

	Scrapbook No. 11 April 1943 to April 1946
0.	Daniel F. Kelleher Re: Why did 2 covers have high realizations?
1.	Alfred E. Fritz Re: 90¢ 1861 cover \$1.03 rate to France
2.	Percy G. Doane Re: Possible fake grid
3.	Raymond H. Weill Re: 24¢ 1869 cover
4.	Edson J. Fifield Re: strip of 3 1¢ 1851
5.	J. Murray Bartels Re: 90¢ 1869 cover
6.	Emerson C. Krug Re: 12¢ 1851 Bisect
7.	E.F. Gore Re: 30¢ 1869 cover
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9.	Robert Laurence Re: 5¢ strip of 3 with one stamp removed
10.	L.R. Garrison Re: Problems of the Confederate POD
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15.	Frederick R. Harris, John Heard re: Hawaii covers
16.	W.M. Lester Re: covers
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19.	Dr. Carroll Chase Re: Cover from Canada, Nova Scotia
20.	Dr. William B. Lamb Re: 2¢ Bisect, Venezuela to N.Y. cover
21.	Herman Herst Jr. Re: Steamship cover
22.	G.V. Luerssen Re: 1869 cover to Hong Kong
23.	Earl Antrim Re: Between the lines
24.	Carroll Chase Re: The R.S. Platt correspondence
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27.	G. Moerz Re: two 15¢ 1869 covers
28.	Re: Confederate cover
29.	Maurice C. Blake Re: 3¢ + 1¢ + 1¢ to Italy
30.	W.L. Moody, III Re: First Day U.S. City Despatch Post cover
31.	L.L. Shenfield Re: "mail suspended" and "sent back to England"
32.	George C. Hahn re: cover to Holland
33.	Re: 5¢ rate to Australia
34.	Dr. Edward L. Fernald Re: covers to South Africa
35.	Charles G. Taylor Re: Confederacy
36.	W.L. Moody, III Re: 1869 covers
37.	Blank
38.	C.C. Hart Re: 1847 covers from Canada
39.	Maurice C. Blake Re: Mail to Hawaii
40.	Major Wm. H. Tapp Re: British F.R.H.
41.	Major Wm. H. Tapp
42.	Dr. Carroll Chase re: 5¢ 1847 pre-cancel cover
43.	Maurice F. Cole Re: 4¢ rates, 2 black jacks

[illegible]

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

4/16/23

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Strong floor may account for
the prices on lots 109 and 136

The former belonged to me; the latter
to R.C. Wood. Not having possessed
Aldrich's opening I'm unable to
state the prices at which they
started. Based on my bids as a
guess I'd say \$12.00 and \$13.25

Both covers are in nice condition as
I remember them, besides having
shown the sale in New York
it's possible someone there wanted
them as much as Cole did. I expect
to be over for the West sale and am glad
to note you will attend. Best regards
Dan.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 15, 1943.

Mr. Dan'l F. Kelleher,
7 Water St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dan:

In your sale of Jan. 30th. last, Ezra Cole purchased Lots 109 (\$22.00) and 136 (\$21.50) for Mr. Newbury. For the life of me I can't figure why these two covers sold at any such ridiculous prices. Would you mind telling me who entered them in this sale, and can you give me any explanation as to why these two ordinary items could possibly be worth the prices that Ezra paid?

I will be down to the West sale and trust you will be present as I would like very much to see you.

With best regards,

Cordially yours,

ALFRED E. FRITZ

BREWERS' SUPPLIES

549 W. RANDOLPH STREET

CHICAGO, ILL.

Mail Addressed to us Should
Include Postal District Number
CHICAGO (6), ILL.

TELEPHONE
DEARBORN 3244

May 21st 1944.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Sir:-

Some time ago I read
your very interesting article in one
of the Stamp Magazines regarding
high value stamps on covers
being faked.

I enclose a cover to France
with a 90[¢], 10[¢] and 3[¢] stamp
and wish you would let me
know if it is genuine. Please
return same in enclosed
registered envelope also your
bill for service.

Thanking you in advance
I remain,

Yours respectfully
Alfred E. Fritz
Q. P. S. 13646.

May 27, 1944.

Mr. Alfred E. Fritz,
549 W. Randolph St.,
Room 508,
Chicago (6) Ills.

Dear Mr. Fritz:

I have just returned from a week's trip to Chicago, hence the delay in replying to your letter of the 21st.

I am returning herewith the cover which you enclosed, and regret to state that the 90¢ stamp did not originate on this cover. The markings prove that the original rate was only 15¢. I have a record of this fake cover in my files together with photographs of the front and back. While I could not prove it I am almost certain that this item was the product of Paulson of your city.

I am sure that Kirkland can give you some further information regarding it, but please do not mention my name.

My fee for the above is \$3.50.

Sincerely yours,



per Steamer

France



*Monsieur Arthur de Senailhac
Londres*

Dordogne

par Verget



75⁰⁰

Purchased From
Kirkland Stamp Co
8-18-41

65-68-12

~~at 200~~

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Feb. 17, 1943.

Mr. Robt Laurence,
7 E. 42nd St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

Herewith the "90¢ 1861" cover. This cover is a fake.
The original rate was 15¢ as evidenced by the New York
postmark.

There was no such a rate to France of \$1.03.

Regarding the S.F. COG killer. There were three types
of this handstamp used at different periods in the
sixties. On these stamps are two different types. This
alone proves that these stamps were not thus used, and lastly
the "ties" of these markings are very poorly executed.

Thanks for the look at this cover.

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 15, 1943.

Mr. Percy G. Doane,
Tribune Bldg.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Percy:

In your sale of Jan. 29th, Lot 75 was purchased by my friend Krug for \$75.00 thru Cole.

In my opinion this copy has a fake red grid. I advised Krug to return it but Cole refused to refund his \$75.00.

Have you any objection to telling me who entered this copy in your sale? I don't imagine that you will object because I am quite sure you would not countenance a fake being sold in a Doane Sale and the buyer being refused a refund of his money.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

March 8, 1943.

Dear Em:

You stated you were going to send me Cole's letter but it failed to arrive.

I had in mind to write Doane about a refund on the 5¢ 1857 orange brown because Percy is a darn good friend of mine. I am sure Ezra did not even ask Doane for a refund because I think the stamp belonged to Ezra. I may be wrong, but I doubt it. You should have had a refund on the 1847 pair. Ez has the swell head and from now on, if he asks any favors of me he is going to pay the regular retail rate and it is going to be stiff. No more free expert opinions for Mr. Cole.

I had a letter from him yesterday enclosing a cover but I sent it back to him minus any comment.

I have an idea he needs me a damn sight more than I need him.

Yours etc.,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Feb. 9, 1943.

Raymond H. Weill Co.,
407 Royal St.,
New Orleans, La.

Gentlemen:

Herewith the 24¢ 1869 cover as per yours of the 5th. I have examined this cover very carefully and subjected it to quite a test under my Hanovia lamp.

First regarding the rate. It hardly seems possible that an envelope of this size would require an 8 X 3¢ rate. The registration fee at this time (April 1870 ?) was 15¢ hence this may have been, if genuine, a 3 X 3 plus 15¢, but there is no evidence on face or back that it was a registered cover. It was the custom at this time in many large cities to attach by gum the receipt to the back of the cover, also to place a number on face.

My lamp shows that there was a stamp of this size on the cover and the perforations of the 24¢ seem to match the traces of the perforations left by the stamp which was originally on this cover. This test was very inconclusive as I could only lift the upper left part of the stamp from the cover. A better test could probably be made by removing the stamp very carefully from the cover in order to determine whether certain gum stains on the back of the stamp match and made an impression on the cover.

It is quite possible that a 3¢ 1869 was originally used on this cover and that some faker removed the 3¢ and substituted this 24¢. I really do not know whether St. Louis used a postmark of this type with a killer attached or if a killer such as is on the stamp was used at the St. Louis P.O. in 1870. The postmark on the 3¢ Green is similar as you state, but it was a different handstamp.

It would be impossible for me to state positively whether the cover is genuine or a fake. If it had evidence of registration it would be more convincing. I remember this cover quite well. It was Lot #84 in the Laurence sale of Nov. 15, 1940 and sold at \$25.00. I didn't examine it at the time and later when I saw the price at which it sold I concluded that it must have been bad because a genuine cover with a 24¢ 1869 is a very rare item indeed, far more scarce in fact than the 30¢ on cover.

If you care to return the cover, with your permission for me to remove the stamp for further examination, I'll be glad to do so.

#2. Raymond H. Weill Co., Feb. 9, 1943.

For the above my fee is \$2.50.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

Glasgow, Bro. & Co.

SAINT LOUIS,

MISSOURI.



Superior *Mariano Grisolle*

Laurence. Sale
Nov 15 1940
Lot 84 Sold \$25.00
L.B. Mason Collection

Albuquerque

New Mexico

*Beautiful copy
Well centered*

Edson J Fifield

POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD FOR COLLECTORS

500 FIFTH AVENUE - - - NEW YORK CITY

PENNSYLVANIA 6-6885

July 30, 1943

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 S. Grand Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

A couple fellows here in New York have advised me that you would classify a strip of three 1¢ '51s for me, but none of them knew whether or not you charged a fee for this service. It is rather embarrassing to put it this way, but it is the only way I know how to mention it. I am perfectly willing to pay whatever fee you may charge, if you charge a fee, for such service.

I would like to have the three stamps plated. There seems to be quite a difference of opinion on the classification by two or three of these "experts" as to whether or not the center stamp is No. 1B.

I thank you in advance for your courtesy.

Sincerely yours,

Fifield

EJF:GM

Enc. Stamp

Return envelope

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 3, 1943.

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
500 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Fifield:

Herewith the One Cent 1851 cover as per yours of the 30th.

This strip comes from Plate 4 and all three copies classify as Type IIIA. The reason is this, the "bottom ornaments" are not sufficiently complete to justify any classification in the type I class (IA - IB or IC), therefore, the type classification is, "top line broken, bottom line not broken," thus Type IIIA.

As mentioned above, the strip comes from Plate 4, and the Plate Relief was the "E." The "E" Relief was used only on the fifth and ninth rows of this plate, and the full design of this particular relief is what I call the Type IC (unlisted). Due to plate erasures, very few of the 40 "E" positions show the full relief design, hence do not classify as IC, but as III or IIIA.

In Volume I of my book on the One Cent you will find a complete description of all of the above in the "Plate 4" chapter. Type IB, comes only from the top row of Plate One Early, and this type has the full die design at top.

I didn't take the trouble to plate the enclosed strip as I did not consider such information would be of any particular value to you. Besides the impression of this strip is extremely poor hence the plating would not be easy.

There is no fee for the above.

I would certainly appreciate seeing any fine to superb items that you can offer at any time, especially very fine covers.

Whenever you have any early items that bother you send them on and maybe I can dig up an idea or two.

One more thought on the One Cent types. I never classify a IIIA as a III if the break in the bottom line is very small, for example, a millimeter or even two. The break should be at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 millimeters to justify a type III rating.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

(COPY)

J. MURRAY BARTELS

17 John St.

NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

Aug. 25, 1944.

Mr. G. V. Luerssen,
Reading, Pa.

My dear Mr. Luerssen:

I was very pleased to hear that you now own the 1869 - 90¢ cover which I still consider the only one so far known. There is not much that I can add to the history which was enclosed in this cover. The collector from whom I obtained it was named Grant Squires who lived then in this city.

Senator Ackerman had a standing offer of \$1000.00 for a 90¢ of 1869 on the cover but never could get one. I sold him this one for \$400.00 and he was glad to get it, including it in one or more International Exhibitions.

I did not know what had become of it after the dispersal of the Scott Co., after his death.

When I saw this cover loose in the back of Squires' album, I was naturally surprised. Being torn into two pieces he stated it was not much good. I offered him \$50.00 as it was which seemed to surprise him and he accepted. I showed it to several collectors and all I heard was, "What a shame." After it had been repaired by a skilled repairer, the verdict was: "Wonderful piece even if it is repaired."

This is the story and I am pleased to know it to be in good hands, one who enjoys its possession.

I appreciate your kind remarks about my writings in "Stamps." Shall continue from time to time.

Very sincerely,

(signed) J. Murray Bartels

COPY

U.S.1869 - 90¢ on cover.

In March 19, 1926, the undersigned called on an old friend and stamp collector in New York City at the latter's request. This collector has been known to me for about 30 years. He has spent much time in travelling and about 12 years ago visited India, where he secured this cover among a few other stamps not on cover.

He had not taken much interest in it due to the fact that the stamp had been torn in opening the envelope, severing the upper left part of the stamp completely. After conferring with several well known collectors I decided to have the stamp and envelope repaired. When I secured this cover I discovered that a 10¢ stamp had fallen off. The former owner thought he would be able to find it among the little lot of loose stamps mentioned above, but was unsuccessful. I knew from other covers that the rate for a heavy cover of this kind to India was \$1.12. Fortunately, I found among my stock a 10¢ which matched the cancellation to a very remarkable extent. This has been added to the cover and it is now a very wonderful piece.

Specialists in covers for many years have tried to locate the 1869 90¢ on an original envelope but so far this is the only one known.

John Murray Bartels

New York, 116 Nassau St.
March 26, 1926.

via Brindisi

Nevada



X Mr. Jas. H. Bancroft
Ice House

Calcutta
E. Indies

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 1st, 1943.

Dear Em:

The 90¢ 1869 cover came in this A.M. I immediately made photo and shipped it back. I enclose copy of a letter that came with it. It seems that the 10¢ stamp was missing and that Bartels picked one from his stock and put it on the cover. It is a clever piece of substitution and demonstrates how easily this can be done.

The date of use was Aug - Sept 1873 - rather late for an 1869, but I seriously doubt if the 90¢ 1869 is a substitution for a 90¢ Bank Note. I forgot to mention that the cover has a 90¢ 1869, a 10¢ and 12¢ Bank Note.

Bartels states that he had the cover repaired and Serphos wrote me that Bartels got the cover from Senator Ackerman. All of which don't mean a thing. No statement is made that Ackerman acquired the cover on one of his trips abroad or to India. Ackerman was thoroughly honest but he had fake covers in his collection.

I had forgotten about this cover but I have a faint recollection that Ackerman had a 90¢ cover and that I saw it in his collection over 25 years ago. I am sure I have seen a write-up of this cover in either the A.P. or Mekeel's years ago.

It was quite a coincidence that in the same mail was a letter from Chase registering a kick against the descriptions in this J.C.M. sale. I quote from his letter as follows:

"There is another matter I want to talk to you about. Do you suppose there is anything at all that decent collectors can do to stop some of the dirty Jewish methods of certain men in selling stamps at auction? I am really afraid it is going to hurt the game if nothing is done. I suppose you have the auction catalogue for the April Sale of Morganthau & Co. I don't know who wrote it but it sounds like Konwiser. Just look at a few lots. No. 1 and No. 2 - ESTIMATED AT \$150 AND \$125. Perhaps however these are typographical errors and the periods should have been two points to the left. I judge \$5 apiece would be dear for them. Of course they are using Arnold's method, putting down fifty times what anything is worth, hoping to catch a sucker. LOT NO. 23 - "POSSIBLY TOUCHED AT BOTTOM." See the illustration! I love the "POSSIBLY." LOT 32A and 32B - These of course are just mutilated 3c 1851s and worth about a dollar apiece as curiosities, and they have them down at \$1500 each! PLEASE NOTE THE ILLUSTRATION OF

#2. Mr. Emmerson C. Krug, April 1st, 1943.

LOT 217. Each of the two stamps has a different cancellation! Obviously someone was trying out some cancellations on waste material. LOT 802 - "ALL SUPERB COPIES." Look at No. 42 in the plate, for example. And there are plenty more that aren't superb. And the same thing goes for the other reconstructions they offer. I could keep this up for pages but won't bother. All the same, isn't it a shame to let the Kykes get away with this sort of thing? O yes! there is one more description that I want you to note. LOT NO. 323 "BLOCK OF FOUR WITH SEVERAL STAMPS DEFECTIVE AND REPAIRED." Neat?"

I have no recollection of any other 90¢ 1869 cover so no doubt this is unique. If you can acquire it right I think it might be well to go after it, but I wouldn't. If I were going to try and buy it I would pick out someone I felt I could trust and I have such a person in mind in case you are interested.

The cover is a large legal size and would take up a full album page. The only thing is this - While not fine, the owner can show a 90¢ 1869 cover which, in my opinion, may be genuine.

Quotation from Chase's letter:

"Morgenthau is a 'supposedly' respectable concern. You expect this kind of thing from Arnold, Siegel, et al, but not from a Scott Co. 'subsidiary!' And did you see the 1869 ad in Wekeel's? Talk about getting away with murder!

The 90¢ cover (Lot 175) is all right isn't it? I think I remember when Bartels turned it up. I have a vague recollection that the 90¢ stamp was badly defective - although this may have been another cover."

Yours etc.,

Re-12451 Bisect Brandebury

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dale

EMERSON C. KRUG
3201 STERLING ROAD
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Jan. 3, 1944 - Monday A.M.

Dear Em:

It is too bad that Ezra put such a terrific price on the bisect cover but maybe he will relent and accept a reasonable profit. The bisect was tied but the tie was very light. The markings show that 10¢ was paid on this letter and the only other way it could have been paid would have been with more 1¢ and 3¢ stamps. The cover does not show any evidence that such was the case.

In the West sale Lot 434 was a cover to New Brunswick with the U. S. Express Mail postmark. The stamps were, a 12¢ bisect, a 3¢ 51 O.B. and a 1¢ Plate One Early, the use "Oct. 23, 1851." All these are tightly tied by black grids. In fact the bisect is beautifully tied. This cover sold in the West sale @ \$90.00, but in the Chase sale it was Lot 1049 and went to Ward @ \$350.00.

In the Babcock sale Lot 227 was a cover to Kingston Canada from Brooklyn May 25, 1852. This cover has a 12¢ bisect (corner torn) a 3¢ 1851 and a 1¢ 1851. All the stamps are tied (nicely) by the well known Hudson River marking in two lines, "STEAM" - "BOAT." This cover sold for \$71.00. So by what right has Ezra to put a price of \$225.00 on the Brandebury cover?

I am giving you the above facts so that you can use them if you wish. It is well to remember that every buyer in the country had a chance to buy the Brandebury cover and no one was willing to pay as much as Cole. That is the reason he got it for \$120.00. I suppose Ez figures that he was doing you a great favor by buying for you the covers in the Doane Sale instead of buying them for himself. He sure is a cocky little rascal but the present abnormal times makes such things possible. In a wild bull market in the stock market it doesn't require any brains to keep on predicting every day that prices will go higher. Likewise in a declining market it doesn't require any brains to daily predict the reverse. Ez reminds me of a rampant bull in a bull market. They get so blinded they forget that a bear market is possible.

You are quite right about the fact that some people would object to the fact that the bisect is not tied tight. Ez disregarded this fact. I'll not mention the cover to him, trusting that he might mention it to me. I am glad you did not covet any of the covers he sent you. You are not the one who is spoiled - he is. Confidentially Ireton is fed up on Ezra and don't like his cocky attitude a bit.

I'll return Dan's bill. He couldn't have written other than he did because he realized that the Michaels stuff was lousy. Dan hasn't been getting many nice sales in recent years and I guess

#2. - Mr. E. C. Krug, Jan. 3, 1944.

he was a bit hungry when he took on the Michaels lot. I think Chase was more to blame than Dan, but hiring Doc was not Dan's idea but Michaels and at the latter's expense.

Re - the Ward deal. He wouldn't raise his offer and I refused to have anything to do with the sale, so everything is off. In these times perhaps he is right as evidenced by the Brandebury sale. There are some wonderful things in the sale that Ward is to sell (the Gibson collection), so I am rather sure I'll attend, and you must go down with me. No date has been set at present, so far as I am aware.

Thanks Em for sending me the list of covers (and prices) which you returned to Ezra. I looked these up and the prices he paid were high enough without adding any profit.

Yours of the 30th with return of check. You shouldn't have done this but I certainly appreciate the cover which I am going to mount and put into my collection with "Compliments of Em on Xmas 1943."

Re - binding your catalogues. Send them up and I will have Bill Smith bind them for me. It would have to be this way as he has such work done as a favor to me. Don't worry about the cost, it will be very modest. I can't ask him in advance.

Ward has never mentioned a word (in his letters) about that lost registered letter. He should write you and advise you regarding it, also he should apologize for his lousy letter, but don't expect such a thing from him. I doubt if he realizes that he offered you an insult. Some people are that way. Do you suppose that Eleanor Roosevelt realizes what a perfect ass she really is? I doubt it, because if she did she would hide her face in shame at the way in which she has disgraced the White House.

We were so glad you heard from the soldier boy and can well appreciate the joy the letter brought to you both.

Best of regards.

Yours etc.,

P.S. I think I have covered all points in your various letters except the query re - Mildred's blocks. She likes corner blocks of four unused with the name of the country. In checking these over she finds she only has the following: Denmark, Albania, France, Belgium and Greece. If you have any of the missing, it will save me the trouble of getting them for her at the agency.

S.

R. H. GORE COMPANY



209 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET
CHICAGO

May 5, 1943

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

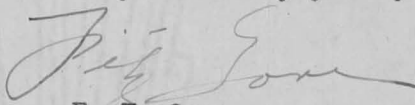
Dear Stan:

As you know, Jake bought in the West Sale the 30¢ '69 on cover. This was bought for me, and when Jake brought the cover back I was quite surprised at the low price at which he had obtained it.

Jake has related to me the whole story of the various discussions in New York between him and you and others relative to this cover. As I understand it, all the markings on the cover and the rate are in good order, and that the primary objection was that the stamp was not creased where the letter had been folded and that the stamp was not tied on the right-hand side by the black design cancellation. Jake, of course, has given me his theory of the above.

I am herewith enclosing copy of letter which I have today sent to Phil Ward. Under the circumstances, with questions being raised by various people in New York, I believe you will understand why I do not wish to keep the cover unless I have the guarantee from you, as the person universally recognized as the one best fitted to give such a guarantee. You will undoubtedly be hearing from Ward.

Very cordially yours,


E. F. Gore

EFG/mh
Enc.

C
O
P
Y

May 5, 1943

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.
1616 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Ward:

May I congratulate you on the West Sale. As you know, E. R. Jacobs was handling bids for me and I am quite delighted with the items he brought back.

I was much surprised that Jacobs bought the 30¢ '69 on cover for the price of \$150.00. The bid which I gave to him was considerably higher, and when he told me what he had obtained it for I asked whether this cover had been guaranteed by Ashbrook. Jacobs then told me that he had raised the same question with you and related that upon his questioning you had stated such guarantee was given in the catalog. The only thing I see in the catalog is a message of thanks to Stanley Ashbrook for his cooperation in making up the catalog.

With a cover of this type I would like to have a written guarantee of the authenticity of this cover from Mr. Ashbrook. Would you be so kind as to obtain this for me?

Thanking you for your cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

E. F. Gore

EFG/mh

C
O
P
Y

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

May 7, 1943.

Mr. E. F. Gore,
209 South LaSalle St.,
Chicago, Ills.

Dear Fritz:

I am in receipt of yours of the 5th. My services were engaged by the West Estate to collaborate with Mr. Ward in writing the West Sale Catalogue, but this did not mean that each lot in the sale had my personal guarantee. For example, I am no authority on grills, in fact, I never collected, nor studied them as I always detested them. To assume that I guaranteed the genuineness of the 30¢ 1869 cover would be the same as assuming that I guaranteed all the 1867 grills and all the Bank Note grills in the sale.

I did not make a thorough examination of the 30¢ 1869 cover, therefore, I cannot condemn it nor can I guarantee it. When I was writing this lot Mr. Ward and I discussed the cover and Mr. Ward stated he thought it was genuine but that if I was positive beyond any question of a doubt that the cover was questionable that he would not include it in the sale.

If you doubt that the cover is genuine I suggest that you send it to the Philatelic Research Laboratories, 394 Park Ave., New York and get an opinion from them. Their equipment is very complete and if the 30¢ stamp now on the cover has been substituted for any other, their tests will positively disclose such a substitution.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

Algiers



Red

Blue



Black



*Madame J. Marie Pélissier,
N. 27 Cours du Jardin Public,
Cardinal.*

West Collection
1/4 - 1943

Creon

Red

UNITED STATES
POSTAGE
STAMPS

S. D. HARRIS

FORMERLY R. W. HARRIS CO.

780 ST. MARKS AVENUE

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

PHONE SLOCUM 6-7383

BUREAU ISSUES ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
AMERICAN STAMP ASSOCIATION
SOCIETY PHILATELIC AMERICANS
WASHINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

PHILATELIC TRADERS SOCIETY OF LONDON
SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL STAMP DEALERS PARIS
ASSOCIATE MEMBER: BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
VENDING & AFFIXING MACHINE PERFORATIONS SOCIETY

December 31, 1943

EXPERT APPRAISALS
AND EXAMINATIONS

POSTAGE ISSUES
CUT SQUARES
DEPARTMENTS
M. & M. STAMPS
NEWSPAPER STAMPS
POSTAGE DUES
P. O. SEALS
PRIVATE PERF. COILS.
REVENUES
TELEGRAPHS

WANT LISTS
FILLED

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

The enclosed 24¢ 1861 issue is submitted for
your inspection.

I am sorry that it is not on cover. Mr. Ward
mentioned that it had been on a cover.

I had originally been of the opinion that the
date of October listed in the Scott's Catalog
was a record from the Post Office Department,
or the date of the printing of the stamp. I
had not realized it was the earliest known use.
It confused me considerably when I found the
enclosed stamp with a September 20th date, since
the shade was very much unlike the August shade
and I had been ready to assume that this was a
shade of the August issue.

With Best Wishes for the New Year.

Cordially,

Sidney D. Harris

2
Enc.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Jan. 3, 1944.

Mr. S. D. Harris,
780 St. Marks Ave.,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Harris:

Many thanks for your kindness in sending me the 24¢ 1861 with the date of "Sep 20 1861." I agree that the town was probably "Springfield, Ills."

In my opinion, this stamp was originally a "Violet" Scott's #60, and was never a "Red Lilac." My earliest record of the "Violet" is Aug. 20, 1861. Other records of use are:

Sep. 6, 1861
Sep. 9, 1861
Sep. 17, 1861
Sep. 25, 1861
Oct. 3, 1861

The S.U.S. gives the earliest record of use of the red lilac as Oct. 8, 1861, but in my opinion, this is an error. Where the catalogue got this date I do not know but I imagine the date referred to a Steel Blue rather than a red lilac. I have searched for over 25 years for early uses of the red lilac and the earliest in my record is Jan. ? 1862. (Day date not legible) I have never seen a single use in 1861, hence you can imagine my surprise when I read Mr. Ward's remarks. The light must have been bad when Mr. Ward looked at this stamp, because I am positive he knows a violet when he sees one and also a red lilac.

The "Violet" was a tricky color and we have many "changelings" of the shade, many of which are sold as "Steel Blues."

You will note that this copy is not on "thin paper" which proves the fallacy of the myth that all used 24¢ "Augusts" were issued on the so-called "thin paper of the Premieres Gravures."

Sincerely yours,

Copy to Philip H. Ward, Jr.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Jan. 3, 1944.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,
1616 Walnut St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Phil:

I read your notes in Mekeels about the early date on a 24¢ red lilac so I had Harris send me the stamp.

I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Harris. You will note that the stamp is not a Red Lilac but is in fact a faded and stained copy of the violet, #60. In my opinion, you nor I nor anyone else will ever find a 24¢ Red Lilac that was genuinely used in September 1861, for the simple reason that I am positive that the red lilac color was ^{not} used that early.

I would be terribly surprised to find a use even in December 1861, still I think such a thing might be possible, with a use in November highly improbable, an October use impossible and a September use out of the question.

I think you should follow up your remarks in "Mekeels" with this additional information, so as to set the record straight.

Cordially yours,

PHILATELIC RESEARCH LABORATORIES, Inc.

394 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, N.Y. 22

February 9, 1944.

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

REPORT ON: U.S. 24¢ 1861, with dated postmark "Sep. 20, 1861".

QUESTION: What is the correct classification of this stamp.

The attached photograph shows the date of the postmark clearly, establishing it definitely as being used just a month after it was first issued.

The paper has been established as that of the earliest printings of the issue, through comparison and microscopic examination of the fibre structure.

The color of the stamp is not presently the same as when issued. It has been modified by atmospheric or other conditions to an extent where it is no longer a criterion by which its classification can be determined.

CONCLUDED: The subject of this examination would be correctly classified as Scott #60.

Respectfully submitted,

PHILATELIC RESEARCH LABORATORIES, Inc.

By Y. J. J. J.

YS:s
File #MM2-9A



PHILATELIC RESEARCH LABORATORIES, Inc.

MM2-9A



Feb. 16, 1944.

Mr. George B. Sloane,
116 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear George:

I have recently had two large collections placed in my hands to sell so I have been busy as the very devil and haven't had a chance to do anything further on that very unusual "Pan & San" cover. I made some notes and hoped before this to finish them up and return the material to you. I'll try and get around to this shortly which I trust will be satisfactory to you.

I am enclosing herewith a 24¢ 1861. Here is another argument similar to the 5¢ brick red. Phil Ward had some remarks regarding the enclosed stamp in Mekeels several weeks ago. He stated that it was a "Red Lilac" with the Earliest use he had ever seen, viz., Sep. 20, 1861. I borrowed the stamp, then wrote Phil and told him he was in error, that the stamp was not a Red Lilac, that regardless of the S.U.S. no Red Lilac was ever issued in 1861. He came back and told me that he examined the stamp carefully and that in his opinion the stamp was a Red Lilac. I then asked him if the fact that I have searched for "early uses" for over 25 years meant anything to him, that this stamp was nothing like a Red Lilac but on the contrary was a faded and a changeling of the S.U.S. #60. He still insists that he is right and that I am wrong. Maybe I am but if so then it is awfully nice to be wrong that way.

You see George, I may be wrong on Frank's brick red cover but I can't get around the fact that it is a use six months earlier than any that I have been able to locate and I have made rather a thorough search. I admit such a thing is possible but I contend it is hardly likely. (If you know what I mean).

As this 24¢ is in a way similar to the brick red difference of opinion I thought perhaps you would like to see it. No comment is necessary because if you disagreed with me on this 24¢ stamp I would still be positive it was originally a #60. I am a stubborn cuss I suppose.

With best of wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

P.S. Stamped envelope for return herewith.

S.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Jan. 3, 1944.

Mr. Hugh Clark,
% Scott Publications Inc.,
1 West 47th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Hugh:

Perhaps you read Phil Ward's remarks in Mekeels recently
on a use of the 24¢ 1861 "Red Lilac." The use "Sep. 20, 1861."

Please note copy of my letter to the owner of this copy,
Sidney D. Harris of Brooklyn.

Phil must have been cock-eyed as the stamp in question is
no more like a Red Lilac than red is like blue. The fact is,
that the copy is faded and the paper stained. Further the
paper is not thin but rather thick proving the fallacy of the
myth of the thin papers of the "Augusts."

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Feb. 2, 1943.

Mr. Robert Laurence,
7 East 42nd St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 28th.

First - the cover to Paris. If you will put this under a Hanovia lamp you will see that originally there was a strip of three on this cover and that the top stamp was removed. This was originally a 15¢ rate to France and left New York by the Cunard Line, hence we kept our 3¢ internal and credited 12¢ to France. Note the early date of use of this cover, from New Orleans Sept. 6, 1857. The record is August 28, 1857. I looked up my earliest uses and found in my record that L. B. Mason submitted this same cover to me on Oct. 31, 1921 at which time it had a vertical strip of three, the top stamp with a horiz. crease.

Re - the other cover. Harold Brooks has a cover to Germany with a 24¢ and a pair of Black Jacks from Cincinnati in April 1864. The 24¢ on his cover is very similar if not identical with the 24¢ on this cover. The two covers are to different addresses and in different handwriting.

Likewise his stamp is a gorgeous deep shade. His cover stumped me because I never saw a 24¢ Violet used so late. I doubt very much if this supply of 24¢ at Cincinnati was printed in 1861 but rather that the stamps came from a batch in a shade very similar to the 1861 printings. I think the paper of your stamp is identical with the paper of Harold's stamp, and differs from the 1861 paper in not being near as white nor near as thin. The real 24¢ Violets, found on covers dated in August and September of 1861, run more to blue, these "1863-1864 Cincinnati Violets" run more to red. I don't know which "Violet shade" is the rarest, but there are perhaps half a dozen very similar colors that are classified as the Violet. The violet is a difficult color and was very apt to deteriorate and change if exposed to dampness.

When I first examined the Brooks cover I was inclined to believe it was a "hold over" from 1861, but since then I have changed my mind as the color is a little too red in my opinion for an 1861 printing. I sent the cover down to Elliott Perry and the following is what Elliott thought about it:

"I think it is doubtful if any violet that may have been printed in 1863-64 would exactly match the violet of 1861, although it is possible. The chances therefore, seem to favor your idea that the 24¢ with Black Jacks on the Brooks cover is a hold over."

To show you what I mean by running to Blue, I am enclosing you a

#2. Mr. Robert Laurence, Feb. 2, 1943.

cover with a 24¢ Violet used on Sep. 6, 1861 to England. This cover belongs to Harold Brooks and I have it for sale @ \$150.00. If interested I can allow you 10% off. This cover is the second earliest known use. It came to Harold in one of his original finds, hence has never been in the hands of any dealer. This stamp is the real 24¢ Violet, no mistake about that. So far as we know, and I do think I know, the Violet was the first color used for the 24¢. I have never seen any other color used before Sept. 24, 1861.

This "Cincinnati Violet," as I call it, is indeed a gorgeous color but I am just a trifle doubtful that it was an 1861 printing, although I have in my reference lot a 24¢ used from New York in late November 1861 which runs somewhat to red but not as much as the "Cincinnati." It is, however, much more red than this "real Violet" of Sep. 6, 1861.

I might add that a "real 24¢ Violet" on the original cover is a mighty rare item, especially a use in August or early September 1861. I forgot to mention that Harold's "Cincinnati Violet" came to him from the Brown sale, lot 1004, and cost him \$160.00. I would rather have the enclosed "Sept. 6, 1861" item.

With best regards,

Cordially yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
464 S. GRAND AVE.
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Enclosed

Brooks #281 -\$150.00 less 10%.

P.S. If not too much trouble, I would greatly appreciate a priced catalogue of your January sale (the 121st), also Bob if you have no use for the films of the covers I could use same in my record.

S.B.A.

Delarocche

57 Aug 87

repondre 3 Jhr

NWVV

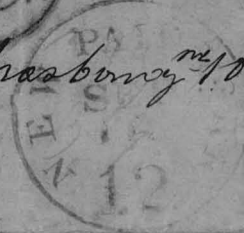


via steamer

Monsieur L. Berroche

Boulevard de Strasbourg ^{no 10}

Paris



THIS WAS A VERT S. OF Three-Top Stamp Had Grease
And Was Removed From Cover - DATE IS N.O.
SEP 6 1887 - RED BROWN - THIS COVER WAS
SUBMITTED BY L. B. MASON - OCT 31 1921.
By Robt Laurence Feb 1 1943.

Laurence & Stryker Sale

Apr 9 - 10 1943

Lot 301

46

5c red brown, fine vert pair, perf slightly cut into at L, tied on
V.F. small folded letter with NEW ORLEANS LA. Through New
York, so Pmkd. Addressed to France with red Pmk.

100.00



QUOTED FROM:

"PROBLEMS OF THE CONFEDERATE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT".

BY L. R. GARRISON

SOUTHWESTERN HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

OCTOBER 1915 - JANUARY 1916

VOL. XIX- NOS. 2&3- PAGE 243

- - - - -

6. THE EXPRESS COMPANIES AS COMPETITORS OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.
(QUOTATIONS ARE FROM POSTMASTER-GENERAL REAGAN'S REPORTS, OFFICIAL
LETTERS, CONFEDERATE ACTS, ETC.) V. D. MACB/

IN THESE DAYS WHEN A GREAT FEDERAL PARCELS POST SERVICE IS ACTUALLY DRIVING EXPRESS COMPANIES INTO THE HANDS OF RECEIVERS, IT SEEMS ALMOST INCREDIBLE THAT ANY GOVERNMENT MONOPOLY SO GENERALLY ACQUIESCED IN AS A POSTAL MONOPOLY SHOULD EVER HAVE HAD TO COMPLAIN OF COMPETITION IN ITS BUSINESS OF CARRYING LETTERS. BUT FROM THE VERY INCEPTION OF THE CONFEDERATE POSTAL SERVICE, ITS MONOPOLY RIGHTS WERE VIOLATED CONTINUALLY AND WITH IMPUNITY BY THE EXPRESS COMPANIES OF THE SOUTH, THE CHIEF OFFENDER BEING THAT KNOWN AS THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY. (AT THE OUTBREAK OF THE CIVIL WAR THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY TURNED ITS ROUTES IN THE SOUTHERN STATES, IN WHICH IT HAD ENJOYED A COMPLETE MONOPOLY, OVER TO THE ADAMS-SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY, CREATED BY THE GEORGIA COURTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSUMING THIS BUSINESS. THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY HAS HELD TO THE PRESENT DAY A DOMINANT INTEREST IN THIS ASSOCIATION, WHICH IT CREATED TO FACILITATE BUSINESS DURING THE WAR.)

THE CONFEDERATE CONGRESS, IN THE FIRST SET OF LAWS PRESCRIBED FOR THE NEW POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, ENDEAVORED TO SAFEGUARD IT BY A CLAUSE PROHIBITING "EXPRESS AND OTHER CHARTERED COMPANIES" FROM CARRYING ANY LETTERS UNLESS THEY WERE PREPAID BY BEING ENCLOSED IN A STAMPED ENVELOPE OF THE CONFEDERACY. A VIOLATION OF THE ACT WAS PUNISHABLE WITH A FIVE HUNDRED DOLLAR FINE. BEING REMINDED THAT NEITHER STAMPS NOR STAMPED ENVELOPES OF THE CONFEDERACY WERE YET OBTAINABLE, CONGRESS RENEWED AND ENLARGED THE ACT OF FEBRUARY 23, GIVING THE EXPRESS COMPANIES GREATER PRIVILEGES AND AT THE SAME TIME IMPOSING GREATER RESTRICTIONS AND PENALTIES TO PREVENT VIOLATION. IT WAS MADE "LAWFUL FOR THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL TO ALLOW EXPRESS AND OTHER CHARTERED COMPANIES TO CARRY LETTERS, AND ALL MAIL MATTER OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, WHETHER THE SAME BE ENCLOSED IN STAMPED ENVELOPES OR PREPAID IN STAMPS, OR MONEY." BY THE MAIL MATTER, WITH THE MONEY COLLECTED FOR POSTAGE, WAS TO BE TURNED IN TO SOME POSTMASTER TO BE STAMPED PAID. CANCELLATION OF STAMPS ON LETTERS AND PACKAGES PREPAID WAS ENJOINED ON THE COMPANY, "UNDER THE PENALTY OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR EACH FAILURE." MATTER GIVEN THE COMPANY TO MAIL AND NOT TO DELIVER HAD TO BE PREPAID AT THE REGULAR POSTAL RATES FROM THE PLACE WHERE THE COMPANY RECEIVED IT TO ITS DESTINATION, THE STAMPS BEING CANCELLED AT THE POINT OF MAILING. THE SAME ACT REQUIRED EACH AGENT OF EXPRESS COMPANIES TO TAKE OATH TO COMPLY FAITHFULLY WITH THE LAWS RELATING TO CARRYING OF MAIL AND OBLITERATING POSTAGE STAMPS. IN CASE THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL SHOULD REFUSE TO ALLOW AN EXPRESS COMPANY TO CARRY LETTERS, IT WAS PROBABLY INTENDED THAT HE SHOULD FALL BACK ON THE OLD UNITED STATES LAWS, WHICH MADE IT AN OFFENSE, FINABLE AT \$150 FOR A PRIVATE EXPRESS COMPANY TO CARRY MAILABLE MATERIAL, "EXCEPT NEWSPAPERS, PAMPHLETS, MAGAZINES AND PERIODICALS."

MR. REAGAN QUOTED THESE LAWS FULLY IN HIS FIRST OFFICIAL COMPLAINT AGAINST THE COURSE BEING PURSUED BY THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY, THE ONLY COMPANY THEN KNOWN TO CARRY MAILABLE MATTER. HE DECLARED THAT NUMEROUS FRAUDS WERE BEING PERPETRATED BY THE COMPANY'S AGENTS UPON THE REVENUES OF THE DEPARTMENT. THAT THE FRAUDS, IN THE AGGREGATE, AMOUNTED TO A VERY LARGE SUM, WAS REVEALED BY A SPECIAL INVESTIGATION. THE EXPRESS COMPANY'S RENDERINGS TO SUCH POST OFFICES AS THOSE AT SAVANNAH, CHARLESTON, COLUMBIA, AND WILMINGTON, HAD DECREASED FROM ABOUT \$200 EACH PER MONTH TO SUMS RANGING FROM \$1.30 TO FIVE AND TEN CENTS. THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL ORDERED PROSECUTIONS BROUGHT AGAINST THE COMPANY, BUT IT WAS FOUND THAT THE LAWS WERE INADEQUATE. THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY WAS NOT CHARTERED IN EVERY STATE WHERE IT OPERATED; THEREFORE PROSECUTION COULD NOT BE SUSTAINED AGAINST IT. THE ONLY PENALTY PROVIDED WAS A FINE AGAINST FAILURE TO "OBLITERATE POSTAGE STAMPS" ON LETTERS PREPAID BY STAMPS; AND THIS WAS TO BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE COMPANY ITSELF AND NOT AGAINST ANY PERSON CONNECTED

WITH, OR EMPLOYED BY IT. ACCORDINGLY, THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL REFUSED TO ALLOW THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY TO CARRY ANY MAILABLE MATTER NOT BEARING STAMPS, AND LOST NO TIME IN RECOMMENDING AN ADEQUATE REVISION OF THE POSTAL LAWS ON THIS SUBJECT. THIS RECOMMENDATION WAS GIVEN BY THE PRESIDENT TO CONGRESS FOR ITS "CAREFUL ATTENTION", AND IT RESULTED IN THE PASSAGE OF THE ACT OF APRIL 19, 1862.

THIS ACT SIMPLY STRUCK OUT OF THE STATUTES SUCH PARTS OF THE CONFEDERATE ENACTMENTS CONCERNING THE CARRYING OF THE MAILS BY EXPRESS COMPANIES AS HAD BEEN ADDED TO THE UNITED STATES LAWS ON THE SAME SUBJECT. THAT IS, NOTHING BUT THE OLD PROHIBITORY LAW OF THE UNITED STATES WAS LEFT IN EFFECT. THE ACT EXPLICITLY SAID THAT THE LAWS REPEALED HAD BEEN NO MORE THAN ADDITIONS OR EXCEPTIONS TO THE OLD LAW, WHICH HAD IN NOWISE BEEN ABROGATED OR REPEALED BY THEM. IT WAS ALSO EXPRESSLY PROVIDED THAT FRAUDS UPON THE REVENUES OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT AND VIOLATIONS OF THE LAWS JUST REPEALED MIGHT BE PROCEEDED AGAINST AND PUNISHED UNDER THE LAWS EXISTING AT THE TIME THE FRAUD OR VIOLATION WAS COMMITTED. IT IS EVIDENT THAT EVERY EFFORT WAS MADE TO CLOSE ALL POSSIBLE LOOPHOLES THROUGH WHICH THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY MIGHT ENDEAVOR TO ESCAPE FROM ITS LEGAL ENTANGLEMENTS.

