that it be soaked in very hot water.

This stamp seemed somewhat familiar and I searched my records but was unable to find that I had examined it in the past year. By any chance, did you ever submit it to me before?

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Friday

Dear Mr. Ashbrook -

Enclosed is an 1869 cover to Italy.

Would you be kind enough to examine it to see if it is genuine in all respects and if it is - sign it as being OK on the back. I assume that this is the 20¢ rate to Italy.

Please let me know what I owe you and I'll remit immediately.

This cover fits into my collection as I have a 19¢ rate to Italy but do not have a 20¢ rate!

Thanks for your help

Cordially

Millard Mack

April 21, 1956.

Mr. Millard H. Mack,
3930 Red Bud Ave.,
Cincinnati 29, Ohio.

Dear Millard:

Herewith the cover as per yours of the 20th. In my opinion, this is fraudulent, that is, these stamps were not used on this cover originally. The rate to Italy in March 1875 was 10¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. - by "Closed Mail Via England" - and it was by this route this was forwarded. I am always suspicious when I see 1869 stamps used from large cities as late as the middle seventies. Further, if you will note the cancels on the stamps, I believe you will find they are different. I feel sure the use was as late as "75" as indicated on the back.

There is no fee for the above.

Sincerely yours,

A.S.B.A.
A.P.S.
B.N.A.P.S.

Robert W. Lyman

Broker in Classic Stamps and Specialized Material
of all countries

C.S.B.A.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.U.

100 Memorial Drive
CAMBRIDGE 42, MASSACHUSETTS

April 17th., 1956.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook,
P.O. Box 31,
33 North Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

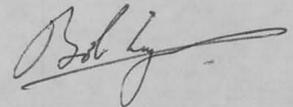
Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

At the suggestion of Jack Molesworth, I am enclosing an item which I bought at the recent Klep auction in Brussel, for expertization.

While I do not often handle U.S. stamps, I bought this 6¢ 1869 purportedly used from ~~Kings~~ Yokohama as I was unfamiliar with such an usage, and am most interested in "used abroads" of all countries.

^{tend to} I attended the Klep auction as Jack's agent, and he has advised me that you^v feel the same way we do about the handling of the sale. Personally, I was surprised by the releases in various philatelic publications which tended to "glorify" it.

Very sincerely,



P.S. While you probably do not remember me, I met you at CAPEX in Toronto. We were introduced, I believe, by Elliot Perry.



April 21, 1956.

Mr. Robert W. Lyman,
100 Memorial Drive,
Cambridge 42, Mass.

Dear Mr. Lyman:

Herewith the 6¢ 1869 cover as per yours of the 17th. This letter was carried from Yokohama, Japan to Shanghai, Cina by a U. S. mail steamship of the line subsidized by the U. S. Government. The rate by this Line was 10¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce to Japan and China, but the rate between the ports of the above cities by U. S. mail steamships was 6¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.

I think this is quite an interesting and valuable cover because it shows a legal use of a U. S. stamp, both as to origin and destination outside the boundries of the U. S. Of course, aboard ships of this Government Line was considered U. S. territory.

There is no question but what this cover is genuine in every respect and I have signed it as such on the back for which I am charging you a fee of \$5.00 as per memo enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL F. KELLEHER
WILLIAM F. KELLEHER

DANIEL F. KELLEHER
Postage Stamps for Collectors
B. L. DREW & CO.
EST. 1885
7 WATER STREET · BOSTON · MASS.

TELEPHONE
LAFAYETTE 3676

4/24/56

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

I would appreciate your opinion
of the enclosed two covers.

Business is simply lousy here. Not one
good for a hundred dollar item unless it's
disposable for two hundred within 24 hours.

I surely miss Eversum & Star Brown, also Parro.
Hope to see you at the big show.

Best regards
Dan.

April 26, 1956.

Mr. Dan'l F. Kelleher,
7 Water St.,
Boston 9, Mass.

Dear Dan:

It was nice to hear from you and I am indeed sorry that I will not see you next week because I do not intend to attend the New York Show. It is simply a matter of health, as I have to avoid over-exertion, excitement, late hours and that stuff they call strong drink. I am much better off when I stay at home and tend to my own knitting.

I had a letter from Ernie this week. He is out in California and he wrote that he will not be able to attend Fipex. I know that you will miss a lot of old friends at the Show. It has been twenty years since the 1936 and hanging on the wall is a picture of our table at the banquet - Bob Emerson, Dolph Fennel, Saul Newbury - all gone. Also Jessup, Chase and myself. And of course our wives. I had a lot of pep and ginger in those days and could stay up all night if necessary and be able to feel almost normal by 8 A.M. Bob passed on the January following the Show and Steve blew out several years later followed by Knapp. Yes, I suppose you do miss the old crowd. Well do I remember Leland Powers at the 1947 Show. He joined our party after the banquet and I remember helping to pour him into a cab several hours later. I don't want to pass out like Spence did at the 1947. Well Dan, in spite of the fact it is rather sad to look back on the old days, there is at least a satisfaction and pleasure in recalling those days.

Harold Brooks plans to be on hand next week and I sure would like to join you and Harold and some of the old gang at a round table. I met Harold for the first time at the 1926 Show. Just think 30 years back.

Herewith the two covers that you enclosed. I see no reason to question the 30¢ 1860. It was 2 x 15¢ (per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.) and went by a British packet - a Cunard ship - out of Boston on May 15, 1861. The rate to France from California was the same as from the Eastern States. This went via Panama by the Ocean Mail to New York, thence in a sealed bag out of Boston on Wednesday, May 15, 1861. The New York postmark has a "24" which was the U.S. credit to France of 24¢ on this letter (2 x 12). All markings are in agreement.

Regarding the other cover, this has been worked over so much it is hard to determine what hasn't been done to it. In the first place, there was no such a rate as 58¢ to France (no registration). There is a New York p.m. with a red "18," and this in connection with the blue French receiving p.m. shows that the original rate was 45¢, that the letter was carried to England at the expense of the U.S. P.O.D. (Amer. Pkt) - The U. S. share of the rate being 3 x 9¢ = 27¢ - The French share 3 x 6¢ = 18¢. None of the stamps seem to have the same killer. The tie of the red New York on the 10¢ seems to be okay but I did not examine it under the microscope.

#2. Mr. Dan'l F. Kelleher - April 26, 1956.

If it is genuine then perhaps there was a 30¢ 1861 and a 5¢. I note the 10¢ is a '67 grill.

With every good wish -

As ever yours,

3556 79th St., Jackson Heights, N.Y.

April 23, 1956.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am sorry to have been so slow in sending you this New Orleans item. Fact is that it had gotten mislaid and I had a hard time finding it. I have a photostat of a New Orleans news item about blockade-run mail which I will send you as soon as I can find it.

Enclosed also is a study of three types of small double circle cancellations used at New Orleans by the U.S. pre-secession and the C.S. after secession on ship mail.

Some years ago MacBride and Shenfield made an extensive study of New Orleans markings and came to the conclusion that the large serif marking and the large sans-serif, used at New Orleans about secession time and after the CS PO took over, were used only on mail deposited at the general post office. Apparently there was a river post office at New Orleans also.

Some people confuse the small double circle used by the Federal forces from 1862 to 1864 with the small type used by the Confederates. The Confederate types all have a period after LA. The Federal types have no period and the letters are spaced differently.

I think Wilmington and Charleston blockade items are selling for \$75.00 each. As this is the only New Orleans item known to me (or to Mac and Shenfield when I last asked them) I think it ought to bring twice that much.

If you can get me \$100 net, fine, and let the bank note and the photostats go with it, together with the copy of Steve Brown's notes. I will send you duplicates for your records.

If you wish to return it please send it to me at my office:

PERSONAL

Mr. Thomas Parks,
Room 905
342 Madison Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Please mark PERSONAL as otherwise some fool will open it and probably spoil it. I have trouble with registered mail at home.

Sincerely,

Thomas Parks

April 24

Dear Mr. A -

Here is a photostat of two items from a New Orleans paper dated Feb. 4, 1862, complaining about P. M. Riddell overcharging on blockade letters & refusing to take Confederate money for postage or box rent.

If you should sell my items I'd like this to go with it. If you return it, you may keep this & the other 'stats. The bank note I'd like as I have no other.

If you don't have this, & sell the cover, I will of course send you another.

As ever,

Tom Parks

April 27, 1956.

Mr. Thomas Parks,
Room 905, 342 Madison Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

Herewith I am returning your New Orleans item. I regret to state that I am a bit dubious about this "face" as there is entirely too little evidence that this was actually from some place outside of the U.S. If I were to offer this item to any friend of mine I would have to assure him that in my opinion this is a "Blocade item." How could I give any such an opinion? I am sure you would not care to guarantee this as such an item. This makes me wonder what Shenfield and MacBride thought of it. Was it their opinion that this was actually a "Blocade item?" If so, on what evidence?

Re - the memo of Stever Brown. I note it was his opinion that the "2" was the fee of the ship captain. I never saw a cover with the ship fee marked in any such manner.

The clippings from the New Orleans paper is certainly very interesting and I suppose could confirm the rate of \$1.50 on this item.

I sincerely regret that it would be impossible for me to handle the item. I do thank you for the opportunity to see it and examine it. I note that it was in the Brown sale back in 1939.

I return the other items.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--I am keeping the very interesting photostat of the newspaper clippings but if you wish it returned at any time I will make a photo for my files.

May 11, 1956.

Mr. L. V. Huber,
4841 Canal St.,
New Orleans 19, La.

Dear Mr. Huber:

This is confidential because I do not have permission from the owner of the cover of which I am sending you the enclosed photograph. This "cover" is a "face" and it belongs to my good friend Thos. Parks of Jackson Heights, N.Y. Mr. Parks feels confident that this is a blockade-run cover into New Orleans January 4, 1862 and in support of same he sent me a clipping from the Pecayune of Feb. 4, 1862, whereby a John M. Bace made a protest over the exorbitant charges made by P.M. Riddell on mail brought thru the blockade. Parks stated that this is the only known blockade cover into New Orleans. His explanation was that the "2" was a "ship fee" and "\$1.50" the postage. If this was actually a blockade letter, then I suppose the 2¢ was the actual Confederate postage and \$1.50 was the "blockade charge."

I am wondering if you ever saw this "cover" (or a photo) before or ever heard of it. I recently advised Parks to get in touch with you.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

JEFFERSON STAMP CO., INC.



COL. L. J. HEYMAN. A. U. S. RETIRED
A. P. S.-S. P. A. ETC.

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

438 SO. 5TH STREET

WABASH 9939

LOUISVILLE 2, KENTUCKY

April 13, 1956

Stanley Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky

Dear Stanley.,

Enclosed is a copy of the 1¢ 1851, red cancellation which appears to me is on "laid or ribbed paper". What do you make of it?

Am enclosing return postage and would appreciate your opinion on same.

With best regards to you and Mrs. Ashbrook., from Mrs. Heymans and myself.,

Sincerely yours,
Laurence

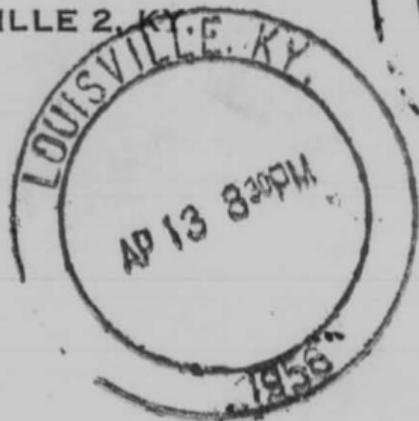
I enclose return postage

JEFFERSON STAMP CO., INC.

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

431 SOUTH 5TH ST.

LOUISVILLE 2, KY



Stanley Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky

CERTIFIED.

CERTIFIED MAIL
No 568544

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 511375

SENT TO

Jefferson Stamp Co Inc

STREET AND NO.

431 South 5th St

CITY AND STATE

Louisville (2) Ky

If you want a return receipt, check which

7¢ shows to whom and when delivered

31¢ shows to whom when, and address where delivered

POSTMARK OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

B

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

April 14, 1956.

Col. L. J. Heyman
431 South 5th St.,
Louisville 2, Ky.

Dear L.J.:

Herewith the U. S. One Cent 1851 - Type IV
with the red grid as per yours of the 13th.

I do not think there is anything unusual
about the paper. To me it is just another Type IV
stamp on the regular paper which was used in
1853-1854.

Nice to hear from you and trust that all goes
well with you.

Mrs. A. joins me in best wishes to Mrs. H and
you.

Cordially yours,



Mrs Anna M. Garber

Bladen Springs

Alabama

Casparry Sale
3/6 - 53 - Lot 185
Ex - Worthington

A796

March 15, 1956

General Earl Antrim
Nampa, Idaho

Dear General,

At the request of Colonel Earl Weatherly, I am furnishing you the following information relative to the Livingston Postmaster provisional stamp.

The name of the Postmaster who had these stamps printed was - Stephen W. Murley. He was a holdover US Postmaster.

I have probably spent more time in the study of the Livingston stamp than anyone ever has. I am currently engaged in a search for descendents of Murley, I just hope to find a sheet of mint Livingston's. Sounds foolish, but I might as well look for the most while I'm at it. I believe like others that the Livingston was printed by the same printers as the Mobile was, and I also believe that E.R. Robertson was the engraver of both. However I am very sure that Mr. Robertson was not the printer. I have almost conclusive proof that one of two printers did the press work, either the Thomas F. Mann Co., who did lithography and advertised in the Livingston newspapers for many years from the 1840's to the 60's. Or S.H. Goetzal Co. who also did litho work, they were either across the street from each other, or next door to each other depending on how numbers ran in Mobile in those days, one firm at 33 Dauphin Street, the other at 34 Dauphin St. I spent days in going over the 1860 census record of Mobile County and did not locate this Robertson, so he was brought to Mobile after the census of 1860, or the stone was prepared elsewhere than Mobile, both are possible. Remember the Southern Banknote Co. of New Orleans, a subterfuge of American Banknote Co.

Since Colonel Weatherly tells me that you bought one of the Caspary Livingston covers, I will tell you my knowledge of the covers - this you may rely on, as I think it will add a tremendous amount of interest to your exhibit writeup. You could have the Garber cover, if so the following applies, Mrs. Ann Garber was an habitue of health resorts for real or fancied ailments, Bladon Springs, Ala. was a famous health resort with its hot springs. In the summer of 1861 she was at Bladon Springs for her "health". She is responsible for the existence of the wonderful Bladon Springs PROVISIONAL covers, her letters to members of her family at Livingston, during the summer of 1861 account for more than 85% of the known covers bearing the Bladon Springs PROVISIONALS. The cover to her indicates the probability that the Livingston stamps did not come into use until October or November of 1861. For she was at Bladon Springs the entire summer and apparently only received the one cover dated November 26, 1861. Altho dozens of Bladon Springs exist addressed to various members of the Garber family in Livingston. Since November represented the closing of the Bladon Springs resort season, it is apparent that only one letter addressed to her bore a Livingston. Her letters and this cover provide possibly the best control ever on dates of usage and frequency, since the time of her stay at Bladon Springs is known. See "STAMPS" in Colonel Frank Hart series, for listing of Bladon Springs provisionals - Note earliest date of usage, then note the date of this Livingston cover. Each Bladon Springs listed in Hart's listing, which is addressed to a member of the Garber family, was written by her. Our own Dr. M. Y. Dabney has one of these Bladon Springs.

The Captain Edward W. Smith cover was addressed in care of Houston Sims & Co. who were Livingston and Gainesville people and ran a cotton commission house in Mobile.

I do not know much about this cover except we have here in Birmingham a beautiful Livingston cover hitherto unlisted which is addressed to G. G. Griffin of Demopolis, Ala, and was used on March 17th, 1862, this is a bottom sheet margin copy, and by a one in a million occurrence this matches the cut on the top sheet margin copy which is on the Smith cover. This indicates that these stamps were printed in only two high rows with possibly only 10 or 20 stamps to the pane. The Smith copy was used 3 or 4 days later than this cover. This amounts to a reconstructed vertical pair.

The Capt. R. Chapman cover is very interesting for many reasons one being the fact that Capt. Chapman was the son of Alabama's 1847 Governor and apparently carried this cover in his effects throughout the war and brought it back to Livingston after the war which accounts for its preservation. I am certain that many of these covers left Livingston for the Virginia battlefields since most of the men in Sumter County went off to war. Even yet another pair or more might be found on cover, From descendants of battlefield soldiers who received and preserved their letters. Captain Chapman's only surviving daughter died in Birmingham in the past year.

In the year 1860, the business of the Livingston Postoffice amounted to an average of \$80.00 per month. Since the PM had stamps to sell from October and/or November to March of 1862, it would indicate that the quantity printed was relatively great, he would certainly have ordered a two months supply of postage this would have averaged 4000 stamps. Lesser quantities would have not been profitable because of the expense of the engraving and lithography. This would refute the idea of scarcity because of limited printing. I rather choose to think that the scarcity was due to the fact that so many of them were mailed to soldiers and were lost on battlefields, several hundred men left Sumter County and this would have used up a lot of Livingston's at 5 and 10 cent rates. I sincerely believe that I will get be able to find some Livingston's.

A logical thesis on the origin of the Livingston's follows-

Mobile, Ala. had their lithographed provisionals in use by July or August of 1861. Livingston was using hand stamped paid's at this time there was considerable commerce between Livingston and Mobile. It is probable that the Livingston Postmaster observed the attractive stamps on the Mobile mail, and wrote Postmaster Lloyd Bowers and asked for details as to the printer, cost, etc.

Receiving a reply it follows that he contacted the supplier and made arrangements for printing this beautiful stamp. He probably received proofs of the proposed design, and these might exist with his descendants. The lateness of beginning usage indicates strongly the influence of the Mobile on his product.

The last two Livingston's found were ~~for~~ found right here in Birmingham one Addressed to Samuel Earle Esq. Elyton, Ala. (old Birmingham) in the middle Thirties, I do not know its whereabouts, and the one that matches the cut on the Smith cover is in the possession of a non-collector, from his family correspondence.

I hope this matter proves helpful to you, and that you win first prize with your exhibit at Fipex, I most sincerely hope to meet you sometime.

Yours truly,

(signed) Raymond J. Rowell Sr.
CSA Colonel, and proud of our CSA.

1640 - Steiner Avenue SW
Birmingham 31, Ala.

March 15, 1956

General Earl Antrim
Nampa, Idaho

Dear General,

At the request of Colonel Earl Weatherly, I am furnishing you the following information relative to the Livingston Postmaster provisional stamp.

The name of the Postmaster who had these stamps printed was - Stephen W. Marley. He was a holdover US Postmaster.

I have probably spent more time in the study of the Livingston stamp than anyone ever has. I am currently engaged in a search for descendants of Marley, I just hope to find a sheet of mint Livingston's. Sounds foolish, but I might as well look for the most while I'm at it. I believe like others that the Livingston was printed by the same printers as the Mobile was, and I also believe that E.R. Robertson was the engraver of both. However I am very sure that Mr. Robertson was not the printer. I have almost conclusive proof that one of two printers did the press work, either the Thomas F. Mann Co., who did lithography and advertised in the Livingston newspapers for many years from the 1840's to the 60's. Or S.H. Goetzal Co. who also did litho work, they were either across the street from each other, or next door to each other depending on how numbers ran in Mobile in those days, one firm at 33 Dauphin Street, the other at 34 Dauphin St. I spent days in going over the 1860 census record of Mobile County and did not locate this Robertson, so he was brought to Mobile after the census of 1860, or the stone was prepared elsewhere than Mobile, both are possible. Remember the Southern Banknote Co. of New Orleans, a subterfuge of American Banknote Co.

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In the year 1860, the business of the Livingston Postoffice amounted to an average of \$80.00 per month. Since the PM had stamps to sell from October and/or November to March of 1862, it would indicate that the quantity printed was relatively great, he would certainly have ordered a two months supply of postage this would have averaged 4000 stamps. Lesser quantities would have not been profitable because of the expense of the engraving and lithography. This would refute the idea of scarcity because of limited printing. I rather choose to think that the scarcity was due to the fact that so many of them were mailed to soldiers and were lost on battlefields, several hundred men left Sumter County and this would have used up a lot of Livingston's at 5 and 10 cent rates. I sincerely believe that I will get be able to find some Livingston's.

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Mobile, Ala. had their lithographed provisionals in use by July or August of 1861. Livingston was using hand stamped paid's at this time there was considerable commerce between Livingston and Mobile. It is probable that the Livingston Postmaster observed the attractive stamps on the Mobile mail, and wrote Postmaster Lloyd Bowers and asked for details as to the printer, cost, etc.

Receiving a reply it follows that he contacted the supplier and made arrangements for printing this beautiful stamp. He probably received proofs of the proposed design, and these might exist with his descendents. The lateness of beginning usage indicates strongly the influence of the Mobile on his product.

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I hope this matter proves helpful to you, and that you win first prize with your exhibit at Fipex, I most sincerely hope to meet you sometime.

Yours truly,

(signed) Raymond J. Rowell Sr.
CSA Colonel, and proud of our CSA.

1640 - Steiner Avenue SW
Birmingham Al. Ala.

March 15, 1956

General Earl Antrim
Nampa, Idaho

Dear General,

At the request of Colonel Earl Weatherly, I am furnishing you the following information relative to the Livingston Postmaster provisional stamp.

The name of the Postmaster who had these stamps printed was - Stephen W. Murley. He was a holdover US Postmaster.

I have probably spent more time in the study of the Livingston stamp than anyone ever has. I am currently engaged in a search for descendants of Murley, I just hope to find a sheet of mint Livingston's. Sounds foolish, but I might as well look for the most while I'm at it. I believe like others that the Livingston was printed by the same printers as the Mobile was, and I also believe that E.R. Robertson was the engraver of both. However I am very sure that Mr. Robertson was not the printer. I have almost conclusive proof that one of two printers did the press work, either the Thomas F. Mann Co., who did lithography and advertised in the Livingston newspapers for many years from the 1840's to the 60's. Or S.H. Goetzal Co. who also did litho work, they were either across the street from each other, or next door to each other depending on how numbers ran in Mobile in those days, one firm at 33 Dauphin Street, the other at 34 Dauphin St. I spent days in going over the 1860 census record of Mobile County and did not locate this Robertson, so he was brought to Mobile after the census of 1860, or the stone was prepared elsewhere than Mobile, both are possible. Remember the Southern Banknote Co. of New Orleans, a subterfuge of American Banknote Co.