BUT "NEITHER LAW NOR SOLEMN OATHS" COULD BIND THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY, WHICH CONTINUED TO VIOLATE THE LAW WITH "AUDACIOUS BOLDNESS." MOREOVER, THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL, IN THE SPRING OF 1863, DECLARED THAT PERSISTENT EFFORTS WERE BEING MADE "TO GET A PUBLIC OPINION IN FAVOR OF THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY AND THAT, TOO, BY UNJUST COMPARISONS OF ITS FACILITIES AND USEFULNESS WITH THOSE OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT". HE WAS AMAZED "THAT THEY SHOULD HAVE THE BRAZEN EFFRONTERY TO PROVOKE SUCH COMPARISONS" IN THE FACE OF THEIR LAWLESS ACTS. BUT THE TRUTH SEEMS TO BE THAT THEIR SERVICES WERE SO DESIRABLE THAT PEOPLE FURNISHED THEM LARGE NUMBERS OF LETTERS AND PACKAGES TO CARRY OVER LINES THAT WERE ALSO MAIL ROUTES. IT BEGAN TO BE HINTED THAT THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY COULD DELIVER MORE QUICKLY THAN THE POST OFFICE COULD, - EVEN THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NO FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO THE POSTAL MONOPOLY. AND THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL WAS INCENSED TO FIND THAT THE COMPANY HAD "ADOPTED THE SUBTERFUGE" OF ADVISING THAT ALL MAIL TO BE CARRIED BY THEM SHOULD BE MARKED AS THOUGH IT CONTAINED MONEY, THE COMPANY ACTING ON THE SUPPOSITION THAT THEY HAD THE RIGHT TO CARRY MONEY PACKAGES. THUS THE COMPANY HOPED TO ACCOMPLISH "THE DOUBLE PURPOSE OF EVADING THE LAW, AND OF EXTORTING A LARGER PRICE FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF SUCH LETTERS." IN SPITE OF ALL THIS, THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL WAS RELUCTANT TO PROCEED AGAINST THE COMPANY OR ANY OF ITS EMPLOYEES. HE HELD BACK BECAUSE THE COMPANY WAS NOT INCORPORATED, AND INTIMATED, SO REAGAN HEARD, THAT THE LAW WAS UNCONSTITUTIONAL. MR. REAGAN FOUND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND SUCH AN ATTITUDE. IF THE LAW WAS DEFECTIVE, HE WANTED TO KNOW IT, IN ORDER THAT HE MIGHT THEN BRING THE MATTER BEFORE CONGRESS AND HAVE A REMEDY PROVIDED. TO THIS END HE ORDERED A PROSECUTION AGAINST THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY "IN A NUMBER OF CASES WHERE THEY HAD BEEN DETECTED IN VIOLATION OF THE LAW", BUT THE RESULTS OF THESE PROSECUTIONS DO NOT APPEAR.

EXPERIENCE SHOWED "THAT NOTHING SHORT OF THE MOST STRINGENT AND THOROUGH LEGISLATION, EXCLUDING ALL DOUBTS AND GUARDING AGAINST EVASION," WOULD SERVE TO CORRECT THE EVIL. THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL WANTED A LAW THAT WOULD PROVIDE ADEQUATE PENALTIES AND PUNISHMENTS FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE LAW. HE WANTED THE LAW TO REACH ALL COMPANIES, WHETHER CORPORATE OR NOT, AND EACH OF THEIR EMPLOYEES, AS WELL AS EVERY PERSON WHO SHOULD PATRONIZE, ENCOURAGE, OR ASSIST THEM IN THEIR VIOLATION OF THE LAW.(*)

(*) FROM REPORT OF POSTMASTER GENERAL, NOVEMBER 7, 1864. AT THIS LATE DATE IN THE LIFE OF THE CONFEDERACY IT APPEARS THAT NOTHING FURTHER WAS DONE TO CORRECT THE SITUATION. V. D. MACB/

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad St.
Newark, N. J.
U. S. A.



Economist

STAMP CO., INC.

CABLE ADDRESS "ECONOMIST," NEW YORK

UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN
POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTIONTELEPHONE
CORTLANDT 7-2028EDWARD STERN, PRESIDENT.
SIDNEY F. BARRETT, TREASURER.EIGHTY-SEVEN NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.

Dear Stanley.

I have none of the 5 —
paper not replying sooner,
the Brigham case has kept me
busy.

Regarding the 13th Blue paper — of
course fine copies sell as high
as 85⁰⁰ but are recently at 75⁰⁰
and if it was bought at 75⁰⁰ then
who ever sold it to Judge Rosen
must have mentioned the fact that
it was rep^d, or it may have been

a straight Edge copy. I cannot
identify this identical copy as I
haunted so many of them over
a period of years, I only recently
I sorted out of a collection all
the poor copies in one lot &
remember signing them and
the 15th was signed 20. Some in
the lot was st edge & others Repr-
I sold as such to a dealer here -
what he done with them I don't
know & don't care but I never will
sell them to collectors as there is always
a come back later - hereafter when
I sign such a stamp I will only do so
if the repr or st edge is mentioned.
The Scotts Sale was an awful
mess. The descriptions was a crime
and it appears that they had no one up
there who knows stamps - I wonder
when the 3rd sale will come up again,
I looked at the sale & was utterly

connected with it. I never

before

CABLE ADDRESS
"KLEINSTAMP"

TELEPHONE
"PENYPAKR 0769"

EUGENE KLEIN
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS
212 SOUTH 13TH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

April 3, 1943

MEMBER OF THE JURIES OF THE CHICAGO 1911,
NEW YORK 1913, WIEN 1923, MONTREAL 1925,
WIEN 1933 AND LONDON 1934
PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS


Mr. J.G. Fleckenstein
419 Union Street
Ionia
Michigan

Dear Mr. Fleckenstein:

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 15 returning lot No. 106, the perforations of which have been questioned. I examined the stamp and believe that one side has been reperforated. I am, therefore, accepting its return and have credited you with the full amount.

The fact that the stamp had a good name on its back caused its inclusion in the sale without any further examination. Judge Rosen purchased this stamp several years ago as a perfect specimen.

Sincerely yours,



EUGENE KLEIN

EK:FBS



YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN THE BUSINESS!

A MEMO FROM —

Herman Herst, Jr.

116 Nassau St.
NEW YORK CITY



Tel. BEekman 3-3524

4 January 1944.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Hope you don't mind my sending you interesting covers now and then that come to my attention. I know that you like to see them, and I also know that you are busy, so sometimes I am torn between two ideas as to whether to bother you or not.

The enclosed three plus one has brought forth some interesting theories from local collectors. Your own comments would be appreciated.

A stamped envelope is enclosed for your convenience in replying. With kindest though belated greetings for 1944, I am

Sincerely,

Herman Herst, Jr.

Recd Nov 2. 68
Ans Jan 11. 69



ON
BACK

Hilo Sep 23

Mr. R. T. Coan

Red

Lyndonville,

Orleans Co.

N. York

Ryther



434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Jan. 10, 1943.

Mr. Herman Herst Jr.,
116 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Herst:

Herewith the cover you were kind enough to enclose in yours of the 4th. I am always glad to see any cover that is unusual so I assure you I am always pleased to hear from you.

I suppose this use was in 1868 or 1869, probably the former. I haven't a P.O. list of these two years but I have lists of 1867 and 1870 and in both, offices at Magee's Corners and Seneca Falls are listed. If you will refer to a map I think you will find that the former is only about four or five miles from the latter.

I think that what happened was this. When the letter arrived at Magee's Corners, the addressee was visiting (?) at Seneca Falls. The letter was carried privately over to that town and re-mailed as a Drop Letter. This accounts for the Seneca Falls postmark and the absence of a postmark at Magee's Corners. Had the letter been "forwarded" and remailed at Magee's Corners, it would have been postmarked at that office and the postage would have been 3¢. By carrying the letter over to Seneca Falls and remailing it as a Drop, the sum of 2¢ was saved.

Do you not agree that the above is probably the correct solution?

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 23, 1942.

Mr. Lambert W. Gerber,
Tamaqua, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gerber:

Herewith the 30¢ 1869 face of cover. I believe this cover is perfectly good and I cannot find anything wrong with it. I see nothing queer about the "year" in the French marking, hence I believe the use was actually from New York on July 6, 1869. The combination of the French p.m. and the red New York prove that the rate on the letter was actually 30¢, hence the only supposition that all might not be right would be to suppose that the 30¢ 1869 was substituted for a 30¢ of the previous issue. I cannot find a bit of evidence after a careful examination under my Hanovia lamp that this was done.

This was a Seybold cover and while I have seen several fakes from his collection, I have every reason to believe this item is O.K.

In addition, I have seen other covers from this same correspondence which I had no cause to question, and I have also seen several covers from the same correspondence which I considered were bad.

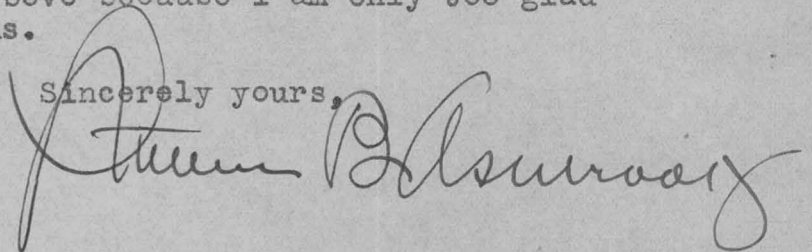
For example, have you a copy of Souren's,

"Philately of Tomorrow"
Vol. 1 #2?

If so turn to pages 46 and 47 etc. Here was a "Seybold" cover from the same "Cotter" correspondence, a use from New York on Aug. 21, 1869. Warren Colson attempted to sell this cover (with a 30¢ 1869) to Bradley Martin for the sum of \$275.00. Souren pronounced the cover a fake, and I think his opinion was correct, as the stamp originally used was undoubtedly a 15¢ 1869.

There is no charge for the above because I am only too glad to get a record of such items.

Sincerely yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Warren Colson', is written over the typed name and extends across the bottom right of the page.

Y. SOUREN

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS
394 PARK AVENUE
BET. 53RD AND 54TH STS.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

July 16, 1943.

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

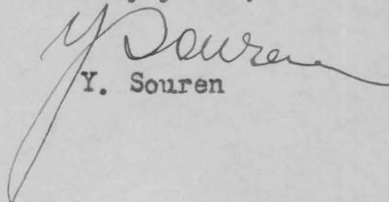
While I was going through some old things the other day, I ran across the enclosed cover with a 90¢ 1861 which was Lot #2873 in the first Knapp sale.

When Mr. Behr returned from showing the lots at that time, he had made the notation that you suggested that the cover should be withdrawn from the sale as it was not what it should be.

I recall that he gave me some notations made at the time you saw the cover, but I can't find them, and I'd appreciate it, if you would look over the cover again and write me why you condemned it.

Take your time about it, I am in no hurry. I enclose a stamped envelope for its return, when you have the time.

Sincerely yours,


Y. Souren

YS:s

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 19, 1943.

Mr. Y. Souren,
394 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Souren:

Yours of the 16th received. I am returning herewith the 90¢ cover to China. I have recollection of finding any fault with the enclosed cover when Teddy was here with the Knapp sale in April 1941, nor have I any memo in my catalogue that I had any doubt about the cover at that time. After examining the cover carefully, I fail to see where I might have found something suspicious. However, I am not doubting Teddy's word in the least and if he says that I didn't like the cover, then it is quite possible he is right.

I note the cover was withdrawn from the sale but I can hardly imagine that it was withdrawn simply because I might have expressed some suspicion of it.

While the postmark is not legible I judge it is the red foreign mail marking of Philadelphia. The grids confirm this.

The use was May 1863 and the rate to Shanghai at this time, by British Mail, Via Southampton, was 45¢ per half ounce. The large penciled "2" in lower right shows the letter was over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, hence a double rate of 90¢. It was carried to England Via American Packet, (doubtless by "The City of Manchester" of the Inman Line - from N.Y. on May 9, 1863). On such a letter the U.S. P.O.D. would be entitled to 2 X 21¢ (16¢ sea plus 5¢ internal) and the British 2 X 24¢, total 90¢.

The latter credit of 48¢ to the British is in red ink above the double rate credit "2." Thus everything seems to be in order so far as I can see and I can't imagine why I would have found any fault with the cover back in 1941.

My present opinion is that the cover is perfectly genuine. If you disagree I will welcome your comment.

If Teddy's statement is correct perhaps he can recall why I questioned the cover.

With Best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 3-6482

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK M. G. CAVANAUGH
M. H. MAHONEY

H. R. HARMER, Inc.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

32 EAST 57TH STREET
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ALSO AT 39-42 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1.
ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
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WEEKLY PUBLIC AUCTIONS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

22nd
October
1951

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

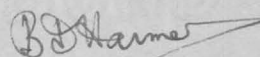
I am enclosing cover which is to be lot #123
of the Souren sale if it is genuine.

Apparently, this was in the Knapp sale and was
withdrawn.

Your early advice and assistance will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.



Director

BDH:is
enclosure cover
cc: Mr. Ezra D. Cole

Oct. 25, 1951.

Mr. Bernard D. Harmer,
H. R. Harmer & Co., Inc.,
32 East 57th St.,
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Harmer:

I am enclosing the 90¢ 1861 cover herewith as per yours of the 22nd. I have no recollection whatsoever that I ever questioned this cover, in fact, I do not note a thing about the cover that is questionable. Yes, this cover was in the Knapp First Sale, and was Lot 2873. I sent for the cover at that time and photographed it and there is no memo in my files that I questioned it in the slightest degree. I am aware that it was withdrawn from the Knapp sale but I am sure that I had nothing to do with that action by Souren.

The following is an exchange of correspondence that I had with Y. Souren in 1943:

"Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

While I was going through some old things the other day, I ran across the enclosed cover with a 90¢ 1861 which was Lot #2873 in the first Knapp sale. When Mr. Behr returned from showing the lots at that time, he had made the notation that you suggested that the cover should be withdrawn from the sale as it was not what it should be. I recall that he gave me some notations made at the time you saw the cover, but I can't find them, and I'd appreciate it, if you would look over the cover again and write me why you condemned it. Take your time about it, I am in no hurry. I enclose a stamped envelope for its return, when you have the time.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Y. Souren"

My reply to the above was as follows:

#2.

Mr. Bernard D. Harmer, Oct. 25, 1951.

Mr. Y. Souren,
394 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

July 19, 1943.

Dear Mr. Souren:

Yours of the 16th received. I am returning herewith the 90¢ cover to China. I have no recollection of finding any fault with the enclosed cover when Teddy was here with the Knapp sale in April 1941, nor have I any memo in my catalogue that I had any doubt about the cover at that time. After examining the cover carefully, I fail to see where I might have found something suspicious. However, I am not doubting Teddy's word in the least and if he says that I didn't like the cover, then it is quite possible he is right.

I note the cover was withdrawn from the sale but I can hardly imagine that it was withdrawn simply because I might have expressed some suspicion of it.

While the postmark is not legible I judge it is the red foreign mail marking of Philadelphia. The grids confirm this.

The use was May 1863 and the rate to Shanghai at this time, by British Mail, Via Southampton, was 45¢ per half ounce. The large penciled '2' in lower right shows the letter was over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, hence a double rate of 90¢. It was carried to England Via American Packet, (doubtless by 'The City of Manchester' of the Inman Line - from N.Y. on May 9, 1863). On such a letter the U.S. P.O.D. would be entitled to 2 x 21¢ (16¢ sea plus 5¢ internal) and the British 2 x 24¢, total 90¢.

The latter credit of 48¢ to the British is in red ink above the double rate credit '2.' Thus everything seems to be in order so far as I can see and I can't imagine why I would have found any fault with the cover back in 1941.

My present opinion is that the cover is perfectly genuine. If you disagree I will welcome your comment.

If Teddy's statement is correct perhaps he can recall why I questioned the cover.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,"

Inasmuch as I have no copy of any reply to the above letter it is possible that the matter was dropped.

I believe that this cover is perfectly genuine and I have signed it on the back as such. My fee for the above is \$5.00 plus return postage.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

Copy to
Ezra D. Cole.

Queen of the Seas

Ans?

48 1/2

Red

2873

Knapp 1st
Sale



Red

LONDON
VBB
MY 23

Red

Red

Mr John Mc Nixon Jr
Care Blain Tate & Co
Shanghai China

Red 2

FROM
MERCHANTS' BANK,
NEW ORLEANS.

113.
Black

Blue

Black

Only



Type
I

M. H. Peppier

~~aux soins de Monsieur~~

~~M. A. Peppier & Co.~~

Black

~~N° 63. Rue Fairbairn~~

~~Grand Hotel~~

~~Rue Boulevard des Capucines~~
~~Hotel Violet~~

~~4 Passage Violet~~

Red 26JUN69



Black

France

EOIC 4/16-43

FROM
MERCHANTS' BANK,
NEW ORLEANS.

Black



9x13

E. H. Reymès

aux soins de Messieurs

M. N. P. & Co

N° 63. Rue Taitbout

Paris

France.

Blue



Black

Red

ECIC 4/16-43

FROM
MERCHANTS' BANK,
NEW ORLEANS.

9x13

E. H. Reynolds



Black

Brown

Black

aux Soins de Messieurs

M. N. Porden & Co

N° 13. Rue Trinité
Paris

Blue

Red

France

ECK 4/16-43

^{Blue}
E. H. ~~Reynolds~~



~~aux soins de Messieurs~~

~~M. N. Bordes & Co~~

~~N° 63 Rue Taibout~~

Paris

voir au dos

France.

BUFF ENVELOPE

ECIG 4/16-43

FROM
MERCHANTS' BANK,
NEW ORLEANS.

E. H.

Handwritten signature/initials



~~aux soins de Messieurs~~

~~M. A. Borden~~

~~N° 63 Rue Fairbank~~



voir au dos

France

1869

ECK
4/16-43

MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

April 13, 1943.
New Orleans, La.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 So. Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

I have just come from Raymand Weill's where I got my first glimpse of the West catalog. I hope mine is at home when I get there Saturday.

He had some 1869 covers which he offered me. The prices seem very high and I think they are entirely too much even if they are good. I asked him to send them to you to look at for me. The same he is doing today and the information you give me is understood to be for me alone. That's the deal. I am not to be put on the position of getting free advice for others. He understands that.

In the first place the 30¢ and 15¢ type I on cover is an item I knew you wanted to see if it is real. You note the year date of 69 did not get on the 30¢ cover but did on the rest. No doubt you will note the early date of use after issue. The French "Viva-andos" or whatever it is means to see the back. There you will find the new address. I send the other covers to show the other correspondence. Weill says he knows this family here in New Orleans. I don't know what that means. But it is a shame the 69 missed the best cover. Note the Insufficiently Paid on the poor type I 15¢ cover. Note the 37 on the back of all these covers. I am sure you will enjoy the many markings on these. He asks (and may take a little less) for the 30-15 cover \$550; for the best 15¢ type I cover \$100; for the poorer one with the "Insufficiently Paid" \$65; the two 30¢ grilled 1867s at \$28 and \$15; the little cover with the 3¢ is simply to show more of the same correspondence. Of course the only one of interest would be the two best ones and more explicitly, the 30-15 one. But isn't that out of all reason for this cover?

He says you may hold them until I have either seen you or hear from you. So you may get a chance to write me at home. If they are fakes just send them back to him in New Orleans right away and that much will be behind me.

I may call you Sunday although it is very hard to get calls thru these days.

Sincerely,



Return Postage To
Weill included if
needed.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 16, 1943 - Friday A.M.

Dear Em:

The 1869 covers came in this morning. Here is a list in case you want it for reference:

- (A) 30¢ plus 15¢ Type I - N.O. June 14 (1869)
Red N.Y. Jun 19 with 18 (18¢ credit).
- (B) 15¢ Type I - N.O. June 15 (1869) - red
N.Y. June 19 with 6 (6¢ credit). The blue French shows "69"

I might add that the above are absolutely O.K. in every respect and are good as gold. Note that both these left New York by the same ship on June 19, 1869. My record shows that there was a mail to France on June 19, 1869, Amer. Packet to G.B., hence by such a ship we were entitled to 9¢ out of each 15¢, same being 3¢ U. S. internal plus 6¢ sea. Thus on each rate there should be a credit of 6¢ to France.

The "A" cover, a triple, shows 18¢ credit or 3 X 6. The "B" shows the single or 6¢. I have a record of another genuine 15¢ cover that went by this same mail with Red N.Y. June 19 and "6" credit. These two covers should be kept together, as one (A) is from New Orleans on June 14, 1869, the other on June 15, 1869 and both from N.Y. on June 19, 1869.

So far, your 30¢ 1869 cover is the earliest known use of the 30¢ stamp. It is from N.O. on June 11, 1869, and the catalogue date is taken from your cover. Did you know this?

(C) 15¢ 1869 - Type I from N.O. on June 21, 1869 - From N.Y. on June 26, 1869 by French Packet, "26 Juin 69" "Insufficiently Paid." This is quite nice as a cover, though the stamp is off center and you should buy it cheap. This letter was over 1/4 ounce, hence was rated as entirely unpaid. By French Packet we were only entitled to 3¢ per single, hence the French collected 30¢ and this letter or "16" decimes and we debited them 6¢, thus the black New York of June 26 with this "6" debit.

Again regarding the "A" cover, I think the killer (struck twice) is the same as on your 30¢ 1869 cover of June 11. I think a careful comparison will confirm this, hence this "A" cover confirms the genuineness of your 30¢ cover.

(E) 30¢ Grill from N.O. on June 28, 1869 by Amer. Packet. This is a double rate, hence the credit should be 2 X 6 (as above). The red N.Y. is July 3 and the credit is 12. The blue French is "16 Juil 69".

(F) 30¢ Grill from N.O. the next day or June 29, 1869, also by Amer.

#2. Mr. E. C. Krug, April 16, 1943.

Packet from N.Y. by same ship as above on July 3. The credit is correct, viz., "12."

The stamp on "E" is close at left and bottom and you should get this cover at a reasonable price. The stamp on "F" is not bad but the cancel is heavy. As there is no question about the grill on both you should acquire these two if you purchase the above three.

(G) 3¢ 1869 - A neat little cover and should go with the above.

If Weill has any more items from this correspondence why not buy the entire lot? A correspondence like this mounted in order of mailing makes a very fine showing and eliminates all question of monkey business.

Re - Knapp sale - Lots 1786 and 1787 were fakes so these prices don't mean a thing. I can say this, a genuine 30¢ plus 15¢ 1869 cover is mighty rare. While \$500.00 looks awfully high, I may be all wrong, and I would hate to risk offering this cover to Mr. Newbury at \$500.00 if I didn't want him to buy it.

Em the best advice I can give you is this. See what you can do with Weill. See if you can't get him to listen to reason and let you have all the covers from this correspondence at a reasonable figure. But think twice before you turn any of them down. There is a terrific demand for 1869 covers and if this 30¢ plus 15¢ was put up at auction there sure would be some competition for it.

If Weill knows this family I suggest you do this. Get him to give you a letter stating what he knows about them and that the correspondence came direct to him from the family. This letter is not necessary but it is nice to have such a thing. Come people might value it more than my guarantee of genuineness.

The auction lots (as follows) also came in from Rheinhardt:

#31 - A Pl. 6 copy all right. Cover not much and stamp should be taken off and mounted as a single. I suggest you bid \$4.60.

#77 - Close at top, but a sheet and worth \$13.75, if you bid.

#127 - Yes, this is superb, with board walk margins. Worth a bid of \$16.40.

#128 - An old pair of mine which I sold Jacobs. Not good enough for you.

#129 - Described as Type 2. This is a IIIA from Plate Eleven. I suggest a bid of \$9.80 as it is a good example of an unwiped plate eleven copy. A little close at top, hence type is not distinct.

#130 - I don't think you want this because the crack copy 23L2 is cut by perfs at left. If you want to chance a bid of \$35.00 you might get a bargain.

150 - Not a pigeon nor even any relation to a Pink. It is more

#3 - Mr. E. C. Krug, April 16, 1943.

resembles a pigeon than black resembles white.

lot #171 - Same as above - No relation whatsoever to the violet.

lot 172 - Paper is yellow, hence far from superb - not for you.

lot 188 - not bad, but not worth over \$2.00.

lot 189 - The green is a fake.

I am returning the catalogue pages herewith so that you can bid on any of the above lots if you care to.

Out of the postage you sent me I paid the postage both ways on these Rheinhardt lots. It looks to me like a lot of the things in this sale came from Jacobs.

I had a letter from Jessup this A.M. and he will meet my train in Cleveland the night of the 23rd and go down with me.

I also had a letter from Walter Scott accepting my invitation to have lunch with me on Saturday. I want you and Jessup to join us. I know you will be greatly interested in meeting Scott and hearing some interesting stuff. It is possible that Harold Brooks will also be with us.

This should reach you Saturday night.

With best regards,

Yours etc.,

P.S.--I will hold the Weill covers pending further instructions and in case you acquire them I will go to work on them at once to put them in proper shape and will, (if agreeable) take them down to New York so that you can show the boys some fine items.

S.

TELEPHONE HANOVER 2-0680

FREDERIC R. HARRIS
CONSULTING ENGINEER
27 WILLIAM STREET
NEW YORK

CABLE ADDRESS: HARKOB

May 27, 1943.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 South Grand Avenue,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

It is a source of great satisfaction to have met you personally on your recent brief trip to New York and I only regret that I saw so little of you. I hope the future will afford an opportunity of correcting this.

Ezra Cole bought some of the Hawaiian covers for me at the West sale. One of them, with deep regret, I returned. It was described as having a 5¢ thick paper, Scott's No. 5, which, on examination, it isn't. It was not the thin white paper, Scott's No. 8. Therefore, it could only have been Scott's No. 9a which could not have belonged to this cover which was dated several years before 9a was available. I wrote to Phil Ward about it and returned it to him. He shouldn't feel so badly as my purchases were quite large, running in excess of \$1600.00.

I have just secured a very interesting and philatelically valuable cover at the Powers sale by Kelleher and I am letting you know because you may want to make note of it. It is franked with a 5¢ Hawaiian thin paper, Scott's No. 8, and a 12¢ U. S. 1851. It was postmarked in Honolulu on September 8, 1857. This is nearly a month earlier than Luff's reported earliest date of October 6 and is the earliest I have ever seen or heard of. It helps me considerably in the explanation of the 5¢ surcharge on the 13 red as the seven known covers with the surcharge on, of which I have record, run from February to August 1857. Use of the surcharge was evidently discontinued when the new 5¢, Scott's No. 8, arrived and were distributed.

I am enclosing herewith three covers which I recently obtained. I would appreciate your examining and expressing your opinion on these. I am enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope for your reply. My analysis is, of course, subject to free criticism and expression of opinion by you. They are as follows:

→ (1) Cover with 10¢ Yellow-Green 1861 U. S., postmarked Honolulu, U. S. Postage Paid, November 23, 1864, San Francisco, December 8. During

H.R. HARMER

Sale

May 11 1943

Lot 11

5/27/43

15,
this period, namely, from about July 1, 1863 to October 1867, the U. S. postage rate was 3¢ + 2¢ ship letter, or 5¢ for a single rate, 8¢ for a double rate, and so on, so this was mailed in Honolulu nearly a year after the U. S. postage rate of 10¢ for single rate had been abandoned and the lower rate in effect. It seems to me that this could either have been a stampless letter on which the Hawaiian postage rate of 5¢ was paid in cash and the 5¢ for single rate and ship letter was paid in cash and this 10¢ does not belong on this letter. You will notice it is not tied but, again, even when the U. S. stamp is legitimately on the letter, it is frequently not tied by the circular cogwheel cancellation. Could it be possible that this letter was written in one of the outlying Islands and that someone not familiar with the rate change thought it was still 10¢ and paid 17¢ at his local branch postoffice for the Hawaiian 5¢, ship 2¢, and 10¢ U. S.? Or could it be possible that the 10¢ charge, namely, Hawaiian 5¢, ship 2¢ and U. S. 3¢, or 10¢ in all, were thought to be covered by the 10¢ U.S.? This latter does not seem possible because the Hawaiian postoffice would not have secured their 5¢. I am therefore inclined to believe that either the sender was not familiar with the change in postage rate, had a 10¢ U. S. stamp which he placed on it and paid the Hawaiian rate and the ship letter rate in cash or that the 10¢ stamp does not belong on this cover.

(2) Cover with 5¢ 1861, postmarked Honolulu December 2, 1867, postmarked San Francisco January 4, 1868. There was evidently collected from the addressee 8¢, namely, it was treated as a "collect" letter, not prepaid - 2¢ ship fee and double 3¢, or 6¢, as not prepaid. If this were the case, the 5¢ does not belong on the cover. Again, it has the San Francisco circular cogwheel and is not tied to the cover. Could it be possible that this letter was in excess of single rate and the 5¢ placed on it was not sufficient for full pre-payment and that for the additional charge they doubled the U. S. rate and added 2¢ for ship fee? This seems extremely unlikely to me because the sender had prepaid the 3¢ U. S. rate and the 2¢ ship fee and if it was a double rate letter was only liable for 3¢ which, at most, as it was not prepaid, could have been 6¢ and not 8¢. Or is the explanation that this letter ran into the Hawaiian Steam Service contract period where the rate was changed to 10¢ including any ship service and that this letter was mailed from Hawaii, the sender not knowing about the new contract mail service and thinking he had prepaid the U. S. charges of 5¢, but that when it reached San Francisco, since it only bore a 5¢ U. S. stamp and the new rate was 10¢, they stamped it 8¢ ship and collected 8¢? One of the arguments against this is that it does not bear the Honolulu postmark "U.S.Postage Paid".

I noted Mr. Meyer's article in the Collectors Club Philatelist about his "Mystery Period" and also his comments that during the time of the contract mail, if a letter were given to the Captain of a ship other than the Hawaiian Steam Service, it probably could have been sent at the old rate of 5¢, namely, the Captain of the ship would have collected his 2¢ ship letter fee from the San Francisco postmaster in spite of the new contract with the Hawaiian Steam Service. Mr. Meyer's explanation looks

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

-3-

5/27/43

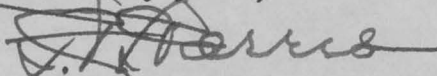
to me unlikely to be true because if this could have been done, knowing the Island people of today, I am quite sure many of them would have elected to get by by avoiding the Hawaiian Steam Service which cost them 10¢ U.S. and had the mail carried by outside vessels which would only have cost them 5¢, and undoubtedly the U.S. postoffice must have instructed the San Francisco postmaster to discourage this, such discouragement to take the form of charging what amounted to a double rate, namely, in addition to the 5¢, to have collected from the addressee the ship fee plus double U.S. postage charges, or 8¢.

Perhaps I have gone to entirely too much trouble to explain all this and, again, the 5¢ '61 does not belong on this cover.

(3) The third cover is even more interesting. It is franked with a split of the Hawaiian 2¢ - 1864 and 2 copies of the U. S. 3¢ - 1869, a total of 7¢ in Hawaiian and U.S. postage, and is postmarked Honolulu "Paid All" and San Francisco "7 Paid" and was a letter sent by an officer or man of H.M.S. Scylla to England. I guess the year date as '70 or '71 and, therefore, during the period of the first Postal Interchange Agreement between the United States and Hawaii, under which they acknowledged each others postage stamps. The split of this 2¢, while rare, is not in any way unique. I have two covers which I consider all right with this split on them, namely, a 5¢ Hawaiian, Scott's No. 32, and this split, Scott's No. 31, which combination seems to have been used presumably on account of a shortage of the 6¢, Scott's No. 33. This split is quite different from the splits of the later Kings Head Series which seem to have been used, at least in most cases, as freaks or courtesies without much rhyme or reason for their use. These latter splits were undoubtedly largely philatelically inspired by old collectors such as Mr. Stolz, Wolters and Brown. They were, comparatively speaking, prominent men in the Islands and must have known the postmaster or even the Postmaster General quite intimately and he either did them a favor or the subordinates in the office let them go by. You will note that this last cover has lost its upper lefthand corner and it occurred to me that this corner might have borne a 5¢, Scott's No. 32, for the 6¢ rate to the U.S. but in that case it would only have required a 5¢ U.S. to carry it to England, not 6¢. This explanation is in conflict with the Honolulu "Paid All" postmark and in conflict with the San Francisco "7 Paid". I am, however, confused about the 7¢ rate. Is it possible that 7¢ would pay charges from Honolulu to England as there was no postal agreement between Hawaii and England that I know of? This last cover came from the Hawaiian Collection of Charles Wilson of Aberdeen, Scotland.

I am waiting eagerly for your analysis and opinion as to these three covers, especially the last.

Sincerely yours,



F. R. Harris

FRH:V

Encls.3.

P.S. See next page

H.R.

Harmer

Sale

May 11

1943

Lot

14

Illustrated

In

The

Catalogue

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

-4-

5/27/43

P. S. In sending you these covers and asking for your help, I feel I am imposing on you to a great extent and would feel much more free to call on you in the future if you would make some charge for your time. In the meantime, you have seen my Hawaiian collection and have a pretty good idea of what I have and what would improve the collection. I trust that should you come across any Hawaiian covers you think would be of interest to me and would improve my collection, that you will submit them to me.

F. R. H.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

June 1st, 1943.

Admiral Frederic R. Harris,
27 William St.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Admiral:

I was much pleased to receive your interesting letter of the 27th and to examine the three covers you enclosed and which I am returning herewith. Since my return from New York, I have been intending to drop you a line to express my appreciation of a most enjoyable evening spent with you. I am sorry that my time was so occupied with the West Sale that I didn't have the opportunity of enjoying more of your good company.

Philip Ward advised me several weeks ago that you had returned one of the West covers and I simply was at a loss to understand how both of us could have made an error on that item. Of course, I do not even pretend to know Hawaiian stamps, but I thought that Phil did. The cover itself looked perfectly good to me. The 12¢ 1851 was so placed on the cover that there must have been another stamp to left and if it was not a 5¢ Hawaiian then I cannot imagine what stamp was to the left of the 12¢. We listed the 5¢ as #5. This seems very improbable as the use was in 1861, therefore it is not possible that the cover is perfectly good and that the stamp is Scott's #8? If so, then the error in the West catalogue of #5 instead of #8 is no doubt mine.

I note you obtained a similar cover in the Kelleher Sale of May 8th last. No doubt Lot #165. I am indeed pleased to get the early date of use of the #8 on this cover (Honolulu Sept. 8, 1857). Would it not be a good thing to have the date of issue in the Scott catalogue corrected?

Now for a discussion of the three covers which you enclosed.

(1) Cover with 10¢ U. S. 1861. The year date in the San Francisco postmark appears to be 1864 and I believe this was the actual year of use of this letter. I doubt that this was a stampless cover, as the markings indicate the use of a U. S. stamp. The location of the two markings indicate that there was a stamp in the upper right corner, and that there was only one, not two stamps, such as a 3¢ 1861 and 2¢ 1862. There might have been a 5¢ 1861 brown, but I doubt if anyone would have cheapened the value of the cover by a substitution of a 10¢ for a 5¢ unless, of course, the latter was badly damaged. I, therefore, believe this 10¢ was actually used on this cover.

I have made some study and a record of uses of the San Francisco "cog" cancels. There were three distinct types of this marking, and the latest of the three to be placed in use is the type on this 10¢ green, and what I call "type III". My earliest record of use of this type III is June 15, 1864, but no doubt it was placed in

#2. Admiral Frederic R. Harris, June 1st, 1943.

use several months earlier. At any rate, the use on this 10¢ is correct for Dec. 8, 1864. If this was a single rate letter, the postage that was required was 5¢ Hawaiian and 5¢ U.S. I think that your theory is probably correct, i.e., that the writer thought she could pay the total rate with the 10¢ U.S. There was no way, of which I have any knowledge, as to how the Hawaiian office could have obtained their 5¢ out of this 10¢ prepayment.

If the letter did originate at some interior post office, do you not suppose it would have a local postmark? If it was mailed at *Honolulu* ~~S.F.~~ and the Hawaiian 5¢ was paid in cash, it seems strange that the unused 10¢ was permitted to remain on the cover after the writer was informed that there was 5¢ too much U. S.

We might also speculate that the letter was a double rate and only overpaid 2¢ U. S. postage. On second thought perhaps this is the real solution.

(2) Cover with 5¢ 1861, postmarked Honolulu, Dec. 2 (1867). This cover has every indication that it was sent as a "ship letter" with no prepayment of the U. S. postage. "Ship 8" meant that 8¢ was collected from the addressee. (Double rate, 2 X 3¢ plus 2¢). Note how the 5¢ stamp is placed on this cover. It certainly looks as though it was crowded into that space. The cancel is also the S.F. cog, type III. I cannot believe that this type was in use at San Francisco on Jan. 4, 1868. I have never found a cog on any grilled stamp, and the latest use I have ever been able to find of any of the "cogs" was Jan. 3, 1867.

I think that if this had been more than a single rate with a 5¢ U.S. payment that the sum due would have credited the 5¢ payment. It would not have been disregarded except in the case of ignorance or error. A triple rate would have been 11¢ with a 5¢ credit and 6¢ due, or a quad. of 14¢ with a 5¢ credit or 9¢ due.

(3) Cover with a split of the Hawaii 2¢ red of 1864. This cover does not make sense and in my opinion it is bad. I never saw this San Francisco postmark with "7" PAID, but it is well known with just the plain "PAID" and no "7."

The "7" is not handstamped but was applied with a paint brush, hence "painted in." This was done to make the "rate" of 7¢ appear as genuine.

The 6¢ U. S. a use after Jan. 1, 1870, hence it might have been March 1870 or 1871 or even later, but this I doubt. I don't know exactly how late this particular postmark was used at San Francisco but I really doubt that it was used even as late as 1871. Perhaps you have some covers showing its use. If the use was in March 1870 then the total rate should have been 5¢ Hawaii, 16¢ U. S. (10¢ U.S. "steamship" plus the 6¢ rate to England).

Perhaps the missing stamp from upper left, was a U. S. 10¢ 1869 with the Hawaii paid in cash. I see no proof that the split originated on the cover.

If the use was in 1871, then the missing stamp could have been a 5¢ Hawaii, this with the split, making the 6¢ treaty rate with the 6¢

#3. Admiral Frederic R. Harris, June 1st, 1943.

U. S. to England. In such an event the split could have been used.

Perhaps we could determine the year of use if we knew when this Honolulu postmark first came into use. It is possible that it was not in use as early as March 1870. Perhaps it came into use after the 1870 Treaty went into effect (July 1, 1870). What is the earliest use that you have of it?

The rate to England (1/2 ounce) was 24¢ to Jan. 1, 1868, then 12¢ to Jan. 1, 1870, and then 6¢ to July 1, 1875.

I will be very much interested in your comments on this letter.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Since writing the above I am in receipt of a letter from Philip Ward, stating that in the opinion of Mr. Rows the 5¢ on the West cover was Scott's #8. I trust your re-examination of the stamp will confirm Mr. Tow's opinion, and will await further word on this cover with much interest.

S.B.A.

JOHN HEARD
~~50-STATE-STREET~~
~~BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS~~

107 Irving Street
Cambridge 38, Mass.

July 12, 1943

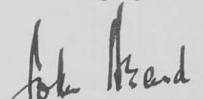
Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
c/o Mr. H. L. Lindquist
2 West 46th St.
New York City

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Sometime back, Mr. Daniel F. Kelleher of this city sold a number of covers of mine in one of his auctions. In due course, the purchaser of one of them returned it, stating that he had submitted it to an expert, who reported (a) that the stamp had been affixed at a later period, and (b) that the cancellation on the cover was not in use at San Francisco as of the alleged time of the cover. I did not at that time know that you were the expert referred to, but I wrote to Mr. Kelleher, as per enclosed copy, but I do not think he ever forwarded my letter to you.

I write you now, not so much with any desire to clear myself or to suggest that the buyer should keep the cover. I write merely because the facts which I state in my letter, to my mind, so clearly prove that the cover was authentic and untampered with that it would seem to prove that the cancellation in question was used as of that date and that the same applied to the stamp. All of this will perhaps add a trifle to your already extensive knowledge.

Sincerely yours,


John Heard

JH:hc

COPY

107 Irving Street
Cambridge 38, Mass.

June 11, 1943

My Daniel F. Kelleher
38 Avon Hill Street
Cambridge, Mass.

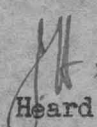
Dear Dan:

I am sorry that the Honolulu cover which you sold for me in your recent auction should have been returned, especially for the reasons alleged. Such criticism intimates that I had doctored the cover. This is one case where the expert to whom it was submitted, in spite of all his wisdom, happened to be wrong, as I think can be established by giving you the history of the particular item.

The Bullard and Rotche families had extensive shipping interests - their headquarters in New Bedford. They preserved the records of their ships in wooden boxes, each one bearing a name of the particular vessel. Of these boxes, there were eleven, and they were distributed recently to the five Bullard grandchildren, two boxes to each of four, and three to one. Each box contained crew lists, detail of stores, rigging, etc., cargo invoices, logs, and a few small bundles of letters. Of the letters, about two-thirds had been removed from their original covers. The cover in question came from one of the two boxes belonging to Mrs. Robert C. Cobb of Littleton, Massachusetts. Early in April I went to Littleton for the purpose of examining these boxes. I found about a dozen covers, all of which I left at your house on my return from Littleton. In other words, the cover was not in my possession over two hours. Each of the covers I found contained the original letter. The letters I left in the box.

The chances are strong that the contents of these boxes had not been examined for well over fifty years. The owners were not aware that the boxes contained any material of philatelic value. Taking all these facts into consideration, I think there is no question that the cover as sold in your auction is absolutely authentic. I would appreciate it if these facts might be submitted to the expert by way of refuting his opinion.

Sincerely yours,


John Heard

JH:hc

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 16, 1943.

Mr. John Heard,
107 Irving St.,
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Dear Mr. Heard:

It was indeed kind of you to write me regarding the cover mentioned in your letter because it is barely possible that I am not the expert who examined the item.

I only wish that you would have given me more details regarding the item, what sale it was in, etc., etc.

I have no recollection of examining any such an item nor can I find any correspondence in my files regarding any questionable cover that was in a Kelleher sale.

The Kelleher sale of May 8th, 1943, included "Hawaiian covers from the collection of Leland Powers, Esq. of Boston, but I have no record of seeing a single item from this sale. In your letter to Mr. Kelleher, dated June 11, 1943, you mention the "Honolulu cover which you sold for me in your recent sale. This leads me to believe you referred to the sale of May 8, 1943.

Will you please be so kind as to give me further details, or better still can you send me the cover? If I did examine such a cover and made an error in my opinion nothing would please me more than to correct such a mistake.