Since Colonel Weatherly tells me that you bought one of the Caspary Livingston covers, I will tell you my knowledge of the covers - this you may rely on, as I think it will add a tremendous amount of interest to your exhibit writeup. You could have the Garber cover, if so the following applies, Mrs. Ann Garber was an habitue of health resorts for real or fancied ailments, Bladon Springs, Ala. was a famous health resort with its hot springs. In the summer of 1861 she was at Bladon Springs for her "health". She is responsible for the existence of the wonderful Bladon Springs PROVISIONAL covers, her letters to members of her family at Livingston, during the summer of 1861 account for more than 85% of the known covers bearing the Bladon Springs PROVISIONALS. The cover to her indicates the probability that the Livingston stamps did not come into use until October or November of 1861. For she was at Bladon Springs the entire summer and apparently only received the one cover dated November 26, 1861. Altho dozens of Bladon Springs exist addressed to various members of the Garber family in Livingston. Since November represented the closing of the Bladon Springs resort season, it is apparent that only one letter addressed to her bore a Livingston. Her letters and this cover provide possibly the best control ever on dates of usage and frequency, since the time of her stay at Bladon Springs is known. See "STAMPS" in Colonel Frank Hart series, for listing of Bladon Springs provisionals - Note earliest date of usage, then note the date of this Livingston cover. Each Bladon Springs listed in Hart's listing, which is addressed to a member of the Garber family, was written by her. Our own Dr. M. Y. Dabney has one of these Bladon Springs.

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(signed) Raymond J. Rowell Sr.
CSA Colonel, and proud of our CSA.

1640 - Steiner Avenue SW

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.Y.



U.S.A.
A.R.A.
B.N.A.P.S.

Jack E. Molesworth
Philatelic Dealer and Broker
102 Beacon Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

April 26, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

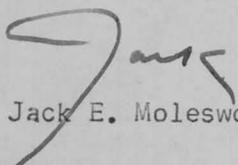
Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your prompt reply on the lot of covers recently sent. Enclosed is my check for \$16.50 covering your fees. Your opinion on the St. Louis Bear strip confirms my own, though I also do not consider myself to be an expert on these items. I shall have it checked by a specialist when in New York for FIPEX and will let you know his opinion. I was quite leary of the 5¢ New York used from Boston since I had never seen such a grid.

Enclosed is a rare, though not too nice, cover showing the 1847 usage abroad. I would appreciate your examining and signing the reverse if you feel it is genuine as I am rather sure it is myself. Though my mail will be forwarded, if you wish to reply on this item to me c/o the Mayflower Hotel, 61st and Central Park, New York, I would appreciate it.

Sorry you won't be able to make it to FIPEX.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

Enclosure
JEM:as

April 29, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
% The Mayflower Hotel,
61st St. and Central Park,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Jack:

Your Air Special came Saturday afternoon with the 1847 cover to Scotland and check for \$16.50 for which please accept my thanks.

As requested, I will return the 1847 cover to you to the above address tomorrow (Monday).

Regarding this cover. I have know it since it came up in the H. R. Harmer sale in London, Dec. 6, 1954 (Lot 661). There are several points about it which are not so good but in spite of these I believe the cover is genuine. For example, the use was during the "Retaliatory Rate" period, July 1st, 1848 to Dec. 15, 1848(?). During that time if a letter was sent to England or through England in an American Packet, the required postage was U.S. domestic (note domestic, not internal) plus 24¢ sea, per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. On such the British collected a shilling from the addressee.

Your cover shows 35¢ paid, thus we assume it was 24¢ sea plus 10¢ domestic - 1¢ overpay. Your cover does not show any postmark of origin, hence the 10¢ domestic indicates it was at a distance of over 300 miles from New York. However, the routing shows - (literally) "Per British Steamer America from New York 16 Aug 48." This was a ship of the Cunard Line - British Packet. If this letter was sent by the "America" all the postage required would have been the U. S. domestic, not 34¢. I assume that the writer intended the letter to go by the "America" on Wednesday, Aug. 16, 1848, but if it did not arrive in New York in time, then it was to go by the next sailing which may have been an American Packet. The back stamp shows it arrived at Liverpool on August 30, 1848, so it is possible it did not reach New York in time to go by the America on Aug. 16, as I doubt if it would have required

#2. Mr. Jack E. Molesworth - April 29, 1956.

the Cunard "America" 14 days to reach Liverpool from New York in August 1848. On the other hand, Liverpool was the home port of the Cunard Line.

I doubt if any fixer would put a 10¢ 1847 strip on a cover and permit it to be creased as this one is. I don't like to sign a cover such as this without an explanation such as the above because there are some who would not have the above facts and might wonder why I thought the cover was genuine and in the "Retaliatory Rate" category. I have signed it on the back.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP G. RUST
WINNSTEAD PLANTATION
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA

April 25th.1956

MR. S. B. Ashbrook
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

The enclosed cover looks genuine to me. Will you please give it a paragraph or two of write-up (if it isn't phony!) and bill me for said service. The Edgartown ties the 10¢ and 1¢s together nicely, anyhow.

Boy! Aren't my letters works of art? phew.*¢/?¢*%

Sincerely yours,

Phil

P.S. Is genuine - what is your Auction Valuation?

Phil

45¢
Rate
to Balawra

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 511383

SENT TO

PHILIP G. RUST

POSTMARK
OR DATE

STREET AND NO.

Route 5

THOMASVILLE, Georgia

CITY AND STATE

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

April 29, 1956.

Mr. Philip G. Rust,
Route 5,
Thomasville, Ga.

Dear Phil:

Herewith the cover to Batavia showing 45¢ paid in April 1858 or 1859. Probably 1858 as I have a record of other covers of this same "NORTON" correspondence of March and April 1858. I have known this cover for many years and I have a photograph of it that I made along about 1936 or 1937. It was then in the S. W. Richey collection and when I sold that collection I probably sold it to Stark. Maybe it was a Stark item that I sold last year. I could find out if I searched my records. The cover is genuine in every respect but I doubt if only a few present day students could explain the markings.

This cover was from Edgartown, Mass. to the Captain of the sailing ship "MINSTREL" on a trip to India and China. The rates were as follows -

"To Batavia

By British Mail Via Southampton - 33¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
(From Southampton Via Gibraltar by
sea - Suez - etc.)

By British Mail Via Marseilles - 33¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.
" " " " " - 45¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

You will note this was routed "Via Marseilles" and 45¢ was paid. Note the back stamp, "New York - Apr 8 - Am. Pkt." The "18" is the U. S. credit to Britain - the "30" was the Batavia due, (kind of money unknown to me). This is quite an interesting study in rates and weights - also route as I will explain. The Edgartown postmaster thought the cover was over $\frac{1}{4}$ oz., hence he charged the writer 45¢. When the letter got to New York they found it did not weigh over $\frac{1}{4}$ oz., hence gave a credit to Britain at that rate. In other words, the Edgartown P.O. charged the writer 6¢ too much.

On a letter of $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. the 39¢ rate was made up as follows:

By Amer. Pkt. to England - U.S. share21¢
French " (across France 6¢
British share (sea) ...12¢
39¢

Had this letter weighed over $\frac{1}{4}$ oz., the credit would have been 6¢ more to France, making a 45¢ rate. Thus by weights, rates, routes and credits and debits, we can get a very good idea whether a foreign rate cover is good or has been subjected to any monkey-business. Exceptionally few U. S. students have gone into this subject because the facts were not readily available. It took me years of hunting to father all the data which I have.

#2. Mr. Philip G. Rust - April 29, 1956.

You inquired my idea of value. Because of the rate, destination and nice appearance of the cover I would appraise it at \$75.00, though it is questionable if a buyer would pay that much at auction unless he was one who had some knowledge of the rate and markings and the fact that a foreign rate cover to Batavia is an item far from common, in fact, something exceptional.

On the back is a pencil "Type III." I recognize this handwriting - It is that of Ernest R. Jacobs and no doubt made many years ago. The chances are he sold this cover to Richey in the 1920's.

Richey had two other "NORTON" covers to Batavia, one had a H.S. of 3¢ of the 12¢ 1851 and a H.S. of 3 of the 3¢ 1851, the other a H.S. of 3 of the 10¢ 1857 plus a 5¢ 1856.

Many foreign rate covers have very interesting stories to tell to one who can read their language. Very few can.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

MARCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

TO Dear Stan - DATE ap 26th '56

Just left train where Mildred boarded for NY.

I take plane 9 am Friday
My secy will mail this to you.

It's now 7:30 at office -

This came in NY auction
as Orange Brown. Quoted
at \$100 I got it for \$57.50
but color not as good as
mine - altho its near some of
mine you ok'd like pair from
Boston with 1st Carrier. It seems
identical to those - What do you
think of it? Certainly not a rich
Orange Brown like some I have -
Is it one of those remainders?
If man too much trouble would

MERCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To _____ DATE _____

you mail this to Ambassador
Hotel - N.Y.C. - with any little
comment you wish to make

By your letter you surely
have company next two weeks.
We'll try to time our trip to
fit in -

Best to your Miedred

and you

Edgar

54 1857

Fox Sale

Apr 20 1956

Lot 291

See EK

April 30, 1956.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup,
% Ambassador Hotel,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Ed:

Yours of the 26th mailed at Oakland on the 27th arrived this
A.M.

Herewith I return the 5¢ 1857 Type II. This is not the
Orange Brown or even similar to that color. It is a Type II Brown.
This stamp was lot #291 in the Fox sale of April 20th last. I
sent for it before the sale because I was satisfied in my own mind
that it was not an O.B. - I made a color slide of it and marked it
in my records as a Brown.

Please don't quote me for this reason - Fox hates to take back
items like this and he blames me for being the cause, as a result,
he is sore at me. Ezra should have known this is not the color.
Not in a thousand years. I ask you not to quote me to anyone on
this stamp, but if anyone claims it is an Orange Brown tell them you
will leave it up to Ashbrook. Whoever sends it to me will be charged
\$5.00. Had this been an Orange Brown you would not have purchased it
at \$57.50. Ezra should have known better. Krug would know this is
not an O.B. Fox is far too careless in a lot of his descriptions and
no one knows this better than Ezra.

Give our best regards to Mildred and tell her that we hope she
has a most enjoyable visit in New York.

Cordially yours,

(39-52)



Hotel COMMODORE

42nd STREET AT LEXINGTON AVENUE · NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Sunday - Apr. 29 -

Dear Stan -

Not much to tell you as yet in regards the jury. Just getting organized - Harold & Edgar both here and helpful -

My sub-committee chairman is Baker & John. On same is Larry Shoepfler, Edgar, Altt, and Dix John.

More later!

These two covers offered me by Bob Siegel - Iron recent Dalasee pale - 300^{at} each or 550^{at} for both -

Are they OK? If so just keep them until I pass thru Cincinnati.

If n.g. send back to me here at the Commodore. If OK, just advise me.

Sincerely -
Bw.



5¢ 1847 - Single - to Avize, France

From Boston, Ms. Feb. 11, 1851, via Boston or New York by British Packet to Liverpool, thence to France. London, Feb. 24, thru Calais Feb. 25, Avize Feb. 25. From Boston or New York on Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1851 - 12 days to England - 13 days from origin to destination.

Stamp tied by Boston black grid. At this period Boston used a grid in black, though in earlier years, red grids were used on the forty-sevens. The 5¢ payment was the U.S. internal of 5¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. under the U.S.-British Postal Treaty. The postage due from the addressee from the U.S. frontier was "13" decimes or about 25¢ in U. S. currency at that time.

This cover is genuine in every respect.

May 4, 1956.

5¢ 1847 - Single - to Avize, France

From Savannah, Ga. Jan. 28, 1851 Via New York or Boston by British Packet to Liverpool, thence to France. London Feb. 24 - thru Calais Feb. 25 - Avize Feb. 25. 28 days in transit. By a Cunard British Packet on Wednesday Feb. 12, 1851, thus, 15 days after leaving Savannah and the Atlantic sailing.

Stamp tied by red grid of Savannah. At this period in 1851, the domestic rate from Savannah to New York was 10¢ (over 300 miles), but this letter was sent under the terms of the U.S.-British Postal Treaty which provided a payment of 5¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., internal postage. Postage was due at destination from the U.S. frontier, in this case "13" decimes as evidenced by the hand-struck French marking in black - (about 25¢ U.S. at that time). This cover is genuine in every way.

May 4, 1956.

April 30.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for your letter re the New Orleans
"face".

I got it from E.N. Sampson in 1945 as what
I said it was. No other N.O. blockade has
come to light - so far as I can learn - so I
have nothing to compare it to.

Am trying to locate a Harmer Roodie
catalogue of that time.

Earl Antwin once owned this ~~on~~ front
in the belief it was a blockade-run item from England.
Anyway, I'm satisfied to keep it.

I had meant for you to keep these
stats - if you wanted to. Few people
seem aware that there were so many varieties.

Regards,

Thos. Parks

May 8, 1956.

Mr. Thos. Parks,
3556 - 79th St.,
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

Yours of the 30th received. I am returning the postage that you enclosed as I certainly did not expect any refund. Thanks just the same.

I think the strongest evidence regarding your cover is the newspaper clipping. It shows that mail was arriving thru the blockade and that Riddell was charging high rates on same. What is needed is more evidence. Why don't you write an article about the item and publish it in "Stamps" and make an appeal for further data of any kind pertaining to it? Have you ever had any correspondence with Leonard V. Huber of New Orleans re - blockade mail into that city? He is a very thorough student and a very fine gentleman.

Re - New Orleans postmarks after Federal occupation. I believe I was the one who originally started this study and took the matter up with MacBride and Shenfield. I turned up the cover of JUL 24 1862 to Paris with the three 5¢ 1857. All the pencil marks on your photostat are mine. It is possible that I sent you a print at the time. Your photostat does not show all the markings. I had quite a bit of correspondence with Shenfield about six years ago regarding that cover. As near as I can remember, it was the earliest record we had of the Federal type with the crooked "S." This postmark was applied in a deep indigo and so were the targets. My pencil marks show the cover was sent to me by "O.B." but offhand I do not recall who this was but I could look up my records.

Later

In searching my records I found that in a sale by Costales 2/14/1950, there was a cover - Lot 648, with the Type I - crooked "S" of Jul 12 1862 - applied in indigo - or a very dark black blue. Have you any record of an earlier use? I wonder how long indigo was used.

I probably have a Harmer Rooke catalogue if you can give me the date.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

May 11, 1956.

Mr. Thomas Parks,
3556 - 79th Ave.,
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

Herewith a photo print of your cover. If this is actually a blockade-run cover do you not think a correct explanation would be that this was not a large package but a letter of not over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and the "2" was the 2¢ local C.S.A. rate and the \$1.50 was the special extra charge made by Riddell for a blockade-run letter?

Sincerely yours,

Post Office Department

Received from: **STANLEY B. ASHBROOK**
P. O. Box 31
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed
to **Mr Leonard V Huber**
4841 Canal St
New Orleans (19) La

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

POSTMASTER.

May 23, 1956.

Mr. L. V. Huber,
4841 Canal St.,
New Orleans 19, La.

Dear Mr. Huber:

Thanks very much for yours of the 16th.

It is most unfortunate that the Parks item is just a face and does not show more. I note that you believe this could have been a 6 x 25¢ DUE, but it is my understanding the express companies rated the same as the Post Office. Would a 6 times express charge (6 x two bits) be rated at the P.O. as a single 2¢ Drop? Further, is there any evidence that the blockade was not run by ship up the river? And if this went thru the N.O. P.O. on Jan 4, 1862 as postmarked, would the C.S.A. postal system collect \$1.50 for an express company? That I doubt.

In my letter I referred to an article in the Picayune about Riddell charging \$1.50 extra on blockade-run letters.

Herewith I return your Star Die cover, and regret to state I cannot make out the date of the postmark but even if it is February 1861, it would still be U. S. mail and its only feature would be a use after secession. I do not attach a great deal of significance to covers used in the South between Jan. 1, 1861 and June 1, 1861. While the seceded states regarded themselves as Independent, Washington did not take that view, and the postal system was U.S. operated until June 1st, 1861.

I made a photograph of your cover thru a special filter to see if I could bring out the date. On this I will report later.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

J.L. HIGGINS & CO. P.M.
PD 5 CTS
N.O.P.O. TEAM



Haller Nutt Esq

By Wilton Moses

Satchez

jayt

Confederate Type 3. Inner ring 13 mm.

Am 1. 30



A. H. Kernion Esq.

New Orleans Canal Bank Co

1862 New Orleans.

Confederate Type 3. Inner ring 13 mm.

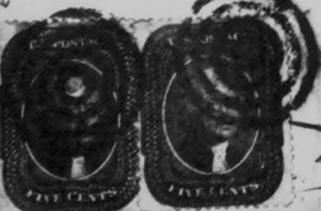


Indigo Blue Target



Very Dark Blue Blue

Messieurs Messieurs
de la Banque de l'Etat de Louisiane



Brown

Jaris

Red

By O. B.

1/4-50

Federal Type 1. Blue at first, black later.

Crossed
5



Mrs Mark C Miller
Alton
New Hampshire

Federal Type 1.

Freight
5



Susan A. Philbrick
South Deerfield
New Hamp

Federal Type 2. (Used same time as 1.)

Address Letter
John Ermer
Major 19th Iowa.

3



Mrs H. C. Chambers,
Keokuk,
Iowa.

Federal Type 3. Larger letters.



*Mrs. J. Hardie & Co
New Orleans
La*

Confederate Type 1. Inner ring 14½ mm.

On back in m/s. "Ship by the Rusk".



*J. Hardie & Co
New Orleans
La*

Confederate Type 2. Inner ring 14 mm.



STEAMBOAT

*Messrs Carroll, Hays & Co
New Orleans
La*



Confederate Type 2. Inner ring 14 mm.

May 10, 1956.

Mr. Henry W. Hill,
28-26 - 2nd St., South,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Henry:

Yours of the 8th received enclosing the three 5¢ 1856-1857 which I am returning herewith. Here are my comments -

Re - the 5¢ 1856 - Red Brown - Type I - "Weak transfer" (or short transfer). Colson called this a "worn plate." I don't think this plate ever showed any wear. I note this is the copy that Colson described and illustrated in his Bulletin of May 1946 (Calendar). Is this a recent acquisition? I made some color slides of it but I did not make an enlarged black and white but will do so later if you desire same.

I got something in my left eye and in rubbing it I guess I cut the eye and apparently it got infected. As a result, I have been having the devil of a time with it. It is a bit better today but I am still having the Doctor treat it. Just about the time I think it is better it all comes back, sore as the devil and feels like I had a pebble under the lid.

Re - the 5¢ 1857 - Type II - Brown with the red New York postmark and some black markings. I doubt very much if this stamp shows any evidence of a plate crack. There is some damage to Jefferson's right chin and also to his left coat collar which may be a "scuff" of the surface of the paper or perhaps due more to some foreign substance that adhered to the surface of the plate at these points and prevented printing. It is my guess that Morris had reference to these spots but I can hardly imagine that such a careful student as he is of plate varieties would suggest that these have any relation to cracks. My guess is that this variety is not consistent. Going over both panes of plate proofs I failed to find any such variety.

Re - the 5¢ 1857 - Type II - Brown with the wide bars of a grid. This could be one of the New York grids of 1860 - but I do not believe this feature is important. The ink of this grid looks genuine to me, and besides there could hardly be any incentive for a fakerto put a fake grid on an unused 5¢ Type II brown. I am wondering if this is not the stamp that Morris thought might be a cracked plate variety? There is a diagonal brown line in the left bottom part of the design which is quite noticeable, but if this is a consistent plate variety it is my opinion that it is much too wide a line for a crack, hence more likely a foreign gash or thick line on the plate surface. From this one copy who can determine whether it is consistent or not - If we could find an exact duplicate then we could be certain if it is a consistent plate variety. I went over both panes (photos) of plate proofs and was unable to find any such a variety as this, therefore, it is my opinion that this is an ink variety and not consistent.

Mrs. Hanus. I do not recall that I have ever met her personally but I believe her husband paid me a call several years ago. I have had some correspondence with her in the past year as she seems to be quite a nice and an enthusiastic collector.

#2. Mr. Henry W. Hill - May 10, 1956.

I wonder what she thinks could be gained by a reconstruction of Plate 2 when we have very fine plate proofs of both panes, (photographs). It seems to me it would be quite an expensive waste of time. Further, I differ with her that one could make a reconstruction even with a plate proof as a guide. A plate cannot be reconstructed where there are not plate varieties of some kind. Of course, it is very easy for a person to express an opinion but is an opinion worth while if it is not based on some experience or knowledge of the subject.

Inasmuch as I do not think the enclosed copy is a "crack" I do not think it has an extra value over an ordinary copy.

Henry thanks a million for the money orders. I will write you further re - your letter and Pipex, after the pain in my eye eases up.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

JOHN A. FOX

173 Tulip Avenue • Floral Park • New York • FL 4-4636

=====
=====
AUCTIONS • APPRAISALS • RETAIL • WHOLESALE • STAMPS • COVERS • ACCESSORIES

May 11, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

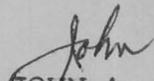
Dear Stan:

Enclosed please find a cover I would appreciate having you check for me and giving me an opinion. If genuine, this of course would probably be the earliest recorded date.

We missed you at the Show and wished that Mildred and yourself could have found time to visit. It was a fabulous show despite quite a few things happening which were not to our liking. However, I guess we must all keep our amateur standing as showmen, so a lot of things can be excused.

With kind personal regards and best wishes to you both.