I am indeed grateful to you for writing me, and I trust that you will favor me with an early reply to this letter.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL F. KELLEHER

Postage Stamps for Collectors

B. L. DREW & CO.

EST. 1885

7 WATER STREET · BOSTON · MASS.

TELEPHONE
LAFAYETTE 3676

DANIEL F. KELLEHER
WILLIAM F. KELLEHER

7/19/43

Dear Sir:

The Hawaii cover herewith
enclosed is submitted at the
request of Mr. John Heard, 107
Oving St., Cambridge, Mass. \$24.
This was lot 182 in my 424th sale
& sold to Admiral Harris who later
returned it with the statement that you
did not believe the stamp belonged on it.
and that the Frisco cogwheel cancel
was not in use as late as 1868.
If you look at the top of the stamp you
will find traces of white paper
adhering to the back of it. Of course
the could be due to having salvaged
the stamp from another envelope on which
it may have been affixed & not used.
Please return to Mr. Heard as I'm

heading for Maine to-morrow and
should nothing happen I hope to stay
there until Sep. 10.

Best wishes and regards
Sincerely
Dan.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 21, 1943.

Mr. John Heard,
107 Irving St.,
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Dear Mr. Heard:

Mr. Kelleher was kind enough to send me the enclosed cover, also a letter from Admiral Harris. I had entirely forgotten the cover when I received your letter, and I couldn't remember having recently seen a cover from a Kelleher auction.

I now recall that Admiral Harris sent me the enclosed cover some weeks ago, but I don't recall whether he stated that he had obtained it in a Kelleher Sale. If he did, the reference failed to make any impression.

I am absolutely positive that this stamp did not originate on this cover, in fact, its presence on the cover does not make sense. Originally, the cover was sent unpaid with 8 cents due at New Bedford. Everything about the cover shows that the letter was not prepaid at Honolulu. Had prepayment been made there in December 1867, it would have been marked "Paid" at Honolulu. Further, had it been prepaid, either by stamp, stamps, or cash, it would not have been handstamped "SHIP" at San Francisco, either would it have been rated as 8¢ due on delivery. That "8" certainly was only used when a postage was due.

The stamp has a San Francisco "cog" cancellation. So far as I am aware this particular killer was not used to cancel stamps as late as January 1868. This evidence is not positive but only tends to confirm the evidence presented by the cover itself, to wit, that this stamp was certainly not used on this cover.

I did not state that the cancellation on the cover was not in use at San Francisco as of the alleged time of the cover. Such a statement could perhaps be construed as referring to the postmark, the "Ship" or the encircled "8." I did state that I didn't believe that this particular type of the "Cog" killer was used at San Francisco "as late as January 1868."

I can assure you my dear Mr. Heard that I have no desire to pose as an expert or an authority. Because my good friend, Admiral Harris, asked my opinion of the cover, I gave him the facts as I saw them.

I doubt very much if any serious student would dispute my opinion on this item, regardless of the evidence you cite to the contrary

#2. Mr. John Heard, July 21, 1943.

I am sincerely interested in turning up covers which have been tampered with and exposing them. I would, therefore, like very much to illustrate this cover in an article and to publish all the correspondence relating to same. May I have your permission to do this?

Thanking you very much for calling my attention to this matter, I remain

Very truly yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 21, 1943.

Mr. Dan'l F. Kelleher,
7 Water St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dan:

Many thanks for sending me the cover belonging to Mr. Heard, which I have returned to him today.

There is no question but what the 5¢ stamp was not used on the cover originally.

I don't know where the Admiral got the impression that the 5¢ was a 5¢ 1867 "grill." I surely did not suggest that it was.

Best of luck and a most enjoyable vacation.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN HEARD
107 IRVING STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

VII, 24. '43

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for the Hawaiian cover & for your good letter.

I am far too ignorant to argue with you about the postal-note-markings or the cancellations. As yet I concern in your conclusions, but for a wholly different reason.

To me it seems evident, this is it: (I send you the cover so that you may examine it - or, better, photograph it.) As I wrote you, the cover was in my hands only about 2 hours, so I had ~~but~~ no chance to study it.

You will notice that across the top the recipient wrote from whom the letter came, date etc. You will note that one corner of the stamp (which is not tied) is loose - & you will notice that the stamp

is on top of the writing. It must, therefore, have
been affixed after the letter has been delivered
and read! So what!

So far so good; but who put it on? The
first guess would be that I did; but I did not.
Great; it might have been Kellcher, but
I know him too well. He'd never do such a
thing. This; it could not have been done to
enhance the philatelic value. If it had been,
they would then have left where it was, among
a number of far more valuable items? ???

A mystery! My guess is that either, years
ago, some one carelessly - absent-mindedly - or
that-hen-fa, stuck it on; or, what I think
more likely, that the stamp became unstuck
from some other letter or became stuck to this
corner. How do you like my argument?

Now, as to your article. Fine; go
to it - but with this proviso: You speak

JOHN HEARD
107 IRVING STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

of upon tamperers. with covers. That
suggests dishonesty, & I am so sure that
no dishonesty was involved, as I am of my
own name. Hence, I suggest that if your
article for omit all names, using A.B. &
X instead. You may, of course, use any name
as long as you wish. You might write up the
cover as an example of a forgery, but
tholly honest false.

When you have finished with the cover, shut
it back. I can take the stamp off & get a
few dollars for it as a stampless.

Sincerely always,

John Heard.

P.S. I recently saw a similar cover (same
late markings) with a 10¢ '57 tie on. That
has been faked too?

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 3, 1943.

Mr. John Heard,
107 Irving St.,
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Mr. Heard:

Your kind letter of the 24th received.

May I assure you that it never occurred to me that you had any idea as to who put the 5¢ stamp on the stampless cover. This thing we call philately is a fine and wholesome avocation, and the most ardent of collectors are as a rule a fine lot of human beings.

On the fringe there are a lot of rats who prey on the unsuspecting. I see an awful lot of the crooked work and it is truly disgusting. I do what little I can to warn collectors to beware of the fakers and crooks but many collectors have a good opinion themselves to judge what is good and what is bad.

I really was not interested in how the stamp got on the cover, and to try and find out who put it on would be a hopeless job.

My good friend Admiral Harris bought this cover, believing it was genuine and it cost him something like \$24.00. The stamp itself is probably not worth more than a dollar and the cover as a stampless item, probably about \$3.00. So you see if he had put the cover in his collection without an opinion on it, it would have cost him a twenty dollar bill.

I was positive the stamp was not used on the cover and wrote him to that effect. When I first examined the cover, the stamp was tight to the cover, but since then a corner has been lifted and there are bits of white paper adhering to the stamp.

As to how this stamp got on this cover, I have no idea, but I can say this. It looks like it was put on the cover by someone who had little knowledge of covers. Here was a stampless cover, the face of which was well covered. About the only place to stick the stamp was in the spot where it is. The fact that the recipient of the letter made a notation across the top did not deter the person from putting the stamp over this notation. On the other hand, the person knew which stamp to use, what the prepaid rate would have been, and also that a stamp with a S.F. cog "might" be O.K. I state might, because I don't believe the "cog" was used as a killer at the S.F. office as late as Jan. 1868. However, that is merely my opinion based on my rather extensive

#2. Mr. John Heard, Aug. 3, 1943.

study of the postal markings of the S.F. P.O.

Rather than my former suggestion that I write up this item, may I suggest the following. Remove the 5¢ stamp and send the cover to Admiral Harris as a stampless cover and tell him, if he would like to have it for his collection, to send you a check for whatever it is worth to him. If you do this you can state that you are doing so at my suggestion. He is a prince of a fellow and I am sure he will pay you all that the cover is worth provided it is of interest to him.

Regarding the other cover you mentioned with a 10¢ 1857. It would be impossible for me to express an opinion without a look at the cover.

If you run across any early covers I would be only too glad to purchase anything that is fine, rare or attractive.

Sincerely yours,

Returned herewith
the cover discussed
in this letter.



Brown

Thompson Honolulu 11th 30 1867



Black

Rec'd ~~July 18 1868~~

Black



Black



Black

Mr R. Thompson
New Bedford
Mass

F.R.H

277

Red



Mr Archibald Miller



Edgar Brown

F.R. H

Black

Mall

Mr. J. H.



Black

Black

Miss Burne
Rodmell,
near Lewes
Sussex
England



W. G. B. 1871

2010 83 microfilm, May

Berkeley Calif., Feb 22/43

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

I am sending you via 2 groups
but under 1 cover, such
material as I think you may be
able to get some working information
out of.

You may retain it a week or
10 days

would it be asking too much
that you send me a copy
of the article when it is published?

I called the 57 foreign rates, "follow-
ing the wine line."

I expect to insure this lot for
150.- Certainly I would not want
to sell them for that! I think the
15-d rate is quite a great rarity.

Cordially

Wm. S. Foster

APS 2179

I think Jessup has a few "rates". I don't
see him oftener than about once a year.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Mar. 1, 1943.

Mr. W. M. Lester,
2010 Bancroft Way,
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Mr. Lester:

Under separate cover I am returning to you the lot of covers contained in yours of the 22nd. It was indeed very kind of you to loan this lot to me and I want you to know that I enjoyed going thru them and duly appreciate your kindness.

In envelope #20, that is sure some letter and it looks like the Captain of the Brother Jonathan had a busy time on his trip down from San Francisco to San Juan del Sur.

I have tracings and records of the great majority of the markings but there were several in the lot that I had never seen before. Someday, if I can ever find time, I want to publish an article illustrating all the S.F. postal markings in my record, because in this way I can probably add the rare ones which are missing. Here are some comments on various covers in the lot:

Envelope

#1 - Neither were mailed in S.F. but sent "outside of the mail." One to Panama where it was placed in the British mail, the other to New York.

#2 - I suppose the "56" (July 1, 1850) is 40¢ plus 6¢ sea and that the 22 (July 15, 1851) is 6¢ plus 16¢ sea.

#4 - I never saw the straight line "Paid 26" before. It is nice.

#6 - I have seen several examples of the "30 Paid" but I never before saw the marking with "30." I imagine this is quite scarce.

#9 - Re - the cover to Bordeaux, this has 35¢. There was no such a rate. Don't you suppose the original rate was 30¢ and that the 5¢ stamp has been added? The N.Y. p.m. with "12" in combination with the type of French receiving shows that all that was required was 30¢.

#12 - This is indeed odd and the only one I have ever seen. It is simply a case where a 3¢ stamp "got by." The Richmond is no doubt Dec. 15, 1855, and the rate at this time was 6¢. It should have been marked "Due 5," that is, 5¢ due for a half rate unpaid. (half paid, half unpaid).

#2. Mr. W. M. Lester, Mar. 1, 1943.

#13 - Uses in 1872 and 1873. At this time we had no actual treaty with France, hence mail was sent via England. The prepaid rate was 10¢ and we credited 6¢ out of each 10¢, leaving us 4¢. Here, on unpaid, we debit G.B. our 4¢ on each letter. On each letter France collected 12 decimes or approximately 24¢. The "G.B. - 2F" is a marking that was used between G.B. and France and indicated a "bulk" debit of G.B. to France, not a debit on an individual letter. This N.Y. p.m. was new to me.

#14 - Very interesting, also a very interesting letter. A triple 40¢ rate.

#15 - On this the Hawaii shore to ship was paid in cash. The 58¢ represents 2 X 28¢ plus 2¢ ship fee (at S.F.). In other words, the prepaid rate from S.F. to Hamburg was 28¢ of which we credited Hamburg with 7¢, this the red pencil 14¢ credit.

#16 - Very nice and I think this early marking is far from common.

#17 - The black "40" of Sep 1 must be very scarce. Jessup has one, and the two are the only ones I have seen.

#19 - Very nice. This marking is known on pairs of the 3¢ 1851. Naturally such items are rare. It is also known on a 12¢ 1851. This, probably unique.

#20 - Written enroute to Nicaragua and brought back by the Bro. Jonathan, and mailed on Feb. 3 at S.F. The Jonathan arrived on the 2nd. It was rated as an unpaid rate from S.F. to Sacramento City whereas it should have been rated as a "Ship letter" with 7¢ due (i.e. "regular rate" unpaid) 5¢ plus 2¢ ship fee. Evidently the Captain did not claim his ship fee of 2¢. Perhaps he was too worn out to bother about pennies after his busy southern passage.

I never saw the other p.m. with "5," though it surely is not scarce.

#21 - This is a late type and I had no record of this one.

I take pleasure in enclosing herewith postage to reimburse you the forwarding postage.

Again many thanks.

Cordially yours,

RE

H.C. BROOKS - 904 1861

COVER

TO

WEST AFRICA

- 0 -

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 16, 1942.

Dear Harold:

Regarding cover #382 - I showed this to Richey and while he certainly did not like the condition he was rather attracted to the rate and intimated that he might be interested in it under two conditions:

First - If I could clean it up and make the condition more attractive.

Second - If you would consent to a price in line with condition. In other words, to make the price attractive enough to him to warrant him acquiring a cover which was not in fine condition. You will recall that the centering of the 90¢ pair leaves much to be desired as the left vertical perfs. cut the whole left sides of both stamps. A further condition was that I would assure him the cover was genuine, that the rate was correct.

Now here is what I suggest that you do. I think you said that Perry sold this cover to you. If so, I want you to send this cover to Perry and tell him that you recently had an unfavorable report on this cover and to save him any guess work, that the unfavorable report did not come from Ashbrook. In other words, I certainly do not want him to think that I even saw this cover much less found any fault with it. I think you said you paid him \$300.00 for it. Suggest to him that if he agrees that the cover is questionable would he be willing to refund the price you paid him.

Ask him these questions:

(A) Why \$2.64 on this letter. (B) What sort of a rate is this. (C) What are the red pen marks and what do they mean. Tell him that you read in one of my articles that such markings had a meaning and in a way proved whether a rate was correct or not. Ask him the probable year of use, and what sort of a marking there was on the back. And further, ask him if he really thinks all of the stamps were used on this cover and if so, why?

Now I am going to give you some information regarding this cover, but I don't want you to breath a word of it to that fathead Perry. He thinks he has all the answers to all philatelic questions put up to him but I know damn well he hasn't. If you can sell this back to him for \$300, you won't have to pay me a commission to sell it for you. Now maybe you didn't get this from Perry, but even if you didn't be sure and get his opinion on it and make him answer the questions I suggested.

Now for the cover itself and I ask you to please treat this information confidential. Personally I believe this cover is O.K., but there are several points I cannot explain. I think this use was in March 1865 and I could prove this if I had a list of the 1865 sailings. This data I haven't got but I can get it if necessary.

The single rate to the West Coast of Africa was 33¢ up to Jan. 1, 1868,

#2. Mr. Harold C. Brooks, Nov. 16, 1942.

after which date it was 22¢. The pen marks in upper left are "1.92" and below "8". This 8 indicates that the use was prior to Jan. 1, 1868 when the single rate was 33¢. In other words, this was an 8 times 33¢ rate or \$2.64. This is the amount of postage which is on the cover, 90¢ plus 90¢ plus 30¢ plus 30¢ plus 24¢. What I cannot explain is the 192 which is the credit to Great Britain as her share in transmitting this letter from England to destination. If we divide 8 into 192 we get 24¢ or a credit of one shilling per single rate. This was the English packet rate on certain classes of mail and I suppose it is O.K. The stumbling block is simply this: If we credited G.B. with 24¢ out of each 33¢, it left us only 9¢. Now note this 9¢ which was left to the U.S.

The New York postmark reads, "N.YORK - AM. PKT - PAID." This meant that this letter was carried to Liverpool in an American packet and for such a service, we were entitled to 21¢ out of each 33¢. This 21¢ represented 16¢ sea carriage plus 5¢ U.S. internal. These rates were fixed in the U.S.-Anglo Treaty in effect from 1848 until Jan. 1, 1868.

Now if we were entitled to 21¢ out of each 33¢, why did we only get 9¢ per each single rate if the credit of \$1.92 is correct?

Had this letter been sent "British packet" we would have only been entitled to 5¢ (our internal) and the credit would have been 8 X 28¢ or \$2.24. So you see that credit don't fit either an "American Pkt" or a British packet.

It seems to me that the credit should have been 8 X 12¢ or 96¢. I cannot figure why it is \$1.92.

As an example, I am sending you photos of a couple of stampless covers which were 33¢ rates to the Cape.

I see no reason why there should be any difference in a 3¢ rate to the Cape of Good Hope and a 33¢ rate to Corisco - West Africa. (Unless for one reason as I will explain later).

Note these two covers.

(A) From Boston - Dec 15 Paid. Note the "B.PKT" in this postmark, meaning British Packet. You will note a brown pencil "1" meaning a single rate - a black pencil "33" - the single rate paid, and a red "28" the credit to England. Credits were always in red. This was stipulated in the Treaty. So you see on this item, which went by British Packet from Boston, all that we were entitled to was 5¢ (33 minus 28). This was our 5¢ internal. Now note the other cover.

Here we have "New York - Nov 20 - Am. Pkt" - or "by American Packet," thus we were entitled to 16¢ sea plus 5¢ internal or 21¢ per single rate. This left 12¢ to the British and this "12" credit is in magenta.

The question that bothers me is this. If we got 21¢ on this "Amer. Pkt." cover, why didn't we get 21¢ on each single rate on your Corisco cover? Why wasn't the credit on the Corisco cover the same,

#3. Mr. Harold C. Brooks, Nov. 16, 1942.

that is 12¢ per single or 96¢ for an 8 times rate? Why \$1.92? And further, if 24¢ per single rate was credited on your cover, all we got was 9¢. If we take 5¢ out of this for our internal (fixed by treaty) we only had left 4¢ for the sea and it should have been 16¢.

Now here is a nice little puzzle, so see if you can figure it out. I'd bet my shirt that pointer pigeon Perry would never be able to figure it.

I am enclosing a table of foreign rates as of April 1, 1863. "Note Africa (West Coast) British Mail." This meant, "British Mail" from England. Note Cape of Good Hope. "By American Packet - 21¢," meant paid only to England (16¢ sea 5¢ U.S. internal). The postage from England to the Cape could be collected at the Cape or if letter was fully paid to destination, the full rate was 33¢. By British Mail to the Cape, the 5¢ meant that only the U. S. Internal could be paid, balance 28¢ on delivery.

There is only one "out" that I can see and that is this. The British packet rate was 12¢ to a British Colony (Cape of Good Hope) but to a non-British destination, it was a shilling - 24¢. Thus the credit to Corisco had to be 8 X 24¢ or \$1.92, but this seems silly because we would have been the goats. In other words, why should we have been penalized in receiving only 9¢ per single rate (Corisco cover) instead of 21¢ on a single 33¢ rate to the Cape - "Via Amer. Pkt" to England? In such cases, the total single rate would have been 45¢ - thus 21¢ U.S. plus 24¢ British total 45¢.

But here again we are up against it because 8 X 45¢ is \$3.60 and there is only \$2.64 on this cover. Now this leads to the question as to whether this cover is genuine or not. It is possible (?) that this was a stampless cover with \$3.60 paid in cash, a similar item to the two Cape covers I enclose. Do you suppose that this was originally a stampless cover and that some faker put the stamps on it and didn't know the correct sum he should apply or entirely disregarded this feature? I am not absolutely sure, but if 45¢ was the correct rate to Corisco instead of 33¢, then my guess is that this was a paid in cash(\$3.60) stampless item, in which event the "192" and "8" would be perfectly correct. Very seldom do I find the credits to be out of line with the total rate. I might say, seldom if ever, if the cover is genuine.

From this little discussion, you will get a small conception of how damn complicated this study of foreign rates and markings really is. Now suppose we see what the Great Sage of the Peachless Orchard will have to say about this cover.

Yours etc.,

P.S. Please return photos at your convenience.

S.

November 18, 1942.

Dear Elliott:

It has been ages since I have had time to look over my accumulations of covers, none of which are mounted, but the past few days I have been runnaging, hoping to be able to lay out a collection for at least superficial mounting, which should afford me some fun.

Back in 1926 I bought from you a number of high rate covers. My knowledge of foreign rates is very skimpy and although I have read various articles on the subject I never had the heart to attempt this study.

I know that at times there are discussions and disputes over the genuineness of this or that cover, but none of those you sold me were ever questioned. Of course, I have never shown them, and I suppose if I did display them, along would come some gent who would look at them with a quizzical eye. It seems as though high rate covers are always objects of suspicion.

In sorting covers I found one bearing pairs of the 30¢ and 90¢, 1861, with the 24¢, making a total of \$2.64 to "Corisco, West Africa." At first I thought this was one of those you sold me, but all yours bear a little apothecary label on the backs. So I pawed through a pile of old check registers to see if I could trace its origin. Usually I mark my covers with price paid and source but with this one I failed to make any notations.

I now find that I bought this on December 21, 1926, from Robert C. Munroe, Kingsbury Lane, Longmeadow, Springfield, Mass. I paid him \$250.00 for it. It must have been a correspondence deal as I don't recall meeting Mr. Munroe, who is still living, his name appearing in the last A.P.S. directory.

Perhaps you know him, but I not only do not, but I never heard his name mentioned as a specialist or student. Therefore I take the liberty of sending this cover to you for an opinion regarding its genuineness. Regardless of what it may be I will not communicate it to Munroe without your permission. If it is not strictly O.K. I probably would try to get a refund from him. Of course I am throwing no doubts or aspersions on him. Sometimes even the "experts" are fooled.

Just offhand it would seem to me that \$2.64 is a pile of postage for a letter of this size, regardless of where it went to, but as I said before, my ignorance is deep and profound.

How would this letter require \$2.64 postage? I suppose it was charged at so much per ounce but I have no reference data to go to for satisfying my curiosity. The year date in the London postmark looks like "66" but the second numeral doesn't show up. If I mount it I would like to make a notation as to year of use. What do you make out, as to the year? On reverse is a marking which I suppose is London, with the "L" in the center, but here again the year date is indistinct.

There seem to be two London markings, or rather three. The circle on face has "MR 17" while the triangle contains "MR 23," and the divided

#2.

circle on the back also says "23-3."

A couple of years or so ago, at some convention (probably Buffalo) I listened to three or four men discussing foreign rates, in front of one of the exhibits. Certain covers were being pointed at, and as I recall, there was quite an argument regarding certain pen or pencil markings. They were debating these marks to try to prove (or disprove) the reasons for the postage used. After listening a while I was overcome with dryness and went out to the bar for a beer.

On this cover I send you there are some red hieroglyphics at the left which I suppose should be useful in proving something. Similar markings are on the foreign rate covers you sold me, and I recall your explaining them to me - a lesson I now remember with the same degree of vividness as the answers to the algebra problems in high school.

I perhaps would not be so much interested in such markings right now except to satisfy myself as to the genuineness of the cover. I have heard so many arguments after auction sales as to whether this or that cover was "good," and how certain stamps had been added, etc., that I would like your opinion as to whether all of these stamps were on this cover at the time of its use. You have seen and handled so many prominent lots of correspondence that I thought possibly you knew of this Mackey mail - and possibly had seen this same cover that Munroe sold me. If you think the cover is a phony just say so, and you may rest assured I will not take the matter up with Munroe without your express permission. I hate to take up your time by bothering you with these questions, but perhaps my efforts to cooperate with you on the City Despatch Post will somewhat offset my being a pest at this time. I enclose a stamped return envelope which bears sufficient postage for a \$300.00 valuation. Thanks very much for poring over this lengthy letter, and for whatever information you can give me.

Sincerely

November 21, 1942.

Dear Harold Brooks,

In my opinion the cover submitted in your letter of the 18th is 100% O.K. I have known Bob Munroe a long time and he certainly would sell nothing "Queer" knowingly. Ever since I have known him he has been with the Merriam people who publish Webster's Dictionary. His specialties are Hong Kong and St. Helena.

I am getting fed up with smart alecks who condemn any cover which they don't know enough about to prove is correct. In some instances there are sufficient markings to show exactly how a cover was handled and who got how much of the postage, but unfortunately this is not always true. On the Bissell covers most or all of the manuscript markings show the amount due the British Post Office and below it the number of rates if more than one. The postage being divisible by 22 or 28 according to the route by which the letter was carried.

In all probability the West Africa cover was an 8 rate letter at 33¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., so it weighed over $3\frac{1}{2}$ and not over 4 ounces - and the cover looks it. I think the U.S. kept 40c (5c per rate), the British Post got 8 shillings (\$1.92) and Spain or somebody else got 32c. If Uncle Sam's mail got less than 40c, Spain or somebody else got more than 32c.

A good many thousand 90c stamps were sold and used, and they had to be used for postage somewhere. Hence there had to be genuine high value covers and exceptionally high postage on one piece of mail was mentioned in the newspapers occasionally. There were many single letter foreign rates ($\frac{1}{2}$ oz) of 30c and higher to about 75c, and letters weighing $1\frac{1}{2}$ plus 2 ounces to many foreign post offices took more than 90c postage.

I well recall an instance where the stamps on a cover did not agree with any rate which has been noted in the philatelic press, yet there was nothing wrong with the cover. Eventually it was learned that the particular rate actually had been in effect for a short time - just when the cover was mailed.

I cannot be absolutely certain, but it is my opinion that the cover of yours left New York by American Packet on March 4, 1866, arrived at London on March 17, and the other marks on the front and back indicate that it left London on March 23.

Perhaps Bob M. will recall something of the history of this missionary cover. You need have no hesitancy in asking him and may mention my name. I do not recall ever having seen any Mackey correspondence and doubt if Bob ever showed me this cover. I rarely see him altho I have known him for twenty years or more.

The rarity of the 90c stamps on covers today is not due to the small number of such covers, but to the fact that there were many more stamp collectors than cover collectors in the old days, and the stamps were taken off and put in collections or dealer's stocks. I have no doubt that several thousand 90c 1869 were used on letters to foreign countries, but if a letter was saved, sooner or later the stamp was taken off by a

#2.

collector who needed it for his own collection, or to swap.

Art Hall is coming today to help me finish the last copy and illustrations (I hope) for the Centenary handbook. The first galley proofs have come from Stowell and we want to get the thing completed and off the press p.d. soon, if not sooner. It is considerably more of a book than was originally contemplated for issued last August, thanks to your help and that of some other good scouts.

I'll see if I can find any more data on West Africa mails and send it when I return your cover next week.

Always glad to be of service.

Sincerely,

(signed) Elliott Perry

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 25, 1942.

Dear Harold:

Herewith the Perry letter. Many thanks. I will keep this strictly confidential. I was rather positive in my own mind that Perry wouldn't know anything about this cover and his letter certainly bears that out. The fact is there are a lot of things that Perry don't know anything about but it makes him as mad as a hornet to have anyone imply that he hasn't all the answers. As Chase says - Perry's brain rattles. I agree.

I think if I were you I would send the cover to BobbMunroe and ask him if he can tell you anything about it. If you can get your money back from him I would advise you to take it because collectors of the present day are not buying expensive covers unless they know something about them. In Perry's opinion the cover is 100% O.K. yet he can't tell you why it is genuine. What kind of an opinion is that? There was a 90¢ 1860 cover in the Green lot which was turned over to Doane to sell. I advised Percy to obtain Perry's opinion. Percy did and Perry charged him a stiff fee. Perry wrote a four page opinion which was just a lot of silly twaddle like the letter he wrote to you. He didn't know a darn thing about the Green cover and I proved to Percy that he didn't. Result - Percy refused to include the cover in the sale. Here you have the reason for the wise-crack in Perry's letter, that he was getting fed up with a lot of smart Alecks who condemn covers they don't know enough about to prove correct. That smart Aleck stuff referred to me. Well if I am getting this fellow's goat that is fine because he has been going around posing like the fellow who had all the answers for many many years. I'll drive him nuts before I get through with him.

He stated in his letter that he can't be certain but that it is his opinion that the letter left New York by American Packet. He evidently forgot that in the third paragraph of his letter he guessed that the letter was an 8 X 33¢ rate and that the U. S. kept 40¢ or 5¢ per rate (8 X 5¢). He did not realize the inconsistency of these two statements.

If the letter went by American packet then the U. S. received not only 5¢ per single rate, but also 16¢ in addition for the sea carriage. The treaty fixed those figures. I suppose Perry is just like all the balance of the dealers, because in their opinion, all covers are 100% O.K. I, for one, am one of the smart Alecks who wish to be shown. Mr. Zareski of Paris made some very clever fakes and it is serious business when one pays \$280 for a fake cover that is actually worthless. That is what Mr. Newbury did in an Emerson sale and I'll bet ten to one that Perry would pronounce this particular fake cover (30¢ 1869) as "100% O.K." He isn't smart enough to know what is wrong with it.

Now if you don't want to send the cover to Munroe, send it back to me and I will remove the stamps (very carefully) and under my quartz lamp I will see if I can find any evidence of faking.

#2. Mr. Harold C. Brooks, Nov. 25, 1942.

I could probably sell this cover to Richey but to do so I would have to tell him I think it is O.K. That would be enough for Sam. Now I don't know whether it is good or bad but if you want an "out" to Munroe, tell him that I "questioned" the cover.

I probably knew Munroe in past years but I do not recall him. I note that he was head of the A.P.S. Board of Vice Presidents when Chase was President of the A.P.S. back in 1921.

Going back to Perry. I think it is outrageous for him to express an opinion on something he don't know anything about. He is one of those "experts" who believe that they are supposed to have all the answers, hence instead of confessing that he was not competent to pass an opinion on this cover he felt called upon to give an opinion and what was it based on? Not a single fact. This fellow has been showing quite a bit of animosity toward me lately just because I have dared to question some of his crackpot theories and opinions.

In the December A.P., soon to appear, he will have an article "commenting" on my article on the "Premieres" in the "Stamp Specialist." It is not a fair and square review of my article but rather a wise-cracking attack on the author. Les Brookman wanted to refuse to run the article but I insisted that he do so, because I think his remarks will hurt him far more than they will me. Naturally I will ignore his "wise-cracks" and will make no reply in print.

I sent Krug your 3¢ "15 X 18," priced at \$100 and he is interested and asked for the various letters and opinions re - same. These I am sending to him today.

I am returning herewith copy of your letter to Atherton, also the letter from Ezra. I think Ez is right about the two principal Confed collectors in New York. Everyone seems to have their number but I doubt if either one has any idea of the esteem in which they are held.

Please permit me to acknowledge redeipt of your letters of the 17th and 18th and to tell you that I enjoyed both very much. Congratulations to both Mrs. B. and yourself on your 34th anniversary. On Nov. 17, 1908, I had a baby boy over a year old, so you see I was a bid ahead of you. My but that sure does seem a long time ago. Pauline Frederick - Warfield, Scheff, etc. I recall being in New York early in 1908 and seeing for the first time, "The Merry Widow."

Thanks Harold for the good advice on the Ward matter. So far I haven't been "asked" but if I am I don't know as yet what I will do. Perhaps I know more about how Ward is considered than you do, and that is the reason why I wondered if I could afford to be tied up with him in any way. I was criticised severely for permitting a tribute I paid to my old friend Knapp being published in the Souren catalogue of his sale, and it was rumored that Souren paid my way to the sale. I certainly understood that it was Carhart who desired me to go down and that he paid my fare, not expenses. I don't like such accusations. I have always been friendly with Souren but I have avoided all business dealings with him.

I have been busy doing some mounting for Krug, and have some further work to do for him. This includes mounting his 20th Century from

#3. Mr. Harold C. Brooks, Nov. 25, 1942.

1920 to date. After I get thru with the Krug lot I had in mind to start work on a complete mounting job for Hart of Kansas City but there is no hurry about the Hart work.

As to your U. S. lot, I think we have these pretty well weeded out and maybe another check-up will enable you to decide exactly the ones you want to keep and mount permanently. No doubt you still have a number that you will decide to throw out. I don't think you will have much trouble in making a decision on your Confeds. It should be easy to weed these out if you follow a rule to retain only the finest items and let all the rest slide. Whatever you decide to do you know darn well that I will help you in any way that I can.

Don't worry about the Perry episode. Of course it would be most embarrassing if he ever found out that I suggested you send the cover to him. You need have no fear on this and we will close the book on it.

I haven't been able to do anything so far on the California letter sheets or the valentine cover but I am trying. So many friends write me that they can't afford to buy stamps now, on account of taxes, etc. I think there is a chance that we may have more of this trend as the months pass, hence I would be careful about putting things in an auction to be held two or three months hence. Don't you agree?

How is Mrs. Brooks? Our best regards to you both.

Sincerely yours,

Re - 904 1861 Cover

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 19, 1943.

— Brooks

— West
Africa

— Corisco

Dear Mr. Souren:

I am enclosing herewith a cover which belongs to Harold Brooks. It is an item I wish to purchase from him provided I can satisfy myself as to whether it is genuine or not. I thought perhaps you would like to see this item as I think it is an extremely interesting problem. I am hoping that you can be of some assistance to me in its solution.

You will note it is a \$2.64 rate to "Corisco - West (Coast of) Africa. The year date of the London p.m. on face is not legible but I believe that it is "63." Note Liverpool marking on back. I think the numeral in the lower right is a "3," as the British "3" was more like what is left of this numeral than any other figure. Note the bottom of the "3" above. Granted that the use was New York "Mar 4 1863" we find that the officially quoted rate to West Africa" by British Mail at that time was 33¢ per single rate. The total sum paid of \$2.64 was thus 8 times 33, and this seems to be confirmed by the "8" under the 192.

Up to this point everything about the cover seems to be O.K. I cannot find any indication that all five stamps did not actually originate on the cover nor can I find any indication that there were other stamps on the cover or less stamps than appear at present. The cloth lined envelope indicates a heavy rate and the creases also indicate bulky enclosure. So far as good.

What is wrong, is the sum of the credit, the \$1.92. If this letter went American Packet why was \$1.92 credited to the British? Why did we keep only 72¢ out of the total \$2.64? A sum of 72¢ for the U.S. P.O.D. would only be 8 X 9¢, whereas we were entitled to 8 X 21¢ or \$1.68 by American Packet, or 16¢ sea plus 5¢ internal on each rate. Had the letter gone by Cunard ship (British Packet) the credit would have been \$2.24 (8 X 28) and we would have retained only our 5¢ internal, or 8 X 5¢ = 40¢.

Covers with pairs of the 90¢ 1861 are extremely rare, in fact, I can't recall when I have seen quite as nice a combination as the enclosed and if I can satisfy myself that it is O.K. I certainly do not want to miss the opportunity of acquiring it.

But that \$1.92 does not make sense as 9¢ for the U.S. per single rate would be absurd. It would not in any way pay the 16¢ sea and 5¢ internal.

What is your opinion as to what is wrong?

I think you will perhaps welcome the opportunity to study this little problem.

#2. Mr. Y. Souren, July 19, 1943.

I considered the possibility that the use might have been after Jan. 1, 1868 at which time the rate was cut to 22¢. Now 22 goes into 264 exactly 12 times, but the "8" under the 192 shows an eight times rate, not a 12 times rate, and besides on such a rate the British would have been entitled to a credit of 12 X 12¢.

Brooks purchased this cover back in 1926 from Robert C. Munroe a former Vice President of the A.P.S. and a man who enjoys a fine reputation. I think that Munroe Told Brooks that the cover came to him in an original find.

Sincerely yours,

P.S.--I might add that I have no record of the sailing of an "American Packet" on Mar. 4, 1863 from New York.

S.B.A.

Mr. Y. Souren,
394 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Y. SOUREN

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS
394 PARK AVENUE
BET. 53RD AND 54TH STS.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

July 28, 1943.

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Mr. Souren showed me the cover with the pair of 90¢ 1861 etc. and your letter in regard to it. I examined the cover, with him, and as far as the use of the stamps on this cover is concerned, the facts are clear.

You have raised a very interesting point in regard to the credit on the cover, and I think I have a reasonable explanation of it.

This cover was cancelled in New York on March 4, 1863 and has a London arrival stamp of March 17th, 13 days, which was average time in those years. Six days later, on March 23, it received a Liverpool transit marking on its dispatch to West Africa. While the cover is directed "via Fernando Po", I do not find any record of a British Postal Agency established there until 1874. At any rate, it went to West Africa by British Mail.

The British had a practically exclusive monopoly on the West African mail routes at that time and their regularly established charge was the basic rate of a shilling. Now the \$1.92 credit is exactly equal to 8 shillings. At the time this cover was mailed the rate to England was 24¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. so a letter of 4 oz. addressed to England would have required \$1.92 postage, and if sent by American packet, we would have received \$1.68 and the British credit would be 24¢.

With a British monopoly on the West African mails, and their well known domination of the ocean mail routes, it hardly seems logical that they would have been satisfied to follow the postal treaty on routes which they served exclusively. The history of the ocean mails shows too many instances of their "hold-up" to keep the ocean mails running profitably for them. We know the facts of the postal conventions as far as ordinary uses are concerned and the \$1.92 credit on this cover cannot be reconciled to those facts. But we do not know whether there were exceptions to that treaty on certain routes.

Here is a cover mailed to one of the most out of the way places in the world...a tiny island off the West African coast. The U.S. took it 3000 miles across the Atlantic, and then the British took it about another 3000 miles, over a route in which they had no competition. It looks to me, that in such cases as this, the British insisted that they were to receive the basic shilling rate, and the cover is so credited.

I think that if I were you, I'd look behind the postal conventions and see whether there were any preferences given to the British on certain routes. I think you'll find them, or if they are not specific, you'll probably find that the British took their shilling ocean mail rate on any pretext whatsoever. This explanation certainly fits this cover, and I've seen other covers which can be explained the same way.

Sincerely,

T.S.K.

Re-90¢ 1861
S.F. "Cog"

Y. SOUREN

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS
394 PARK AVENUE
BET. 53RD AND 54TH STS.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Re - Brooks
90¢ 1861
Cover

July 28, 1943.

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am sorry to be so long in replying to your letter of the 19th, but I have been away from town until this morning and your letter has been in the safe awaiting me.

The only reason I asked you about the 90¢ single on cover was because I recently had the privilege of seeing the whole Nixon correspondence, which contained a number of similar covers, together with a great deal of other interesting material. Mr. Behr had a note that you raised some question about the cover, but when he returned from showing the lots there was no time to check on it, and it was withdrawn from the sale without prejudice. } LOT 2873 First Knapp

Today, your inquiry about Lot #252 from the recent Mercury Stamp Co. sale came in. I bought the lot for \$50. I think you might like to see it and enclose it herewith. I bought it for my own collection and had no intention of selling it but if someone thinks more of it than I do, the price is \$250.00; so you can see that I really don't care to sell it.

Now, about the cover you sent with the pair of 90¢ 1861 and other stamps. It is a highly interesting piece, and certainly a rare combination. The physical characteristics are sufficient to prove it, beyond any doubt, and, regardless of your discussion of rates and credits, I consider the cover to be a genuine use, on a basis of the physical characteristics; and I have examined it very carefully from that point of view.

When it comes to a discussion of rates, it is necessary to consider that this letter was mailed during war time and we have no way of knowing just what regulations were in force, or whether the covers were correctly marked.

I showed the cover to Mr. Behr, with your letter, and he has made an explanation which can be made to fit this cover. I asked him to write to you and tell you what he thinks. I don't want to be involved in a question of opinion. My examination of the cover is on a different basis altogether and I am satisfied that it is the right thing.

With kind personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Y. Souden

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 3, 1943.

Mr. Y. Souren,
394 Park Ave.,
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Souren:

Yours of the 28th received. I am returning herewith the 90/1861 on piece of cover and I want to thank you for the loan of same. For some time I have been compiling a record of covers and singles of the San Francisco "cog cancels" and up to this time I have been able to classify all items I have seen into three distinct types, as per the enclosed diagram. Never before have I run across a type similar to the one on the enclosed 90/1861. This shows a use of "July 30, 1862," and if this type was actually used I fail to understand why it is scarce because it surely must be if I have never been able to record an example.

Will you be so kind as to call this to Mr. Behr's attention and if he can show me a duplicate I would be greatly pleased to see it. There may have been more than three types of this "cog" killer, perhaps there was, but if so, it seems more likely that any additional types would be of the "16 cogs" rather than the one with "14 cogs."

In this connection, there was another lot in the Mercury Sale. This was a 90/1867 with a S.F. "cog" cancelation. It might interest you to know that my latest record of use of the "cog" as a cancelation on regular stamps is Jan. 3, 1867. This was a cover in the Knapp Sale. I am wondering if Mr. Behr has a record of a later use. In later years the "cog" was used to cancel "Postage Due" stamps.

Please accept my thanks for the photograph of the Brooks cover showing a rate of \$2.64 to West Africa, also its safe return. Will you also thank Mr. Behr for his kind letter.

I agree with you that this cover is probably genuine, that is, no faker has changed its original status. If so, I have not been able to discover any evidence. I am inclined to believe that an error was made in the credit marking whereby we credited Great Britain 24¢ on each rate of 33¢. This only left the U. S. 9¢ on each single rate, which was insufficient for the U. S. domestic and sea carriage to England.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,



10 1/2

Rev Jas L. Mackey

Corisco

West Africa



since

Fernando Po

382

300 00

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Feb. 25, 1943.

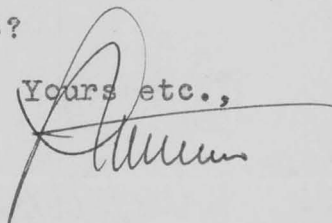
Dear Doc:

Please note the enclosed cover. The 1¢ 1851 is a Plate One Early indicating a use in July 1852 but the 3¢ did not look like an 1852 color. Simpson thought the 3¢ was 20R2L, but he wasn't sure.

If this use was prior to 1856 then this cover must have been a Prepaid Way. If it was 1856 then it might have been a prepaid carrier in Boston.

What do you think it is?

Yours etc.,

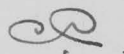


March 1, '43

Dear Stan:

It's almost impossible to tell very much
about this cover without seeing it. I'd guess 1852
but I can't be sure. Not 1851. It depends a
lot on the color of the 3¢. I have my chance
I might see it?

Best etc.





Dont Use
This Photo

No Date

By J.G.F.

→
Plate
1E



Miss Gertrude C. Martin
Care of J. C. Robertson Esq
Lewis's Wharf.
Boston Mass

#4

DR. CARROLL CHASE
R. F. D. 1, MILFORD,
NEW HAMPSHIRE

May 29 '43

Dear Stan :-

Please give me the date on the enclosed
two covers. The one to Nova Scotia — 3" regular postage
ref. to Boston 5 (pence?) collected at Halifax?

The one to Danville Pa. This looks sort of nice to
me if it is O.K. How late did the use of 3" stamps occur
in Canada to prefer the U.S. postage from the border to the
address? This is July 8, 1955. The 3" seems to have
a typical Canadian target killer, and I have every reason
to believe the piece authentic. It comes from Pontios
Upper Canada. Any help will be much
appreciated.

Was in Boston for the day yesterday. But found
very little to buy.

Nothing much now.

Best
never

CP.

I think that Canadian cover will clean up nicely. I
hope to get a good price for it.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

June 1st, 1943.

Dear Doc:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 29th. Both of these are unusual.

First, the cover to Halifax. Here is a letter dated New York Sep. 16, 1851. It was not placed in the N.Y. P.O. but mailed direct with mail agent. The rush was to catch the Cunard ship out of Boston. Note the Halifax P.M. on back, Sep 19 proving this went by ship. Very close connections and good time for that period. Naturally the 3¢ was only the rate to Boston. The "5" was the sum due in Halifax as you surmised. I really don't know when it was that 5¢ was required on this Ocean Mail to Halifax. I have a photograph of a cover similar to yours, dated Boston August 1854 with a 3¢ 1851 tied by the Boston Paid in grid. It has the same black "5." We see quite a few 5¢ 1856 used from various eastern cities to Halifax, so the chances are that 5¢ was first required in 1856, that is, "By Cunard Ships," out of Boston and New York. We also find such covers with the 5¢ 1857.