Sincerely,


JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ew

P.S. Under no circumstances return the enclosed fee.

May 14, 1956.

Mr. John A. Fox,
173 Tulip Ave.,
Floral Park, N.Y.

Dear John:

Herewith I am returning the 5¢ 1856 cover. I have known about this cover for many years, in fact, way back into the early nineteen twenties, when it was in the Waterhouse collection. More on that later.

The last time I saw it was in March 1954 when it was sent to me by Frank S. Levi of Larchmont, N.Y. who sent it to me at my request. I made a very careful examination of it at that time, also a number of photographs, one of which was an enlargement of the stamp by ultra-violet light. I wrote Levi at that time that I would give him a complete analysis of the cover but would have to charge him a fee of \$5.00. He failed to avail himself of same as he never sent the fee. He stated at the time he did not know where his father obtained the cover. My guess is that Frank Levi Sr. obtained it from Clarence Brazer. I never advised Levi Jr. (as near as I can recall) whether I advised him that the cover was good or bad.

I understand that at the Fipex a cover was shown to a certain dealer and he was informed that I had stated the cover was bad. That dealer replied - "I don't give a damn what Ashbrook said, that cover is good." Well, he may have been right and he may have been wrong because I am not so foolish as to have any illusions that I know all the answers. However, in some cases I am positive I can prove an opinion and this 5¢ 1856 cover happens to be in that category. This cover has a French postmark on face of "5 AVRIL 56." Also a New York postmark of Mar 23. Now both of these markings cannot be correct, because, if the New York is genuine, then the French could not have been 1856, because this type of New York did not come into use until April 1, 1857 - The reason is this - This was a Treaty postmark and the U.S.-French Treaty did not go into effect until April 1, 1857. This was a debit marking to France of 9¢ and there was no such a thing before April 1, 1857. So you see this marking could not have been used in 1856. Further, the French due is "24" decimes, showing that this was a 3 x 8 decimes due.

Under the treaty the rate was 15¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz., which was equivalent to 8 decimes. This letter was, therefore, sent unpaid - a triple rate of 3 x 8 due in Paris. Our share of this rate was 3¢ per single, hence the "9" debit to France of 3 x 3¢. What happened? Did some faker change the date in the two French postmarks - one on face - one on the back? This letter went by a "Br Pkt" - a Cunard mail ship, and the sailings were on Wednesdays. Every other Wednesday from Boston or New York. In 1856 Mar 23 was Sunday, so it is a cinch this cover was not used in 1856 (in my opinion). Was this stamp used on this cover? Is the New Orleans p.m. genuine or a fake? In 1858, March 23 fell on Tuesday. This could have been a use in 1858, and sent up to Boston to go by the Wednesday sailing, or the use could have been in 1859 - on Mar 23 - Wednesday. Offhand I did not look up my records to see if the "Canada" (Cunarder) sailed on those days.

Note the small red "PD". This is a fake - It was French applied and meant PAID in full to destination. This was also a treaty marking. This letter was certainly not paid.

I suppose this could have originated in New Orleans on Mar. 14, 1859 or 1858, and

#2. Mr. John A. Fox - May 14, 1956.

because of the short payment it was rated as entirely unpaid at New York. It is possible the stamp is a cleaned copy and tied by a fake New Orleans postmark. Which analysis do you prefer?

Waterhouse advised Chase and me along about 1921 that he had a 5¢ 1856 cover used from N.O. on March 14, 1856. We did not list it because neither of us had seen it. In the Waterhouse sale in London in November 1924 this cover was Lot 316 - and was briefly described as follows: "used on cover to Paris - fine." The next I heard of this cover was when it was sent to me by Clarence Brazer on Feb. 3, 1932, at which time I made a complete description of it for my records, and at that time I thought the cover was genuine. Everything looked good to me. The following is a part of the description made at that time, quote: "Cover has enclosed a certificate of genuineness signed by Heinrich Kohler of Berlin dated Mar. 12, 1928. Notations on reverse show that cover passed thru hands of Frank Godden and Charles J. Phillips under date of Nov. 28, 1930." It appears that Phillips sold it to Brazer who in turn sold it to Frank S. Levi, Sr.

Had any dealer in New York sent this cover to me I would not have charged more than \$5.00, therefore, there is no reason in the world why you should pay me \$15.00; so I am returning same as I am already in your debt because of overpays in the past.

John do you think you could obtain the above information from that bunch of "Experts" at the P.F.? Or for that matter, any other place in the world?

I did miss seeing a lot of friends at the Show, but I am confident I was wise in not attending. I am sure the physical strain would have been too great. That is the only reason I did not put in an appearance.

Mildred joins me in every good wish to Virginia and you.

Cordially yours,

P.S.--I am always a bit suspicious when I see a stamp down in the left bottom. In the case of this cover one wonders if the New York postmark was applied before the stamp and the N.O. postmark? You see this could have been a stampless sent unpaid with origin in New York.

May 15, 1956.

Mr. John A. Fox,
173 Tulip Ave.,
Floral Park, N.Y.

Dear John:

Re - the 5¢ 1856 cover - See my Service Issue
of April 1954 - page 280 and photograph #145. I
forgot to mention this in my letter of yesterday.

Yours etc.,

JOHN A. FOX

173 Tulip Avenue • Floral Park • New York • FL 4-4636

AUCTIONS • APPRAISALS • RETAIL • WHOLESALE • STAMPS • COVERS • ACCESSORIES

May 16, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your letter of May 14th. I appreciate your opinion on this cover more than you know. However, I feel very bad that you will not take a fee when I send it. I don't care whether you charge other people five dollars or fifty dollars, I feel that when I send you something, I am more than paid by getting an intelligent opinion.

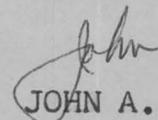
I do not know who the man at FIPEX was who made the remark contradicting your opinion, nor do I say that I would never disagree with your opinion. It might happen, but before I would, I would want to check awful damn close because more than likely, I would be wrong. You mention the Philatelic Foundation to me...my opinion of that I will keep to myself! Even worse is my opinion of one of the other "expert" groups that operates for a certain organization. I think it is horrible that people who set themselves up as experts can never learn to say "I do not know". It is not a crime not to know, but certainly is a crime to pass an opinion on something when they do not know.

We sure missed Mildred and yourself at FIPEX and think you would have enjoyed the trip. I agree, that it might have been a strain, but look at the fun you would have had!

Again, many thanks for your kindness, but the next time I send a fee, if you do not take it, it will be the last item I will send. I do not want anything for nothing. I believe in this respect, I might be like Stanley B. Ashbrook.

With kind personal regards and best wishes,

Sincerely,


JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ew

ll

Steamer Canada



Black



Black

W. W. W.

B. Myer & Co.

Paris.

M. L.

Black



Red

B473 - see ^{5x7} B 474 for Quartz
of Stamp

Fake Cover By

Francis S. Levi Jr
of Larchmont N.Y.
March 1954

See S.B. 30

1859 on Fred

1858

23 on Pines

wrote

Mar 18 1954

Frank S. Levi Jr
Larchmont N.Y.

A 478

A 522

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. Box 31
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Lot 316

54(56) Brown

Used on Culture
to Paris fine

This Photograph
Was Made By
ULTRA - VIOLET
RAY

By Stanley B. Ashbrook

FAKE 5¢ 1856 COVER, FRENCH DATE "56" -
THE NEW YORK POSTMARK DID NOT COME
INTO USE UNTIL APRIL 1, 1857. THE NEW
ORLEANS POSTMARK IS FRAUDULENT
AND 5¢ STAMP WAS NOT USED ON THIS
COVER, WHICH ORIGINALLY WAS A STAMPLESS
SENT UNPAID WITH 24 DECIMES DUE, OR
45¢, VIZ 3 x 15¢. Stanley B. Ashbrook

The Earliest Possible
USE OF THIS COVER WAS MARCH 23 FROM
NEW YORK.

U.S. POSTAGE



FIVE CENTS

Quartz

B474
12'8 - F64 -
30 M117
See B473

5456 on
Faked Cover

This Photograph
Was Made By
ULTRA - VIOLET
RAY
By Stanley B. Ashbrook



Black

ll

Steamer Canada



Black



Black

Mrs. B. Metcalf

Black



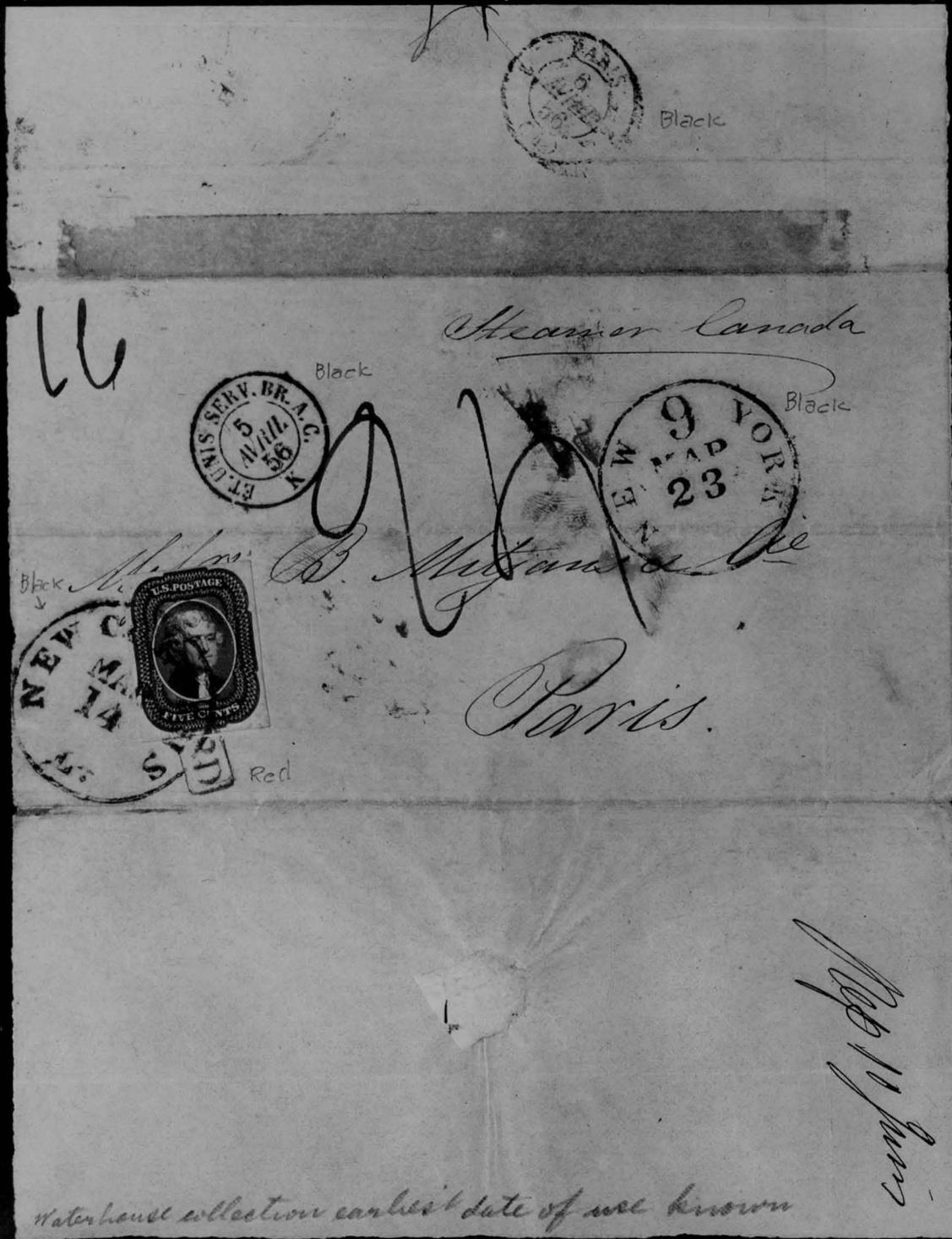
Paris.