Regarding the other cover. I believe this is O.K. and that the 5¢ stamp originated on the cover. I never saw such a late use of an item of this kind but I know of no reason why it should not be perfectly good. All markings are Canadian, which means that the letter was prepaid in Canada to destination. We can only guess as to whether the 3¢ stamp was recognized or not. In other words, the writer put the 3¢ on the letter, but it was not recognized and he had to pay the full rate of ten cents or 6 pence, or, the 3¢ was recognized and the writer only had to pay 7¢. In my opinion, the cover would be perfectly O.K. as a prepaid stampless without the 3¢ 1851. In my opinion, it is pure guess work as to whether the 3¢ was recognized or not. What do you think?

When I first ran across the other Halifax cover (Mentioned above) I thought that the 3¢ was O.K. because the letter originated in Boston and was put on the Cunard ship at Boston. I had the idea that 5¢ was required from any other place, but I have never seen one of the 5¢ rates paid by a 3¢ and a pair of 1¢ or by five 1¢, so I suppose 5¢ was not required until 1855 or 1856.

With best wishes,

Yours etc.,

P.S.--Re - the "J. Spalti." The type error may have been typographical. Doubtless it was. Our joint article on the 10¢ 1855-57 appeared in the A.P. along about 1920. In that article we suggested the new types I, II, III, IV and V. Your sale was in may 1925. I made a photo of the cover and will send print later. I forget the Swiss town. I have a friend in Cincinnati, who is a Swiss and quite a student of Swiss stamps. I'll show him a print.

S.

CANADA
PAID 10 Cts
RED



BLACK

J. M. & C. E. Besh
Danville

By
Chase 4/14/43

Nothing
on Back

To Danville

Montour County
Pa.

558
87
4-14-43
RED

America

V.S. Ex. Mail
N.Y. Black



5

Black

*Wm. C. Noble & Sons
Halifax
Nova Scotia*

By Chase
6/1-43

Letter
Dated
Sep 16 1851



Black
on Back

DR. WILLIAM B. LAMB
OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
327 MAIN ST.....HAMILTON, OHIO

11/1/45

Dear Sir:-

Will you please expertize
the enclosed covers - & tell me what
the fee is and will forward airt
immediately - Another question - This
collection was in a damp bank vault
for 10 yrs - & a lot of the good U.S.
is stuck to the album pages - How
can I get them off with the least
damage to the gum?

Very Sincerely
W. B. Lamb,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 3, 1943.

Dr. Wm. B. Lamb,
327 Main St.,
Hamilton, Ohio.

Dear Doctor:

I am returning the two covers herewith as per yours of the 1st. I seldom express an opinion on freaks, hence beg to be excused. Regarding an opinion on the Black Jack split. I might add, however, that this was a "Drop Letter" thru the Woodbury, Conn. Post Office, apparently in 1866. The drop rate (sealed) at this office was 1¢ in 1866.

Regarding the other item, my opinion is that it is genuine. Covers from Venequela, Via St. Thomas at this period are well known and frequently bear a 10¢ 1861 and a D.W.I. stamp. While I have no knowledge of D.W.I. stamps, my opinion is that this copy is genuine and no doubt used as shown on the cover.

My fee for the opinion on this cover is \$3.00 plus return postage. If this cover is for sale I would be interested in buying it at a fair price.

I have had so little experience with unused stamps, I have never had occasion to attempt any method of preserving the gum on specimens stuck tight to album pages. At present I have a superb block of nine 30¢ Columbians stuck tight to an album page on account of dampness, also some very fine singles of this issue. I am investigating at present a safe method of removing them intact and if successful will be glad to pass the information on to you.

Very truly yours,

DR. WILLIAM B. LAMB
OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
327 MAIN ST.....HAMILTON, OHIO

12/27/43

Dear Sir,

In the Knapp sale 2 yrs ago I saw
that two combination covers, such as mine
went for \$100.⁰⁰ & \$105.⁰⁰. Since prices
have advanced considerably since then
do you think \$115.⁰⁰ would be a fair
price for my cover? - If you can sell
it for that let me know & I'll send
it along -

Sincerely,
W. B. Lamb

Mr Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 Grand Ave
Ft. Thomas. Ky.

Col. A. Smith

Providence, Ct.

Sept 8/64



Hon. James Huntington
Wendbury
Conn



1875



Simon de Vries, Jr.



New York

1875

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 29, 1943.

Dr. Wm. B. Lamb,
327 Main St.,
Hamilton, Ohio.

Dear Doctor:

Re - yours of the 27th. The Knapp covers were quite fine, the D.W.I. stamps being tied tight to the covers, whereas your stamp has only a small part of the corner tied.

My guess would be that this would make a tremendous difference in value. I would not be interested in your cover at any price like the one mentioned in your letter. I think the value of your cover is simply a 10¢ 1861 on cover plus an unused copy of the D.W.I. stamp. Can you figure otherwise?

Sincerely yours,



YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN THE BUSINESS!

A MEMO FROM —

Herman Herst, Jr.

116 Nassau St.
NEW YORK CITY

Tel. BEekman 3-3524

23 March 1943.



Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

The enclosed cover isn't rare, by any means. The markings are common. But it has brought about so much discussion in my office among cover collectors who disagreed on various factors that I thought it might possibly be an apt subject for one of your quizzes. If you would like to photograph it for such a purpose, you are welcome to.

Some of the questions that came up about it, (and I admit that I can't answer all of them) are:

Who put the stamp on? Havana, Portsmouth, or even Boston?

Where was the Steamship 10 applied? Havana or Portsmouth?

Did the Cahawba go direct from Havana to Portsmouth, and the cover first touch the mails at Portsmouth, or was it carried out of the mails to there?

Did the ship captain collect a fee, and where?

No doubt there are many more

that can be asked and that may develope some interesting_replies. If you wish to use it, go ahead. If you don't consider it worthy of it, just return it at your convenience, envelope enclosed herewith.

Very truly yours,

Vernan Herold.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

March 29, 1943.

Mr. Herman Herst, Jr.,
116 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Herst:

I am returning herewith the cover you enclosed in yours of the 23rd. It certainly is an interesting item and I was glad to see it. The whole story would be quite simple if it wasn't for the 3¢ stamp and especially for the Portsmouth, N.H. postmark. Without these, then it would be simply a letter from Havana brought into New York by a ship of the regular U. S. Mail Line and rated at 10¢ due on delivery in Boston.

I believe that the "Steamship 10" was applied at New York. In fact, I think I could prove that it was. New York had three types of this handstamp, all measuring 28 MM and all three slightly different. They were principally on mail from Cuba brought to New York by the ships of the regular Mail Line. This particular marking I call Type "A" and it has certain "flaws" that identify it. I have quite a number of examples to prove the flaws of various years of use. I enclose a cover showing a use in May 1858. You can compare it with your cover and no doubt you will agree that both are from the same handstamp.

You will note that the letter is routed "per Cahawba." I don't know much about this ship except that it was a steamship and that in 1854 the P.M.C. made a special arrangement with the "owners" of the "Steamers Black Warrior and Cahawba" to convey mails semi-monthly between New York and Havana and New Orleans and Havana at 2¢ per letter. I suppose the Cahawba was on the New York run and the Black Warrior on the New Orleans run. Evidently this same arrangement was still in effect in 1858.

"Steamship 10" meant a U. S. contract mail ship, hence there would have been no "ship fee" on such a letter.

As a guess, I think the writer applied the 3¢ stamp in Havana. This was frequently done through illegal, with mail from Cuba, South America, Mexico and the Indies, the writer in this case intending to send the letter privately to New York and mailed there at the regular 3¢ domestic rate.

It looks to me like the letter might have been sent to Portsmouth, N.H. by error from New York, instead of to Boston, and at Portsmouth it was postmarked and sent to Boston. On the other hand, if the 3¢ stamp was on the letter when it reached New York why

#2. Mr. Herman Herst, Jr., March 29, 1943.

was the letter rated "Due 10" at that office instead of "Due 7?" We frequently see such mail with a 3¢ stamp and rated as "Due 7" at New York. But if there was no 3¢ stamp on this letter when it reached New York who applied it? Why should Portsmouth do so? I doubt if strangers in those days were putting 3¢ stamps on other peoples mail.

I think there is little doubt the "Steamship 10" was a New York handstamp and applied at that office. I don't think these markings were applied aboard the mail ships as there were too many mail ships and not enough individual handstamps. I have made quite a bit of study along this line because some writers insisted these markings were applied aboard the ships.

I simply cannot account for the Portsmouth postmark on this cover unless as stated above the letter was sent by error to Portsmouth instead of Boston. If the "Cahawba" was under contract to carry U. S. mails and was being paid 2¢ per letter by the P.O. D. he could not legally collect an extra fee. Besides "Steamship 10" was not applied to ordinary "ship letter" mail.

I don't have anything to do with the great Sage of the Philatelic Peach Orchard down in Westfield, N.J., since he has substituted me for Needham as a target for a lot of damn foolish and mentally ill sarcastic remarks, but if he is as all wise as he pretends to be perhaps he could explain this cover.

I confess I cannot, but if anybody can, I'll be only too glad to learn.

Thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Cha. F. Martin
Boston
Mass



434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 29, 1943.

Mr. G. V. Luerssen,
Muhlenberg Park,
R.D. #2,
Reading, Penna.

Dear Mr. Luerssen:

I am returning herewith the two covers as per yours of the 25th, these being lots 525 and 527 in the recent Laurence & Stryker sale of the Babcock collection.

I regret to inform you that in my opinion, both of these covers are fraudulent, that is, the stamps which are now on the covers were not used originally.

First, the cover to Hong Kong with a 24¢ and 10¢ 1869. On the reverse of this cover is the New York postmark in red, reading, "New York Paid All - Apr 24 - Br. Transit." The London postmark shows - "My 69." In my opinion, this cover was actually used on these dates, that is, no change has been made in the year date "69."

The pencil figure "1" shows that the letter was a single rate, and the "32" beneath the London postmark is the U. S. credit to the British Post Office of 32¢. If only 34¢ was prepaid originally and out of this sum 32¢ was paid the British, then all that the U. S. P.O.D. would have received would have been 2¢. On such mail to China, via British mail from England our share was 10¢, hence the original postage must have been 42¢ and possibly prepaid by a 30¢ 1861 and a 12¢ 1861. Such mail usually bore these two stamps.

There were two rates to Hong Kong via London at this time in 1869; (1) British Mail via Southampton 34¢. On such mail our credit to the British was 24¢. (2) To England and thence Via Marseilles, to Hong Kong, 42¢. The credit on such mail was 32¢. It will be noted that the letter was originally routed by the former but it was not unusual for the postal clerks to suggest a change in such routings in order to obtain better time in transmission.

If you will refer to the S.U.S. you will find "April 24 1869" opposite the listing of the 24¢ 1869. This is supposed to be the earliest known use of the 24¢ stamp and such a date was taken from this identical cover some years ago before it was realized that the cover was not genuine. Therefore, the date in the catalogue is an error.

As I have repeatedly stated, genuine covers with the 24¢ 1869 are quite rare, hence my record of early uses (genuine) is rather small and does not include any as early as even May or June of 1869.

Second, regarding the 30¢ 1869 cover. The use is supposed to be

#2. Mr. G. V. Luerssen, Oct. 29, 1943.

from New Orleans on "Mar 31 1870." The U. S.-French treaty expired on Jan. 1, 1870, and a new treaty was not signed until 1874. During this period arrangements were made to forward mail, prepaid to destination in France thru London, and thence by British mail under the "terms of the Anglo-French Treaty."

The "6" in the "New York Foreign Exchange postmark" shows a credit to the British of 6¢, hence if 30¢ was originally prepaid on this letter one wonders why the U.S. P.O.D. retained the large sum of 24¢ for its internal rate. If this use was in March 1871, or 1872 or 1873 (for example) and the cover had a 10¢ Bank Note, then all of the markings on this cover would be in order with the exception of the black cancelation which purports to tie the stamp and the red orange encircled "PD" which also purports to tie the stamp. Both of these are fraudulent. I am enclosing a photograph of such a 10¢ rate cover, a use in April of 1872. You will note the same red New York postmark with the 6¢ credit (6¢ out of 10¢ was correct, not 6¢ out of 30¢), the same type of London marking, the same general type of French receiving, reading, "Angl - Anb - Calais" and a large red encircled "PD." A combination of these three types of markings was used between July 1870 and July 1874 on single rates to France with rates of 10¢.

In other words, this cover originally was probably a 10¢ Bank Note cover, similar to the photograph, and the 10¢ stamp was removed and a 30¢ 1869 substituted.

Further there was quite a bad fold in the folded letter and in the substitution the present 30¢ stamp was "bent" in accordance with the fold but this bend was never a fold and the stamp is undamaged. An examination of the fold beneath the stamp shows the effect on the folded letter sheet.

I am sending a copy of this letter to my good friend Mr. Robert Laurence.

My fee for the examination and opinion on these two covers is \$10.00.

Sincerely yours,

Recd. Dec 25th

Page 31



On Back In Red
New York PAID All
APR 24
BR. TRANSIT

Red

↑ Black

J. F. Bingham U. S. N.

2nd Asst. Engineer U. S. S. Piscataqua

Care of American Consul

Red
32

Via Southampton

Hong Kong.

578

500
Due
434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 30, 1943.

Mr. Earl Antrim,
1407 Second St. South,
Nampa, Idaho.

Dear Mr. Antrim:

Herewith the three covers as per yours of the 23rd.

You are quite right, your No. 1 is a "between the Lines" item though there is no evidence that it was carried thru the Lines by the Adams Express, though I believe the chances are that it was. The letter is dated New Orleans, Aug. 9, 1861, which is quite a late date for such mail. The Louisville postmark is August 17, which is indeed late. President Lincoln's proclamation was dated Aug. 10, 1861 (forbidding the transmission of mail). The absence of the Adams Express markings indicates that the Express Company feared to use their markings because of the New Orleans origin.

Re - your No. 2. The Emerson markings on the back do not mean a thing and in my opinion the cover itself is not a "Blocade cover" simply because it does not show that it originated elsewhere but at Nassau in the Bahamas. From Nassau it was carried over to Havana where it was placed on board a U. S. Mail Steamship. The single rate from Havana to New York was 10¢. The pencil encircled "2" meant a double rate, hence 20¢ of which 6¢ was paid in stamps and 14¢ was due. The letter was brought into New York and forwarded on to Boston where 14¢ was collected from the addressee. A cover like this should not be worth more than \$5.00 as it is really nothing more than a "N.York Steamship" cover, which are by no means scarce.

Your #3 is a four times rate from Havana to New Orleans in February 1864. It is similar to the above except that it was totally unpaid and 4 X 10¢ was due on delivery in New Orleans. The "Steamship" here meant the same as the "N.York Steamship," viz, that the "origin" of receipt of the letter was by U. S. Mail steamship. That is, a ship under Government contract to carry the U. S. Mail over a Government Mail Route.

If you do not mind may I give you a bit of advice, learned thru years of experience in this game. Be careful of what you buy and if in doubt on any cover of value have it authenticated. It is not wise to buy real estate without a thorough examination of the title.

How odd that you should own the cover of which I sent you a photograph. I tried to buy your cover from Sampson. It is an awfully

#2. Mr. Earl Antrim, Oct. 30, 1943.

nice item.

My fee for the above is \$5.00. I'll be only too glad to give you advice on any items offered to you and will be glad to submit any items that I think might interest you.

Sincerely yours,

P.S.--If you are interested in covers you should have a copy of my book on the 1¢ 1851-1857 - Vol. 2. Have you by chance a copy? Also have you a copy of my book on the 10¢ 1855-1857.

S.B.A.

GREENLEAF CREAMERY COMPANY

Greenleaf Brand Products

BUTTER, BUTTERMILK, COTTAGE CHEESE

1407 SECOND STREET SOUTH

Nampa, Idaho

Oct. 23, 1943

Stanley Ashbrook
Fort Thomas Ky,

Dear Sir, I am enclosing some interesting

Confederate material I just purchased while in N.Y. City.
this month, a friend of mine suggested I send them to you
for your comment. They are covers which I have just started
to collect & would like to know all there is to know about
them, No. 1 I am sure is an Adams Express cover without the
markings, No. 2 is from the Emerson collection & he states on the
back is a blockade runner, could you tell me anything about
the markings, cancellations etc. which would prove this as I
am sure it is a blockade runner but do not know enough about
such things to be sure? No. 3 I just don't know anything about.
about the Amer Ex cover. This photo is a photograph of my own
cover of this cancellation I purchased from E.N. Sampson some
time ago. I am interested in any kind of Confederate covers which
have some special markings, I have all the issues & lots of
provisionals on cover as this is the only kind I collect, but
am always looking for special cancellations of any kind,
specially blockade etc. Hope you can find something of
interest in these covers, & will be glad to pay whatever
your charges are on such service.

Yours truly
Earl Antreim

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 19, 1943.

Mr. Earl Autrim,
1407 Second St. South,
Nampa, Idaho.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 26th. From time to time I have some nice Confederate items placed in my hands for sale and I will keep your inquiry before me in case anything unusual turns up.

Recently I disposed of some very nice Prisoner of War covers. Would such items interest you?

I have a very beautiful "American Letter Express" cover. As you are no doubt aware these are extremely rare. This one is a 3¢ U. S. Star Die envelope with the circular marking in blue "Am. Letter Exp. Co. - Louisville, Ky. - July 7 1861." So far as I am aware, this is a first day cover of this service. The cover is addressed to Nashville, Tenn. and in addition, it has a blue "PAID."

I am enclosing a photo of a similar item from the same "Knowles" correspondence.

The price of this item is \$125.00.

Thanking you for your letter, I am

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

October 19, 1943.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,
250 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Please note the enclosed. I never heard of this party and I do not find him listed as an A.P.S. member. Is he O.K.? If so, is he a piker or a substantial buyer? I have no time for the former.

Will appreciate your comment.

Sincerely yours,

The R. S. PLATT Correspondence

Re - P13

Perf
Copy

34-36 State St.,
Albany, N. Y.
Dec. 30, 1946

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.D. #1,
Milford, New Hampshire.

Dear Doctor Chase:

Students of the one-cent 1851-7 issue of United States stamps have been searching for years for definite evidence that the plate three stamps were issued in perforated condition. None have ever been reported to my knowledge.

It has been suggested by Mr. George Habbert, who has an office near mine, that you also would be glad to see such a copy, and that you would be glad to return it promptly with your verification or comments.

Enclosed (by registered mail) you will find a perforated stamp from plate three on entire cover. This is tied on with postmark Albany, Sept. 7th. The year is 1857 as established by the letter inside dated 7 Sept. 1857. The copy is a type II, relief B, with color, film and mottling characteristic of plate three. Although cut from the sheet on a bias it shows perforations, and portions of adjacent stamps, complete at bottom and partially on two sides. Portions of the adjacent stamps show relief A at bottom and guide dot position common on plate three on copy to the left. Although the cutting of the stamp is unfortunate (a habit still in practice on account of the short time perforated stamps had been in use) as it affects the condition of otherwise a well centered stamp. It is fortunate in that it permits more definite proof of the plate and position of the copy, which otherwise might not be so easily verified.

There are double transfer indication. There are plate marks in the right margin including in particular a distinct dot centering approximately 1mm from the top right ornament. The spacing from side ornament L, at top right, to ornament A indication on adjacent copy is $1\frac{1}{8}$ mm, while at the left the spacing is approximately $7/8$ mm. This corresponds to reported spacing by Mr. Stanley Ashbrook for the 9th row in the right pane of plate three. No stamps on plates #1 or #2 could have such spacing.

Would you be able to identify more closely the plate position of this copy. I am enclosing a self-addressed envelope and postage to cover the cost of the return by registered mail of this cover. Please return this as soon as possible, as there may be others who would like to see it. I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Stanley Ashbrook and Mr. Clarence W. Brazier.

You may also be glad to hear of some other new items. You may recall that I wrote you and Mr. Ashbrook about a copy of a Philadelphia carrier cancel on a late use of the imperforate (#4RIlate) also a late use of a red paid (on #4 RI early) similar to cancellation used on the N. Y. Postmaster 1845.

I have found a bright green cancellation of St. Joseph, Mo.. that ties to a cover a plate eleven relief A (type IIIA) copy.

I wrote Mr. Ashbrook about an uncanceled (damaged) strip of three attached to a cover (that evidently had not gone through the mail). These are #71R 12, 72R, 12 and 73 R 12. They show that 71R 12 is a major double transfer very similar to the double transfer in 72R 12.

I do not know that any of these had been reported elsewhere previously except that Mr. Ashbrook replied that he had been able to see an unused block showing the 71R12 copy.

I would like to know if any of these five items have ever been previously reported.

Yours sincerely,

Richard S. Platt
Fort Orange Stamp Club, (Pres.)
Albany, N. Y.

cc: Mr. Clarence W. Brazier,
415 Lexington Ave.,
New York City.

cc: Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
Fort Thomas,
Kentucky.

34-36 State St.,
Albany, N. Y.
February 18, 1947.

Mr. Stanley R. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas,
Kentucky.

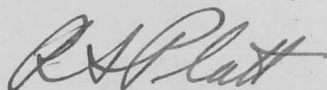
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

On December 30, 1946 I forwarded
you a copy of a letter that I wrote to Dr. Chase,
copy of which is enclosed, also copy of Dr. Chase's
reply.

I will be pleased to forward to you
copy of the cover referred to from Plate 3, if you
would like to see it.

Any comments from you on this or
the other four items mentioned would be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R.S. Platt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

R.S. Platt
Fort Orange Stamp Club (Pres.)
Albany, N. Y.

RSP:Q

Feb. 20, 1947.

Mr. R. S. Platt,
34-36 State St.,
Albany, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Platt:

In reply to your letter of the 18th, I will be glad to look at the stamp mentioned, but my fee for examination would be \$5.00, same to accompany the stamp.

I am returning the copies of letters that you so kindly enclosed.

I cannot imagine why you communicated with the Proof and Essay Brazer. He would be about as capable of passing on such an item as I would on the stamps of Afghanistan.

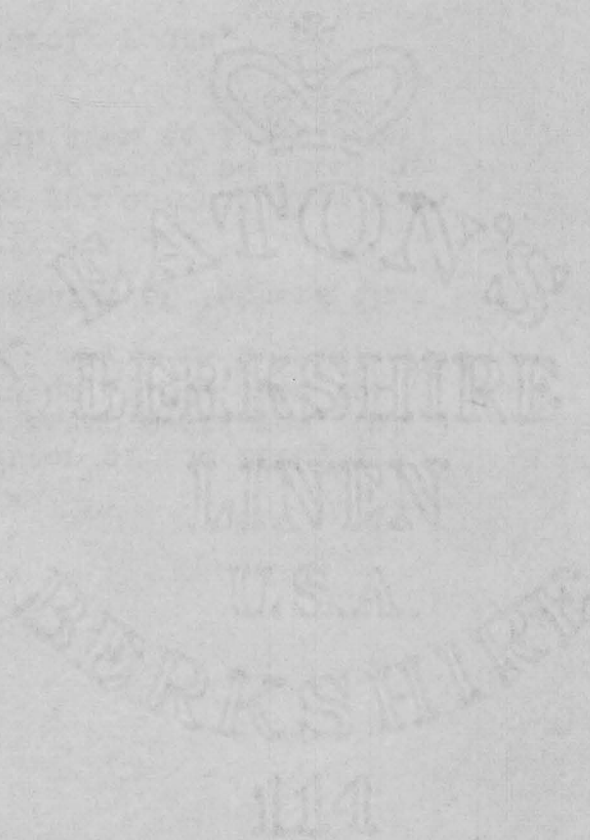
Sincerely yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

A. P. S. 2497

100 HENRY COURT

FT. THOMAS, KY.



34-36 State St.,
Albany, N. Y.
February 25, 1947.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have your interesting letter of February 20th in reply to my communication to you in regard to the perforated stamp from plate 3.

There seems to be a misunderstanding on your part and on the part of Dr. Chase in regard to the fact that I wish you to verify my findings as to whether or not this is a plate 3 perforated stamp.

There is no doubt in my mind as to the authenticity of my findings in this respect. However, there have been several people who have been interested in seeing this copy and I thought that you might like to look at it inasmuch as no similar copy has ever been reported.

Your excellent volume on the 1851-1857 issue has made it possible for a collector who has worked on this issue, as I have, to determine without question in this case that the copy must come from plate #3.

I recognize the fact that you are without doubt still the outstanding authority on the one cent 1851-57 issue, but I was not looking for any free advice, I merely thought that inasmuch as you are still recognized as the out-standing authority on this issue that you would be interested in seeing and knowing about this and several other interesting items in this issue which would come more or less under the heading of new discoveries.

Your remarks about Mr. Brazer were rather amusing to me, as I had no intention of asking him to pass on this item, but when he was in Albany recently, he had an opportunity to see this copy and asked me to forward him copies of my correspondence in regard to it. In fact, although I have a close mutual friend in Mr. Thomas F. Morris who has collaborated with Mr. Brazer on some of his work on essay and proof, I have argued with him at considerable length on several items that have come under dispute in recent years, and usually sided with you in your findings. In fact I had come to the same conclusions as you did on some of these before I had ever read any of your works on the subject. This, however, does not detract from my admiration of you or Mr. Brazer in the fields upon which you have proven to be most capable.

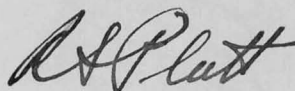
-2-

There are others who are anxious to see the copy of the one cent perforation from plate 3 and I will probably have it recorded with the Philatelic Foundation.

If you are interested I would be glad at a later date to forward it to you at my expense for registered fees whether you wish to make any comments on it or not.

I would be glad to hear from you further in this connection.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. S. Platt".

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

Feb. 28, 1947.

Mr. R. S. Platt,
34-36 State St.,
Albany, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Platt:

I am in receipt of yours of the 25th.

If you have a One Cent stamp (1851-1857) from Plate 3 that has genuine perforations you have an item that I have never seen, an item that would unquestionably be very rare and doubtless worth quite a premium over an ordinary copy of a 1¢ 1857 perforated stamp.

Regardless of your conviction that your stamp comes from Pl. 3 I cannot believe that you are right. If the copy does come from Pl. 3 I cannot believe that the perforations are genuine because I simply do not believe that any stamps from that plate were ever issued perforated. I searched for such items for many many years. I believe that if I were in your place I would desire to have the stamp authenticated by one who was recognized as the highest authority and I certainly would be willing to pay for such an opinion inasmuch as it would undoubtedly add value to the stamp to the extent of many times the cost of the authentication.

In this game we have countless people who are constantly trying to get something for nothing. In other words, a bunch of "chiselers" who are looking for "sleepers." Such people do not hesitate to impose on me in an effort to obtain, free of cost, information upon which they can capitalize.

I can assure you that it is a real pleasure for me to give any assistance that I can to honest to God collectors who are not out to chisel every fellow collector with whom they come into contact. Genuine collectors usually write me somewhat as follows:

"Mr. Ashbrook if you will give me this information I will gladly pay any fee that you care to charge."

Nine times out of ten I give the information desired and state: "There is no fee," in spite of the fact that I might have spent much valuable time in getting the data together.

Now Mr. Platt I never met you personally nor have I had

#2. Mr. R. S. Platt, Feb. 28, 1947.

any previous correspondence with you, hence I have no idea as to which class you belong, but from your former correspondence, I judge that you belonged to that class who desired valuable information, but were not willing to pay for same. If I misjudged you I humbly offer an apology.

You mentioned that you intended to have the item recorded with the Philatelic Foundation. I judge that you meant that you intended to have it passed upon by the Expert Committee of the Foundation. I might add that I think this is a most excellent idea.

In conclusion may I make the following comment. My good friend Dr. Carroll Chase is not only a very thorough philatelic student but also one who is very modest. He studied the One Cent stamps long before my time and he has quite an excellent knowledge of the One Cent stamps from Pl. 3. What really amazes me is that Dr. Chase did not feel competent to give you an opinion on your stamp. Yet you believe that you are competent to do so. I assume this because you wrote me as follows, quote:

"There is no doubt in my mind as to the authenticity of my findings in this respect."

In other words, you are convinced that your stamp is a genuine perforate from Plate 3, to which I might add that I have little doubt that you are absolutely wrong, but I recognize the fact that I am by no means infallible and that I could be wrong in my opinion.

Very truly yours,

34-36 State St.,
Albany, N. Y.
March 3, 1947.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrooke
33 North Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrooke:

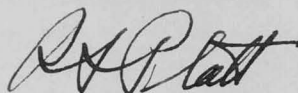
I am in receipt of yours of the 28th
in reply to mine of the 25th of February.

In reply, as advised in previous
correspondence my opinion of this being a Plate #3
perforated item is based entirely on the findings
from your book, which among other things states
that a stamp with spacing such as indicated in my
previous correspondence could not come from any other
plate but plate #3, even if you entirely disregard
the other indications which exist on this copy;—I
can well imagine that there may be considerable
beating around the bush before even an expert or
an expert committee would be willing to acknowledge
a discovery such as this, even if the determination
of it were a fairly simple matter. Therefore, it
is my opinion that this item will probably be
referred to you anyway.

Until the plate and the plate position
of the item has otherwise definitely been determined
by the Philatelic Foundation, or other expert authority,
such as yourself, the evidence indicates that it is
a new find.

In any event you will have an opportunity
to see this item at some future date.

Sincerely yours,



RSP:Q

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 EAST 35TH STREET

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN
CHAIRMAN

THEODORE E. STEINWAY
TREASURER

ROBERT L. GRAHAM, JR.
SECRETARY

MURRAY HILL 3-~~5558~~ 5667

March 21, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

The enclosed 1¢ 1857 on cover from Albany, New York, has been submitted to the Expert Committee with the request that they examine it to see if it is a perforated stamp from plate 3. The submitter claims that according to your book no other plate but plate 3 could have such spacings regardless of other indications which exist on this copy.

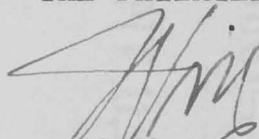
From what little I know of it, I don't think it is a plate 3. However, this is probably simple enough to you.

I would like to have this back by the 28th of this month.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION



Winthrop S. Boggs
Director

wsb/l
encl.

March 24, 1947.

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs,
% The Philatelic Foundation,
22 East 35th St.,
New York 16, N.Y.

Dear Win:

Herewith the 1¢ 1857 cover.

I know the owner of this cover and he has acted so nasty about this item that I would not give him any information on it under any circumstances.

There are some people in this game who are perfect asses. This chap is one of them.

Will you kindly reimburse me the return postage.

Sincerely yours,

March 31, 1947.

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs,
% The Philatelic Foundation,
22 East 35th St.,
New York 16, N.Y.

Dear Win:

You were assuming too much to draw any conclusions from my letter. I did not state that the item was, or was not, from Pl. 3.

What I meant to convey was that in my opinion the Albany person was simply a louse and that I would not give him any information whatsoever on his stamp.

If the Expert Committee is unable to obtain the information that the party desired I do not see that any blame can be attached to the Committee.

Yours etc.,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 EAST 35TH STREET

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

MURRAY HILL 3-~~0552~~ 5667

ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN
CHAIRMAN

THEODORE E. STEINWAY
TREASURER

ROBERT L. GRAHAM, JR.
SECRETARY

March 27, 1947

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Thank you for returning the cover and I enclose herewith the twenty-nine cents to reimburse you for the postage used in sending it to us.

The Committee merely has to answer the question, "Is it a perforated copy from plate 3?" Furthermore, the Committee does not know who submits an item and I merely act on instructions.

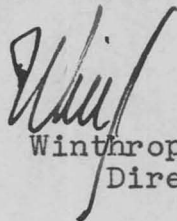
I take it from the tone of your letter that the item is not from plate 3.

Irrespective of who the party is who submits the item, it is the duty of the Committee to endeavor to answer the question, which is why the cover was submitted to you as being the most knowledgeable man on these stamps we know of.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION



Winthrop S. Boggs
Director

wsb/l
encl.

34-36 State Street,
Albany, N. Y.
April 30, 1947.

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

Dear Sir:

I have been reviewing the correspondence between us on an item which has many indications of being a perforated stamp from Plate #3 of the 1851-57 issue. I am forwarding to you via registered mail this item referred to.

The Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation did not pass on it as a plate #3 item. Enclosed is a copy of my reply. I asked them to give me the plate and position number of the item. I also asked them not to remove the stamp from the cover. They have in handling the item torn open the cover along the sides and partly or entirely removed the stamp as evidenced by gum smudges that were not present before. However, the original gum is still indicated as used in placing the copy on the cover.

If you will refer to my letter to you of March 3rd, you will see that their finding was somewhat as I expected. This does not discourage me because I do not think their findings in this case as expressed do the item or the inquiry any justice.

The more I study this item, the more resemblance I see in photos, position dots, spacing, etc. with descriptions and illustrations for plate #3 in your volume #1. There are some plate marks, position dots etc., as referred to in previous correspondence (and possibly some rust markings) that should enable you to determine the plate and position on the plate if this item is not from plate #3 or as from plate #3 if a similar imperforate copy has previously been identified as coming from that plate. Will you please do this, and advise me what fee you wish.

-2-

If this is not from Plate 3, I do not have any explanation for approximately $11\frac{1}{2}$ M. M. spacing at the top right.

There are in my collection several other items from this same period and correspondence. I do not believe I would have any great difficulty in proving to others my own conviction of the genuineness of the usage and perforation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'RSP Platt', written in a cursive style.

Richard S. Platt

RSP:Q

May 2nd, 1947.

Mr. R. S. Platt,
34 - 36 State St.,
Albany, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Platt:

I am in receipt of your registered letter of the 30th. If you will refer to my letter of Feb. 20th, you will find that I advised you that I would examine your stamp and that the fee would be \$5.00.

Instead, you forwarded your cover to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation. I could have told you in advance that they could not furnish you with the information you desire.

To be quite frank, I did not like the way in which you handled this matter from the beginning. You had a copy of my One Cent Book and if you would have written me and submitted the cover I would have been glad to have given you any information you wished free of any fee. Instead you sent the item to Dr. Chase and even wrote Brazer about it, and as a last resort, instead of sending it to me, you preferred to send it to the Foundation and pay them a fee, rather than me.

I do not suppose that there is anyone in the Country who has always been more pleased to help his fellow collector than myself and I have given freely of my time in this respect for many years. After the very unethical manner in which you have acted I suppose that the average person in my place would return the cover to you and refuse any information on it. If perchance I have misjudged your intentions in this matter and if you can give me a satisfactory explanation I will be willing to renew the offer I made in my letter of Feb. 20th. I will hold your cover pending reply.

Sincerely yours,

34-36 State Street, Albany, N. Y.
May 5, 1947.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Your letter of May 2nd received.
Enclosed is my check in the sum of \$5.00 for fee, as
requested.

As the recognized leading authority
on the issue of the item, you would naturally expect
to receive the first opportunity to examine this item.

I sent it to Dr. Chase as explained
in my letter to him and copy of which I was courteous
enough to send to you. Further, I have met the gentle-
man personally and what correspondence I have had with
him in the past has always been satisfactory. Mr. Brazer
also received a copy of this letter at his request, but
the item has never been referred to him, as per my letter
to you of February 25th, 1947.

In your letter of February 28th in
reply, you said in regard to my intention to send it to
the Philatelic Foundation for recording. "I might add
that I think this is a most excellent idea". You now
say you could have told me differently. Up to that
stage there had really been no necessity to secure further
expert determination of the item in question. I think
action has been most ethical on my part.

The fact that the expert committee
evidently were not able to identify the item, as requested,
but accepted the fee for an incomplete report might be
questioned on various grounds. See copy of my reply which
I forwarded to you.

My idea has been to identify this item as
a rare find, not so much as to increasing its value in the
eyes of the profit-seeking philatelic world, as a recog-
nition of the result of considerable contribution, time,
work, study and philatelic knowledge on your part, the
part of Dr. Chase and many other collectors and students,

and that those mentioned and many others would like to see it. If the stamp is a perforated item from plate #3 its value as a rare find is not affected, even if there are no experts who can identify it as such, or fail to prove it otherwise.

However, it is my belief that with the net results of all the above, and your out-standing ability, you have accumulated a knowledge and reference information, that places you in a position to definitely identify this item as from plate #3 or from a definite position on some other plate, and to explain the spacing if it is not from plate #3.

Of course if you select to examine this item and verify it as from plate #3, there would be a considerable money value added to the item if I should want to dispose of it at some future date, when breaking up my collection.

Yours sincerely


R.S. Platt

RSP:Q
Encl.

May 7, 1947.

Mr. R. S. Platt,
34-36 State St.,
Albany, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Platt:

I am in receipt of yours of the 5th with check enclosed for \$5.00.

I fail to understand why the Philatelic Foundation expressed the opinion that your stamp was not from Plate 3. I rather imagine that it was nothing more than a guess on their part and if so they had no right to charge you a fee. I will welcome further information on this. I can assure you that I did not give them any information.

I regret to inform you that the stamp is not from Plate 3, but rather from Plate 2. It is definitely plate position 49R2. If perchance you doubt this in any way I can give you the names of two collectors with reconstructions of Plate 2 who could no doubt plate the stamp for you. Where you made your mistake was in the measurements between this copy and the stamp to right.

Please note my One Cent Book, Vol. 1 - pages 134 and 135. These diagrams show the "spacing" was measured. Now note Fig. #1 enclosed. Here again is the spacing. It so happened that the upper side ornament on 50R2 was short - see line X, on Fig. 2 enclosed. On your stamp, line X is missing, hence you made your measurement as per Fig. 2 enclosed. If you are not entirely satisfied I will send you examples of 49R2 - 50R2 so that you can see for yourself.

My One Cent Book was written more than a decade ago and I have not read it since it was written, but I believe that I mentioned that inasmuch as Pl. 3 had never been entirely reconstructed that the way that I identified any doubtful Pl. 2 or 3 copy was to refer to my Pl. 2 reconstruction. If a Pl. 2 or 3 stamp did not come from Pl. 2 then it was surely Pl. 3. Some singles from Pl. 2 are very difficult to identify, but the great majority have certain markings that make their identity quite positive. It so happens and quite fortunately in this case, that 49R2 is one of the latter.

Very truly yours,

34-36 State St., Albany, N. Y.
May 14, 1947.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

This is to thank you for your
registered letter of May 7th, 1947.

Your findings are quite complete
and satisfactory in every way. Of course I feel
disappointed that I did not explore more freely
this probability of the missing side ornaments, that
after all are not uncommon.

It will not be necessary to send me
an example of #49R2. Now that you have identified
it I can locate traces of the small crack between
#48R2 and #50R2 on the copy.

There is one item, however, that
I would like to see and that is a good example of
the rich colored items from plate #3.

You have never expressed a desire
to look at some other items I have mentioned that
I would be glad to send to you not with the idea
of further identification or a fee for you but if
you wish to see them, such as a green cancellation
from a III A type from plate eleven, and one or
two other rare cancellations I have mentioned.

Very truly yours,



RSP:Q

R.S. Platt

34-36 State Street,
Albany, N. Y.
June 2, 1947.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

This is in reply to your letter of May 27th. I was very sorry that I was unable to attend the Big Show in New York City because of press of business at that time. I certainly wanted to get there bad enough, but was not able to make it.

In regard to the deep blue color from plate 3 item, I wish to thank you for your reference and will, at an early date, write to Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken.

In the meantime I am forwarding you an interesting cover with a very deep rich blue copy. This cover is evidently a home-made wrapper, the paper for which was later used as a diary, mostly of the weather, evidently starting in January of 1858. Therefore, the December date of the post-mark could have been either 1856 or 1857, depending on the plate from which the copy comes.

I am also forwarding to you another interesting cover, which shows a perforated type 2 used in conjunction with a three cent of the 1861 issue, being a carrier usage, after the demonitization period in New York City.

Another item I am forwarding to you is an imperforate one cent with a large curved red "Paid" and a comparative study of tracings of the New York "Paid" used for the period 1843 to 1850. This item has puzzled me for some time. It might be the same paid cancellation marked over with red crayon, by some child, or stamped with a slanting blow from a worn cancellor.

I am also forwarding to you five other items, all of which but one, which is a green cancellation on a plate 11 stamp, were not to my knowledge mentioned in your two wonderful volumes on the one cent of 1851 to 1857. These include a rather damaged strip of three showing 71R12 as a big double transfer quite similar to 72R12, and about which we had some correspondence, also the black carrier cancelled on imperforate #4R1 late, about which I have written you before. There is also a margin block of 4 mint type 5 showing numerous curls and plate marks and a cover with double marginal perforation.

In your letter of May 27th you offered to pay the postage both ways, but I would rather pay this myself, and inasmuch as there are some of these items about which I am doubtful, I would also be glad to pay you a fee upon receipt of a dvices from you as to what it will be.

The free-hand sketch in connection with the large curved red 'Paid' cancellation was one of my first attempts to illustrate for these items and led to my using in part your volume and in part free-hand to make up a tracing in India ink on tracing-cloth, from which I have had made up numerous black and white prints, from which I have illustrated many of the items in my collection, similarly to the items which are enclosed; the original is still in my possession.

Very truly yours,

Richard Platt

RSP:Q
Encl.

June 6, 1947.

Mr. R. S. Platt,
34 - 36 State St.,
Albany, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Platt:

Under separate cover I am today returning by registered mail your pages of the 1¢ 1851-1857 as per yours of the 2nd.

The following are my comments:

Regarding the One Cent on the wrapper from Boston "Dec." If the bottom of the stamp was not cut off I believe that it could be plated - As it is, about all that can be stated is - That it could have come from Plate 3 and probably did. The color and impression rather indicate a Pl. 3 stamp.

4R1L - This marking is most unusual on a 1¢ imperforate, the reason being no doubt, that it did not come into use until long after the use of the imperforates had been discontinued. Uses of the 1¢ imperforate after the middle of 1858 are very scarce.

1¢ Type I - Pl. 12, with double vertical perf at left - Boston, Mass. This freak perf is most unusual. We see quite a few such items in the 3¢ 1861 and I have noted a few in the 3¢ 1857 but I do not recall seeing a 1¢ 1857 before.

Red PAID. Condition much too poor for a worth while opinion - I gave this just a mere glance and my impression is that it is a fake - a paint job. In such condition it really would be immaterial whether it is good or bad - in my opinion.

3¢ 1861 plus 1¢ 1857 - Type II - Pl. 2 - Very interesting - One of those things that got by - it was easier to let it pass through than to go to the trouble of holding it up and collecting a penny from the addressee. In a case like this the "P.L. & R." required that the P.M. at destination report the "oversight" to Washington.

1¢ '57 - Pl. 12 - Double transfer - Due to a typographical error the plate positions in my book, Vol. 1 - page 319-320 - are wrong. The block illustrated on page 320 - is 74R - 75R - 84R - 85R12. Fig. 29M on page 319 is not 72R12 but 74R12. Your strip is therefore 73 - 74 - 75R12, and you are quite correct, 73R12 is quite a nice D.T.