Red

Comp. 11/1/68

Waterhouse collection earliest date of use known

A478



Waterhouse collection earliest date of use known

FAKE 5¢ 1856 COVER, FRENCH DATE "56" - THE NEW YORK POSTMARK DID NOT COME INTO USE UNTIL APRIL 1 1857. THE NEW ORLEANS POSTMARK IS FRAUDULENT AND 5¢ STAMP WAS NOT USED ON THIS COVER, WHICH ORIGINALLY WAS A STAMLESS SENT UNPAID WITH 24 DECIMES DUE, OR 45¢, VIZ 3 x 15¢. Stanley B. Ashbrook
 The Earliest Possible
 USE OF THIS COVER WAS MARCH 23 FROM NEW YORK.

EARLIEST THIS
 COULD HAVE BEEN
 MARCH 1858



Jack E. Molesworth
Philatelic Dealer and Broker
102 Beacon Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

May 16, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 North Ft Thomas Ave
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

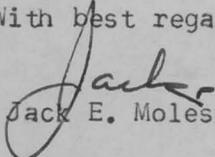
Many thanks for your prompt opinion on the 1847 cover for which I enclose \$4.50. Sorry I could not acknowledge sooner due to heavy post-FIPEX work here.

FIPEX was, in my opinion, a success in most every respect and I was glad to have taken a booth even tho it was quite a strain that we would not care to go through again for some time to come. I was a bit disappointed in the quality of the U.S. exhibits based on which it is understandable that a foreign collection won the Grand Award. Meroni had the only really comprehensive showing and it was rather spotty as far as completeness goes with many of the items sub-standard condition wise. This was doubtlessly due to the short period in which he has accumulated his current collection and his reluctance to pay the really top price which quality material has been bringing over the past three years. The U.S. Revenue showing by Morton Joyce was by far the outstanding United States exhibit. Meroni won the CSA Trophy almost entirely due to the high monetary value of his exhibit in my opinion as he arrangement, write-up, and completeness left a great deal to be desired with the collection of Robert Wiseman beating him in all of those areas in my opinion.

Enclosed is an interesting 5 & 10¢ 1847 combination cover on which I will appreciate your opinion. Possibly you may have seen it before and not cared for it. I personally question whether the 10¢ stamp was ever used on this cover. It is owned by a client of mine who recently purchased it and requested my opinion. I urged him to send it to you as the best authority and at his request am sending it to you for him. Please address your reply on it to Mr. Josef Seligson, Bellevue Hotel, 21 Beacon St., Boston, Mass, but send both the letter and the cover back to me and I will take care of your fee and deliver to him.

Your reply on the cover by air-special will be greatly appreciated.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/p
encl

May 18, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beacon Street,
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Herewith the 5¢-10¢ 1847 cover as per yours of the 16th. This from New York on May 13, 1848 and addressed to Millard Fillmore, Albany, N.Y. I have known of this cover for many years, in fact, when it came up in a sale by Kelleher back in 1926, I sent for it, but I did not bid on it because I was not impressed with it. That sale was April 23, 1926, and it was Lot 414. I have no record of the sale price. I believe the cover was purchased by J. W. Sampson and that it was in his collection up to along about 1948 when he sold his 1847 collection to Fox and Costales. It was sent to me along about that time @ \$1,100.00. Later it was submitted to a friend of mine at \$850.00. Later it was purchased by Dr. Pollard in 1950. It was in a sale by Colby - A.P.S. Convention, Sept. 4, 1952. I have no later record.

The date of use was apparently May 1848 and at that time there was a triple rate. As you are aware there was no such a thing as a triple rate between March 15, 1849 and June 30, 1851 (inc.). So much for the rate. There is no actual evidence that the 10¢ was used on this cover, in fact, this could have been a cover with a single 5¢ or a single 10¢, hence it would be nothing but pure guess-work for anyone to state that the cover is good or bad. For that reason, loack of any convincing evidence - I cannot give a definite opinion. As stated, note the date of use - very early May 1848. The 5¢ stamp does not look like an early impression to me nor do I like the shade for a use in May 1848. This feature leads me to question whether this 5¢ stamp was actually used on this cover. I suppose the use could have been 1848 as the notation on back appears to be okay.

The Rawdon firm delivered 600,000 of the 5¢ on June 3, 1847 and 800,000 on March 15, 1848. I doubt seriously if this stamp came out of either delivery, because it is my opinion that the shade and the impression does not look like a stamp from those two shipments.

I am charging you a modified fee for this examination.

Sincerely yours,

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

May 14th, 1956

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook,
P. O. Box 31,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan:

Em is still in town and will be for a couple of more weeks. I have not seen him since the Show. He has been busy and I have been trying to catch up and am beginning to see a little daylight. It will take years to get my stock sorted so I can find anything.

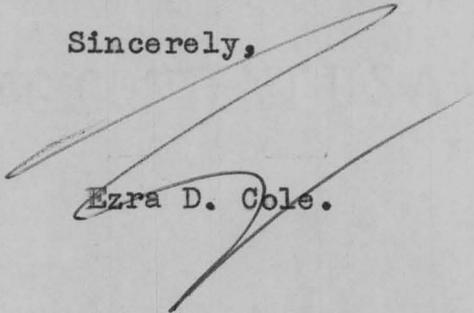
I read the editorial in Linn's and of course I saw George at the Show.

In my opinion the judging at the Stamp Show was the worst I ever saw. It was terrible, especially in certain sections like the postal history section. As a matter of fact the judges could have stood outside the Coliseum and thrown a medal at the frames and whatever frames the medals hit could have been given a prize and it would have been a better job than they did by looking at them. When I tell you it was awful it is the understatement of the year.

I bought the enclosed cover and I am just wondering if you think there was another stamp on it and if so what. It does not look right to me.

Did you ever see this "Chicago AM.PKT." in blue before? I have seen it in red going out of the country.

Sincerely,


Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mk1

Post Office Department

Received from **STANLEY B. ASHBROOK**

P. O. Box 31

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

FORT THOMAS, KY.

One piece of ordinary mail addressed

to **EZRA D. COLE**

NYACK,

N. Y.



THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

May 18, 1956.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack, N.Y.

Dear Ezra:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 14th.

Re - the Patriotic. Of course, this stamp was not used on this cover as the New York date was May 18, 1861, some months before the stamp was issued. The stamp covers in part the Boston paid. The rate was 10¢ so I judge the original stamp was a 10¢ 1857. This was 1861 because the Hamburg Packets sailed on Saturdays and in 1861 May 18 was Saturday.

Yes, I have seen this Chicago foreign mail type in blue before but it is unusual. It should have been applied in black because it was a due marking. 5¢ was collected from the addressee.

Your remarks on Fipex are in line with all the other worthwhile expressions I have received. Bad management all around. I understand Sir John was paid a big fee to come over plus all his expenses, also that the show ran \$50,000.00 in the red. Imagine. Whoever picked that thing they gave as the grand award should have his head examined. You should kid Em about serving on that "Jury." I hope you did a big business.

Stan Jr. home on leave all week, hence I am way behind with my mail.

Regards.

Cordially yours,



AUCTION SPECIALISTS

STAMPS :: COINS

Earl P. L. Apfelbaum

1416-1428 SOUTH PENN SQUARE

PHILADELPHIA 2, PA.

RITTENHOUSE 6-5917
6632

may 10, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I enclose a cover which the
owner claims is United States #7
from plate 3.

I would appreciate your opinion
on this together of course with
your charge for the service.

Very truly yours,

Earl P. L. Apfelbaum

EPLA/nk

Enc.

cc: Earl Oakley

Post Office Department

Received from **STANLEY B. ASHBROOK**

P. O. Box 31

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed
to **Earl P. L. Apfelbaum**
1416-1428 - S. Penn Sq
Philadelphia (2) Pa

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

May 14, 1956.

Mr. Earl P.L. Apfelbaum,
1416-1428 S. Penn Sq.,
Philadelphia 2, Pa.

Dear Mr. Apfelbaum:

Herewith the One Cent 1851 cover as per yours of the 10th.

Re - the 1¢ stamps from Plates 2 and 3, some of the latter can be readily identified by the color or by the surface cracks or some prominent plate marking. Re - the color, stamps from both plates are known in practically the same color of ink, but some stamps from Plate 3 are in a shade which is quite different and distinctive and this color is confined to stamps from Plate 3. I have never seen any stamps from Plate 2 in that shade. There are these that can be readily identified as coming from Plate 3.

Re - the stamp on the enclosed cover - It has no feature to lead one to suppose it might be a Plate 3 stamp. The color is distinctly that of Plate 2, it has no surface cracks, no marking that would identify it as a Plate 3 stamp. When a copy such as this is presented for classification the only way to be positive is to identify the exact plate position. You can inform the owner that this is not a Plate 3 stamp but is from the right pane of Plate 2 and the plate position is 23R2. I have signed the cover on the back.

Sincerely yours,

May 14, 1956.

To
Mr. Earl P.L. Apfelbaum,
Philadelphia, Pa.

For authenticating
1¢ 1851 cover -
23R2 \$2.00

PAID
MAY 17 1956

JOHN W. BOONE
46 RUGBY ROAD
BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

A.P. 5. No. 33017

Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave
Fort Thomas Ky.

Dear Sir:

Would you please give me your opinion on the enclosed pair of stamps which were offered to me by a collector here in Binghamton. Are they really the rare Type III? If so, what plate position, please bill me your regular fee for this service, and I will send you a check by return mail, also tell me if they are worth \$200-.

Yours truly
John W. Boone.

46 Rugby Rd.
Binghamton N.Y.

3
95
98



Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas
Kentucky

REGISTERED

3423

JOHN W. BOONE
46 RUGBY ROAD
BINGHAMTON, N. Y.



May 18, 1956.

Mr. John W. Boone,
46 Rugby Road,
Binghamton, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Boone:

Herewith the H. Pair of One Cent 1855 as per yours of the 15th. This pair comes from Plate 4 - and from the 5th row of the left pane - the relief "E" and the plate positions are 49L4 - 50L4.

If you have copies of my two-volume study, you will find in Volume One a chart showing the types of the plate positions. I listed 49L4 as Type IC, and 50L4 as Type III. As you are probably aware, the Type IC is a minor type, a variety of the Type IA and it is not listed in catalogues. It is even more rare than the Type III. If you preferred to classify the 49L in this pair according to the S.U.S. - the stamp would be a III - top line broken - bottom line broken.

As to value. I generally ask to be excused from expressing an opinion on this subject but in this case, I will state, the 49L is quite a fine full margined stamp, whereas the 50L is cut into at right and right bottom. This damage greatly affects its value. I believe the pair may be worth \$175.00 to \$200.00.

My fee for this examination is \$3.50 which includes return registration.

If you do not have a copy of my One Cent book, I believe you would find it very helpful.

Sincerely yours,

CARSON CITY, MICHIGAN

Ionia, Michigan.
May 11, 1956.

Dear Stan:

Of necessity, this will be a long winded letter and hope you will bear with me. I'll skip the details of the FIPEX Show. It was bigger than ever and well run, I thought ~~and~~ had a good time but came back more tired than when I started, due to no sleep. You were very wise in deciding not to attend - it would have been most fatiguing and tiring.

A (a) Your letter of May 8th enclosing Stark cover #657 priced @ \$42.50 with 12¢ 1851 not tied. I quite agree with your conclusion that this stamp was never used on this cover. Everything about the cover leads to this conclusion. Your quartz lamp should clearly show pen marks you refer to. I suggest it be withdrawn from sale or removed from cover and sold as an "off-cover" stamp.

(b) Now to yours of April 25th enclosing the Stark cover #1761 which Fortgang plated accurately as 85-86-87 R-3. My check enclosed for \$50.00 (instead of \$40.00 as you suggested) as I would like to have you sign same on back with the plate positions which I'm sure you can now do. Please return Fortgang's letter when returning the cover.

(c) Now for some items I picked up at New York. Here is a real curiosity! Fooled price current from Boston with a clear "BOSTON MAY 1 PAID" on a Plate One Early 1¢ stamp and then open the circular and note the date - May 1 1851. Sixty days before the stamps were first issued. How do you explain? My suggestion is that the printer in error used "1851" whereas it was really "1852." You might want to write this up in your "Special Service" calling attention to how someone might easily be fooled by such an error. Interesting anyway?

(d) Off cover single of Scott's #60 in nice condition. Please examine carefully and if you agree it is the true "violet" Scott's No. 60, will you please sign on the back and any comments you care to make will be appreciated.

(e) Small neat cover of the 10¢ perforated 1857 Type I. If OK, please sign on back and return.

(f) Cover with 1¢ 1851 Type IV - position 41-R11 showing the "cracks" better than any example I have ever seen, used with hor pair 3¢ 1851 on 3¢ stamped envelope to California in 1856. The 1¢ shows part of the center line. Unfortunately pen cancelled. Cost \$20.00. Stan - shall I take this off the cover and show as a single off cover or leave it on the cover? Please advise. If you think I ought to leave it on the cover, please sign the cover on the back with usual comments.

(g) Cover with lovely single position 99-R-7 with curl nicely tied. Thought you would like to see this. Please sign on back.

(h) And now to the best item of the bunch. Plate Five. Neinken and Fortgang have completed all positions of the left pane with the exception of the missing imprint position 61-L-5. They told me this was only position lacking and how to identify it etc. I got this from Howard Lehman - Fortgang later checked it very carefully at his home and it is positively 61-L-5 with imprint. Could not of course be from Plate Seven as the last "i" of Cincinnati is missing on left pane of Plate Seven. Mort was sure disgusted with Howard Lehman (confidential) when he learned Howard had sold it to me for peanuts without letting Mort see it. Of course Lehman had no idea what position it was. Stan - please photograph this and send prints to Neinken and Fortgang, and please sign on back when returning to me.

I spent a great deal of time with Henry Hill of Minneapolis and enjoyed every minute. Henry is a wonderful chap and the best company in the world. He helped me mount and dismount my exhibit.

CARSON CITY, MICHIGAN

- 2 -

May 11 1956.

Henry has a wonderful showing of the 5¢ of 1856 and 1857.

Now the following is confidential and I want to make it clear that all I am seeking is information. I will describe a lovely cover and would like to have you explain to me something I don't understand about the rate markings and as you know, as a protege of Harold Stark for many years, I thought I knew something about rate markings to France from the U.S. before and after the treaty that went into effect April 1, 1857. Harold tried to get these rates through my stupid head and of course your Special Service has many times called attention to the rates, and I also have the Jaeger chart you sent me and I thought I knew these rates by heart. Anyway - here goes. See sketch attached. The cover in question was addressed to "Garnier - Nantes France" from New Orleans and has two clear twon cancels of New Orleans and "JUL 15 1857" which was after the treaty went into effect. These New Orleans town cancels tie the vertical strip of three gorgeous 5¢ imperfs to the cover. In upper right part of cover is the French receiving marking reading "ET UNIS SERV AM. A HAVRE 6 JUL 57," in red. Why red I wonder? Mostly are in black. Now the puzzling part to me! Also tying the strip to cover is the "NEW YORK JUN 22" and the large numeral "3" but in black. Why black, Stan? It ought to be in red if the cover went paid and there is nothing on the cover like "Short Paid" or anything. I AM CONFUSED! On the back of this letter sheet, I have indicated where this cover came from but please don't look at this until you have studied the above and my attached sketch. Not for anything in the world would I even intimate that I am puzzled about this cover - it would have to be genuine - it was passed upon as genuine by all the outstanding experts of Europe. Only you as far as I know have not passed on it. It was the sensation the FIPEX show. Please - please - Stan - do not get my name mixed up as even not understanding such a rate. I'm supposed to know better and no doubt you can explain the rate to me.

Can you send me a list of prices realized at the Willy Belasse sale held last March in Brussels? Would like to have one. Thanks.

Have not seen Rene in more than three weeks now. She is up fishing trout on the Pere Marquette River and I plan to go up there tomorrow. Have talked with her on phone. She fell in the first day and got rolled around and came home and had a bone-cracker give her three treatments and then went back, but this was while I was in New York. My best to you and Mildred.

Sincerely

Jack
J. G. Fleckenstein.

JGF/
Enc \$50.00

See Lot #527 Belasse sale March 28 1956.

May 14, 1956.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union Street,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 11th did not arrive until today. It was nice to hear from you. No doubt you had a fine time in New York and I was pleased to learn that you spent a lot of time with Henry Hill. Of course, you know how much Mildred and I think of him. He is a grand character.

Now for your letter. I am sure you have a copy, so I will reply in the same order, viz:

(B) - Re - the 1¢ 1851 Plate 3 cover - ex-Stark 85-86-E7R3. As requested, I have signed it on the back and I am returning it herewith, also \$10.00 because I cannot accept any commission on any Stark items that you wish to purchase. Further, you cannot pay me any fee for authenticating any items or signing them for you. I carefully checked the plating by Morris and it is correct. I have signed it on the back and with it I return the Fortgang letter together with \$10.00 in cash.

(A) Stark cover #657 - 12¢ '51 cover priced @ \$42.50. I will send this up to Ruth and quote you and request her permission to withdraw it from sale. Thanks.

(C) cover with 1¢ 1851 - Plate 1E - on circular, dated May 1, 1851. This cover was sent to me by Charlie Phillips back in 1935. Here is a slip from my notes that I made about it at that time (1935), also a tracing I made of the Boston postmark. Please return this slip as it is the only copy I have. Bear in mind that the printed circular rate prior to July 1, 1851, was "one sheet - 3¢ prepaid." There is not a chance in the world that this use was May 1, 1851. The earliest known use of this postmark is Nov. 8, 1851 in red. The earliest known use in black is May 19, 1852. If your cover is May 1, 1852, it is the earliest known use in black. The latest known use is Nov. 16, 1853. (Boston Postal Markings by M. C. Blake - p.130 - marking 601 on p. 131). I made a new photo and I may do as you suggest - use this in a Service Issue. Thanks. The cover is returned herewith.

(D) 24¢ 1861. This was #60, but it is a "washed out" and faded copy. As such, I do not care to sign it, as I cannot explain on the back of the copy that it is a true example of the #60. As it now is, it is too close to the red lilac for me to sign.

(E) Cover with 10¢ 1857 - Type I. This is OK and I signed it on the back as above.

(F) 1¢ 1851 - 41RLL crack. By all means leave this on the cover. The use was Feb. 14, 1856 - late impression, also 1855 shade of the 3¢ 1851. A mighty nice cover and a fine example of 41RLL. Don't disturb the cover in any way - is my advice. Chepp @ \$20.00. I signed it on the back.

(G) One Cent 1857 - Plate 7 - Shoulder curl. Jack this is a scarce item - darn rare - cheap @ \$15.00. I signed it on the back.

#2. Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein - May 14, 1956.

(H) One Cent 1857 - Type V. Imprint. Quite some item. I made several good photos and I will send prints to Mort and Morris and to you. I did not check the plating but I note the "Cincinnati" and if Morris says it is 6115, I am sure he is right, so I have signed it on the back as such. Of course, it was just an imprint to Lehman and he thought he was obtaining a big price for it - far more than Mort would pay him.

Re - the Klep cover - Garnier to Nantes - V.S. of 3 - 5¢ 1856 - note your diagram -

New Orleans	JUL 15, 1857
New York	JUN 22
Havre	JUL 6

Apparently the above are incorrect and on the cover are no doubt -

New Orleans	JUL 15 1857
New York	JUL 22 (1857)
Havre	AUG 6 '57

Of course, a black New York on a 15¢ rate by Amer. Pkt. direct to Havre with a 3¢ debit would be wrong. The New York postmark should be red and the "3" should be at bottom with "PAID" at top. Inasmuch as this was in the early days of the treaty the clerk could have made an error and used the wrong "3" stamper and also the wrong color of ink. Again I repeat - a 15¢ rate, paid by Amer. Pkt. direct to Havre would mean a 3¢ credit IN RED to France, had the letter been entirely unpaid (single) there would have been a black debit of 12¢. Thus I repeat, if your diagram is correct there is an error in dates and an error in color and TYPE of the New York stamper.

Belasse Sale - Re - prices. Although I requested a list of prices I have never received one. At this writing I do not have a list but if I cannot obtain one from Belasse I will borrow someone's catalogue and make a copy. This whole sale was most unsatisfactory from a U. S. viewpoint. Hill thinks Belasse is a prince, but I think he is a louse. When and if I get a list I will send you a copy.

We trust that Rene is perfectly OK, and suffered no ill effects from her fishing trip.

If I have overlooked any points in your letter be sure and advise me.

With all good wishes to you both from Mildred and me.

As ever yours,

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Mrs. Adora J. Hannes
R.D. #1 - Berwick, Pa.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I regret being so late in answering your letter of April 23rd, but it arrived the morning I left for Fipes and things have been a busy whirl since then.

I am enclosing a check for \$40.00 for the two volumes of your 14 Cent 1851-57, which I am hoping you have not sold yet. I will be very happy to receive them.

I am also enclosing an 1861 - #75 "mourning" cover which I have not been able to fully trace on its journey. There are so many markings I do not understand. The check also includes a \$5.00 fee - if it is not correct please let me know.