1¢ 1857 - Type V block. I do not consider that there is

#2. Mr. R. S. Platt, June 6, 1947.

anything unusual about this block - Most of the marks that you note are not consistent and are simply ink blurs etc.

Green postmark on 1¢ 1857. Drop letter at St. Joseph, Mo. Very nice. I had no previous record on a 1¢ 1857 - IIIA. This St. Joseph Green is well known - most notably on Pony Express covers of 1860.

There is no fee for the above.

I have for sale quite a few nice things in the One Cent 1851-1857, and if you would be interested in acquiring items to improve your collection, I will be glad to submit.

Sincerely yours,

34-36 State St.,
Albany, N. Y.
June 12, 1947.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrooke,
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge with thanks
your letter of June 6th and receipt of materials
returned by registered mail.

I want to thank you for your comments
on the various items. You were right about the red
"Paid" cancel. I finally made up my mind to try and
remove the cancellation and found it was a fake
painted job, - no wonder I had so much trouble in
trying to identify it.

I note your remarks in regard to
having some nice items for sale, and I will probably
take advantage of this and ask you to submit some of
these items at a later date.

At the present time you might submit
any nice covers that you have with combinations includ-
ing the one cent stamp from California, especially
for the ten cent rate or other items at your selection.

It is only fair to tell you that I
usually do not purchase items unless there is something
of special interest that would fit into my collection,
and I usually have been able to purchase items at a
figure reasonably within the current market value.
Of course I have purchased several bargains in years
past, and in some cases have not received value in
return for my purchase.

Very truly yours,

RSP Platt

RSP:Q



Chenese Valley D.D.

Amos Dean L.L.D.

Albany



1857

WEST END HOTEL,

Chestnut, below 16th St., Phila.

EUROPEAN PLAN.

C. T. JONES, Proprietor.

France

Madame J. Lemaire
M^{rs} Madame Dubose

L & S Sale
10/18-43

274 rue Leclerc, passage Duranton

Paris

Vaugirard



Lot
524

MEMO

GRACE STAMP CO.

93 NASSAU STREET
New York City

Date 10/20/43

Dear Mr. Ashbrook-

I am enclosing herewith 4 1869 covers, which were in Lawr's sale - Babcock Collection. The genuineness was questioned and sold subject to ~~so~~ being O.K. It was suggested that they be sent to you to pass on them, so would like to have your opinion on it. Also would like to know what I owe you, as Lawr. wants to stand all charges before settling with Estate. Thanks again -

Yours very truly
Grace Jarjarian

Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 22, 1943.

Grace Stamp Co.,
93 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Jorjorian:

Herewith I am returning the four covers from the recent Babcock Sale.

On covers such as these I charge a fee of \$5.00 each for an opinion, and I thought I had better advise you regarding this, before rendering same.

If the above is satisfactory, kindly advise me and I will forward you separate opinions on each cover.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosed
Lots 514 - 523 - 524 - 528.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 9, 1943.

Grace Stamp Co.,
93 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Jorjorian:

Regarding Lot #523 in the Laurence & Stryker Sale of
Oct. 19, 1943. This cover was described as follows in the
catalogue:

Lot #523 24¢ green and violet, fine, off center at T,
tied on V.F. folded letter (part of back missing) with
NEW ORLEANS, LA. CROSS ROADS also with NEW YORK. Addressed
to London. Very rare cover. (Photo).

The above is only a face, hence no postal markings on the
back to show the year of use. If the use was "Jul 20 1869"
then this was a letter of over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, requiring a double
rate, the single rate to England in 1869 being 12¢. If the
use was Jul 20 1870 (or later) then the 24¢ stamp would re-
present a quadruple rate as the single rate to England from
Jan. 1, 1870 was 6¢. It seems rather improbable that this was
a quadruple rate, and my study of the New Orleans postmarks
indicates that it is quite unlikely that this postmark was used
at New Orleans on July 20, 1869.

There is nothing about this cover to prove conclusively that
it is genuine and therefore, a buyer who would buy it as a
genuine 24¢ 1869 cover would, in my opinion, be taking quite a
gamble. In all my extensive records, I have no record that
this particular "killer" was used at New Orleans in 1869. In
addition, the letters "ORK" on the stamp are not very convincing.

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 9, 1943.

Grace Stamp Co.,
93 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Jorjorian:

Regarding Lot #523 in the Laurence & Stryker Sale of Oct. 19, 1943. This cover was described as follows in the catalogue:

Lot #523 24¢ green and violet, fine, off center at T, tied on V.F. folded letter (part of back missing) with NEW ORLEANS, LA. CROSS ROADS also with NEW YORK. Addressed to London. Very rare cover. (Photo).

The above is only a face, hence no postal markings on the back to show the year of use. If the use was "Jul 20 1869" then this was a letter of over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, requiring a double rate, the single rate to England in 1869 being 12¢. If the use was Jul 20 1870 (or later) then the 24¢ stamp would represent a quadruple rate as the single rate to England from Jan. 1, 1870 was 6¢. It seems rather improbable that this was a quadruple rate, and my study of the New Orleans postmarks indicates that it is quite unlikely that this postmark was used at New Orleans on July 20, 1869.

There is nothing about this cover to prove conclusively that it is genuine and therefore, a buyer who would buy it as a genuine 24¢ 1869 cover would, in my opinion, be taking quite a gamble. In all my extensive records, I have no record that this particular "killer" was used at New Orleans in 1869. In addition, the letters "ORK" on the stamp are not very convincing.

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 9, 1943.

Grace Stamp Co.,
93 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Jorjorian:

Regarding Lot #514 in the Laurence & Stryker sale of Oct. 19, 1943. This cover was described as follows in the catalogue:

Lot #514 15¢ type 2, lightly canc. on V.F. folded letter.
Pmk New Orleans, La. To France.

This letter originated at New Orleans on Sept. 26, 1869 and was mailed on that date, as proved by the date of the letter inside and the ribbon stamped year dated handstamp of the business firm on face. The original rate of this letter was fifteen cents as proved by the New York Foreign Exchange Postmark used in conjunction with the French Cherbourg marking, thus by direct mail to France Via American Packet.

It is my opinion that the 15¢ 1869 stamp was not used on this cover originally, but that the letter originally contained a 15¢ Lincoln of 1866 or 1867, the said stamp was removed and a substitution made of the present 15¢ 1869 stamp.

Very truly yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 9, 1943.

Grace Stamp Co.,
93 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Jorjorian:

Regarding Lot #514 in the Laurence & Stryker sale of Oct. 19, 1943. This cover was described as follows in the catalogue:

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Pmk New Orleans, La. To France.

This letter originated at New Orleans on Sept. 26, 1869 and was mailed on that date, as proved by the date of the letter inside and the ribbon stamped year dated handstamp of the business firm on face. The original rate of this letter was fifteen cents as proved by the New York Foreign Exchange Postmark used in conjunction with the French Cherbourg marking, thus by direct mail to France Via American Packet.

It is my opinion that the 15¢ 1869 stamp was not used on this cover originally, but that the letter originally contained a 15¢ Lincoln of 1866 or 1867, the said stamp was removed and a substitution made of the present 15¢ 1869 stamp.

Very truly yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 9, 1943.

Grace Stamp Co.,
93 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Jorjorian:

Regarding Lot #524 in the Laurence & Stryker sale of
Oct. 19, 1943. This cover was described as follows in the
catalogue:

Lot #524 24¢ green and violet, off center at T, used in
combination with 6c ULT, straight edge at L, both tied on
V.F. cover with cork and blue French pmk. also pmk. in black
PHILADELPHIA, PA. Through New York and so pmk, in red.
Addressed to Paris. Cover has corner card of West End Hotel
Phila. Very rare. (Photo)

The use of this cover is supposed to be July and August of
1870, though none of the postmarks on this cover were used at
that time. This cover was originally a 5¢ rate and it was
used from Philadelphia on July 31, 1876, contained a 5¢ blue
Taylor of 1875. The red New York postmark was not used in
1870 and the "flaws" in this stamper prove that its use was in
August of 1876 and in no other year. A strong glass will show
that the "70" in the French postmark was changed from "76."

I am quite familiar with a number of fakes from this particular
correspondence. And lastly a Philadelphia directory will show
that there was no "West End Hotel" in Philadelphia in 1870 or
even as late as 1875, but it will show that there was such a
hotel at the address on the envelope in 1876.

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 9, 1943.

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93 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

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hotel at the address on the envelope in 1876.

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 9, 1943.

Grace Stamp Co.,
93 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Jorjorian:

Regarding Lot #528 in the Laurence & Stryker sale of Oct. 19, 1943. This cover was described as follows in the catalogue:

Lot 528 30c blue and carmine V.F. lightly tied on V.F. folded letter with black cork also NEW YORK and French Pmks. in red Very rare (Photo)

It is my opinion that this cover is probably genuine but I cannot positively certify that it is. The use was unquestionably in 1869 as the postmarks indicate, thus there has been no change in these markings. The combination of the New York Foreign Exchange and the French "Packet" postmarks prove that the original rate was 30¢, hence, if this cover is not as it was originally, then two things could have happened; (A) a paid but stampless cover, which seems quite unlikely, or (B) a substitution, i.e., a 30¢ 1861 or 1867 used originally. This I doubt. The fact that the stamp is not "tied" better that it is quite a strong indication of the genuineness of the cover. A careful examination of the inside of the cover by Quartz Lamp discloses no suspicious features.

I might add that the S.S. "Ville de Paris" of the "French Line" sailed from New York for Havre on August 7, 1869.

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 9, 1943.

Grace Stamp Co.,
93 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Jorjorian:

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Sincerely yours,

per first steamer



Messrs Laplanche Freres
Bordeaux



L & S sole
Lot 514
10/18 - 43



de Ville de Paris



Brown



Br.



Blk

Monsieur C. H. Guichon



Blue

L 25 Sale

Lot

528

10/18-43

Paris
France

Red

528



Bik

JUL 28

Red



Messrs. Pater Bros
Gt. Manchester Street
Old Broad Street
London

Lot
523L & S Sale
10/18-43

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 14, 1943.

Mr. Alfred F. Lichtenstein,
Box 994 Church St. Annex,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Lichtenstein:

I am enclosing herewith a cover with the combination, 5¢ 1847 and Canadian Beaver. No doubt you have seen the original cover and doubtless it has been offered to you. I understand that several dealers believe that this cover is fraudulent, but I examined it carefully and was of the opinion it is genuine. If you have seen and examined the cover, I would greatly appreciate your opinion as to its validity, that is, if you have no objection.

I am also enclosing a face of a Pony Express cover, which belongs to me and which is for sale. While only a face, it is an East to West item and contains a Pony marking which is far from common, all of which I realize you appreciate.

Sincerely yours,

ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN
GREENWICH & MORTON STREETS
NEW YORK, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS
CHAMPIN, N. Y.

POST OFFICE BOX 994
CHURCH STREET ANNEX, NEW YORK 8, N. Y.

December 17, 1943

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas
Kentucky

My dear Mr. Ashbrook:

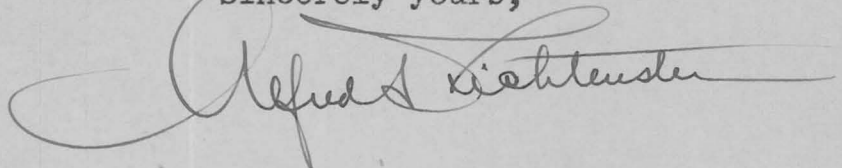
I have your letter of December 14th enclosing a photostat of a cover to Canada with a 5¢ U.S. and a 3d Canada added. The photostat is not clear enough to give you a real opinion, but I take it it was supposed to be mailed from Rochester on May 4th and went through to Queenstown on May 6th, 1851. This, all ready makes it very questionable.

The Canada stamp appears to have been cancelled by a Toronto grid. I haven't seen the cover so do not know if it is on laid paper, but I quite agree that the item looks very suspicious and I certainly would have to see the original before passing on definitely whether it was good or bad.

The Wells Fargo is not in a condition I would care to buy.

I have an item of my own that I am sending you to look at. It comes out of the Ferrari collection. The little pencil annotation is nothing but a lot number. What do you think of it? I would be glad to hear.

Sincerely yours,



AFL:VT
Encls.

Registered

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 22, 1943.

Mr. Alfred F. Lichtenstein,
P.O. Box 994, Church St. Annex,
New York (8) N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lichtenstein:

Your letter of the 17th received with the Pony Express ~~came~~
and the photograph.

I thought that you had seen the 5¢ 47-Beaver cover as it was
in a Bartels sale several years ago and was supposed to have
sold at something like \$400 to \$450. It was evidently a
"wash" sale as the man who owned it before the sale owned it
several months after the sale. I appreciate your remarks re-
garding it and if the cover is again submitted to me I'll
send it down to you so that you can examine it. If it is
genuine, it is quite a rare piece and one I would like to own.

I am wondering if you ever saw the cover with a Beaver and a
strip of five of the 5¢ 1847. This item from Canada thru
Boston (via Cunard) by London. The strip overpaying by one
cent the 24¢ rate to Great Britain. I believe that this cover
is one of the finest U. S. 19th Century covers (with stamps of
the regular issues) known. It probably ranks first.

Regarding the Hawaii cover which I am returning herewith. The
26¢ in postage is the 24¢ rate from San Francisco to England,
plus the 2¢ ship fee. The local Hawaiian rate was paid in cash
at the Honolulu Post Office as was frequently done at this
period (October 1865).

As for the black imprint of the 13¢ Missionary, in my opinion,
this is just some "monkey business" added by someone who had an
album electrotpe of the stamp. Perhaps it was done to intrigue
Ferrari.

The red New York postmark of November 21 with the "Paid 19"
shows that the cover went by British Packet from New York to
England. The San Francisco type of "cogs" and this particular
S.F. handstamp were actually in use in October of 1865.

I have made quite an extended study of the San Francisco double
circle postmarks of the period 1861-1868. I have identified

#2. Mr. Alfred F. Lichtenstein, Dec. 22, 1943.

about ten different stampers of this type.

With the Compliments of the Season, I am

Cordially yours,

TIMES SQUARE STAMP & COIN CO.

G. MOERZ

147 WEST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y.

REGISTERED

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

434 - S. Grand Ave.,

Fort Thomas, Ky.

REGISTERED

533043

SPECIAL DELIVERY





WE APPRAISE
SINGLE STAMPS
COINS AND
COLLECTIONS

TIMES SQUARE STAMP & COIN CO.

G. MOERZ

Postage Stamps, Coins and Collections

BOUGHT AND SOLD

147 WEST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK

**RETAIL
AND
WHOLESALE**

New York, November 1. 1943.

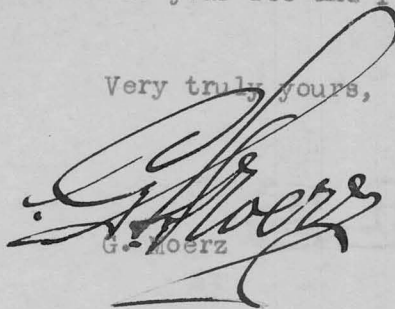
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Sir:

I shall appreciate if you would kindly
examine two enclosed covers (No. 118 & 119) and No. 490.

I would like to have your statement of wether
thise stamps are genuinely used on thise covers and
also wether the various markings are genuine. Kindly
let me know the amount of your fee and I shall remit
promptly.

Very truly yours,


G. Moerz

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 3, 1943.

Mr. G. Moerz,
% Times Square Stamp & Coin Co.,
147 West 42nd St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

I am returning herewith the three covers as per
yours of the 1st. My fee for separate opinions on
these items is as follows:

- (A) 15¢ 1869 to France - Lot 508 in Babcock Sale
by Laurence & Stryker - - - - - \$5.00
- (B) 15¢ 1869 to Switzerland - Lot 512 in Babcock
Sale by Laurence & Stryker - - - - - 5.00
- (C) 10¢ 1855 on cover - - - - - 3.50

Upon receipt of check I will forward opinions desired.

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 10, 1943.

Mr. G. Moerz,
147 West 42nd St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the cover to Bordeaux France with 15¢ 1869, Type I from New York June 9 ? , blue Forwarding handstamp on face, "Theodore Stern - New York." This cover was Lot 508 in the recent Laurence & Stryker sale of the Babcock collection (Oct. 19, 1943).

In my opinion, this 15¢ stamp was not used on this cover originally, hence the cover is fraudulent.

The original use of this cover was not 1869 as the postmarks indicate, but rather an earlier date of use, the dates in the postmarks have been changed to read "69."

Further, the postal markings prove that the original rate on this cover was 30¢, hence we assume that a 30¢ 1861 stamp was removed and the 15¢ 1869 Type I substituted.

The records show that the "Asia" did not sail from New York on June 9, 1869.

Respectfully submitted,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 10, 1943.

Mr. G. Moerz,
147 West 42nd St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the cover to St. Imier, Switzerland with 15¢ 1869, Type II, from New York on Dec. 23, 1869. This cover was lot 512 in the recent Laurence & Stryker sale of the Babcock collection, (Oct. 19, 1943).

In my opinion this cover is genuine.

The New York postmark is not very plain but the date was undoubtedly Dec. 23, 1869. The letter was routed "per Deutschland," and the records show that the "S.S. Deutschland" of the North German Lloyd sailed for Southampton and Bremen with the U. S. Mail on Dec. 23, 1869. The rate to Switzerland at this time by mail not routed via France was 15¢ per half ounce.

A careful examination of the cover by quartz lamp does not disclose any tampering with the stamp. The black ink is the same both on stamp and cover.

Respectfully submitted,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 10, 1943.

Mr. G. Moerz,
147 West 42nd St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the cover with U. S. 10¢ 1855. This is a small glazed envelope addressed as follows:

"Rev. B. R. Hoyt,
North Salem,
New Hampshire"

The stamp on this cover is a 10¢ 1855, S.U.S. 35C, Type IV, recut at top and bottom, plate position 64LL, catalogue value \$125.00, off cover.

The stamp is genuinely tied by the postmark reading,

"Salem
Apr 18
OGN" (Oregon)

This is a superb copy of this rare stamp and the cover is genuine in every respect.

Respectfully submitted,

St. Petersburg, Asia.



BIK

Messrs Schroeder & Co.



Red

← 69?
Brow



Blue

Bordeaux

L 85 Sole 10/18-43
Lot 508

Pance

Red



Rev. B. B. Hoyt
North Salem
New Hampshire

pro Deutschland

Swiss closed mail



B11C

Monsieur Georges Agassiz
à l'adresse de Monsieur Ernest Inancillon



Blue

St. Smer

Red

10 février

Suisse

512

Babcock Sale



Blue



Black P.M.

Col Tennant Lomax.

3rd Regt Ala Volunteers
Norfolk

Virginia

L.L.S.

10/15-43

Nothing on Back

Dear Stan-

Here is the Exp. cover I promised
to send you for comparison with the
other. Here you have NOV 29 S. Exp.
on Dec. 2 in the Blue two-mail, ^(and this the old form marking)
Under the two-mail is a black
S. Exp. card made it not - but the
only name known in black are Chatt. Tenn.
Col. Geo. S. H. Knowlton, Tenn. by the way
Va. Macdon. Ga. New Orleans. La. Rich-
mond Va. Since this card seems to
show an "A" near the end of the state
abbreviation it could be (~~by length of name~~)
~~a similarity to Montgomery~~ known,
Highland New Orleans & even Montgomery - black
It is not Richmond for I have compared it
with one.
There was another "Lowat" card with 104 Hayer

ties with Montgomery grid; even bears
"So. Ex. Montgomery" (blue) Dec. 22; Montgomery
town (black) Dec. 22, 1861 and also the
four line blue "Montgomery Southern Express
Company" handstamp, same as Foster's covr.
Knapp in "South. Philatelist" (1925) says
this covr was sent from Montgomery P.O.

I believe mine was - but don't decipher
the black So. Exp. stamping. It could be
office of origination (exp. office) or the exp.
off. used to handle mail from Montgomery -

What say you.

Very best -

11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS

January 12, 1944.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I didn't expect you would send the covers back as there is little I can say further about them.

I note that you agree that the cover with red N.Y. credit 18 was prepaid to destination at Terre Haute. I see no evidence on the cover in the form of the frequent ms. Chg. to suggest that 'the lady' had a charge account at the P.O.; I am content with my surmise that she put on 5¢ in stamps in accordance with pre-treaty custom, but learning at the P.O. when she went to mail the letter of the new rate, she paid the difference of 16¢ in cash which the P.M. noted on the letter bill to N.Y., even though he did not have the extra stamps put on the cover. Blk. SERV. AM. to be paid in Fr. by N.Y. credit.

As for the N.Y. debit 18 cover I suppose N.Y. exchange office wanted 2x9¢ for SERV. AM. (sea charge over 1/2 oz.) marked in red (as advance paid by N.Y.). As the letter was not fully prepaid at Terre Haute, the 5¢ in stamps would put it aboard the packet. If you consider that 3¢ in stamps would have served for this purpose, I can only suggest that 'the lady' had put on the customary 5¢ and the excess 2¢ was ignored by N.Y. (unless one were to presume that she was taking a steamboat ride on the Wabash and prepaid the fee therefrom of 2¢ to the Terre Haute P.O. - a rather fantastic conjecture).

I do not think the registered letter hypothesis is probable for the Mobile letter. Either a member of Le Baron & Son wrote the letter from a ship that carried it back for Mobile for despatch: hence 10¢ to Mobile and 6¢ Mobile to London or the clerk of the Le Baron firm being accustomed to sending business letters to France and having the U.S.-Fr. rate of 16¢ (1/3-1/2 oz.) in mind put on the stamps without noting that this letter was addressed to London--just guesses. I take it that the postmark circle on the two left 2¢ stamps is the same as the clear MOBILE and not any sort of a registered mark.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

DR. CARROLL CHASE
R. F. D. 1 - MILFORD,
NEW HAMPSHIRE

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 24, 1943.

Dear Doc:

Regarding the two covers to Spezia. At this time in the late fifties Spezia was part of the "Sardinian States," or rather "The Kingdom of Sardinia. The city is on the sea of Genoa in Liguria and N.E. of Corsica. The "Sardinian" rates of postage applied to Spezia, viz - By French Mail - 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce. Consider the cover with the red New York. Evidently this was prepaid 16¢ in cash and 5¢ in stamps. If so, all markings are in order. The New York p.m. states "PAID," so the letter was fully prepaid. All that we were entitled to out of the 21¢ was 3¢ so the credit of 18¢ in the N.Y. p.m. is correct. The French P.D. is also correct and indicates prepayment to Spezia by French Mail.

Regarding the other cover. The New York is in black, indicating an unpaid letter and the "18" in this case is a debit of 18¢. Will Michaels had a similar cover - same correspondence - addressed to "Spezia" - see lot 152 in his coming sale - the date of use being "Dec. 8, 1857." This Michaels cover has the same French due figures of 24 decimes and the same "2" in upper left but it hasn't any New York postmark showing any debit.

For table showing rate see Vol. 2 - page 344 - my 1¢ Book "Sardinian States."

On the first mentioned cover of New York "Dec. 23" you will note the French Receiving is "Serv Br A.C.," - in other words, via British Packet from New York to England, thence to France. On such mail we were only entitled to the service we performed, viz., "Internal" hence we retained only 3¢.

But on the other cover, the French Receiving is "Serv. A M. A.C." or "By American Packet to England, thence by British Mail to France and French Mail to Spezia." On such mail we were entitled to 9¢ per each quarter ounce, viz., 3¢ Internal plus 6¢ Sea to England. Hence the debit of 18¢ indicates double rate, or over $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce and not over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce. I don't understand why the same New York debit was not on the Michaels cover. An oversight perhaps, as the treaty had not been in effect a year when the Michaels cover was mailed. These two covers are quite a study because of the same destination, postage paid and postmarks with "18."

I forgot to mention one very important fact. On the double rate, whatever payment was made was disregarded because under the treaty no payments but those in full counted. You can have two guesses. Was only 5¢ paid on this cover and the stamps voided by an underpayment or was 21¢ paid, 5¢ in stamps and 16¢ in cash and both payments disregarded at New York because the letter weighed over $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce? I suppose the "2" in upper left indicates a double rate.

Will appreciate your comment on above.

Yours etc.,

Recd at Albany N.Y.
Sept 1st 1857



Black



Dec 17
1857



Richard S. Law Esq. S. N.

N. S. S. ~~Post~~ ~~Office~~ ~~at~~ ~~Albany~~



Black

Spencer



Red

Via Liverpool steamer

Italy

Q - 2 Double Rate



Richard L. Law. N. York

H. S. Constellation



24 →
Via
Liverpool Steamers

ORANGE

Spezzano

Italy

1857
Chase 11/24-43



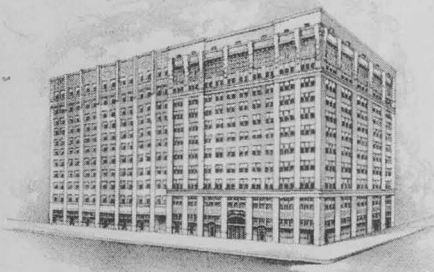
Chase
Cover



ALL
Black







AMERICAN NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.

W. L. MOODY, JR., PRESIDENT

GALVESTON, TEXAS

W. L. MOODY, III,
VICE PRESIDENT

December 20, 1943

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Herewith I am sending you a cover with a U. S. City Dispatch post stamp, being the first U. S. adhesive attached. This cover has been submitted to me for consideration and I am sending it on to ask if it is sound in everyway. You will note the oily appearance of the stamp and the shopworn appearance of the stamp, both of which do not seem to be apparent on the letter. In holding the stamp to the light you will also notice that it appears to be thinned. Also around the edges of the stamp a little gum shows which would indicate that the stamp has at least been removed and replaced. Of course, this is a very rare cover and a very desirable one if satisfactory in everyway. I will appreciate your giving this your very careful consideration and returning it to me with your comments at your early convenience.

Please advise how much I will owe you for this service.

Very truly yours,

W. L. Moody, III

WLM, III/kw
Encl.
Reg.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 27, 1943.

Mr. W. L. Moody III,
% American National Insurance Co.,
Galveston, Texas.

My dear Mr. Moody:

I am returning herewith the City Despatch Post cover as per yours of the 20th.

I recognize this as a cover that belonged to my good friend Harold C. Brooks several years ago, and no doubt it is still his property. I recall mounting this cover for him in the latter part of 1940. I think that the most that can be said about the cover is that there is no conclusive proof that the stamp originated on the cover.

I note your suspicion that the stamp may have a thin spot and in holding it to a strong light, this appears to be the case, but I don't think that we could be absolutely sure of this without removing the stamp from the cover. The stamp has a greasy appearance and appears in poorer condition than the cover itself but this is not very strong evidence against the authenticity of the cover, because the stamp may have been carried around until it got in this condition and then used. The presence of gum around the edges is truly a suspicious sign but likewise not conclusive.

Only part of the letter is here - this is a suspicious sign - and all we have of the evidence we have of the actual year use is the "Ans Aug 17 1842." I might add that this memorandum looks genuine.

If there was no stamp on this cover originally then whoever added it, only had the space to place it that it now occupies. On the other hand, if the stamp was put on the cover before the notation was made it might be logical to assume that it would have been placed in either right corner or the upper left.

The notation indicates that the letter was from "Charles Jackson Jr. Boston." If the letter was sent from Boston, it was not sent thru the U. S. mail as a separate letter. It could have been enclosed in another letter and regularly mailed or it could have been sent to New York by private carrier. In either event, it is possible that whoever received it sent it by the City Despatch Post. One wonders if the unknown party in New York who sent it thru the Despatch Post paid the 3¢ or whether he sent it unpaid. The chances would seem to me to be in favor of the latter. It is well to

#2. Mr. W. L. Moody III Dec. 27, 1943.

remember that payment was optional. I have seen covers without stamps which were no different than this cover, without the stamp.

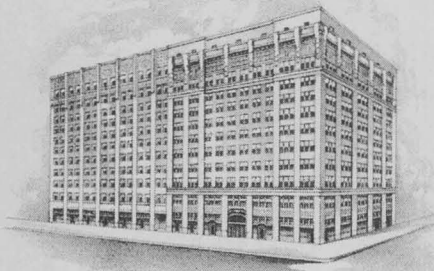
I note I have not been of much help to you but about all I can do is to revert to what I stated above, that there is no conclusive proof that the stamp originated on this cover. I don't think I have told you a single thing that you did not know, hence there is no fee for this discussion of the cover.

With my kindest regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Note -

The enclosed cover is insured
for \$400 for return transit via
registered mail.



AMERICAN NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.

W. L. MOODY, JR., PRESIDENT

GALVESTON, TEXAS

W. L. MOODY, III,
VICE PRESIDENT

December 31, 1943

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you very much for your letter outlining your opinion of the United States City Despatch Post cover from the Brooks Collection. I really think and I am sure you do from your letter that there are too many doubtful things to regard the cover very favorably.

I have decided to keep the 10¢ 1861 even though the price does seem high and I send you herewith my check for \$85.00.

Wishing you a very happy and prosperous New Year and with best wishes,

Very truly yours,

W. L. Moody, III

W. L. Moody, III

WLM, III/kw
Encl.

#11.
P. 30

Dear Stan:

If this cover is a fake I can't understand why you passed it as being O.K. when you mounted it in the center of a page, with a lengthy description of its being a 1st day cover.....because I know that you look at all rarities or rare usages with a critical eye. It will be interesting to see what Souren says, not necessarily for the value of his opinion, but because he might see fit to make an offer ~~on~~ it. What surprises me, more than anything else, is Klemann's repudiation of having sold it to me. I KNOW HE SOLD IT TO ME, RIGHT OVER HIS COUNTER. I REMEMBER DISTINCTLY HIS BRINGING IT OUT AND TALKING IT UP. I bought it and marked it, at the time, on

my records. The stamp of course is genuine, as is also its carrier cancellation, but if it was not used on this cover then the cover is a fake, and I would not want it sold as genuine to anyone, Moody or anyone else. Of course, if Colson owned the cover, its authenticity might possibly be construed differently... which has nothing at all to do with his judgment, which we cannot totally deny.

H. C. B.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thoms, Ky.

Jan. 22, 1944.

Mr. Harold C. Brooks,
Marshall, Mich.

My dear Harold:

If anyone told you that I pronounced your cover a fake then whoever it was is a plain damn liar and a trouble-maker. My friend, Moody, submitted this cover to me under date of Dec. 20th last. I quote in part from my letter to him under date of December 27th last, (quote)

"I recognize this as a cover that belonged to my good friend, Harold C. Brooks, several years ago, and no doubt it is still his property. (note - he never mentioned from what source he obtained it). I recall mounting this cover for him in the latter part of 1940. I think that the most that can be said about the cover is that there is no conclusive proof that the stamp originated on the cover."

The rest of my letter was immaterial but if you want to see it, I'll be glad to send you my original carbon copy. I don't see that I said a thing that has not appeared in print. I refer you to the A.P.S. handbook by Elliott Perry, published in 1942 and entitled, "100 Years ago - February - 1842 - August.

Centenary
of the
First Adhesive Postage Stamps
in the
United States"

Surely you have a copy of the above. You loaned this cover to Perry and on page 21 of this A.P.S. handbook is a natural size illustration of your cover. Perry stated beneath this cover, quote:

"The 'U.S. Cancellation' on the City Despatch Post Stamp and the postmark on the cover are in reddish orange, but no definite proof appears that the stamp was used on this cover. At one time the cover belonged to F. W. Hunter. It went from John A. Kleemann to the Harold C. Brooks collection." (end of quote).

I might add that the mere mention of Kleemann's name was enough to damn the cover.

I mounted the cover for you but Harold I did not pass it as being O.K. I might have lettered the page to read the same as I wrote Moody, to wit: "There is no conclusive proof that the stamp originated on the cover." I doubt if this would have been agreeable to you. Am I right?

I concluded by letter to Moody as follows:

#2. Mr. Harold C. Brooks, Jan. 22, 1944.

"I note I have not been of much help to you but about all I can do is to revert to what I stated above, that there is no conclusive proof that the stamp originated on this cover. I don't think I have told you a single thing that you did not know, hence there is no fee for this discussion of the cover." (end of quote).

Of course, the cover itself is genuine, no one denies that fact, but a Souren, a Colson nor anyone else can produce any proof that the stamp originated on this cover. Such an opinion would be absurd. This does not mean that the cover is a fake, much less that the stamp is a fake. A fake cover would mean that changes in the cover itself had been made and a stamp added or a substitution made, as for example, a cover with a 30¢ 1861 used in 1865, with the original stamp removed and a 30¢ 1869 substituted and the year-dates changed to 1869.

The mistake you made was not obtaining Kleeman's guarantee of genuineness when you purchased the cover. Such an oversight would be similar to buying a piece of property without having the title examined, only to find out, years later, that the title was not clear.

At some future time, collectors will probably be more cautious and demand "an opinion." Even so, such precautions will not be 100% fool-proof but they will be a darn sight better than the present system.

No Harold, even Colson could not get away with an opinion that the stamp was actually used on this cover. He is too smart for that.

If you sell this cover it should be sold "as is," that is, with the same opinion that Perry published in the A.P.S. handbook and that I gave Moody.

I note in your letter to Souren that you stated that the cover had been submitted to Colson. Are you sure of this? I merely inquire because Moody made no mention to me that he had submitted the cover to Colson. Would you like to see my letter to Moody?

With best regards,

Yours etc.,

Dear Mum -

Here is the cover I promised
for your article. I believe the
writing is British. but isn't
it cute - ? a relief from all the
MAILS SUSPENDED because it says
nothing and yet means nothing -

Dear Stan
This sure is one of
the swellest things I
ever saw, - and how it
ties in with my "Mails Suspended"
story! Do make a swell photo of once,
& return the cover either to me or direct to
Lainy Shenfield. Would appreciate your
comments on rate markings, etc.
Hastily
Mae

10/12/43

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 15, 1943.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,
% Pedlar & Ryan,
250 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Herewith the Express cover, as per yours of recent date,
also the 5¢ New Orleans cover which you sent me several
months ago to sell. I am sorry but I was unable to place
it.

I made a photo of the Express cover and I will write you
later regarding it. Emmerson Krug is here for the week-
end so I'll write you after I have developed the plate and
compared with the Forster print.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 15, 1943.

Dear Larry:

Mac Sent me your Victoria cover to Richmond, and I am enclosing it herewith with a copy of a letter I have written Mac. Maybe this is not a "Mails Suspended" item. What is your opinion?

Yours etc.,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 15, 1943.

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

Dear Mac:

Yours of the 12th enclosing the Victoria cover received.
As I am returning several covers to Larry by this mail, I
have included this item.

This is certainly a little gem and I am sure Sam Richey would
like to see it, but I won't hold it over for that purpose but
will show him a photograph. I will send you a print later.

You ask me for comments on the markings but to do so would
require a lengthy explanation, and I don't think I would in-
clude same in your article as they would not be necessary and
might prove confusing.

This letter bears a postmark of New York of May 28, 1861. The
U. S. Mail to Richmond was still open so why wasn't the letter
sent on to Richmond? Was it sent to Richmond and was it refused
there by the addressee? Or did New York return it to England
without attempting to make the Richmond delivery? What do you
think? Do you want one or two prints?

This cover is sure a peach but be careful and not misconstrue its
meaning. Remember that the U. S. mail to Richmond was still open.
Do you agree with the notation on the back, "Stopped by the War? etc."
Evidently Larry does, because he puts this in a class with the
"Mails Suspended" items. What say Larry? Please bear in mind I
am asking questions, not differing with any conclusions or opinions
held by Larry and yourself.

I'll appreciate expressions from both of you.

Cordially yours,

Van Dyk MacBride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

October 18th, 1943.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stanley:

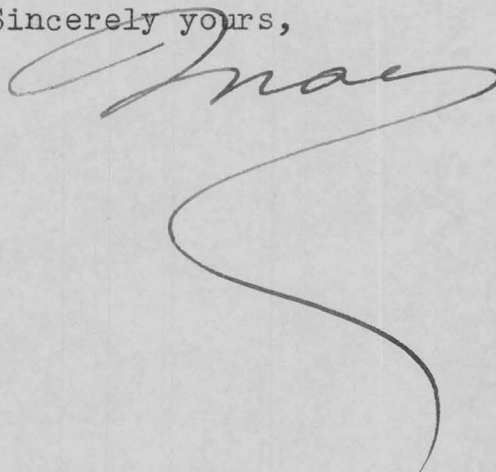
As I told you I think that Victoria cover of Larry's is one of the most appealing things I ever saw! I am glad you photographed it, and wish you would send me one or two prints suitable for reproduction, as soon as possible.

I noted that the New York postmark was May 28, 1861, - when as you say, the mails to Richmond were "still open". However, that was just three days before they were closed, - the interchange of mail between the North and the South having been ordered ceased as of May 31st. With what must have been the very disordered condition of railroads and communications of all sorts, it seems to me quite possible that the New York post office feared or refused to try to get so late a letter through, and instead sent it back via England. Thus I imagine the "Stopped by the War" notation got placed on its back, - although I realize that anyone might have written this.

I do think it forms one more example of the "mails suspended" type of thing, - as did the Dead Letter Office cover I bought through you recently. Therefore I had planned to mention both of them in the article I am still working on.

Would be glad to hear what Larry has to say on this, and also what conclusions you finally reach.

Sincerely yours,



MacB/HK

c.c. L.L. Shenfield

PEDLAR & RYAN, INC.
ADVERTISING
250 PARK AVENUE
New York, N.Y.

October nineteenth
1943

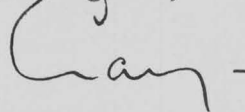
Dear Stan:

Thanks so much for copy of your letter to Mac and for the return of the covers. Will be glad to get your opinion on the express item in conjunction with the one Foster has.

About the Victoria cover -- even though the New York receiving date is May 28th and allowing a day or so for confusion owing to the confused state of postal affairs it could be that this letter was not cleared to Richmond or did not get on its way until May 29th or 30th. Perhaps by that time it might have been held in Washington Post Office or even at Fredericksburg and then since the end of May was supposed to mark the cessation of postal intercourse between both sides, according to Postmaster Blair's order, it is at least probable that the cover was returned to New York.

Note also that the addressee is a business firm which probably was still in business and could accept mail and also note that if the addressee could not be found that there was at that time handstamps used for that purpose such as "can't be found", etc. Instead I believe the red handstamp on the cover is of British origin and simply indicated a return of mail without reason. Therefore, I do not say it is the same as "mail suspended" because that was a U.S. marking. But I do believe that there is every indication that the reason for non-delivery was the war and not the inadequate address or refusal to receive the mail.

Best regards,



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 23, 1943.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,
250 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Yours of the 19th received. Up to this writing I haven't had a chance to develop the plates with the two covers but will finish them up this week.

Regarding the Victoria cover. If this cover was returned to England because of the outbreak of the war then I think it is in the "Mails Suspended" class, but if it was sent to Richmond and acceptance was refused by the Richmond firm then it is not in the "Mails Suspended" class, but rather a refused letter. Perhaps this sounds far-fetched but are you sure of the meaning of the New York postmark? Perhaps the real solution is in this marking.

Now Larry, don't get me wrong. I am not trying to act smart and holding back any information. I am not sure myself as to the exact meaning of that New York postmark. If I was, then I would not hesitate to give an opinion on this cover.

In 1861, May 28th fell on Tuesday, the 1st of June was Saturday. If the letter was sent to Richmond it should have reached there on Wednesday and if it was refused by the Richmond firm it could have been back in New York on Thursday. The 31st was Friday.

I am not sure whether the "May 28" was the date of receipt of this letter or the date it was sent back to England. Are you? If it was sent back to England on the 28th, then the war had nothing to do with its return and it is in no way in a "Mails Suspended" classification.

I agree with you that the "Sent Back to England" is a British meaning.

Yours etc.,

P.S. Did you pay \$160.00 for that Babcock P of W cover?

PEDLAR & RYAN, INC.
ADVERTISING
250 PARK AVENUE
New York, N.Y.

October twenty-fifth
1943

Dear Stan:

Thanks for yours of the 23rd. I note carefully what you say and of course if there is some doubt about when the New York postmark was put on then everything is in the air. I felt that from the sequence of dates on the cover that it was put on on receipt at New York where it usually was applied on unpaid mail. I can see no sense to that type of marking used as a transit as it passed back through New York. Certainly the 5¢ due would make no sense.

I think you are a little speedy in the way you indicate the letter might have moved around between New York and Richmond, I doubt whether in those days a letter got to Richmond the next day or, in other words, overnight. The R F & P railroad was a single tracker at that time and a lousy one at that. Can you from your wisdom determine whether the New York postmark was put on on receipt or on "send back"? You are technically right that the postmark is in the mail suspended class but the point I was trying to make is that being an English marking and not an American marking, it differed radically both in application and usage. The former told what had happened whereas this marking tells nothing, except that it was sent back to England.

No, I didn't pay \$160 for that Babcock cover -- as a matter of fact I never even saw the cover. There was a book bid of \$40 but it started at \$81 and just simply went to town. Understand it went to a Southern collector who simply buys sweet looking things of all kinds, not necessarily Confederates. Glad to see it, however, and I don't feel too badly about the \$40 I have paid for beautiful Prisoner-of-War covers.

Earl Antrim of Nampa, Idaho about whom you wrote is perfectly stable financially according to Gordon Harmer, who sells him and has done so since 1940. He was on here a while ago and I met him. He particularly likes Blockade stuff.

Best regards,

Ryan

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 So. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 28, 1943.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,
250 Park Ave.,
c/o Pedlar & Ryan,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Yours of the 25th received and carefully noted. This cover is indeed an interesting study and it is an item where it is not safe to jump to conclusions. Suppose we consider a few important points.

First, the letter was from Victoria in 1861. Question - Did the Victoria postage stamps prepay the postage to destination in Richmond? And if not, did they pay the postage only to the American frontier, or only to England? You tell me the correct answer and I think that we will then have the solution to this cover.

I note the following in your letter: "Certainly the 5¢ due would make no sense."

I agree that a 5¢ due appears odd but do you recall that Bahamas cover that was in the Mozian Sale? It has the blue "Mails Suspended" oval marking. Do you recall the New York postmark on this cover? Would you say that the Bahamas stamp paid the postage to U. S. destination? Perhaps you may notice the parallel between this cover and your Victoria. Also one more point on your Victoria. What about the 16¢?

Regarding mail from New York to Richmond in 1861. See my One Cent Book, Vol. 2, page 220, "The Great Mail." This was in 1848. In 1861 there was still no direct railroad from Washington to Richmond and mail between the two cities went via steamboat (Washington to Aquia Creek) and railroad, so you are no doubt correct in concluding that mail posted in New York was not delivered in Richmond the next day, but surely a letter mailed in New York on the 28th was ready for delivery in Richmond on the 30th. It could have been refused delivery by the addressee and returned to New York on the 30th or even the 31st.

That P of W cover is unique so far as I am aware. Sam has a combination of a 3¢ 1861 and a "Ten" also a 3¢ 61 and a 20¢ green, but neither of us ever heard of a 3¢ 1861 and a 10¢ blue. I had

#2. Mr. L. L. Shenfield, Oct. 28, 1943.

a bid in of over \$125.00 and didn't think I had a chance to lose it. It sure was a honey and well worth the price that the buyer paid.

Yours etc.,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 11, 1943.

Dear Larry:

Re - your Victoria cover - I am enclosing a photo of it and also a photo of the Bahamas, "Mails Suspended" cover. You will note that both have the black New York "5" postmark, one reading, "Br. Pkt" (Bahamas) the other "Am. Pkt" (Victoria).

Consider the Bahamas. The "six pence" stamp paid the postage to the U. S. frontier, it did not pay the postage to destination, hence 5¢ was due as indicated by the New York marking. Naturally this is "British Packet" because we had no U. S. Mail Route to the Bahamas.

Evidently the same principle applies to the Victoria cover, that is, the postage stamps paid the carriage via London to the U. S. frontier, the U.S. ship to shore being due on delivery. You can call this internal if you wish but my definition is more correct. This letter was brought from England to New York by "American Packet" as borne out by the N.Y. postmark and also by the red (British) "16 cents." This was the Atlantic sea postage credit from England to the U. S. frontier. Had the "Internal" (5¢) been paid, then the credit would have been 21¢ (16¢ plus 5¢). From here on it is anyone's guess.

Was the letter sent to Richmond and delivery attempted before the lines were closed? If so, did the Richmond firm refuse to pay the 5¢ to obtain the letter? Or was it sent back to England without any attempt to deliver in Richmond? As far as I know, no one can answer these questions correctly.

Will you please return the photos.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mac.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,
% Pedlar & Ryan,
250 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 11, 1943.

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

Dear Mac:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter I have written Larry about his Victoria cover.

You are at liberty to use any of the information contained therein, provided you quote me directly from this letter. I am making this request for this reason. In a recent article a certain party used information I had given to him with no credit whatsoever to the source. Of course I am not seeking credit but it makes me damn sore for someone to use my stuff and to give the impression that he was fully conversant with the subject and had dug out the answers all by himself. I am sure that you will agree that such stuff is lousy and that no one but a cad would do such a thing.

With regards,

Yours etc.,

Mr. Murrells

Black



Brown

SENT BACK TO ENGLAND
WITHOUT A REASON
FOR NON-DELIVERY

~~Mr. J. L. Murrells~~

Richmond Va

U. S. A.

Mac Bride
10/1543

Melbourne
3/25-1861

Mulry

MAILS
SUSPENDED

Blue

Blk
→



Purple

Black

Mr James Montgomery
Buen Vista P.O.
Greenville Dist
S.C.

E. B. JESSUP

10/29 - 43

GEORGE C. HAHN

835 WILLIAMSON BUILDING

CLEVELAND 14, OHIO

October 20, 1943

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

My dear Mr. Ashbrook:

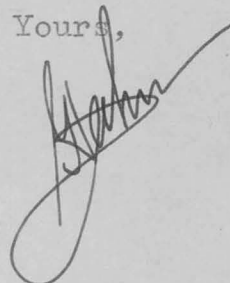
I recently secured the enclosed 6-cents Lincoln Bank Note item, which I am endeavoring to secure some further information on. Knowing your interest in items of this type, I am taking the liberty of asking you to kindly assist me in solving some of the questions which come to my mind.

- (1) I believe the single rate to Holland, effective February 1st 1870 via the United Kingdom was 15-cents. However, George S. Hill and H. M. Konwiser's article on Foreign Rates as published in "STAMPS", volume 11, page 451 shows a rate of 10-cents effective February 1, 1870. Was the cover sent via United Kingdom or did it travel via a different route? Why are there no markings on the cover indicating the amount of postage due that was to be collected? Did the "2" in blue crayon indicate that this was the amount of postage due to be collected? Or is the D.5 on the reverse an indication of amount of postage due to be collected?
- (2) Where was the cover originally posted? In New York?
- (3) Why were two stamps applied, one shortpaid and the other insufficiently paid? Were these two stamps applied in New York?

I realize that you are quite busy but I hope you will not mind my asking these questions. The item intrigues me and I feel there is a story in this cover, which I am unable to solve.

A stamped, self addressed reply envelope is enclosed. Thanks ever so much.

Yours,



GCH:L

Per Steamer from New York.



Messrs. J. & S. Sparnaaijffs

Blue

INSUFFICIENTLY PAID

Rotterdam
Holland.

G. C. Hahn
10/22-43
All Black

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 22, 1943.

Mr. George C. Hahn,
835 Williamson Bldg.,
Cleveland 14, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Hahn:

Herewith the 6¢ Bank Note cover as per yours of the 20th.

The date of your cover appears to be "12 - Jul - 70"
(Rotterdam).

At this time, the rate of postage to Holland was 10¢ (by closed mail, via England) but prepayment was optional. According to the postal treaty then in effect, unpaid letters or short-paid letters were subject to a fine. The wording of the treaty is rather vague but as I understand it, the deficient sum was to be collected at destination and in addition, a fine of 15 cents (Dutch currency). The fine on a short-paid letter to this country was 5¢, (U.S.).

I think your cover originated at Baltimore because I have a photograph in my files of a cover from that city to the same address and in the same handwriting. It has a 6¢ 1869 and post-marked Baltimore "Nov 2" (1869). You will note that it was likewise "Short Paid."

The handstamp on your cover "Short Paid" was applied at New York. I am not familiar with the "Unsufficiently Paid" but I believe its origin was Baltimore.

The rate to Holland was reduced to 15¢ on Jan. 1, 1868, and was further reduced to 10¢ on February 1, 1870.

I do not know the meaning of the "D.S." on the reverse, but no doubt it is a Dutch transit marking of some sort. On the 1869 cover mentioned above was a similar marking reading, "C. 11". on the 1869 cover there is also a blue pencil "2." The pen marking on your cover is probably the Dutch Due. On the 1869 cover is a pen marking but it is different, no doubt due to the different rate.

Sincerely yours,

This changed
to scrap book
18

Page 45

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 3, 1943.

Dr. Edw. L. Fernald,
616 Empire Bldg.,
Rockford, Ills.

Dear Doctor:

I was down East for ten days and on my return I found yours of the 20th, with various enclosures, which I am returning herewith.

Many thanks for your remarks on the Charlestown-Brighton, Mass. cover. The data you gave me was quite interesting and I have filed it with my record on covers from the same points. Every little item like this is quite helpful.

Regarding the items you sent me.

(1) The small Boston postmark is a "receiving postmark" and is quite well known. Off hand I don't recall the exact period when it came into use but it was probably in the late fifties.

(2) N.Y. & Boston Stmb & R.R. R - Chase listed this years ago under "Rail Road Postmarks," which is perhaps proper. It did not designate a Railroad or a Packet Boat but rather a U.S. Mail Route.

(3) Washington "Free." This was a marking intended to be used on "Free Mail" or on "Franked Mail" but it was occasionally used as we see it on your cover. Similar items are known from San Francisco. Neither are very rare.

(4) Imperf. vertical? - No, this is just a center line copy with a vertical perf. at right trimmed. Many such items are known. Part perfs are valueless unless in pairs and without question of genuineness.

(5) Boise City to Albany. "1867" Carrier fees were abolished as of July 1, 1863, so no fee was collected on this cover. This marking is well known and was used to show the time and date of delivery. Few cities bothered to do this at this early period.

(6) "Due 6" The only explanation I can offer is that it was heavy enough to be rated as a triple rate.

(7) Vicksburg to New Orleans. The marking falls under the classification "Forwarder's Markings." It has no special significance.

#2. Dr. Edw. L. Fernald, Dec. 3, 1943.

While this letter probably traveled by a River Mail Route, it could not be considered a "Steamboat" or a "Packet" cover. Covers so classed have an actual steamboat or packet marking.

(8) D.V.R.R. This is quite a late R.R. marking and there is not a great deal of interest on late R.R. items. I don't recall this one but I probably have the name of the company in my files, but if so I cannot locate it at present.

Regarding the two covers to Natal. The one with the 34¢ is O.K. in every respect. The rate via British mail was 34¢ and the red pencil "24" is in accordance with this 34¢ rate. This use was undoubtedly in June 1869.

The other cover is not as it was originally, as there was not ~~an 20¢/20¢~~ rate to Natal in 1868 or 1869. The postage on this cover was originally 34¢ as on the other cover, and there was 24¢ credited on this cover to the British Post Office. It is quite evident that 24¢ cannot be taken out of 20¢. The "2" (handstamp) of "24" is beneath the "ID" of "PAID" in the London postmark. On mail such as this, we kept 10¢ and paid the British a shilling, or 24¢ to transmit the letter from London to Natal.

I charge fees on foreign rate covers, the same depending on the value of the cover. On these two Natal items my fee is the minimum, viz., \$2.00 each. There is no charge on the other items.

With kindest regards, I am

Cordially yours,

THE REGENERATION SYSTEM

A NON-MEDICINAL THERAPY

DR. EDWARD L. FERNALD, (D. O.) FOUNDER

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

616 Empire Bldg.

Nov. 20, 1943.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 So. Grand Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Regarding your article in "Stamps" last week. Item #6, from Charlestown to Brighton, Mass, with carrier rate. I don't know how much this will help you, but up to the Civil War period, Charlestown was a separate city, close to Boston but entirely distinct from it, with its own postal delivery. On the other hand, Brighton was nothing but a country village with large adjacent farms, which later became of social importance. Later both communities were annexed to Boston proper, but at the date indicated it seems to me that it would be perfectly natural for prepayment of carrier rate in Charlestown for delivery in Brighton to some country gentleman off the main route.

In reference to the items #1 and #2, with the small cancellations, I am enclosing cover with 3 cent 1861 and a very small Boston "receiving" cancel on the face. Just an oddity.

Am also enclosing a number of other items that may interest you.

#33 on folded letter with combined Steamboat and RR cancel. How does it list?
#44 with Congressional FREE cancel --WHY? #44-- single, imperforate vertically.
#44 on U9 -- is this for double weight postage? #65 from Idaho Territory
with Albany Carrier 1867 --was fee collected? #65 from Newport R.I. to Phila.
"Due 6" --Why? #94--Vicksburg to New Orleans -- a steamboat cover? #94 --
D.V.R.R.--unlisted RR? 2 covers to Natal So. Africa, 1868 --20 cents postage
--1869 --34 cents postage --why the difference in rate?

If there is any charge for same please advise me. Sincerely,

Edward L. Fernald
(D.O. etc.)



← 24 Under



On Back NY PAID
ALL BR Transit

Brown

By
Fernald 12/4
43
1868



Black

Mrs. M. K. Edwards
Durban
Natal.



Red Brown

Care of J. C. Cato, U.S. Consul. } South A,



Mrs. Mary R. Edwards

2 Durban.

Natal.

← Red

← Red

Fernald
12/4-43

Red

1869

Care of Rev. D Lindley.) Via England & Capetown
South Africa

May 27, 1947.

Mr. Charles G. Taylor, Jr.,
480 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Taylor:

Under separate cover I am today mailing to you a copy of a recent article of mine on the Postal Legislation of the Confederacy, which I trust will prove of some interest to you.

Again may I assure you that it was a real pleasure to visit with you and if at any time you feel that I can be of some assistance to you I trust that you will command me.

Sincerely yours,

480 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

June 3, 1947

Dear Mr Ashtork

What a gracious
gesture, on your part it
was in sending the book on
Confederate Stamps.

I shall cherish the
way you two gentlemen
came, but over my father's
stamps and refreshed for me
a delightful memory of my
childhood

Also it was such
fun to receive many from
them, I do wish they had.

formed Valpara and we
could have found some
stamp with a record as
my father did years ago.
Every day when you are
in Louisville I would so
like you to meet my son.
His name is Donald Lee Layton
with form of Buller and
Muckelton Sawyer.
I am sure both of you
must find the meeting
very delightful as your
friends and family will
be so glad to hear of it.
If you are in the
city I am sure to call on
you

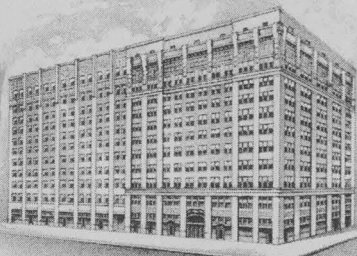
Maunt-yea to also meet my delightful
husband, we both are so interested in your
work. There is much I did not know of the
stamps.

Thanking you sincerely for the
work, and with warm personal greetings
to two nice men, who gave an old lady
such fun over her father's stamps.

I am sincerely yours

Pat J. C. Layton

(Mrs Charles G. Layton Jr.)



AMERICAN NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.

W. L. MOODY, JR., PRESIDENT

GALVESTON, TEXAS

W. L. MOODY, III,
VICE PRESIDENT

July 7, 1943

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

It was good of you to write me offering me a gorgeous 1¢ 1857 type 1A on cover. Time will probably prove that I am wrong but the current price is much above what I would be willing to pay.

Copy

With regard to the 1869 cover submitted by Raymond Weill, it is considered by me that his price is a lot too high. I made him an offer for the cover with a New York cover which offer he accepted and which would have brought the price down on the 1869 cover. I then discovered that the New York cover was undoubtedly faked. By holding the cover to the window you could see that the New York stamp was badly thinned; also the date did not indicate the proper use of the stamp. So I returned them both. I might be interested in the combination 1869 cover if the price were in line with what I consider it worth and subject, of course, to my being convinced that it is genuine. Your statement in this connection would probably be sufficient, however, I am afraid of these 30¢ 1869 covers because it is my understanding that there are very many faked ones around and too many dealers have side-stepped the firm position that they should have taken regarding them. The quantity of them in the Knapp Sale not only befuddles the layman but also greatly impairs the value and casts a doubt upon the good ones. For your information, I have one that I think is good. I have been told that it is and its genuineness is guaranteed by Colson but still there is some question in my mind. This is no reflection on Colson. I am sure that he was honest in his statement that it is good.

Copy
B

I have a very beautiful 24¢ 1869 cover that no one has questioned, and if another comes my way, I will be glad to let you know about it so that Mr. Newbury may consider it.

I wish you would keep me in mind for a very fine block of the 1¢ 1851. Also, any very fine New Yorks either on or off cover.

Sincerely yours,

W. L. Moody, III

W. L. Moody, III

WLM, III/kw

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 14, 1943.

Mr. W. L. Moody III,
% The American National Ins. Co.,
Galveston, Texas.

My dear Mr. Moody:

Many thanks for yours of the 7th.

I was pleased to learn that the reason for your return of the 30¢ 1869 cover to Weill was one of price, more than anything else. I examined that cover very carefully, also others covers from the same correspondence and I am positive that the 30¢ plus 15¢ cover is absolutely genuine.

It is unfortunate that some dealers get such exaggerated ideas of values that they make it impossible at times to acquire desirable items which they turn up. While Weill did not price the cover to me, I understood he had a price on it of \$550.00. I don't see any excuse for such a figure.

Perhaps if all the fake 30¢ 1869 covers were eliminated the genuine items would be much more rare than supposed in past years, but even so, I doubt if prices of \$500 and up would be at all justified.

I have devoted quite a bit of study in recent years to the fakes of the 1869-1872 period and I have very little doubt that any fake would fool me at the present time. I believe that the reference records in my files are doubtless the most complete in existence.

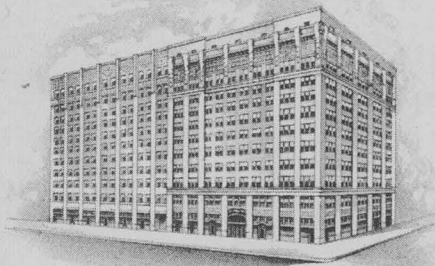
I would like to see your 30¢ 1869 cover. Perhaps I could satisfy the question in your mind regarding it. I would also like to see your 24¢ 1869 cover as these items are indeed rare and I doubt if I would turn one down at any price that Weill could think up. I'll examine both items carefully and return promptly.

What sort of a block of the 1¢ 1857 would you like to acquire?

Mr. Newbury has many fine things offered to him, and doubtless at times he returns items which you could use. I am going up to Chicago the last of next week to spend a few days with him. I'll mention your interest in the 5¢ New York to him. Perhaps it is possible for you two to be of mutual benefit to each other.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,



AMERICAN NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.

W. L. MOODY, JR., PRESIDENT

GALVESTON, TEXAS

W. L. MOODY, III,
VICE PRESIDENT

July 19, 1943

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

A I really would like to have that cover from Weill with the 30¢ and 15¢ 1869. I particularly want it since you give it your unqualified endorsement but the price asked, \$550.00, is beyond all reason to my way of thinking.

I agree with you that through you Mr. Newbury and I might work to mutual advantage and I am certainly willing to cooperate in anyway that I can. I am not in the market for discards, however, undoubtedly there are duplicates that each of us might pass to the other and he likely would be particularly interested in certain items where I would be in others.

You asked what block of 1857 I want. I do not want an 1857 1¢ block but I surely am anxious to get a really fine block of the 1¢ 1851.

C With regard to my 24¢ 1869 cover, I cannot send it along just now as it is in the possession of Mr. Colson in Boston who is remounting my '69's. Judging from past experience, it is doubtful that these will be returned before sometime in the fall. When they are returned, I will be very happy to send the two covers to you for your perusal. I bought the 30¢ on cover from Colson but not the 24¢, however, he has passed upon the genuineness of them both.

As no doubt you know, I probably purchase more stamps from Mr. Colson than from any other dealer, but I do not regard myself as tied to any individual nor do I regard any individual as having the best knowledge of the entire field. I think that it is particularly unfortunate that some of the best minds in philately snipe at each other, and even more unfortunate that there are so many crooks in the game. Excepting a few small dealers, I have just about limited myself to you, Mr. Colson, and Mr. Cole, all of whom I regard most highly.

Cordially yours,

W. L. Moody, III

W. L. Moody, III

WLM, III/kw

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 24, 1943.

Mr. W. L. Moody III,
% American National Insurance Co.,
Galveston, Texas.

Dear Mr. Moody:

Yours of the 19th received, and I do trust that I didn't give you the wrong impression, in intimating that you might be interested in any items discarded by Mr. Newbury. Of course, I know full well that you are not interested in poor condition.

It has only been in recent years that Mr. Newbury collected covers and he still does not care for such items as Westerns, foreign rates, etc. He does not even own a Pony Express cover, hence an item that he might turn down might possibly be an item that you would be delighted to own.

That is what I had in mind and it occurred to me that you might give him the opportunity to acquire items that are of no particular interest to you. I haven't mentioned these ideas of mine to him, but I will do so on my next visit to Chicago.

It certainly is unfortunate that we have a lot of unethical people in this game. I think that a person who spreads malicious gossip generally has little or no regard for the truth, hence can no more be trusted than a cheat who would deliberately fake a cover. There are so many fine characters in American Philately that there is little reason why one should be bothered or bored by the morons who hang on the gringe.

At the present time I do not know of any exceptional block of the One Cent 1851 that is for sale but I will keep a memorandum before me that you would like to see one.

I will greatly appreciate a look at your 24¢ and 30¢ 1869 covers when they are returned to you.

I count Ezra Cole as one of my very good friends. Ezra stands very high with the best of American collectors, as well as with the best among the dealers.

I really cannot understand why Weill has such an exaggerated opinion of the value of his 1869, 30¢ plus 15¢ cover.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 29, 1943.

Mr. W. L. Moody III,
% American National Insurance Co.,
Galveston, Texas.

Dear Mr. Moody:

Referring to our recent correspondence regarding the 24¢ 1869 covers, I suppose the cover you own is a cover that was in the Emerson collection and was sold in the first Emerson sale in 1937. This was a 25¢ rate to Rosario Argentine and had a 24¢ 1869 and a 1¢ 1869. It was from Boston and was from the "Winsor" correspondence.

Strange to relate, my friend Mr. Harold Carhart of New York City owns a similar cover, in fact, it must be almost a duplicate of yours, that is, if my records are correct. I had supposed that the Emerson cover went to Carhart as the catalogue description fitted his cover. I did not suspect that there were two such items which are apparently almost identical. I have a photograph of the Carhart cover and I will look forward to seeing your cover and making a record of it.

I have seen quite a few covers from the Winsor find but I don't recall that I have ever attached any suspicion to any of them. Apparently this "find" was kept clean. Neither the 24¢ nor the 1¢ on the Carhart cover are tied.

I understand that the Weill firm sold the cover with the 30¢ and 15¢ to one man who took all the covers in this correspondence. In figuring the cost of each cover I think that he figured that the 30¢ combination cover cost him between \$450 and \$465. I thought you would be interested in this bit of information and I ask that you treat same as confidential, though I do not think that the new owner would have the slightest objection to me giving you the information.

I am enclosing herewith some additional covers from the Brooks Lot.

Cover #68 is quite unusual. It has two unsigned copies and the use is in December 1845. I have no record of the use of any unsigned copies later than July 1845. The stamp to right has a horizontal fold in the paper. I might add that all of the Brooks covers came to him from original finds, hence no "monkey business" with any of his covers.

Cover #69 - has two singles, the stamp to left being exceptionally fine and in my opinion, worth the full price of this cover. This copy has the red New York as well as the blue pen marks.

Cover #94 - the right stamp could be cut off leaving quite a fine

#2. Mr. W. L. Moody III, Aug. 29, 1943.

single.

If you decide to keep any of these and wish any of the stamps removed from cover, I'll be glad to do the removing without injury to the face of the stamp.

Cover #373. I think this is a beautiful cover. Mr. Brooks bought this in the Brown sale and paid close to the price asked.

Lot #496 - contains some California items:

(A) An unused via Panama steamship envelope

Letter sheets as follows

(B) "The miners"

(C) "Quirot & Co. Lithograph (S.F.) with four miner's scenes

(D) Letter sheet dated Nevada City Mar 20 - 1853 - a "Britton & Rey lithograph of four miner's scenes, "Sundry Amusements"

Price of this lot \$30.00.

If you decide to retain any of the items will you kindly make check payable direct to Harold C. Brooks.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosed:

# 68	- \$160.00	✓
69	- 140.00	✓
70	- 85.00	
71	- 50.00	
72	- 300.00	✓ (From an original find.
78	- 17.50	✓ An exceptional copy.
92	- 15.00	
94	- 50.00	✓
295	- 10.00	✓
296	- 15.00	✓
297	- 15.00	✓
298	- 15.00	✓
304	- 2.50	
373	- 60.00	✓
414	- 15.00	✓
457	- 2.00	✓
458	- 2.00	✓
461	- 3.00	✓
463	- 3.50	✓
465	- 3.50	✓
466	- 5.00	✓
467	- 5.00	✓
468	- 15.00	✓
476	- 17.50	✓
481	- 3.00	✓
484	- 3.00	✓
486	- 7.50	✓
496	- 30.00	✓

70	-	85.
71		50.
78		17.50
92		15.
304		2.50
		<hr/>
		170.00

Mr. W. L. Moody ^{III} make large envelope
% American National Insurance Co.
Galveston Texas

Dear Mr. Moody

Referring to our recent
correspondence regarding the 24
¢ 1869 covers, I suppose the
cover you own is a cover that
was in the Emerson collection and
was sold in the first Emerson Sale
in 1937. ~~It~~ ^{THIS} was a 25¢ rate to
Rosario Argentine and had a 24¢
1869 and a 1¢ 1869. It was from Boston
and was from the "Museum"
Correspondence. Strange to relate,
my friend Mr. Harold Barkhart of
New York City owns a similar cover,
in fact it must be almost a
duplicate of yours, that is if my
records are correct. I had supposed
that the Emerson cover went to Barkhart
as the catalogue description ~~fit~~
~~it~~ fitted his cover. I did not suspect
~~that~~ that there were two such
items which are apparently almost
identical. I have a photograph of
the Barkhart cover and will soon
forward to seeing your cover

and making a record of it. I
have seen quite a few covers
from the Munson fund but
I don't recall that I have
ever attached any piece on
to any of them. Apparently this
"fund" was kept clean. Neither
the 24¢ nor the 1¢ on the
backhand covers are tied.

I understood that the Neill
firm sold the covers with the
30¢ and 15¢ to one man who
took all the covers in this
correspondence. I'm figuring the
cost of each cover I think that
he figured that the 30¢ Combination
cover cost him between \$450.
and \$465. I thought you
would be interested in this
bit of information and I ask that
you treat same as confidential,
though I do not think that the
new owner would have the slightest
objection to me giving you ~~these~~ the

information

I am enclosing here with
some additional covers from
the Brooks Lot.

Cover #68 is quite unusual. It has
two unsealed copies and the
use is in December 1845. I
have no record of the use of
any unsealed copies later
than July 1845. The stamp
to right has a horizontal fold
in the paper. I might add
that all of the Brooks covers
came to me from original
finds hence no "monkey
business" with any of his
covers.

Cover #69 - has two singles, the
stamp to left being exceptionally
fine and in my opinion
worth the full price of this

Cover. ~~#~~ This copy has
the red New York as well
as the blue pen marks—
Cover #94 — The right stamp
could be put of leaving quite
a fine sample.

If you decide to keep any
of these and wish ^{ANY OF} the ~~covers~~ ^{stamps}
removed from cover, I'll
be glad to do the removing
without any way to the face
of the stamp.

Cover #373. I think this is
a beautiful cover. The Brooks
brought this in the Braun
Sale and paid close to the
price asked.

Lot #496 - Cantanus Pence

California items

(a) an unused Via Panama Steamship

~~Box~~ envelope
Letter sheets as follows

(B) "The Miners"

(c) "Quiroto & Co Lithograph (S.F.)
QUIROTO

With four Miner's scenes

(d) Letter sheet dated Nevada City

Mar 20 - 1853 - a "Britten

& Rey lithograph of four

Miner's scenes, "Sunday

Amusements" Price of this

Lot \$30⁰⁰

If you decide to retain any
of the items will you kindly
make check payable direct to
Harold C Brooks

Sincerely yours

Enclosed

68 - 160. ✓

69 - 140. ✓

70 - 85. ✓

(over)

71 - 50. ✓

72 - 300. ✓ (From an original fund.

78 - 17.50 ✓ an exceptional copy

92 - 15. ✓

94 - 50. ✓

295 - 10. ✓

296 - 15. ✓

297 - 15. ✓

298 - 15. ✓

304 - 2.50 ✓

373 - 60. ✓

414 - 15. ✓

457 - 2. ✓

458 - 2. ✓

461 - 3. ✓

463 - 3.50 ✓

465 - 3.50 ✓

466 - 5.00 ✓

467 - 5. ✓

468 - 15. ✓

476 - 17.50 ✓

481 - 3.00 ✓

484 - 3.00 ✓

486 - 7.50 ✓

496 - 30. ✓

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Sept. 13, 1943.

Mr. W. L. Moody III,
The Moody Ranch,
Mountain Home, Texas.

Dear Mr. Moody:

Yours of recent date received with return of the covers and check payable to Mr. Brooks for \$170.00. Kindly accept my thanks.

I note you would like for me to re-submit the 5¢ St. Louis cover after you return to Galveston. This I will be glad to do and I will endorse same as absolutely genuine in every respect on the reverse.

Mr. Brooks never has collected any off-cover stamps and the great majority of his covers were acquired direct thru an extensive as well as expensive advertising campaign which he conducted from time to time in the past twenty years.

About a year ago, he decided that he would cut his collection down to about 300 of the finest items in his collection, and in following out this intention, he has disposed of many different specialties. For example, all of his U. S. Postmasters, the sale of which he negotiated himself. Do you recall I wrote you about his New Haven? This he sold for \$1500 to a collector in New Haven. Last spring he sold at auction quite a lot of Confederate Provisionals and Confederate General Issues. At present I think he is entirely cleaned out of Confeds with the exception of some few super deluxe Provisionals. He gets his big kick out of collecting in acquiring items and in many instances I have noted him tiring of expensive covers and selling them at substantial losses. He loves to attend auctions and to bid more than the other fellow. He has told me that it runs in his blood and that his father enjoyed an auction sale more than any other form of amusement. Brooks is a charming gentleman, a real fellow in every respect of the word and a loyal friend. If you knew him I am sure you would like him very much.

The above, simply to reassure you that the items I have sent you and which belong to him are not cast-offs for any other reasons than stated.

I was pleased to obtain the further information on the 24¢ 1869 cover, which indicates that the cover now in the Carhart collection was formerly in the Emerson collection.

No doubt you have some covers in your collection with a rubber stamp on the back reading, "John F. Seybold, Syracuse, N.Y." Seybold was quite a prominent collector in the early part of this century and was noted for the fact that he collected covers. He was no doubt one of the first collectors in the country who really went after covers in

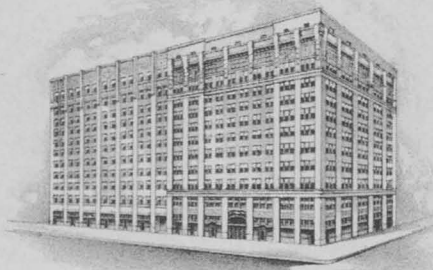
#2. Mr. W. L. Moody III, Sept. 13, 1943.

a big way. Seybold died in the fall of 1909 and his collection of covers was sold at auction by J. S. Morgenthau & Co. in March of 1910.

The catalogue of the Seybold sale is a great piece of reference material, at least it has proved that to me. Among the 1869 items was a cover to Spain described as having a 24¢ 1869 and a pair of 2¢ bank notes used in August of 1870. I have often wondered whatever became of that cover and how much I would give to see it and examine it. Well, last week that long standing wish was gratified and I located the present owner of the cover. Without doubt it is the most beautiful 24¢ 1869 I have ever seen and it is absolutely good beyond any question of a doubt.

Here is a very rare item and can you imagine the price it brought in the sale? A mere eight dollars. Of course the cover is not for sale, but I thought you would be interested in the above. Perhaps I could arrange to send you a photograph if you would like to have a print.

Sincerely yours,



AMERICAN NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.

W. L. MOODY, JR., PRESIDENT

GALVESTON, TEXAS

W. L. MOODY, III,
VICE PRESIDENT

Moody Ranch
Mountain Home, Texas

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Your letter of August 29th with enclosures was forwarded to me at the Moody Ranch, Mountain Home, Texas, where I am remaining for several weeks. It is difficult for me to decide on some of the items, such as the cover with the St. Louis bears, because I do not have my collection nor even a catalogue with me. I think that I have this identical stamp on cover, that is, the 5¢ St. Louis, but if mine should be a different position on the plate, I might consider the cover you submitted. I would, however, want your written endorsement on the back of the cover if I decided to keep it. If you care to resubmit it later on after I return to Galveston, you may do so.

Meanwhile, I have decided to keep five covers totaling \$170.00 for which I enclose my check payable to Harold C. Brooks, as requested. I note that nearly all of these covers have some little something that detracts. If Mr. Brooks has any extremely fine items, particularly New Yorks, I would surely appreciate your sending them to me. I don't like paper folds or creases; I don't like smeary cancellations; and I don't like stamps that are cut into even though very slightly; or stamps with perforations pulled. Almost without exception, the covers submitted come into these categories and I can't help but wonder if they are not culls from Mr. Brook's collection. I feel sure that they must be. I hope the returned covers reach you in good order.

With regard to my 24¢ 1869 cover, it is not such a cover as you refer to. However, as I advised you before, I do not have it in hand and can not give you all of the details about it until it is returned to me, at which time I will be very happy to send it on for your inspection.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

W. L. Moody, III
W. L. Moody, III

WLM, III/kw
Encl.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 22, 1943.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
304 Commerce Bldg.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

Your letter of the 16th received, but the cover that you stated you were enclosing was not in the envelope. I judge that this was an error and that you are sending it under separate cover.

I note that the cover was Lot 13 in the recent Doane Sale (Dec. 6th). I went over the lots in this sale while in New York around the 1st of the month and no doubt I thought that this cover was O.K. as I note that I double checked it and advised my friend Emmerson Krug to buy it. Evidently his bid was not high enough.

Before passing any opinion on the cover I would prefer to examine it carefully. It is possible I double checked the cover simply because I thought the two stamps were very fine. I can't recall exactly how the cover looked, but I do know that many "Kennedy" covers in collections thruout the country were originally stampless items, to which stamps were added by fakers.

Some Kennedy's correspondents in Canada kept supplies of the 1847 stamps and used them on their mail in order to pay the U. S. postage to destination in New York. As Canada had no postage stamps at this time, their postage had to be paid in cash. Inasmuch as we had no postal treaty with Canada at this time, it was not possible to prepay the postage to destination, unless as was probably done with your cover.

I have a faint recollection that the blue pen marks struck me as being the blue ink used at the New York Post Office at this period. It is possible that the Paid in the Quebec postmark was crossed out because the entire postage was not paid in cash to destination, there being no way to do this. "Paid" generally meant "to destination."

One of the finest things in 1847 covers is a combination use of the 5¢ (or 10¢) 1847 with a Canadian 3 pence Beaver stamp. Such combination covers are very rare, because the "Beaver" was not issued until late April 1851 and the 47's became obsolete

#2. Mr. C. C. Hart, Dec. 22, 1943.

several months later (July 1, 1851). Perhaps the finest U.S. 19th Century (General Issues) cover known to philately is a cover from Canada via the U. S. thru Boston to London, England. This cover has a three pence Beaver (paying the postage to the border) and a strip of five 5¢ 1847, paying by one cent overpay the 24¢ U. S. rate to London. I am reliably informed that the owner recently refused \$5,000.00 for this cover. At present I am trying to buy a certain well known cover which has a Beaver and a 5¢ 1847 from this country to Canada, the 5¢ 47 paying the U. S. postage (in May 1851) and the Beaver, the Canadian postage. What a wonderful combination!!!

I understand that extremely good prices were realized at the Michaels sale and if too much material is not returned, then Michaels can consider the sale quite a big success.

With the Compliments of the Season, I am

Cordially yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 24, 1943.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
304 Commerce Bldg.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

Herewith the 5¢ 1847 cover, same being lot #13 in the recent Doane sale. I have examined this cover very carefully and I am of the opinion that the 5¢ stamps were without any doubt used originally on this cover and were attached to the cover in Canada by the sender. I also examined the cover very carefully under my quartz lamp and found no indication whatsoever that there had been any change made in the original status of the cover. The stamps surely do not show any sign that any previous cancelation had been removed.

I think that it is possible that the blue ink was the blue ink which was used at the New York post office at this period, if so then the stamps were not canceled until the letter reached the New York post office. I don't know why the "Paid" in the Quebec postmark was crossed out but I suspect that this was done at the New York post office.

In the Lichtenstein collection is a Kennedy cover addressed by the same man who wrote your letter. This cover has the same (two) Quebec postmarks, the date, "OC - 3 - 1849," and two 5¢ 1847's which are apparently tied by a numeral "10" in a circle. On the face is a pen "11½." The "PAID" is not crossed out on this cover.

In a Robson Lowe & Co. sale (London) in March 1939 a cover was sold, which appears to be addressed by the same man, but this cover is addressed to Detroit. There are two Quebec postmarks (like yours) and the date appears to be "Ja 3 1850." It has "Paid to Lines" and a pen "11½." I note that on this cover the "PAID" is blotted out with what appears to be either a concentric circle killer or a circular grid. The cover has a 10¢ 1847 canceled with a "red target" cancelation. I note that the description states the "Paid" is blotted out by a "red target." Perhaps I had better quote the auction description:

"1850 - combination cover from Quebec to Detroit of crowned circle type 'Paid at Quebec' with red target cancellation and '11½,' in manuscript, and a lovely copy of the U.S.A. 1847, 10¢ with similar target postmark. The obverse shows also Ms. 'Paid to Lines' at top."

It seems evident from the above that the stamp was canceled at an office in Canada and the Paid was blotted out at the same time as

#2. Mr. C. C. Hart, Dec. 24, 1943.

we did not use a target killer in this country at this period. (There were several exceptions).

Mr. Lichtenstein has a Kennedy ~~cover~~ from Montreal in June 1851 with a 3 pence Beaver and a 5¢ 1847 and both stamps are tied to cover with a target killer (two strikes). This cover shows that our 1847 stamps were, at times, canceled in Canada, though I can't imagine why this was permitted by the U. S. P.O.D. I have gone on the theory in past years that our postal authorities would have refused to recognize our stamps when canceled outside of the U. S. A.

My fee for the examination of the above cover is \$5.00 and I trust you will consider the charge as excellent insurance.

With the Compliments of the Season, I am

Cordially yours,

THE MID-WEST FINANCE COMPANY

PERSONAL LOANS SINCE 1885

PHONE HA. 4143

922 WALNUT ST.

304 COMMERCE BLDG.

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

December 29, 1943

Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 So. Grand Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

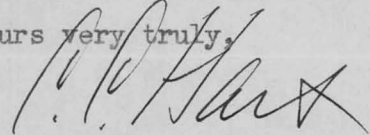
Thanks for your letters of December 22nd & 24th and the interesting and valuable information which they contained. I have long wanted a combination cover with the 3¢ Beaver and either the 5¢ or 10¢ '47 with all stamps tied by a stamp cancellation. I have bid on several of these the past few years but they have always gone for more than my bid. I was pleased to get the cover which I forwarded to you and believe that it will be an interesting addition to my collection.

In your letter of December 22nd, you say that you are trying to buy a well known cover with a Beaver and a 5¢ '47 from this country to Canada. Do you intend to resell it in case you are successful in purchasing it? If it is offered for sale, I would be interested in it as would undoubtedly many of your other friends.

Your \$5.00 fee is certainly fair and enclosed find my check for this amount.

With best wishes for a Happy New Year, I remain,

Yours very truly,



C. C. HART

CCH:BM

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Jan. 3, 1944.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
304 Commerce Bldg.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

Yours of the 29th received with check for \$5.00 for which
kindly accept my thanks.

I am enclosing herewith a photograph of the cover mentioned
in my letter of the 22nd and should I succeed in obtaining
an option on this cover and can satisfy myself that it is
perfectly good, I'll be only too glad to advise you re-
garding same.

With best of wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

Jan. 31st, 1944.

Mr. C.C. Hart,
304 Commerce Bldg.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

First regarding the 5¢ 47 - Beaver cover. It is at present in the hands of Mr. Lichtenstein to whom I sent it for an expert opinion as I value his opinion on B.N.A. above anyone else. Just as soon as I hear from him I will advise you further regarding the cover.

Very shortly I will have turned over to me quite a nice collection of 19th U. S. and if you wish you shall have a look at the 1847's.

In this collection is a superb lot of 3¢ 1851. I mention these to you for this reason. The owner had a large accumulation of the 3¢ 1851, both on and off cover. Some months ago he turned these all over to me and I weeded them out and selected for him to keep, all of the superb and fine copies, all of which are now off cover. These I mounted for him in the same manner as the mounting I did for Mr. Michaels. There are, as I recall, about 21 pages. As these would fit right into your collection, I am wondering if you would be interested in buying the lot as a whole?

Sincerely yours,

MID-WEST FINANCE COMPANY

304 COMMERCE BUILDING

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

C. C. HART, A.P.S. 13031
PRESIDENT

C. H. WALTERS
EXPERIENCED PHILATELIC APPRAISER

PHILATELIC FINANCING

RESOURCES
\$ 250,000.00

February 3, 1944

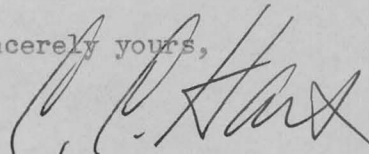
Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 So. Grand Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks very much for your letter of January 31st and I will be glad to receive the 5¢ '47 Beaver cover if it passes Mr. Lichtenstein's examination. Indeed I would be interested in seeing the 1847 section of the 19th Century collection you expect to receive shortly. I would be especially interested in '47 covers that have unusual postal cancellations and markings.

For the last year, I have had to neglect the addition and mounting of my collection because of outside work which will also keep me busy for another 6 or 8 months. At the present time I would not be interested in the lot of 3¢ 1851 and I would not want to delay the sale of them by having them forwarded to me first. I have two sons 7 and 10 years old who are getting quite interested in stamps. The youngest son is going to collect airmails and the oldest son is collecting U. S. Commemoratives. Perhaps in working with them, I will again get back in the swing on my own collection. The other day, Virginia, saw the younger boy looking through volumes of my stamps although he has been told not to do so. She asked him why he was doing it and he said he just liked to look at them. He seems to have either a natural or acquired interest in stamps and eventually will acquire the love and admiration for fine items which stamp collectors understand in each other but is a mystery to an outsider.

Sincerely yours,



C. C. HART

CCH:BM

CHICAGO, January 6, 1943.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook: -

Agreeable with your suggestion of the 3^d I beg to hand you herewith my grandmama's note for MS-Canada letter so you may submit it for inspection and opinion to any honorable and competent person of your acquaintance. I bought the letter some twenty years ago from W.D. Alexander of Winnipeg Canada who at that time was connected with a Trust Company at Winnipeg; Alexander was not only a first class collector but also was known to many dealers. He specialized in British N.A. and British colonies. He told me quite a collection of Colours in blocks of four. Not having reserved any papers from him in 4 or 5 years, I believe he died; and if he were still alive, he would be at least 80 years old. In order to raise money quickly around 1920-21, when in a tight place financially, he parted with his 'gems'; and that is how I got the letter.

The genuineness of the letter has now been
mentioned. You also were satisfied when I first
loaned it to you for that book a \$28 U.S.
Nevertheless I appreciate your position and hope
your Expert friend can and will satisfy you.
In the meantime I beg to remain
with kindest regards

Sincerely yours
Alma W. Cleary

HERMANN WOLLENBERGER

1765 EAST 55TH STREET

CHICAGO, January 25, 1944.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

The drive for the 4th War Loan is on, and my grandson, as boy scout, is out after school trucking Tom. Dick & Harry for subscriptions, anxious to make a good showing. And since the proceeds of his U.S. Canada Cows are to go to Uncle Sam he asks me day after day whether I have not heard from you. Of course I know from experience that stamp correspondence is not disposed of like business correspondence; nevertheless I am wondering whether you Canada Specialist has reported to you as yet. According to my memorandum I mailed the cows to you on January 6th. May I hear from you now.

With kindest regards sincerely yours

Hermann Wollenberger

Mr. Harry B. Ashbrook

Fort Worth, Tex.

Jan. 26, 1944.

Mr. Herman Wollenberger,
1765 East 55th St.,
Chicago, Ills.

My dear Mr. Wollenberger:

Your 1847 cover is in the hands of Mr. Alfred L. Lichtenstein of New York City whom I consider the foremost authority on B.N.A. stamps on this Continent. I have been expecting to hear from Mr. Lichtenstein most every day for a week, hence delayed writing you, but you can rest assured that your cover is in safe hands and that we will obtain a report on same from Mr. Lichtenstein in which we can place the fullest confidence.

I will advise you as soon as I hear from Mr. Lichtenstein.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

CHICAGO, January 19, 1944.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

I have your letter of the 26th ^{miss} that my
grandson's U.S.-Canada cover is now in the hands
of Alfred Lichtenstein in New York. He knows the cover,
for years ago, maybe 15-18 years ago, someone told me
- I do not remember who - that Lichtenstein would be
much interested in seeing the cover, because he has
a picture one from Canada to the U.S. I sent
it to him and he asked my permission to have a
photostat made of it; and he also offered to buy
it and submitted a bid too ridiculous to mention.

I think it is Lichtenstein's cover, which is
mentioned in Kohl's 1926 Catalog.

I doubt whether Lichtenstein or anyone else
could dare question the genuineness of the cover,
and in case he should one more talk a
low price, here is my answer: With the close of
the drive of the 4th War bond drive in February 1944,
the price will be advanced considerably if then
more.

Sincerely,
Hermann Wollenberger

Feb. 9, 1944.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
304 Commerce Bldg.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

I am enclosing herewith the combination cover - 5¢ 1847 plus 3 pence Canada Beaver used from Rochester, N.Y. on May 4, 1851. Mr. Lichtenstein returned the cover to me without a positive opinion, no doubt hesitating to commit himself but Winthrop Boggs and several other authorities have assured me that the cover is perfectly genuine. I am of this opinion and have been since I first examined the cover several years ago. The owner has assured me that he knows the history of the item and will guarantee the cover to be genuine. If I did not thoroughly believe in it I would not recommend it to you.

The owner's price is \$1500.00 and in case you decide to purchase it I would prefer that you make check payable direct to the owner.

This cover is so very unusual and rare I would appreciate the favor if you would show it to Mr. Michaels.

The Beaver is on the Laid Paper.

I was very much interested in your remarks about your two boys and I know that you are pleased that both of them are showing an interest in stamps, because it is something that cannot be forced. One has to have the natural urge. I have a son who is now 36 years old and all his early life he saw me working at my stamps but he never displayed the slightest interest.

I have a Stan Jr. who is past 13 and he loves anything that looks like a stamp. He has been interested since he was eight and he knows his foreign, far better than I ever knew them at his age. I have never encouraged him or tried to have him take an interest but I take a delight in his interest and hope he will carry on after I have passed on.

I haven't started to break up the 19th collection as yet but I will remember you when I get to it.

Sincerely yours,

MID-WEST FINANCE COMPANY

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KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

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February 15, 1944

Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 So. Grand
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Received your letter of Feb. 9th enclosing a combination 5¢ '47 cover plus a 3¢ Canada Beaver. It certainly is a beautiful cover and naturally I would like to have it but the price is too high. I know that prices on this type of merchandise have gone up considerably but \$1,500 is still a lot of money and I guess I will just have to wait.

I don't recall having seen the cover pictured in any auction the last few years but it certainly accurately meets the description of a cover which was offered in J. M. Bartels sale about a year ago and that lot as I recall, brought slightly over \$400.

I have tried to get in touch with Mr. Michaels but he has been out of the office and I am returning the cover without having shown it to him because I prefer not to have such a valuable piece in my possession without owning it.

When you get around to breaking up the 19th Century collection, I am still interested in seeing that part of it and any 5¢ or 10¢ '47's on or off cover.

Thanks again.

Sincerely yours.

C. C. HART

CCH:BM

MID-WEST FINANCE COMPANY

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KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

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RESOURCES
\$ 250,000.00

December 16, 1943

Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 So. Grand Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed find a '47 cover with two #28's from Quebec, To New York. I purchased this in Percy Doane's last sale and the postal markings have me puzzled. I took it to Mr. Michaels and he wasn't able to figure them out any better than I could. These questions arise in my mind concerning the cover:

Does $11\frac{1}{2}$ in red show the prepaid rate to the border?
If so, why is "paid" ^{IN} and Quebec cancellation inked out and by whom?

Was blue pen which cancelled stamps and scratched out "paid" applied by Canadian or U. S. postal officials?
If applied by U. S. postmaster, why did he tamper with the Canadian cancellation? If applied by the Canadian postmaster, why did he tamper with U. S. stamps?

If prepaid all the way from Quebec to New York, why was "Paid" ever penned out?

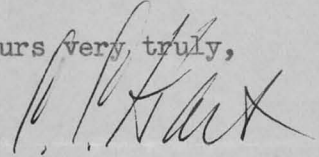
Perhaps the solution is simpler than I expect but it has me puzzled and I would like to have your opinion on the cover.

Mr. Michaels was well pleased with the result from the sale of his 1851's and other stamps which Kelleher recently sold. He said they realized about 25% ^{more} than he, Dan Kelleher, estimated. There were certainly some nice items in Mr. Michaels collection and I hope that some of the choicer items found their way into other prominent collections. While Mr. Michaels is selling many of his stamps, the "stamp bug" is too firmly imbedded to be rid of entirely. He tells me that he is filling the blank spaces in his boyhood album which stopped at 1884 and is collecting foreign only at that date and previously. Leave it up to Mr. Michaels to do something original

in stamp collecting.

As soon as you have time to look at the cover, I would like to hear from you concerning it.

Yours very truly,



C. C. HART

CCH:BM

C. S. DEMAREE
QUALITY
KANSAS CITY, MO.

Dec. 10, 1945.

Mr. Maurice C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Mr. Blake:

At my request, Admiral Harris was kind enough to send me three covers from his collection addressed to Hawaii. The following is a description:

(A) A F.L. addressed to Honolulu from Boston "8 JUN" 1852. Stampless, with a red "BOSTON 8 JUN 6 CTS." It has a reddish brown "PAID" on face and a brown crayon "5," which, in my opinion, was undoubtedly applied at Honolulu.

(B) A F.L., stampless to Honolulu from New York May 20, 1853. It has a red "NEW - PAID 6 - YORK - MAY 20," also a black pencil "6" and a brown crayon 5, also in pen another "(5)". In my opinion, the brown crayon "5" on this cover is the same brown as on the Boston item above.

(C) Buff envelope - stampless - letter inside dated "Westerly R.I. September the 15, 1852." The envelope is addressed to Mr. James B. Wilber - Bark S H Waterman, Lahaina - Sandwich Island." There is a black circular p.m. "Westerly SEP 17 R.I." Also a black "PAID" and a black "6" - in lower left is a black pencil "5."

I will probably make photos of these and if Admiral Harris has no objection I will be pleased to send you prints, provided that you would like to have them.

I am endeavoring to locate other covers of the period to Hawaii.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Dec. 21st, 1945.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Please note the enclosed. Jessup sent me three covers and I included these in the comparative table of nine items belonging to Admiral Harris, Jessup and Blake. It appears that Whitney charged 10¢ "ship to shore" prior to July 1st, 1851 and 5¢ after that date.

It seems probable that the ship captains did not claim a 2¢ fee on inward-bound mail.

With Xmas Greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

RECORD OF COVERS TO HAWAII FROM U. S.

Prior to July 1, 1851

Origin Date	From	Destination	U.S.Rate	H.I.Due	Owner
Nov. 9, 1850	Boston	Honolulu	80	None	Jessup
Apr. 11, 1851	New York	Lahaina	40	10	"
May 24, 1851	Boston	Honolulu	40	10	Blake
May 26, 1851	New York	Lahaina	40	10	Jessup

After July 1, 1851

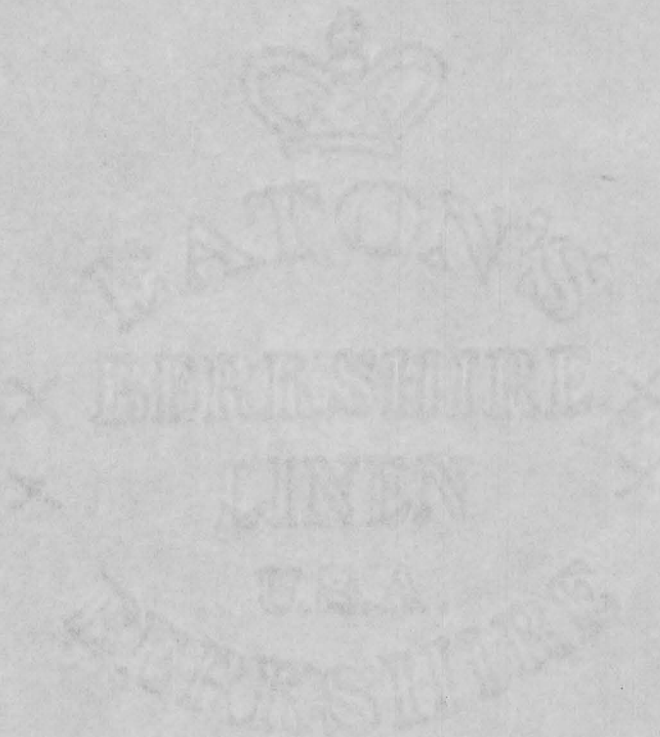
Mar. 23, 1852	Boston	Honolulu	12	10	Blake
Apr. 23, 1852	"	"	6	5	"
June 8, 1852	"	"	6	5	Harris
Sep. 15, 1852	Westerly				
	R.I.	Lahaina	6	5	"
May 20, 1853	New York	Honolulu	6	5	"

COVERS TO HAWAII SUBMITTED BY EDGAR B. JESSUP - Dec. 20, 1945.

(A) - From Boston Nov. 9, 1850, addressed to Honolulu - Rate 80.
Unpaid - A F.L.S. (Folded Letter Stampless) - No Postage Due
markings. Markings in red.

(B) - From New York - Apr. 11, 1851, addressed to Lahaina - Rate 40
(Encircled 40 in black) - unpaid - a buff envelope - The Postmark
is the First Type N.Y. Ocean Mail - in black - H.I. Postage Due is
a "10" in red pencil.

(C) - From New York - May 26, 1851, addressed to Lahaina - Rate 40
(N.Y. p.m. with "40" at bottom - in black) - unpaid - a buff envelope -
H.I. Postage Due is a "10" in brown pencil.



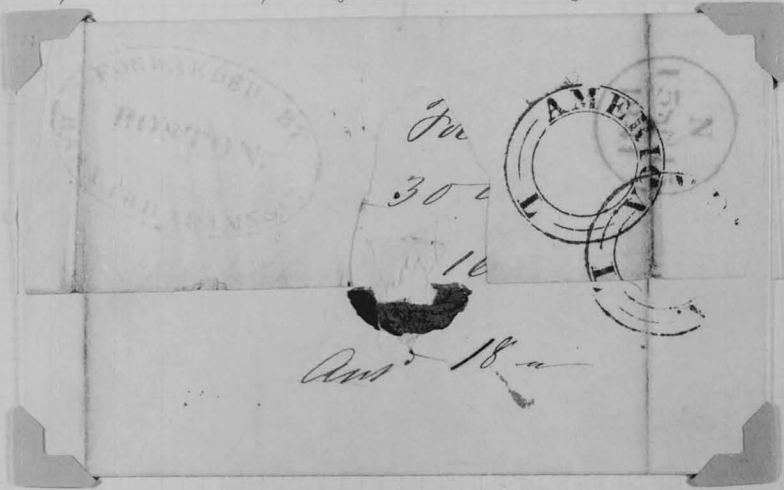
Correspondence
between
USA RGD in Viet Nam

through the medium of forwarding Agent

Various dates

The Second P.O. Packet Service Mark current from 1861

Letter from Boston per S. F. Librarian to New York forwarded by Miss M. Barnard Adams & Co. Thru by AMERICAN LINE to Liverpool 21st Sept 1861



The Floating R.C. (revised) Memo (Hendy 132) or Supplementing what is required

Letter from New York May 17 1863 via the Liverpool Agents Messrs. Blacking & Co. who sent the letter to the branch of Messrs. Silas & Co. in London then by AMERICAN LINE 1863

At York 1863 MAY 19 1863 to NEW YORK (stamp LIVERPOOL MAY 21 1863 FRH) when it arrives

It is surcharged 3 cents for the USA postage to Boston

Total postage 2 1/2 + if made up by 1/2 cent each surcharge R.C. internal USA



434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 6, 1943.

Major Wm. H. Tapp,
Clifton House,
Southside,
Wimbledon, S.W1 19,
England.

My dear Major:

Your letter of the 10th of September with photograph, eventually arrived, but it was held up at various points before it reached me. It even had to go thru the U. S. Customs Office at Louisville.

Regarding the Liverpool "F.R.H." marking, I noted the reference to this in Hendy's book several years back, made a note of it and fully intended to mention it in my article on the "New York Supplementary Mail," and then I completely forgot to include it.

I remember that when I read the explanation in Hendy's book, (page 62) that the thought occurred to me that the New York Postmaster merely copied in 1853 a service that had been in effect at Liverpool since 1849. I feel convinced that New York merchants were aware of the "late" Liverpool service and persuaded the New York Postmaster to inaugurate such a service there, which was done on the authority of the Postmaster General.

I have often wondered why Boston did not attempt (?) to have a similar service.

It would appear that the English fee was a shilling regardless of the weight of the letter and that the fee was payable only in chas. The fee at New York was equal to the amount of the rate.

I have a copy of the Alcock-Holland Book but I cannot find any reference to the "F.R.H." marking in that book. By any chance did I overlook it?

I would greatly appreciate a copy of The Apollo containing your article on the first Trans-Atlantic Mails. In this connection I might mention that for some years past I have been working on quite a lengthy article on the "Trans-Atlantic Mails 1815-1850." I may cover the decade to 1860. Eventually I hope to publish this in booklet form.

For a long time I have been interested in the "Retaliatory Rate" covers of 1848 and wonder if you are familiar with them and have any.

#2. Major Wm. H. Tapp, Nov. 6, 1943.

The U. S. Congress in the spring of 1848 passed a law making a charge of 24¢ for sea postage on all letters brought into the U. S. from Britain, regardless of whether carried in American or British ships. This was in retaliation of the British P.O. ruling of June 1847 which put a similar charge on all mail brought to the British Isles from America.

I have a number of covers to the U. S. with this retaliatory rate, but I have none from the U. S. to England.

Our 5¢ and 10¢ 1847 stamps are bringing tremendous prices at the present time and inasmuch as I do not deal in stamps I fear that it would be impossible for me to lay aside any items for you for after the war delivery.

I am enclosing herewith two photographs with my compliments, one is a retaliatory rate cover. You will note that though the letter was prepaid one shilling in G.B. it was rated at Boston as "29" cents collect, this being the regular postage (5¢) from Boston to New York plus 24¢ sea from England to Boston.

The other cover is the finest "New York Supplementary Mail" cover known to me. It was illustrated in my article. The use was from New York on Oct. 12, 1861, and the stamps are a 5¢ 1861 buff, a 10¢ Type I, (mis-called the "August" or "Premieres") and a 30¢ 1861. The rate, 45¢ via American Packet to England, with a 24¢ credit to the British P.O.D. for transmission by British Mail to Hong Kong, the U. S. share being the usual 21¢ to G.B. (16¢ sea plus 5¢ internal).

If you will send me an article on the F.R.H. I will be only too glad to have it published in one of our philatelic publications.

Thanking you very much for your kind letter, I am

Cordially yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 6, 1943.

Mr. Harry L. Lindquist,
2 W. 46th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

Please note the enclosed letter. He refers to the British Supplementary Mail Service at Liverpool for America, which was established in 1849 and was in service until 1864. Our N.Y. Service was doubtless copied from the British in 1853.

The British service was called the "F.R.H." (Floating Receiving Office), in other words a receiving office at the pier at Liverpool for mail up until the time of sailing. It was inaugurated at the request of British merchants, the same as our New York Service was started at the request of New York merchants.

If you have a copy of the Hendy book you will find a short description of the service and an illustration of the "F.R.H." marking (page 62).

When I was writing the Supplementary Mail article I had it in mind to mention the British Service and to express the opinion that our New York Service was copied from the Liverpool.

I think there is an account also about this service in the British book "The Development of the Rates of Postage" by Smith.

I doubt if American collectors are aware of the British Service. Perhaps you could write quite a nice little editorial on this subject as I think it would be too short for a special article. Major Tapp sent me a photograph but it shows only the face of a cover with a British shilling stamp addressed to Boston. The "F.R.H." marking was doubtless on the reverse.

I am wondering if Gordon Harmer is familiar with the marking or has any covers showing it. It would be nice to illustrate a cover with the marking but if we cannot locate one, I will make you a tracing, if you wish, from the one in the Hendy book.

With best regards,

Yours etc.,

Wimbledon 5644.

CLIFTON HOUSE,
SOUTHSIDE,
WIMBLEDON, S.W.19.

Dec.20.1943.

Dear Mr Ashbrook.

I duly received your letter of Nov.6th. & I am wondering did Brookman every. shew you the photographs of a couple of covers I have sent ^{from} NY. to Camp Monree outside Baltimore, franked both with the 3c 1861 & the 1c blue, as carrier, by Pamela, the daughter of Lt W^m A (ugustus) Gibson of the 22Rgt of NY-SM to her father, then of that rank & later, Lt & Capt at different war addresses, principally Harpers Ferry.

The 3c stamp is in each case the lower stamp & is cancelled respectively with the New York double circle June.7. & July.19. & from a notation on the reverse side 1861: above the 3c stamp in each case is the 1c with the large four circle target-both are in the same black ink & appear to have been cancelled at N.Y. at one & the same time.

If that is so they definitely prove your contention that the carrier fee could be paid in advance at the office of despatch.

You however will be able, at a glance, to decide whether this target is attributed to NY or Baltimore.

I particularly asked Brookman to let you see these!!! I have nearly two dozens covers from & to this man, one as early as July.28.1854, when he was working for W^m A Sale & Co & one June.5.1865 within two months of Peace addressed to him at the same address & firm in NY!! A damned site better demobilisation organisation than we have in this Country!

Many covers written by him bear the regimental crest: I shall try to get a really representative colln of this man's covers together.

When I was training at Sandhurst in 1901 our military history lectures were all about Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Grant & McClellan, so it is just like going back to my boyhood days this little study of American history and geography & stamps I have set myself.

Now regarding the Supplementary Mail I am quite certain Boston did have an arrangement of some sort for accepting late mail for shipping, Exactly what it was I am not prepared to say at the moment but I am working on it!

Maybe there was great rivalry between the two ports-in fact in the period 1840/60 I expect a great many more trans-atlantic steamers made Boston their port of call in preference to NY! For one thing it was a shorter & certainly less hazardous voyage in those days of indifferent navigational marks, lights, & signals.

You are certainly right the English F.R.H. fee was equal to the ^{single} trans-atlantic fee, & not according to weight, that is as far as my observation of covers goes, but as it was a cash fee it is difficult to be positive.

No, I do not think the Alcock-Holland Book has any reference to the FRH. Yes certainly I will see that you get a copy of this month's Apollo.

Now regarding the Retaliatory Rate-1848/49 I happen to have a couple sent from the USA & I am sending you a photograph of them under separate cover. Use them as you please of course.

Many thanks indeed for the two photographs-curiously I have two covers one in 1864 to Lyon per SS Arabia franked with 30c.10c. & 5c 1861 (triple?)

& the other ^{with} also in 1864 franked with a pair of 24c & 5ct-via Mar-
-seilles to Hong Kong-unfortunately there is no letter so that I am not
positive from what place in USA it was sent, but all three stamps have a
very large grid cancellation complete circle with four bars which look
for all the world like a D & D reversed-but I also sent Brookman a photo
of this asking him if he knew the cancellation & so far I have not even
heard that the parcel of photos arrived safely. (10)

In this case however the port of despatch was certainly New York for
tying two of the stamps to cover is the large red circle "N York Br Pkt
Jun. 15. 64. PAID" also "London-CU-Ju. 27. 64. PAID"-then on reverse in green
"Hong Kong Aug. 18. 1864" & between the NY & London marks "40" script.

There is also the mark ~~Insufficient~~ "InsuffV stamped but there is
via Marseilles."
no due stamp & I take it therefore that the rate was found correct although
there was an extra 6d charge for ships which called at Marseilles according
to Henay.

I take it however that there was depreciation in USA currency at this
late date in the War, which USA did not recognise whilst hostilities were
still being waged, whereas the Countries outside did & certainly demanded
its recognition in 1865 & 1866, according to records on covers I have.

These two are not dissimilar to yours to Hong Kong & by the way is the
Type I. SuppV always in red?? I have an idea that I have seen it here at
Auction several times in a rather light blue!

Two covers bearing it in red were recently sold here with a dozen
other miscellaneous ones for £6-10-0. I believe Bacher bought them.

Then I have another cover with combination stamps to 45 cts also to
France with the curious red cancellation "N.YORK. PAID; 36-Mar. 29 (1864 which
I am unable to decipher except that possibly it was triple rate 3 x 3cts
Internal USA postage with 24cts (possibly 25cts) reserved for British. PO.
which may have been equivalent to 36 USA currency at that time???

What I require really badly is the two volumes of your work on the 1c
1851 & if you can obtain them for me you can draw on Brook^{man}, who has a
small balance USA currency which I sent him some months ago.

I cannot quite agree your definition of the postage to Hong Kong for
the British shipping fee to Liverpool was only 16c plus 3c British PO
(16c to Cunard Co) & the USA internal 3c plus 2c shore to ship-ergo the
24c & script I/-, which leaves the balance of 21c payable for the fees of
the P & O or India S.N. whichever carried the letter on from Southampton
to Hong Kong. (Supplementary fee in cash of course also 45c). How does
that appeal to your much more educated philatelic mind than mine????

I could also do with any book which deals solely with USA internal &
external shipping rates. At the moment I am lamentably short of any real
knowledge of the postal agreements made between the USA & European or other
Countries & am building up my knowledge solely by examining the rates on
all covers offered at auction & copying them into a note book with pages
allocated to all the Countries separately.

You see so many of these covers are out of my financial reach but
I would most certainly like to open up a philatelic branch to my business
in the USA post war-although my general business has nothing whatsoever to
do with stamps & my interests therein are purely those of the collector.

But I already find, after only two years study, that I know a good deal
more about USA covers, etc than most of our Auctioneers or Traders *this side !!*

I hear the following books are well worth while Mammel Hahn's "The (3)
French Postal Markings on USA letters-1847/57" from the American Philatelist.
& "Genesis of the Registration System" also Am Ph. (May. 1934. I believe)

If you could also get me these & draw on Brooklyn I should be so very much
obliged, as He has been the deuce of a time & has only sent me Billig's hand-
-books which are quite unsuitable to my purposes, as you will realise.

Wish now I had entrusted my purchases to your more thorough knowledge
& ideas regarding what one should have as a thorough student.

As a matter of fact the photographs were despatched to you, via Airmail
yesterday & as cash is always short Xmas time I am entrusting this to the
ordinary sea route & wish it well, as I do you & all our other American
friends at this rather critical juncture of the war.

Yours sincerely

-William H. Hoff-

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Jan. 12, 1944.

Major Wm. H. Tapp,
Clifton House,
Southside
Wimbledon S.W. 19,
England.

My dear Major:

I am today in receipt of an air mail from Wallace Heaton Ltd of London, enclosing a photograph of two "Retaliatory Rate" covers from the U. S. to London. I assume I am indebted to you for this kindness and I wish to thank you very much for same. If perchance the photos were sent to me by Dr. Bacher will you be so kind as to inform him that they were received in fine shape.

Incidentally the letter was postmarked "London 23 Dec 1943," so there really is not much advantage in using Air Post.

On both of these letters double postage was charged. This is, 29¢ was paid in the U. S. and a shilling was collected at London. The U. S. of 29¢ was 5¢ internal plus 24¢ sea. Doubtless both covers were carried by Cunard ships but in retaliation, the U. S. charged the "sea postage" regardless of whether carried by American or British packets. This was in retaliation for the British Post Office order of June 1847 which established the precedent.

Incidentally you would do me a favor if you would tell Dr. Bacher that I would like to acquire several covers like those in the photographs. That is, with the "Paid 29" and dated between July 1, 1848 and Dec. 15, 1848.

Sincerely yours,

Wimbledon 5644.

CLIFTON HOUSE,
SOUTHSIDE,
WIMBLEDON, S.W.19.

Jan.22.1944.

Dear Mr Ashbrook.

Your Article in "Stamps" of Nov.13th. ulto, appealed to me as being a most interesting let-eg-

Fig.6. Carrier to P.O. I have many of this type & by now you should have received some of the photographs: I have gathered together some sixteen covers from the correspondence of Capt. William Augustus Gibson.

I have him serving with William Sale & Co as early as 1856-two shewing his return to that Firm in N.Y. within three months of the armistice in 1865-the others running through his career from Camp Baltimore, Camp Monroe, Harpers Ferry, Bulls Run. etc.

What is known about this chap your side & why his correspondence ever here?

Fig.7. Woodstock is on the St Johns River about 15 miles due east of Houlton. Me. & at the date 1870 there was, I believe, a sort of "Ferry Rate" across the Frontier of 2cts.

Fig.8. The 2c Black Jack is a Drop Carrier Rate still used in Cincinnati. I have covers using this Rate from Philadelphia late in 1867.

Fig.9. Between the years 1851/55 the postal rates between USA/Hong Kong or China was 5cts USA Internal & 38cts reserved to GB for various transit & shipping services-actually the 40ct reservation should only have been used against a postage of 53cts-generally via Marseilles.

As far as I can judge from the photograph both the 40 & the PAID 1850 circular cancellation are written in the wrong type ink.

Would you care to register the Imprint copy I have of the 12cts Scott. 51. "Engravers. Phil. New York" 50.R.I.??

Also a 1870 Bank Note Note, 6c. with the red "SUPPLEMENTARY MAIL" on cover. I rather treasure this. Would you consider £10 a reasonable value to put on it???

Also a horizontal pair-mint. 5c 1851-brilliant general condition but cut, a little close at the bottom.

Would it be possible for me to compile a philatelic article for the USA press, stressing the necessity of the closest political & business relations between us, post war: say on Trans Atlantic markings or something of the sort-at all events introducing the common love of the Sea & its Shipping.

I know none of your Publishers & should certainly require an introduction.

You have been extremely kind in assistance me in my education & I hope shortly to be receiving a copy of your book on the 1c 1851-If you cannot obtain a copy very likely Mr Rich will be able to obtain one at a sale in NY. I hope so.

If I can assist you with any further photographs I will see what I can run to, in the meantime use any you receive from me as you wish.

My boys are interested in the Allies Flag issue so please frank any correspondence to me with them, particularly the later ones.

Yours sincerely William Nass.

Clifton House
Southside
Wimbledon.SW.19.
Jan.30.1944.

Dear Mr Ashbrook.

My article dealing with the Trans-Atlantic shipping marks has made its appearance in The Apollo & you should be receiving your copy shortly! I propose however also to send you a separate "pull".

The Editor of the Apollo is an extremely difficult chap & is not at-all in favour of philatelic articles, but I have pointed out that these will receive a much wider appreciation in USA, & I therefore hope he may get some special orders for this last article.

I should like to produce the next one entirely on the S.Ms. & I want to ask you a few questions regarding the Am.Sp.paper written by you 1941.

Fig.3. The letter was probably not cancelled primarily in N.Y.at-all? There is no cancellation "PAID ALL"

No indication whatsoever that it ever went via a GB port-The French receiving mark is Et Unis Serv AM A C (alais) nothing at-all about "Serv AM Br etc".

At the moment then I am not in accord with your reading of the postal reservation & service-surely it should be 9c Trans-Atlantic shipping fee-3c reserved Fr.P.O.D.3c USA ditto??

Fig.7. To the left of the London date mark there appears to be a New York circular cancellation(although you say there is not)& does not the red pencil notation look more like the fig 16 than 19??

Fig.ID.What is the significance of the "PAID ALL" seems generally to be present when the S.M.is also paid by stamps, but not invariably so.

I have difficulty again in agreeing your reading of the fees! We have the "PAID ALL" NY mark again! Let us postulate that this indicated that the SM fee had been paid by stamps-There is no indication whatsoever that this was an overweight letter! unless it appears to you, as such, on inspection of size & possibly marks on the reverse.

The letter undoubtedly travelled via Liverpool-where then the reservation for GB.POD?? I read it that the red manuscript six might refer to a weight of 6 grammes 3dwts, under 1/4 oz, or if it indeed refers to a fee reservation it must be 3c GB & 3c French.PO.(unless you know that France defrayed this GB transit fee direct?)

I have a very curious pair of covers from Pacific Mills-Lawrence-MS-the first "SHORT PAID" franked with a single 24ct Red-Lilac, annotated "Above 1/2 oz" manuscript-via BOSTON BR PKT to Liverpool & Manchester. the-second dated Oct.10.1867.

the second dated Oct.20.1865-same stamp "BOSTON:AM:PKT:OCT:23:3 PAID" usual London & Manchester arrival cancellation(apparently the Br Pkt went to Liverpool, whilst the Am Pkt went to London)

So far both covers are entirely in accord with the PO Regulations but this second cover has stamped on it in large type & in a deep brick red colour PAID

24

To my mind there can be no other conceivable explanation for this extra marking other than that it indicated that a supplementary fee had been paid-otherwise why the mark at-all seeing that the cover had already been correctly stamped? There is no "SHORT PAID" here you see!!!!

Do you agree?? If so I should include it in my next article on the S.Ms:

Now would you & Dr Babcock send me the photograph from which your FIG.3. & either FIG 13 or 12 was composed so that I might include illustrations from them, with the proper acknowledgements of course?????

If I can persuade The Apollo I shall certainly do so, for at-all events they do get really decent paper, whereas as you see the generally issues to the public are rapidly deteriorating as the Ministries waste more!!

Will you please frank your reply with "Allies Flag stamps" as they are very popular indeed over here, although there is no indication that that is so in the dealer's prices-It is just one more indication to our very slow moving & unenterprising PO that at-all events the English Public appreciate the fact that the USA. PO. is both enterprising & constructive.

Now please I want a little advice from you-I have a general 19th century USA colln with about £2000; with nearly all the stamps & type of each stamp represented by at least one cover-I could sell the off cover stamps easily for £1600, but it does appear to me that a properly written up collection of this sort, with singles, cancellations, pairs, blocks, strips, off cover, and followed by the respective covers, will in the long run fetch a much higher value, than one confined entirely to covers.

Truth is that I love the research work attached to covers-the great educational, historical & geographical inherent to a proper understanding of them & whilst I could make a very substantial profit by disposing of the off cover 1847 & 1851 issues that I have, I prefer to carry on with both so that my colln may in a small way become of real national importance, although the temptations to sell are great to a comparatively poor man.

What would your advice be?? Will these early issues lose value post-war? personally I think not, as some large measure of financial inflation will be essential as a permanent feature of the post-war world!!

But I would like to have your views & by the way did Brookman ever let you see the photographs I sent him???

There is a copy of your 1851.1c. block coming up to auction next month & I shall buy it.

If you consider at-all that the appeal of these articles on philatelic subjects in The Apollo amongst the USA philatelists is worthy of a whole series (one dozen) a word from you to the Editor would help a lot.

"William Jennings Esq"

"Whitehorses"

Mundesley

near Norwich

Norfolk

Yours sincerely & good hunting in this New Year

Yours sincerely

- William Jeff -

Dear Mr Ashbrook.

Your letter of Jan.12th arrived quite safely, but just as I was sitting down to answer ^{and come to bed} in early hours of Feb.19th. a 1000lb. HE bomb fell & exploded just outside the drive into my place.

The house next door collapsed & two people were killed-I was woken up by the sound of gunfire & then noticed the flares dropping around & was just considering getting up, when it happened-We were so close we did not hear the explosion. I was stunned by something hitting me a crack on the head but recovered almost immediately & hearing my elder son, who happened to be visiting us for that night only, fighting his way out of his room, I called out to him to get his mother & nannie safely out of the house & then to come back & release me, as I was pinned into my bed.

I waited & waited, then heard footsteps overhead & water rushing about & thought perhaps the tank had burst, but suddenly my boy arrived & said "We have got the fire out above you" I replied "I am damned glad to did'nt tell me about that before" & now "What is pinning me to my bed" "Oh only a couple of doors-the top of your wardrobe, a picture & most of the ceiling, but we'll soon get you free" & so he did, & we fought our way out from the back of the house & round by the garden gates to the front drive-All lights had gone & we stumbled about a lot & then suddenly an ambulance drew up & shouted "All alive there & out"? We assured them & then seeing my boys faces, streaming blood whisked him away & I was left on my own.

I staggered across to where the next door house had been & asked the Rescue Squads whether I could be of any use trying to dig my friends out, but I am in any case a 100% disability from the GW & as there was just a mass of piled brick work & rubble I was firmly taken to the nearest ARP. That also had lost its doors & windows. I was given a hot drink, wrapped up in an armchair in a passage & although it was damned cold managed to dose off after about 1/2 hour.

Woke again with a start at 7am to find an ARP warden offering me another drink & so until 7am I slept fitfully: Then on waking I started making enquiries as to the whereabouts of my wife, son & nannie & about 10am two days afterwards we found one another all making the V sign to our house for having stood up sufficiently to enable us to crawl out, but what a ghastly shambles it had made of the place. indescribable confusion & every single room wrecked.

Of the 66 windows, not a single blackout-blind or curtain remained-the entrance pillars of brick & cement of about 4ft section & 7ft height had been thrown bodily, one into the drawing, the other into the dining room, most of the front had toppled forward-a 3/8in steel ICI scrolled door, outside the entrance lobby had disappeared & only strips of it have been found-every door inside the house was torn from its hinges & certainly my fine oak panelling, & floors had held the house together a lot, for in the drawing room, completely panelled, the front wall & one inner wall had crashed & yet the panelling stood, more or less intact.

I have lost almost my entire colln of ceramics, all curtains, all household glass, china & crockery, half my furniture, but most of my books & the whole of my USA stamp colln is intact.

For three days we lived in our night attire, with coats lent us, seeking food from friends or mobile canteens, then John returned to Cambridge-the other boy was at Cheltenham-my wife, nannie & I found two miserable rooms within a distance that I could manage at a public-house where they proceeded to rob us good and proper-then came a stroke of luck a lady friend, with her husband serving, and with three young kiddies, wanted to vacate in a hurry & I took over on a monthly tenancy of a small, but comfortable little house, within two miles of ours.

Then the raids started again & my wife just could not stand up to it. so I have sent her off to Cheltenham to be with the younger boy, whilst I am still clearing up the mess at C.H.

But believe me the loss of my home is as nothing to the immense anxiety I

I suffer living in somebody's house at 6 months beck & call. I have my business to look after & for a whole fortnight I could not get near it. If I seek to rent a furnished house I can only get one right in the danger zone & even if I had the money to spend the prices asked for unfurnished places in a safe zone are right in the skies & whether or no CH is a "Total Loss" the Government will not provide you with a penny piece to get a new home, or advance against the loss of your home until some unspecified date postwar.

Of course they have not got the labour to repair badly desecrated houses, but they could find a part of the money, immediately, at all events to enable one to seek a new home & for an ex-officer with a 100% disability from wounds received in the GW to be left in such an unholy predicament appears to me to be all wrong & believe me I am still patriotic to the core.

After all £4000 is not a lot of money & CH will cost a good deal more than that to rebuild-in fact I don't believe it is possible-then my compensation for "Total Loss" would be about £7/8000! but the smaller figure would enable one to get settled somewhere in the meantime & provide a temporary home to which my wife could return, & the two boys for their vacations.

It is a rotten return for one's service & I did nearly 17 years as a regular officer.

All the officials, & there are swarms of them, are either overworked or youngsters entirely inefficient & dilatory.

Of course if things like this happened in the USA your Government would take a more enlightened view of the citizens difficulties & being a vast country alternative accommodation could easily be found-here it is a far greater problem.

Now to your own queries it was of course I & not Bacher who sent you the photographs-he knows nothing at all about stampless covers & does not even deal in them-they are however becoming remarkable scarce over here, but if I do run into any more I will most certainly procure them for you.

In the meantime what do you value my pair, or one of them at?? & of course use the photos as the basis of any illustrations you may require.

I presume you got my letter asking for permission to reproduce two of the SM illustrations, from your Stamp Specialist article & I shall presume, if I may, that you will grant me this quid pro quo permission unless I hear from you in the near future.

Further illustrations of such items will only tend to enhance their value of that I am quite certain.

Will Mr Ashbrook put up a little prayer for me in my loneliness & distress & thank you for all your kindness & assistance.

Yours sincerely

- William Stapp -

Temporary address "Rosslyn" Augustus Road-Wimbledon.SW.19. Tel(Putney.6834)
May.28.1944.

Dear Mr Ashbrook.

CLIFTON HOUSE,

SOUTHSIDE,

WIMBLEDON, S.W.19.

Wimbledon 5644

I have not received a reply yet from you to my letter dated April.3rd.in which I notified you of the disaster which had taken place at C.H.

It is some commentary on the way in which the War Damage Commission carry out their duties when I tell you that I have received neither financial assistance, or any other to the finding of another home.

Having chased around England as far north as Bedford-east as Norwich, west as Tewkesbury, south as Haywards Heath, we have found only one suitable place & that was beyond our means.

The fact is this War Damage business has been made a complete financial ramp for the benefit of Property Owners-Estate Agents-Assessors-Surveyors & Builders & I an ex-regular officer with a 100% disability award consider that The Commission should have been obliged to find me alternative accomodation long ago.

It is a tiring business searching in war time especially-it is also expensive, but that is no affair of The Commission-of course not. I am just left to rot & when I get my month's notice to quit here I shall be all unsettled again, for God knows how long.

In order to get something into the "Kitty" towards the provision of a new home I have sold nearly all my off cover stamps but I have retained all those on cover, which provides me with ample material for the part of philately which interests me most.

It is true I have no Type.1.1851 blue on cover, but I have both the IB & IC & of course it was a dreadful "parting"-for three weeks I toyed with the idea-then bombing started up again-my wife could'nt stand it & no wonder after her terrifying ordeal! so I was left alone to do battle with my soul & won the day-!!

But it is unfortunately true that the way England has treated me has bitten so deeply into my soul, after the terrible sufferings I have had to endure since 1917 that if my health survives I shall most certainly emigrate, as soon as the war is over & find some country where I shall get fair justice & decent treatment.

I have already applied to the Passport office here & if you required an assistant I might find my way down to Kentucky later on.

Yours sincerely - William H. Hoff

(See Over)

PS. I note from March AP that you have a colln of Confederates to deal with! If you could retain a few for me especially Flag of Truce-Combinations-P of Ws & perhaps a couple of Official covers I should be grateful for them later on.

(over)

I have already applied to the passport office here & if you require an assistant I might find my way down to Kentucky later on.
(see over)

EXAMINER 932 EXAMINER 932

P.C. 90.

P.C. 90.

P.C. 90.

Stanley B Ashbrook. Esq.

434 South Grand Avenue

Fort Thomas

Kentucky

USA



from Major W. H. TAPP. MC.
Rosslyn,
Augustus Rd.
Wimbledon
S.W. 19.



OPENED BY



OPENED BY



OPENED BY



OPENED BY

These Parts Cut Out By
The British Censor

1944
Sept 23

Lately of

CLIFTON HOUSE,
SOUTHSIDE,

WIMBLEDON, S.W.19.

Para. 3. Page. 3. The action of the Royal is completely indefensible & is also incomprehensible when it is common knowledge that nearly every philatelic expert private collector in this Country is actuated, to say the least of it, by a very strong acquisitive instinct & decidedly with a view to turning the nimble penny at the appropriate moment!

But these old institutions have a very strict code of laws & there is no latitude to keep pace with modern requirements.

I am personal friend to some of the Royal people & if you cared to allow me to do so I fancy I could soon have this matter put right: I realise your feelings many years ago a Member of a well known club tried to wench me! I was completely green as to club laws & a

we are quite crazy about such [redacted]
get clear of such disabilities we shall crash as a nation-The Royal expected you to crawl on hands & knees & ask whether you might be allowed to contribute an article to their magazine

[redacted] clear"
to the receiving country's postal authorities.

(2) But it also could mean & did mean in certain instances that SM fee has also been paid & I have seen SM letters, with genuine SM cancellation fragmentary & tying stamp to cover, with the addition of "PAID ALL": You probably contend that this is covered by my No. I. may be but the other possibility deserves everybodys consideration & attention!!!

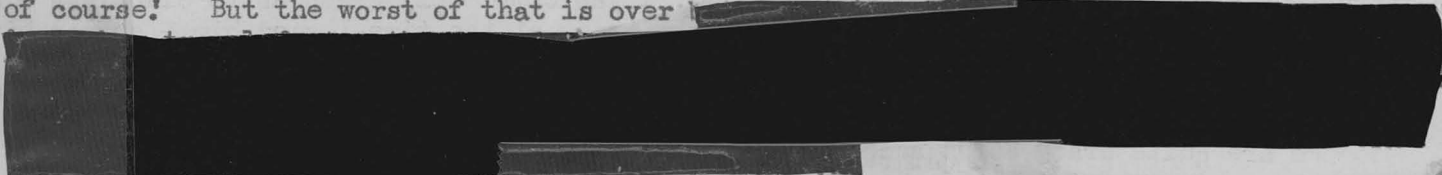
Para. I. Page. 4. I still cannot agree with you about my cover from Lawrence Mills-There is no reason for this "PAID" in red! for it was quite obvious that the 24ct normal postage had been paid by the stamp! & I still contend that this marking may have meant that an extra fee of 24ct had been paid at the quayside for SM. at Boston & most certainly both the Boston PAID & the PAID 24 markings were made at Boston & not at Lawrence Mills: No doubt the SM markings as such were confined to NY but people in Boston, Philadelphia & other ports had often important communications requiring urgent & immediate posting & the Cunard Company would be only too pleased to accept the extra late fee postage! Besides there is no reason at-all why the Lawrence Mill proprietor should not advise the postal authorities at Boston to pay

(to pay) the late shipping fee if necessary.

I have seen many Philadelphia letters without the mauve "PAID ALL" but I have also seen some with this marking-why?? NY can not & could not abrogate to its own business folk the monopoly of SM, although they no doubt did instigate the SM marking to themselves & this as unique to their city & port!

No Mr Ashbrook it is contrary to all common sense in a pushing, go ahead, community of business shipping folk to suppose that the other great eastern ports did not have some sort of facilities for late fee shipping letters!! always granted the ~~the~~ SM markings as known by us & illustrated in Scott may all be indigent to NY.

Final paras. Page.4. One evening whilst I was writing to my wife from the house lent me as a pied-a-terre in Wimbledon, say over a period of 30 minutes I had no less than 27 Doodles passing either directly overhead or nearby-that was during a terrific rain storm when there was no visibility & the devils could get through as the balloon barrage would be down, of course! But the worst of that is over



unless he knows that terrible & instant retribution is awaiting his whole whole nation, round the corner.

Please keep a well wisher's flag of peace 'Prisoner of War' I cannot promise a p. delivery now but you might return until the war is over.

All the best wishes to you & for the joint action of our two nations post war

Yours very sincerely *William H. Hoff*

PS. I have one cover which to me appears to be very unusual, if not unique. It is addressed from L.K. Niffle & Co. Hiogo-24 March. 1874. to S.D. Ruyter Esq. Messrs Schmidt Westphala Co. Nagasaki, by A.S. New York & is franked with a pair of 6ct 1873 (Continental) with the elongated fan of Japan obliteration stretching over both stamps & tying them to the inside of the cover & with an extension (not at all clear) but which has the exact shape & measurement of a SM obliteration. (black) *probably only an extension of the fan obliteration.*

Although the distance between these two ports is some 400 miles the letter was delivered on the 26th!! Some steaming for the SS. New York!!

(lost)

Brockhampton Court-Brockhampton-Andoversford-Glos.

Sept. 23. 1944.

Dear Mr Ashbrook.

First of all let me apologise for the delay in answering your two letters & also please do not buy Bacher's Mobile cover with the two xct (rather badly cut into) with the 5xt 1847, for although the cover certain has many points in its favour, it is not "brilliant" & none of the stamps has any special shift to add to its attractions! ^{CLIFTON HOUSE, SOUTHSIDE} WIMBLEDON, S.W.19.

But that is not the reason for which I appeal to you, it is rather because this cover is addressed to England & should be owned by one or other of the really representative collins in this country!

It was originally bought by a certain Mr Heiden, with about a further fourteen nice covers for £210 - then Bacher started to tempt poor Mr Heiden & eventually bought it from him for £250 I believe, & nice as it undoubtedly is, somewhere around \$1200/1500 is its proper value, unless of course somebody goes crazy & just "must possess it."

There will be plenty of similar covers turning up from the Continent after this war, possibly via Constantinople or Cairo.

As you see we have at long last found a Cotswold house, rather small but somewhat compatible to what we have been used to during the past ten years - It is a very long way from London by war train journey, but would be easy by car or under normal conditions - As it is I have to rise at 5.30am get to London 10.30. & get home again about 11pm which is certainly no sort of fun at my age & with my GW disabilities.

However such things have to be faced whilst the war is on!

Now to take your letter of July 18th first of all.

Para. 2. I have succeeded in obtaining two copies of your 1c blue, 1851 book - one ordinary copy from Robby-Lowe - the other - I bought from Bluss as you suggested!

Para. 3. Yes please I should love to have your book on the Xct 1855/57.

Para. 4. As Brookman did not shew you the photographs I sent over, perhaps they were pinched as were some of yours & perhaps it would be wise if I refrained from sending you a "duplicate" set until the war is over. Probably you are right regarding the extra 1ct stamp on the Gibson covers, but why do not the numerous other ones I have, also directed from N.Y. also bear this Collection fee??? Only the Camp Monroe ones, via Baltimore, carry this, what I have always considered to be a prepaid ¹Carriage or Delivery Fee!!

Para. 5. This old country is far far behind the times, except where there is a direct threat to its freedom, & nobody takes much interest in the USA but I am busy proseletising daily & even Mr Butler sees some of my points regarding the educational value of USA stamps & their method of obliteration & cancellation.

It is hardly true to say that No Britisher takes any notice of USA stamps - there are many who know all the types at a glance - few who worry much about papers, grilles or splits, shifts, etc, but the number of students is growing rapidly.

I may be presumptuous but I still require persuading that neither Boston, Philadelphia, or even San Francisco, possibly even Baltimore, or Portland and Maine & certainly many of the Cunarders seem to have called on the way over at St Johns, N.F. & Halifax, possibly a slower service but if such ships also touched at Portland & these ports on the journey from Boston to Liverpool there would have appeared to have been the greater urgency for a SM service???

Para. 8. Possibly that is so as a Mail centre, but there were certainly immense transactions right up to the 20th century in merchandise & invoices, advices, often called for SM service.

Para. 9. Must have been pinched! Sorry, see remarks under Para. 4.

Para. 12. I agree with your views! I have however another rather interesting cover franked with four Xct. 1861, from NY to Switzerland-per Asia (Cunarder) dated Jan. 17, 1865 with these three cancellations in red PD (framed)-New Paid York (in red circle)-Etats Unis. 3. Serv Brit A Calais (also in red circle)

JAN

17

36

on the back in black circle NEUCHÂTEL

Feb. 2.

1865

Either this may be an example shewing depreciation of the \$ due to the recent war, or it may shew double rate & drop letter franking with rates reserved (credited) GPO. 2x3=6cts-Cunard, SS. 2x9=18cts-Swiss PO. 2x3=6cts-French PO. 2x3=6cts-in all 36cts as credited at NY, leaving only the 4cts for USA. PO: 3cts plus the NY collection fee of 1ct.

I wonder which you will agree is the correct rendering for this 40ct franking?? I shall be very interested to know.

Para. 12. I bought these copies from Paul Bluss.

Para. 13. I am, as I said, terrible grateful to you for sending me the copy of this book & of course I am going to paste onto the fly-leaf your presentation signature.

Para. 14. Many thanks for your tip regarding Capt. Augustus Gibson-I shall follow it up in due course.

Better switch to paras reading according to pages in case you get muddled so now for Page. 3.

Para. 1. I am glad that I was correct regarding the special fee of 2cts for ferry service, between certain points on the frontier between USA/Canada.

Para. 3. I fancy we shall keep awake this time & teach the Hun a lesson, but it is the Labour Party here, which by refusing to countenance the expense of keeping a decent fleet, air-arm, & army in being, brings these constantly recurring wars upon us: They in fact replace your "New Deal-Roosevelt" tactics over here & the Labour Party realise that wars bring wealth to their class & deprive the middle classes of much of theirs, together with many of their liberties! Ergo They, tongue in cheek, do everything they can towards creating wars, whilst trying to load the responsibility onto the "Big-Business" people.

The first five years of peace are going to be much harder for us here than the five years of war! Nothing can prevent a first class row when labour has to reduce its charges!!!

July 18th, 1944.

Major Wm. H. Tapp,
Clifton House,
Southside,
Wimbledon S.W. 19,
England.

My dear Major:

Your letters of Dec. 20th, Jan. 22nd and Jan. 30th as well as April 3rd were duly received and much appreciated, but due to an extended illness and operation this is the first chance I have had to reply. I trust that you will pardon my apparent negligence.

Regarding handbooks. I don't think that you would find much in Hahn's article in the A.P. that would be of much help to you nor do I believe that the Norona article on the U. S. Registration System would greatly interest you. These were not issued as handbooks. If you had a copy of my Volume II - One Cent Stamp of 1851-1857, I think you would find the above articles pretty well covered. However, my book is out of print (published in 1938) and each volume is selling today between \$10.00 and \$12.00. I haven't a single copy left that I could sell. I have written Brookman, whom I know very well and inquired if he couldn't locate a copy of my Volume 2 for you. I will lay it aside for you.

Regarding information on covers used abroad from the U. S. Practically nothing has been published on this subject. My book, Vol. 2 contains more information on "Foreign Rates" than any other work that I know of. A table of "Foreign Rates of Postage" ran thru "Stamps" back in 1935 and 1936 but it was never published in booklet form. This series of articles was very good but I imagine that back numbers of "Stamps" would be rather hard to obtain. I could send you a copy of my book on the U. S. 10¢ Green stamp of 1855-1857 but this book deals principally with the plates, types and plate reconstruction, rather than with Foreign Rates and markings.

No, Brookman never showed me the photos you sent him. I refer to the 3¢ plus 1¢ covers from New York to Camp Monroe near Baltimore. I judge that the targets on these covers were applied at New York, hence the 1¢ stamps probably paid the collection fee at New York from letter box to post office. The N.Y. P.O. used such targets on 3¢ plus 1¢ covers, in addition to a double circle postmark, at that particular period. Baltimore did not use a black target, so far as I am aware.

May I add at this point that I was pleased to learn of your interest in our stamps, and of their historical connections. The closer the ties between our two countries in the future, the better it will be for the whole world. Philatelists on this side of the water have the impression I believe that the average British collector knows little or nothing

#2. Major Wm. H. Tapp, July 18th, 1944.

about any stamps but G.B. and Colonies.

About the only Englishman known to American collectors who knows anything about U. S. stamps is Waterhouse. We on this side, appreciate his long interest in our stamps and are not unmindful of the good that he has accomplished.

I note that you feel rather certain that the Boston P.O. had some sort of arrangement for Supplementary Mail, but if so, I have never been able to develop anything along this line.

The S.M. Service was not established at New York until the middle of 1853 and from what evidence we have, not very many merchants took advantage of the service in the early years. If so, present day covers fail to show any evidence of the service. By 1853, New York had far out-distanced Boston as a Port, and I doubt if there really was much rivalry between the two after the late 1840's. When the Cunard started to making New York a Port of Entry, the doom of Boston as the most important shipping center in the country was sealed.

I never received the copy of the "APOLLO," but thanks just the same. Also I never received the photographs of the RETALIATORY RATE COVERS which you mentioned in your letter of the 20th of December last.

Re - Supplementary Mail Type A - The earliest known use of this marking is in the middle of 1859 and early strikes are in a brown-red, in later years the ink varied from a brown-red to a red. I have never seen a genuine strike in any other color though fakes exist in black and some in blue, so I understand.

Re - your 45¢ rate cover to France with "N.York - Paid 36 - Mar 29 - 64." This was a 3 X 15¢, hence the credit of 36 was 3 X 12, which meant that the letter was carried from New York by a Cunarder. All the U. S. P.O.D. was entitled to was 3¢ for each single or 3 X 3.

Again re - my two volume book, you might try the following dealer in philatelic books:

Paul Bluss, 51 West 46th St., New York (19) N.Y.

I note in this week's "Stamps" that he advertises my two volumes - deluxe edition at \$30.00. Original price was \$10.00. Doubtless Bluss could supply other books that you could use.

Under separate cover, I am sending you with my compliments a copy of my latest book, entitled:

"The United States Issue of 1869
Preceded by some Additional Notes on
The Premieres Gravures of 1861"

I trust that this reaches you in good shape. As this goes via parcel post and I am not permitted to include any writing, the enclosed autograph can be pasted on the front page if you wish to do so.

Re - Capt. Wm. A. Gibson. I have no reference works which includes his name, hence I suppose he never became very famous. If you will write the "War Department - Civil War Statistics - Washington, D.C."

they will doubtless be able to give you the record of Capt. Gibson.

Re - my article in "Stamps" of last November - Fig. 7 - Houlton, Me. to Woodstock N.B. You are right - by a special ruling of the P.M.G. a special rate of 2¢ was made on local correspondence between the two points. Similar rulings were made to apply to other offices on the border - Fig. 8 - this was a prepaid steamboat fee of 2¢. Fig. 9. The original rate was 45¢, hence one stamp is missing from the cover.

Red S.M. marking on a 6¢ Bank Note. I doubt if such a cover would bring more than \$30.00 at a N.Y. auction.

Philatelic Article. Yes, I think an article such as you mention would be most timely. Again I repeat, that everything possible should be done to bring our two countries closer together. If we drift apart it will be most unfortunate for world civilization.

However, I sometimes have my doubts if the average Britisher will stay awake to that necessity. As a people you do such dumb things. For example last fall I was notified I was no longer a member and Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, yet I was elected a Fellow and Member in 1917. In 1938 I was awarded the Crawford Medal. I was kicked out because I advertised in "Stamps" that I had some covers for sale. I am not a dealer and I have no stock of stamps. What an assinine thing this was. It is nonsense like this that disgusts the practical and sensible American with the class of Britishers who run the Royal and who are still living in the age of Queen Victoria.

One more point - As A Fellow of the Royal from 1917 until 1943 - I was never once invited to submit a philatelic article for the "Royal Philatelist". I suppose the editors were too damn proud to condescend to solicit an article from my pen. It is such stuff that disgusts the real American.

The publisher of "Stamps" is Mr. Harry L. Lindquist. He is a close personal friend. If you wish you can write him and mention my name. I note you mentioned Steve Rich. My advice to you is to forget this person. A communication from him would go into my waste basket unopened.

Your letter of Jan. 30th, again mentioned that you were sending me a copy of the "APOLLO" with your article but the copy never arrived.

Your letter Jan. 30th

Re - New York Supplementary Mail article in "Stamp Specialist" - Figure 3 This letter originated at New York - Instead of "Paid All" the N.Y. postmark has "PAID" at top. This cover is perfectly regular. The markings show that it went to England by American Packet and thence to France thru Calais by British mail. This is proved by the credit "6", which meant 3¢ for the Channel and 3¢ French internal. The 6¢ was a credit to France and in turn France settled with the British P.O.

"Str Bremen" while a German boat was under contract to carry the U. S. Mail, hence "American Packet." Please understand that "American Packet" did not mean a ship of American Registry but rather that the ship was being paid to carry that particular lot of U. S. Mail. In other words, the Atlantic carriage was at the expense of the U. S. Post Office. Figure #7 is as described.

Figure #10 - The wording "Paid All" had no connection with the N.Y. S.M. service. It was used on foreign mail generally at New York and its use

#4. Major Wm. H. Tapp, July 18th, 1944.

originated from terms used in certain postal treaties. If blank country insisted that a certain term be used, the translation of that term was "Paid All". My description of Cover #10 is correct.

Your cover "Paid 24". No, I do not agree that this was a S.M. letter but rather a single 24¢ rate to England. I have never seen a single instance where the payment of a S.M. fee was recorded on the letter other than by the plain S.M. marking. Further, all S.M. letters originated at New York. The cover you mention originated at Lawrence, Mass.

I regret to inform you that Dr. Babcock passed away more than a year ago.

Regarding post war values. I think your guess is about as good as a guess by anyone else. Many collectors on this side think that "prices are too high" but many feel that in the uncertain times to come that the classics of philately will be very fine property to own even if bought with present money. I am sure I don't know. If you decide to sell, I think you would be able to do better in London than by selling on this side.

Your letter of the 3rd of April with the account of the loss of your home was duly received and read with much interest. We, on this side have no conception of what it means to go thru such an experience. May I thank you very kindly for such a vivid description. I sincerely trust that none of the latest "Buzzer Bombs" are falling in your neighborhood.

It will indeed be a terrible thing if the Allied Nations fail to punish the Huns after this war is over. It is too bad that the beasts cannot be exterminated.

Again apologizing for this belated reply to your letters, I am

Sincerely yours,

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

100 Henry Court,

Sept. 2, 1944.

Major Wm. H. Tapp,
"Rosslyn"
Augustus Road,
Wimbledon S.W. 19,
England.

Dear Major:

Your letter dated May 28th was not received until Aug. 28th, thus just three months to a day. Perhaps it was held up on account of "D" Day.

Also a copy of the July "Apollo," with your article came to hand. Many thanks for your kindness.

I trust that you will permit me to call your attention to one point which you brought out in your article and which I consider is highly important.

Figure III, the cover with the "PAID 24." So far as known, New York was the only eastern port which had a "Supplementary Mail" service. An exhaustive search of the records at Boston failed to disclose any evidence that such a service was ever in effect there. The New York service was solely for the benefit of the people of New York, and could hardly have been of any benefit to residents or merchants outside of that city. For example, there was no way in which the fee could be prepaid outside of New York City.

The "Paid 24" on your cover was applied at Lawrence, Mass. and not at Boston or New York. It simply indicated that the full foreign rate of 24¢ had been paid. One may wonder why certain postmasters followed such a case, but the fact remains that they did and covers showing such markings are not uncommon.

Your cover shows the "Boston Am. Pkt - 3 Paid," which proves that this cover went thru the "Foreign Mail" division of the Boston Post Office. Because it was forwarded by American Packet the British credit was but 3¢. This proves that the letter was a single rate of 24¢. Had it been a double rate of 48¢ the Boston credit to the British P.O.D. would have been 6¢.

I can assure you that the New York Supplementary Mail Service was not available to a resident of Lawrence, Mass. as there was no way in which an individual, or firm could have prepaid the fee at the Lawrence P.O. As stated, the N.Y. Service was purely a local service of the New York Post Office.

I recall an article that appeared in Godden's Gazette of April 1937. (Page 167). Here was illustrated a U. S. cover with a 5¢ Buff of 1861 and a 30¢ 1861 to Hanover.

#2. Major Wm. H. Tapp, Sept. 2, 1944.

The 30¢ has a fake New York "Supplementary Mail," Type "A" marking tying the 30¢. This cover originated at DOWAGIAC, Mich. It is quite obvious that no one in that Michigan town could avail themselves of the N.Y. S.M. Service. In addition there was no reason why they would want to do so. You can well appreciate that such a point is not appreciated by crooks who manufacture items like this cover from Michigan to Hanover.

Regarding your letter of the 28th of May. I was indeed sorry to learn of your housing difficulty. There must be so many similar cases that it is simply impossible to handle all without some delay.

On this side of the water we who are anti-New Deal believe that the worst thing that we have to endure, outside of the war, is to live under the Roosevelt administration, so I would advise you to think twice before thinking of coming to America.

I have been breaking up quite a fine collection of Confederates but the Flag of Truce and Prisoner of War covers are practically all gone.

Sincerely yours,

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx 100 Henry Court

Nov. 5, 1944.

Major W.H.Tapp, M.C.
Brockhampton Court
Brockhampton
Andoversford - Glos.
England.

Dear Major:

Your letter of the 25th of September arrived about ten days ago which was fairly good time by regular mail. However, there was little left of your letter after the censors finished cutting it up. I doubt if anything you had to say to me would have impeded the war in any way.

Regarding the Bacher cover. I don't think that there is much danger of the item coming to America. It is true that some absurd prices are being paid over here but none so utterly absurd as \$1,000 to \$1,200 for a cover such as that. In my opinion (and I think I know the present market) I do not believe it would bring \$500 in a New York auction at the present time, so you see there is no danger of it coming to America.

I spent last week-end with my good friend Saul Newbury of Chicago who by the way, owns the second largest collection in America. He has a grand showing of the 1847's and will pay top notches for anything fine. I showed him the photo of the Bacher cover and asked him if he would pay more than \$500 for it and he said no. When I told him it was valued at \$1,000 in London he had a good laugh. We do some silly things on this side but hardly anything as silly as paying \$1,000 for such a cover.

The above is for your information as I would not wish to hurt Dr. Bacher's feelings.

I was pleased to learn that you managed to find a home and that you are again comfortably situated even if you are compelled to spend half your time going and coming to and from London.

Regarding your letter. First, under separate cover, I am mailing you a copy of my booklet on the U. S. 10¢ 1855-1857; This was published in 1936 and is a bit out of date with my present day research work. I trust that it reaches you in good shape. If not will you please advise me.

Regarding your cover with four 10¢ 1861 from N.Y. to Switzerland Jan. 17, 1865. I would prefer not to comment on this unless I could see and examine it. There was no 40¢ rate to Switzerland at that period. R.P.S.L. Thanks very much but I think it is best to let the matter drop. After all they have their rules and one should not expect them to break them. I had no such idea. What

#2. Major W. H. Tapp, M.C. Nov. 5, 1944.

made me sore was the manner in which they handled the case. That is, the high-handed and lofty manner. I wonder if they do not realize that we on this side laugh at such stuff and think it is absurd. The sensible people in America are realists, and we try to play the game on the square. Regardless of rules or regulations, customs, etc., we would not think it fair to kick a man out of an organization if his only offense was making an honest living by dealing in stamps. We do not consider that any man is sacred or holy, hence if we don't like a ruler, we kick him out and that is what the better class of people in this country hope to do next Tuesday. We have lost faith in Roosevelt and we don't like the motley crew who surround him.

I was rather interested in the P.S. of your letter describing the cover from "Hiogo" in 1874 to Nagasaki. I am doing some special research work at the present time on mail from "Hiogo" to China, to ports in Japan, and to the U. S. and foreign countries. I have been unable to definitely establish what were the correct rates, other than the single half ounce rate by U. S. mail steamer was 10¢ to or from this country to or from Japan and China.

It appears that 3¢ was the rate between points in Japan and 6¢ between Japan and China. Your cover has a pair of the 6¢ 1873, from Hiogo to Nagasaki so if the rate was 3¢ your cover must have been a quad rate of 4 x 3.

I am very much interested in any covers in the above class.

Sincerely yours,

DR. CARROLL CHASE
R. F. D. 1, MILFORD,
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Dec 29 45

Dear Stan,

Thanks for yours of the 26th. We never sent those covers from Florida to anyone named Bowling C. Hardy. I'll send them to you when you get home.

Regarding that 5th 1847 cover. Take it and see that Hardy is now in Chicago as his wife is very ill in a hospital there. We heard of that cover before — a year or so ago we tried to pass it off on Brookman. I never owned such a piece. Hardy bought a little Florida collection from me a few years ago but there was no 5th 47 in it. There was a 10th 47 with green cancellation.

I wish you could get hold of the cover + photograph it without telling Hardy why. If possible see Brookman about it. He can tell you more than I as I've never seen the piece.

I find that Hardy is a member of the A.P.S. The old fellow I do not like the idea of his should be kicked out.

I was rather surprised to find that Hardy is a member of the A.P.S. I do not like the idea of his trying to pass off phony stuff as "Ex Chase Collection". I'll stop that if I can.

Please keep me informed of any developments.

Here's hoping you have a fine time while in Chicago. I may get there about Dec 31, for a few days if I go to Cleveland. Nothing sure at all as yet.

Yours much better

But as my

C.C.

My Best to all the Gang out there.

100 Henry Court

Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 5, 1945.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. #1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

I borrowed the enclosed from Hardy with the promise that I would not send it to you, so please return it as soon as possible. After you return it I will make a photo though I won't promise that I can reproduce the grids on the stamp so if you want to be sure and have a good record of them perhaps you had better make a tracing.

Hardy wants \$450.00 for this cover and was magnanimous enough to offer me \$75.00 if I could obtain that price for him. I never cracked a smile but told him that I would try. Naturally he couldn't get \$5.00 without your guarantee. How can we get that memo of yours away from him?

He is positively poison and it is not safe to even be on speaking terms with him.

I didn't have a chance to mention the cover to Brookman but I'll send him a photo later.

After I return the cover to him I will tell him that I have sent you a photo. Better not do anything until then.

Hastily yours,

DR. CARROLL CHASE
R. F. D. 1, MILFORD,
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Nov 24.5

Dear Stan:-

→ return herewith the st 47 cover you kindly
sent. Of course it is a rank fake — the rate was 10⁰⁰
→ not 5⁰⁰ from Tallahassee to Virginia, the stamp is evidently
an 1847 impression. It is nicely mounted on the cover.

Now I have absolutely no recollection of any such item in
my Florida collection which Hardy bought. I can't

figure out where he got the clipping my very handwriting.
It doesn't seem to me that I'd ever ^{could} have passed such an
item. I can't help wondering if my description

did not refer to some other item.
It's easy to forget things but I don't believe
I "forgot" that.

Jim William Cohen in strict confidence
simply asking him if he remembered ^{any} such item in my
Florida collection. ~~He~~ He sold it to Hardy for me — for
very much less than what it was worth. I should hear
from him promptly.

What can we do?

But

as any

C.D.

Many thanks for all your trouble.
I have a good time in chasing?

Did

Nov. 10, 1945.

Mr. Jas. E. Hardy,
% The University Club,
Chicago, Ills.

Dear Jim:

Many thanks for yours of the 6th with check for \$100.00, the balance due on the Packet covers sale.

Herewith I am returning the 5¢ 1847 cover. I have made a very careful examination of this cover and in my opinion it is a fake. I am quite positive that this stamp did not originate on this cover.

Incidentally, the rate from Florida was not 5¢ but 10¢

In spite of the fact the Chase memo is in his handwriting, I cannot believe that the memo referred to this cover. I know Chase far too well to believe that he would be careless enough to vouch for this item.

The above is my opinion so take it for what it is worth. You surely know where you obtained the cover so I would think it would not be hard to trace it right back to Chase, that is, if it actually came from him, which I simply cannot believe was the case. Please keep me advised as to the outcome.

What I would advise you to do is to send the cover and guarantee to Chase and simply ask him if his guarantee refers to this cover. If he informs you that it does not then someone has switched items and, of course, without Chase's guarantee you could not afford to sell the cover.

Sincerely yours,

100 Henry Court
Fort Thomas, Ky

Nov. 10, 1945.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Yours of the 7th with return of the Hardy cover safe to hand. I am enclosing copy of letter I have today written him. I don't know how you are going to get this item away from him but if I were you I'd attempt it by peaceful means and then if that failed I think I'd threaten to publish an ad in stamps repudiating the "opinion."

I am enclosing photographs herewith.

If this cover was in the collection Sandy sold to Hardy surely he will recall it. I'll gamble that it wasn't.

I'll send you additional prints if you want them.

Hastily yours,

Oct. 1st, 1945.

Mr. Maurice F. Cole,
C.H. Harrison Bldg.,
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Dear Mr. Cole:

Our mutual friend Don MacGregor was kind enough to give me your address because I thought that you would be very much interested in the enclosed photograph.

This stamp was loaned to me by Atherton over 20 years ago, but I have no idea where it is today. In later years we discovered a strip of three containing the same stamp. Several weeks ago I wrote an article on this most remarkable double transfer for the American Philatelist and it will appear sometime this winter.

In years past I have inquired of a number of collectors who specialized in the Black Jack and in every case, none had ever run across a copy of this stamp.

Kindly accept the photo with my compliments.

You will doubtless recall that I mentioned Black Jack covers showing 4¢ rates and that I was at a loss to account for such rates, being convinced that they had some meaning and were not simply 1¢ over-payments of the 3¢ rate.

I am enclosing three covers from my reference collection which are rather unusually typical. You will note that all three show different offices of origin, viz - Cincinnati, New Haven, and Indianapolis, but all three are addressed to Hartford, Conn. Two are addressed to the same party but all three evidently went to the same address. It hardly seems possible that in each case, nothing but 2¢ stamps were on hand, requiring over-payments. I have not only seen a number of these 4¢ Black Jack covers but quite a few 4¢ rates paid by pairs of the 2¢ 1869, as per photograph enclosed of a typical example. In fact, I have a cover with a 2¢ 1869 and a pair of the 1¢, used from a town in Nebraska to an address in Kansas.

I would like to know why these various pieces of mail required 4¢, and would be interested in the loan of any unusual covers that you might own in this same class.

My old friend Atherton was the leading specialist in the

#2.

Mr. Maurice F. Cole, Oct. 1st, 1945.

Black Jack twenty years (or more) ago. I am wondering if you have ever been in touch with him.

Tony Russo, of Chicago, is also quite a "Black Jacker."
Tony is President of the Chicago Philatelic Society.

Sincerely yours,

MAURICE F. COLE

ATTORNEY AT LAW

C. H. HARRISON BUILDING

FERNDALE 20, MICHIGAN

Circuit Court Commissioner
OAKLAND COUNTY

October 15, 1945

Stanley [REDACTED]
100 Henn [REDACTED]
Fort Th [REDACTED] ky

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

I have your letter of October 1st, enclosing some covers and photographs, and I appreciate your writing me and the interest that you show in Black Jacks.

I had never run across a copy of the stamp shown in the photograph submitted and I am glad to know about it. Thanks for the photo of this interesting item.

The reason I have delayed answering you is because I had gone through my covers and had made a note of the covers showing the 4 cent rate, paid by two Black Jacks. My estimate of 50 was about right, as I believe I found between 50 and 60. I am enclosing the memoranda showing the point of origin and destination of these items. I scribbled off the date rather hurriedly and my stenographer was not able to read my writing in all instances, as I notice there are several errors, but the information is sufficient to indicate that this 4 cent rate was used rather frequently. I would be pleased to hear of any conclusion that you may reach relative to why there were so many covers with the two Black Jacks.

The photograph of the pair of 2 cent, 1869 stamps is also very interesting.

[REDACTED] some correspondence with Mr. Atherton but not [REDACTED] so.

[REDACTED] question that interests me in connection with the [REDACTED] but will save that for a later letter.

I return the three covers which you sent, together with the one photograph and appreciate your courtesy in submitting these to me.

Yours very truly,

Maurice F. Cole
MAURICE F. COLE

MFC:HG
Encl

P.S. I am sending the list of 4 cent covers in a separate envelope.

Oct. 24, 1945.

Mr. H. P. Atherton,
1562 Main St.,
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Herb:

Every once in awhile I run across a cover from one part of the country to another with a pair of Black Jacks or a pair of 3¢ 1869's. As carrier fees were abolished as of July 1, 1863, these items have no carrier significance. I assumed that such covers were merely overpayments of the 3¢ rate but I believe I have seen far too many to justify such a theory.

In a Detroit collection of Black Jacks, the owner, Cole, has between 50 and 60 B.J. covers with pairs of the stamp. Do you know of any 4¢ rate?

While some might be prepaid Steamboat fees, many origins have no steamboat connections.

Can you tell me if such covers are fairly common and also if you have any information to account for such a rate?

Sincerely yours,

Not Home 11/11-45

Dear Stan: —

Forgot to answer your query as to pairs
(or two) BJs, — one, as a Carrier —

No, I never had any that I considered true
Carrier rate on any cover; but I had
only 2200 covers when mine were sold —
Had perhaps 25 covers with either a pair,
or 2 2s on them — I always figured the
sender had 2s; but no 3s handy, so
slapped on 2 2s and "damn the expense"
They were probably all good Democrats — !

Damn this cold rain — can't burn up the
leaves, put on Storm Sashes, Play
Golf — nothing — miserable weather !

Man in from Philadelphia — Brought
two 12'51 covers Phila pmkd singles.
very neat, too, good even marquis T.IV's.

Said he had a cover with vertical
pair — top T.I. + lower T.III. Said
the "Directors at the Bank" told him
this !!! — Heck !

He did not bring it because it was
too rare ! and he was afraid he
would lose it —

Can you beat that one !

He is Trust Officer in the Bank.

Now you tell one !

Sincerely,

Herb

Just read your letter here at office.

When you get a chance to look at the Cole Coll'n of BJ's, see if these pairs and two 2¢ come mostly from one town - Philadelphia - or are they scattered all round promiscuously.

If they are mostly from Phila (which I doubt) you will look at these covers, front and back, and you may be able to discover something that I was unable to find owing to lack of covers. Among "some sixty" collected here 'n there, you should get a fine cross section thro these United States, and if none show any constant handmarks, well, they are overpays.

It is quite possible that SOME Phila covers were bonafide "CARRIER" covers. Look at the Phila covers, and see if any have that small ring with big numeral "2" inside, - where we normally see a "1". Have had the big "2" off cover; but not on. It was used on pmk that had "CITY DELIVERY" among other wordings in black; but not in blue so far as I was able to see.

Yeah, the 2¢ '69 in pairs and twosomes was doubtless just an Overpaid, same as BJ's.

Ocean going mail used the 2¢ BJ quite a lot to make up proper postal rate - remember the Needham 90¢ '61 legal size cover had a BJ or two to make correct rate but I have never seen any Inland 4¢ rates made up of two 2¢ stamps at this period.

Hope this finds you well 'n 'appy.

Sincerely, 'erb.

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.
1616 WALNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA 3

October 24, 1945

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
100 Henry Court
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Thank you for sending the Colson bulletins which have been read with a smile. They are returned herewith and I thank you.

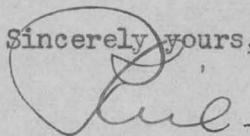
I am mailing your letter today to a friend in the Post Office in Washington and as I expect to be in Washington tomorrow, I will follow it up with a personal call.

Regarding the 4¢ rate, I have 2 or 3 covers in my own collection. Two of them, as I recall, have pairs of the 2¢ 1869 and one has a pair of the 2¢ Bank Note--National, I suppose although I am simply going by memory.

I am under the impression that all three of my covers are addressed to France although here again I may be entirely wrong.

I am returning your photographs and just as soon as I can get anything definite, I will let you know.

Sincerely yours,



PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

PHW, JR:rmw
enc.

Oct. 24, 1945.

Mr. Maurice F. Cole,
C.H. Harrison Bldg.,
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Dear Mr. Cole:

May I thank you very kindly for your letter of the 15th and for the list of your covers showing 4¢ rates. I was rather amazed that you had so many of these and from so many different sources.

The rate of postage was 3¢ from 1851 until 1883 and there was no "carrier fee" after July 1, 1863. I know of no special service on any of these letters that required an extra penny in postage. I cannot believe that they were all overpayments of the 3¢ rate. Conditions were far different in those days from the present but we do not find people today paying 4¢ in postage where only 3¢ is required.

I am making an investigation and if I turn up any facts I will be pleased to advise you.

If you have any philatelic problem that bothers you I'll gladly give you any assistance that I can.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS
AND COVERS

1562
H. P. ATHERTON ~~318~~ MAIN STREET
SPRINGFIELD, - MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. S. B. Ashbrook,
100 Henry Court,
Ft. Thomas, Kentuck.

Dec 6th 1945

Dear Stanby, ... Been busy - 'scuse delay.

Owing to NO indication of WAY or STEAMBOAT in these pairs of 2¢, am quite credulous as to these Rates being of those types - think they MUST BE just overpaid. The cover with the EXTRA 1¢ '69 might have been applied thro ignorance - illogical, tho.

The 2¢ cover to Canada MIGHT have had added amount paid by cash, or stamps, and no record showing on the cover - no?

Havent any decent Stampless; but will remember when such arrive.

Name of the man in Phila Trust Officer in Bank, is "Armstrong". He is out for all the advice he can gather - Gratis - re cover with what he insists is a FINE 7R1E in a strip - vertical I think. I told him to have it photoed, then the viewee would HAVE something to go by rather than "word o mouth". He talked a good line; but I'm never able to "Talk Stamps" where good ones are concerned.

Just 20 years ago I offered a lad 300\$ for his bundle of 10¢ '47 covers. Saw him yesterday, and he said he'd be over yesterday after noon; but no come! Said he still had em, and a lot more. what'll I do? He's crazy as a bed bug. Married a Million \$ Baby however!

Sincerely,

H216

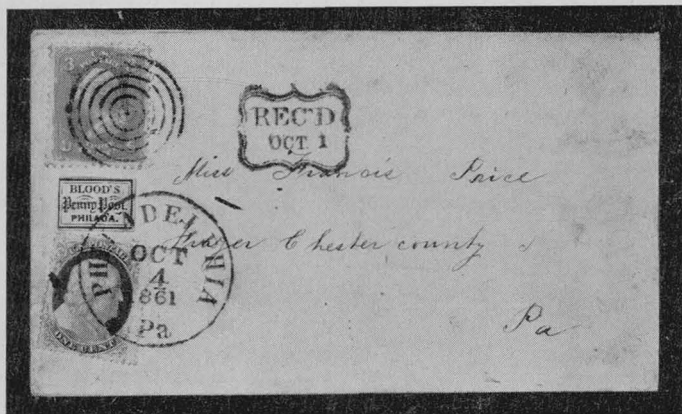
Am returning extensive list,
and photos herein. My help?
is quite negative this trip.

23rd Auction Sale

(Conducted by MR. GREGORY MOZIAN)

UNITED STATES GENERAL FOREIGN WHOLESALE U. S. COVERS

Part Two of the E. R. BEVERLY Collection and other owners.



E2
↑
Saturday, September 29th, 1945

Bought this for a client of hrs for
at 2 P. M.
\$135 or \$140 - forget exact amount

LOTS ON EXHIBITION FROM SEPT. 15th TO DATE OF SALE

JOHN A. FOX

(Licensed and Bonded Auctioneer)

116 Nassau Street (Room 902)

New York 7, N. Y.

BEekman 3-5443



TERMS OF SALE

1. All lots are sold to the highest bidder at a slight advance over the second highest bid.
2. Terms of sale are strictly cash and all lots must be paid for within ten days of receipt unless arrangements are made prior to the sale for deferred payment.
3. Persons known to me will have their lots forwarded immediately. All others will be notified and the lots will be forwarded upon receipt in full.
4. The right is reserved to withdraw any lot listed in the sale.
5. Title to each lot remains in the name of John A. Fox until paid for in full by the purchaser.
6. Care has been taken to describe the lots correctly. Should a claim of error of description arise, such claim should be made within five days from date lots are received. I guarantee all stamps to be genuine, unless stated otherwise. Lots offered "as is" are not returnable at any time.
7. Lots not taken up within ten days after notification may be resold by me.
8. Scott's Standard Catalogue has been used to classify the stamps and covers.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Superb — Excellent condition, mathematically centered and truly all that can be desired in a stamp or cover.

Very Fine — Perfect in every respect but not as well centered as a Superb item.

Fine — A sound copy not damaged but the perforations may cut into the margin.

Damaged — All stamps classified as damaged have their defects accurately described.

ABBREVIATIONS USED

★ —Mint

○ —Used

⊞ —Block

⊠ —Cover

O. G.—Original Gum

N. H.—Never Hinged

S. E.—Straight Edge

T. B.—Top or Bottom

O. C.—Off Center

S. —Superb

V. F.—Very Fine

F. —Fine

100 Henry Court,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 19, 1945.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Note enclosed - this was sent to me by Krug. This cover sold at \$137.50 in this sale and the price was on the level. Cole bought it and Ward was the runner-up. This cover was described by Fox as a mystery.

My opinion is - that the 1¢ being invalid and of no use that the writer stuck it on the cover to get rid of it. I suppose the Bloods carried the letter to the Philadelphia P.O.

At any rate, the 1¢ 1857 was not legal at Philadelphia in October 1861 or even in September 1861 and hence it could not have performed any postal service. A tobacco tag would have served just as well. Do you agree?

Yes I suppose that Ackerman is a precancel nut and belongs to the Rich Gang. I hope you give them the works in your Utah installment.

Regards -

Yours etc.,
Chase

Oct 22 '45

Dear Stan:-
I guess your guess is as good as any on the enclosed cover. I see no possible reason for the "57". Pretty anyway. Isn't the "Red Oct 1" a Phila. marking? & why the date? Did they hold the cover 4 days before sending it on? Presumably the 1861 was added on Oct 1 by the sender? I'd like to see the "Do Not Write Cols" in blue. I have it in black.

But as ever CC,

100 Henry Court

Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 24, 1945.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. #1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Re - that Fox cover - Ward tells me that all Blood's were acid canceled. If I ever knew this I had forgotten it. At any rate I never had any interest in Locals.

The Blood copy on the cover was not acid canceled, therefore, Ward's theory is that the writer put a 3¢ '61 and the Bloods on the envelope and intended to put the letter in a Blood box, but instead put it in a U. S. box. When received at the Phila. P.O. the 3¢ stamp was canceled with the target and the "REC'D - OCT 1" applied (a Phila. marking). The addressee was notified that the letter was being held for 1¢ postage, and the addressee being a dumb cluck sent a 1¢ 1857, a stamp that was then invalid. Not wishing to bother further they (Phila. P.O.) put the 1¢ 1857 on the envelope and forwarded it.

The flaw in this theory is that instead of forwarding it with an illegal stamp, they could very easily have sent it with "DUE 1", and handstamped it with the well known "Old Stamps Not Recognized" - and Further - On mail "Held for postage, the Philadelphia Office was in the habit of handstamping such mail, "Held For Postage."

Any further comments will be appreciated.

Re - the Hlogo cover. I want the owner to be thoroughly satisfied so I am handing you a check for \$5.00 additional. Regardless of the cover's value I had to have it in the work I am doing and I sure was delighted to get it.

I sure was amused at your remarks on the "NOUVELLE ORLEANS - 1801." Konwiser thinks he has all the answers. I can well imagine how pleased you were to turn up the "NUEVA ORLEANS".

I suppose Ernie and Marie have returned to New York. He wrote me that he had a wonderful visit with you. It is to be regretted that he won't be in Chicago next week.

#2. Dr. Carroll Chase, Oct. 24, 1945.

Say hello to Jean for us, and if you will take her out to Cleveland with you, I'll take Mildred up with me. Otherwise, I won't.

Sorry to hear you have a cold and trust that you are both better.

Did you read Ward's remarks on Colson in Mekeel's - I think I forgot to mention same to you.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

100 Henry Court

Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 24, 1945.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,
1616 Walnut St.,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Phil:

Regarding the Fox cover. I wrote Chase about this item and I quote his reply:

"I see no possible reason for the 1¢ '57. Pretty anyway. 'Rec'd Oct 1' a Phila. marking? And why the date? Did they hold the cover 4 days before sending it on? Possibly the 3¢ 61 was added on Oct. 1st by the sender?"

I am in receipt of yours of the 22nd, and I must admit that there is no doubt about one thing - viz., that your guess is as good as any other. In fact, if all Blooms at this period were acid canceled, then it is quite possible the letter was dropped in a U. S. box with the Blooms and the 3¢ 1861 and received at the Philadelphia P.O. on Oct. 1st. Perhaps the addressee was notified that they were holding the letter for nonpayment of the 1¢ carrier fee to the Phila. P.O. Perhaps the addressee then sent the 1¢ 1857, and considering it useless to argue further, the P.O. clerk put the stamp on and forwarded the letter on Oct. 4th, 1861. It seems possible that the target was applied at the same time as the "Rec'd Oct. 1."

In the above event, an invalid stamp did actually pay a carrier service.

This may be somewhat similar to that 5¢ 1847 "Tahama" cover which as you will recall had a pair of 5¢ 1847 used from Tehama in 1855 or 1856. The stamps were invalid for postal use, yet they paid the rate.

Your theory is O.K. but for one flaw. The Philadelphia office should have marked the letter "Old Stamps Not Recognized" and placed on same "Due 1."

Covers are known from the Philadelphia Post Office which were dropped in boxes without payment of the carrier fee and which have "DUE 1". Rather than notify the addressee to forward 1¢, I believe that it was the custom at the Philadelphia Post Office to forward the letter with "DUE 1", the same as Boston did. One other point in your theory is worth considering. If the letter was held from the 1st to the 4th for payment of the 1¢ carrier fee, do you not believe that the envelope would have been handstamped, "Held for Postage"? Philadelphia did use such a marking and I have a record showing its use where the carrier fee was not paid. I

#2. Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr., Oct. 24, 1945.

also have New York examples with such a marking, i.e., letters dropped in U.S. boxes at New York without payment of the carrier fee.

I never received my copy of Mekeel's with your remarks on Colson so I am today writing Stilphen to forward me a copy by first-class mail. Was there any reaction from Colson?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Oct. 24, 1945.

Mr. A. R. Davis,
76 Brooks St.,
West Medford, Mass.

Dear Mr. Davis:

Re - the Fox cover with 3¢ '61 - Blood Local and 1¢ 1857. I have had some further correspondence with Phil Ward on this cover and he informed me that the Blood stamp was not used, as it was not acid canceled. He stated that the Blood Company always canceled their stamps with an acid which changed or destroyed the ink. I really was not aware of this fact, but I am no student of Locals.

Ward's theory was as follows:

The writer put on a 3¢ 1861 and a Blood on the envelope with the intention of having Blood take it to the Post Office, but instead it was dropped in a U. S. box. When received at the Phila. P.O. the 3¢ '61 was canceled with the target and the marking "Rec'd - Oct 1", applied. The addressee was notified a letter was being held for one cent deficient postage, whereupon the addressee forwarded a 1¢ 1857 stamp. The Post Office clerks, considering it a waste of energy and postage to further press the matter, put the 1¢ stamp on the letter and sent it on its way. This theory sounds very good, but for several flaws, viz., the Philadelphia office should have marked the letter "Old Stamps Not Recognized" and placed on same "Due 1." Had they done this they would have ended the matter and no one would have been permitted to use an invalid stamp.

Covers are known from the Philadelphia Post Office which were dropped in boxes without payment of the carrier fee and which have "DUE 1". Rather than notify the addressee to forward 1¢, I believe that it was the custom at the Philadelphia Post Office to forward the letter with "DUE 1", the same as Boston did. One other point in the theory is worth considering. If the letter was held from the 1st to the 4th for payment of the 1¢ carrier fee, is it not reasonable to suppose that the envelope would have been handstamped, "Held for Postage"? Philadelphia did use such a marking and I have a record showing its use where the carrier fee was not paid.

I have written Cole and asked him to contact the person who owns the cover and inquire if he has any objection to me writing an article on the cover.

#2. Mr. A. R. David, Oct. 24, 1945.

I'll appreciate your comments on the Ward theory.

Sincerely yours,

100 Henry Court

Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 24, 1945.

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

Dear Ezra:

Re - the cover in the Fox sale - 3¢ '61 - Bloods -
1¢ 1857. I thought perhaps I would write an article on
this item and add it to an article on the 3¢ plus 1¢
which is now in