I can certainly say that for me "Fipes" was an unqualified success, I can't remember when I've had so many days of pleasure. Of course, it was my first International Show and to me a novel experience. I was fortunate enough to meet Mr. Henry Hill the second day and spent a few hours at different times with him. Since I am approaching the work on the 5th Jeffersons from

a different angle, he has very kindly offered me the use of his material and all his support. As you said in your letter he is fine gentleman and I sincerely appreciate his interest and others to whom he introduced me.

I managed to receive a Bronze medal for my collection, of which I had four frames on display. Since my work is far from complete some of my more important information was left out. For about 4 yrs. I have been working from two angles - 1. for display, and 2. - plating and research. I hope at some future time to be able to confer with you personally as I know I am going to need your help.

I have been most unhappy since hearing of Dr. Brazers passing away. He has been such a fine person and has worked tirelessly to obtain "proof" material for me. I certainly feel lost without him to turn to for information and material of that type and can't imagine who could possibly take his place - both as a friend and generous teacher.

I enjoy your letters so much - hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Cedora Hannes

RECEIPT FOR INSURED PARCEL

No. 1626

Addressed for delivery at

Berwick N.J.
(Post office of address) WRITE PLAINLY (State)Postage 28 cts. Special handling _____ cts.Insurance fee 20 cts. Return receipt _____ cts.

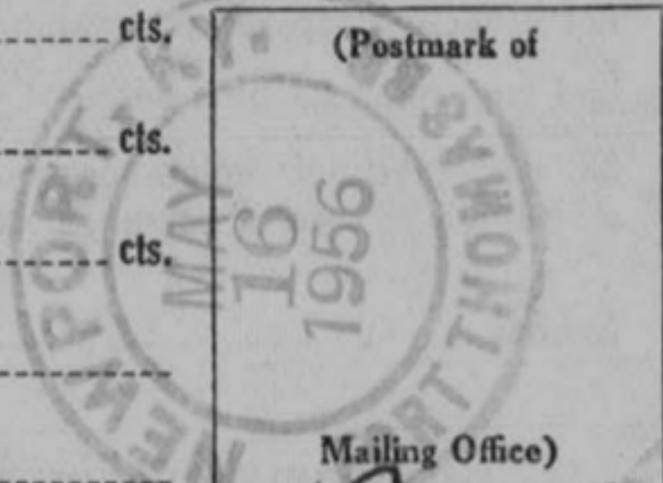
Special delivery _____ cts. Restricted delivery _____ cts.

Fragile _____ Perishable _____

Other endorsement Book rate

SENDER.—Enter name and address of addressee on other side and read information regarding endorsements and indemnity.

(Postmark of



Mailing Office)

POSTMASTER,

By B

SAVE THIS RECEIPT UNTIL PARCEL IS ACCOUNTED FOR

This receipt must be submitted to support any claim for LOSS. In case of damage, spoiling, or partial loss, the wrapper bearing the insurance serial number may be submitted for consideration as evidence of insurance if receipt is not available.

Unless specifically noted on receipt by postal employee, it is understood the parcel contains nothing of a fragile or perishable nature. In the absence of endorsement on receipt, no indemnity will be paid for fragile or perishable matter not properly prepared for mailing.

Claim must be filed within 1 year from date of mailing.

SENDER—Enter below name and complete address of addressee. Show if addressed in care of person, hotel, etc.

Sent to _____

INSURANCE COVERAGE IS AVAILABLE UP TO \$200

May 16, 1956.

Mrs. C. Dora J. Hanus,
R.D. #1,
Berwick, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Hanus:

Herewith I am returning your 5¢ 1862 Red Brown cover to India in 1864. I am pleased to state that in my opinion this cover is genuine in every respect and I have endorsed it as such on the back. I guess you thought it strange that there was a 5¢ stamp on such a letter, but the explanation is that this was the "U.S. 5¢ Internal" under the terms of U.S.-British Postal Treaty of December 1848. This 5¢ payment has at times in the past been referred to as the "Ship to shore rate," but such a term is incorrect. It was not the U.S. domestic but the sum allotted per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. under that Treaty for the internal. For example, the single or half-ounce rate was 24¢ and was divided as follows:

U. S. Internal	5¢
Sea (Atlantic	
Crossing)	16¢
British Internal ..	<u>3¢</u>
	24¢

This letter was conveyed to Britain by a British mail steamer from New York on Wednesday, Feb. 24, 1864. It reached London on March 8th or more likely was despatched from London on that date. Postage from the U.S. frontier was collected at destination from the addressee of one shilling five pence - as per the manuscript marking on face of "5/5" - equivalent at that time of approximately 34¢, hence the total rate paid was 39¢ for the conveyance. I believe it is a bit unusual to see covers going abroad with the U.S.-British "Internal" paid by the 5¢ Red Brown. There is nothing questionable about this cover and it is quite a nice item.

Sincerely yours,

May 16, 1956.

To
Mrs. C. Dora J. Hamus,
Berwick, Pa.

For authentication of
5¢ 1862 Red Brown
cover to India \$5.00

RECEIVED PAYMENT

May 15, 1956.

May 16, 1956.

Mrs. C. Dora J. Hanus,
P.D. #1,
Berwick, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Hanus:

Thanks very much for yours of the 14th with check for \$45.00. Under separate cover I am today forwarding to you by insured book post, the two (2) volumes of my study of the One Cent of 1851-1857. I am sure you will find Vol. 2 contains a lot of data that will be of much assistance to you. Both books are in excellent condition.

I am enclosing herewith a receipt for my fee on your 5¢ 1862 cover to India as per separate letter. I trust that my analysis of this cover will prove interesting. If there are any points which are not perfectly clear do not hesitate to advise me.

I was pleased to learn that you had a most enjoyable time at the Big Show, and that you met Henry Hill. I am sorry you did not meet Mr. Paul Rohloff of Chicago who also specializes in the 5¢ 1847, the 5¢ 1856 and the 5¢ values of the 1861 and later issues. He is a very close friend of mine.

It was quite a shock to me to learn of the sudden passing of my old and valued friend Clarence Brazer. At this writing I have had no advice as to what happened - only that he had departed for a non-philatelic world. I will miss him very much as I am sure you will also.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.
KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

May 14, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have your letter of May 4, and I appreciate your sending me the colored slides, which I shall look at and either keep or return to you.

I enclose a five-cent 1847 cover on which I would like your opinion.

I have not heard from Bernard Harmer since I returned the Kalamazoo cover. I agree with your idea that we may get better results using honey rather than vinegar, and I hope your letter brings the desired results.

The Fipex was a great show, especially for the dealers. Six or eight dealers that I talked to at the exhibit reported that it was a buying crowd, and the sales exceeded their expectations. The display covered a great area, and almost wore me out. I was there part of three days, and saw only a fraction of it. It was well set-up to handle such a large crowd. I was disappointed in the number of frames displaying 19th Century U.S.

I met Mr. Bacher, of the Westminster Stamp Company, from London, and visited with him for a while. He remembered my article "How Many 1847 Covers", and said that he knew of a collection in Scotland comprising about 35 1847 covers which might be for sale. I am going to write him, telling him what I am interested in insofar as postal history is concerned on the '47s. It may be that some of the 35 covers will fit into my collection.

Sincerely,



C. C. Hart

*P.S. I visited with several H.P. Harmer employees —
but Bernard Harmer was never in the booth when
I attended*

May 15, 1956.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

Yours of the 14th received enclosing the 5¢ 1847 cover with the Blod stamp. I doubt if anyone could state that this item is genuine in every respect as there is little if any evidence on which to base an opinion. In my humble opinion the only value this item has is in the 5¢ '47 as an off-cover single and in the Blod stamp. As I am no authority on Locals I wouldn't know whether the latter was genuine or otherwise. I sincerely regret my inability to lend you any assistance on this cover which I am returning.

Up to this writing I have not had any further word from Bernard Harner but no doubt I will shortly. I am convinced that if he would advise the attorneys for the Estate to make a refund that they would not hesitate to do so. How could they refuse?

Confidential. Be careful of Bacher as he is, in my opinion, quite a slick article and out for all the U. S. dollars he can lay hands on. I do not have any money transactions with him.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 511388

SENT TO

Col. L. J. Heyman

STREET AND NO.

438 So. 5th St.

CITY AND STATE

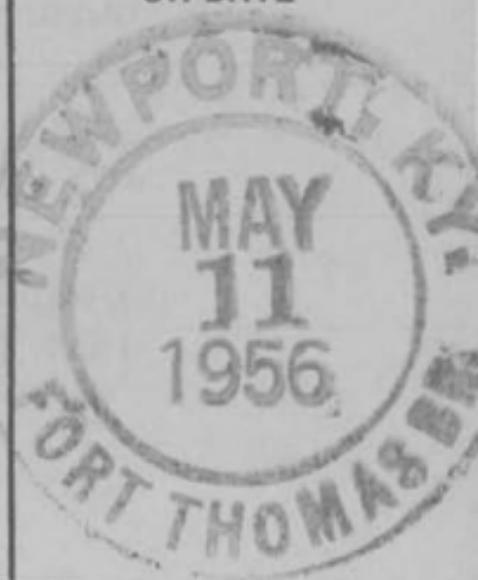
Louisville (2) Ky

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:

15-cent certified mail fee

First-class or airmail postage

Either return receipt fee (*optional*)

Special-delivery fee (*optional*)

2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

JEFFERSON STAMP CO., INC.



COL. L. J. HEYMAN. A. U. S. RETIRED

A. P. S.-S. P. A. ETC.

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

438 SO. 5TH STREET

WABASH 9939

LOUISVILLE 2, KENTUCKY

May 8, 1956

Stanley Ashbrook
33 Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky

Dear Stanley.,

Missed you in New York. The Show was really wonderful and sorry that you werent there.

Enclosed is a 1¢ 1851 which I wish you would help me out on. I cant quite make it out. Please note the "O" in one.

Am enclosing postage for return and I do thank you for your many former kindness'.

Best regards,

Laurence

May 11, 1956.

Col. L. J. Heyman,
438 So. 5th St.,
Louisville 2, Ky.

Dear L.J.:

Herewith the One Cent 1851 as per yours of the 8th. This is a Type IV stamp and one of the very fine double transfers. If you care to have the exact plate position I suggest that you refer to Vol. 1 of my One Cent book - Chapter on Plate One Late. I illustrated all of the 200 positions and I am sure you would not have any trouble finding an illustration of this position.

I found it impossible to attend Fipex but from all reports it was an outstanding success from every angle.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 18, 1956.

Hobbs Stamp Co.,
38 Park Row,
New York 38, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Yours of the 15th with check for \$50.00 received.
Thanks very much.

Regarding the 1¢ 1857 that you enclosed and which I am returning herewith, this is a Type II from Plate 2, relief "A." There is nothing unusual about it in the way of a variety. Because it is in such poor condition, I do not believe it has very much value, hence I am saving you the expense of returning it by registered mail.

I have been so busy I have not had time to attend to those sheets on which you made me a bid but I will get around to it in due time.

Sincerely yours,

Post Office Department

Received from: **STANLEY B. ASHBROOK**
P. O. Box 31

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed
to **Hobbs Stamp Co**

38 Park Row

New York (38) **N.Y.**

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION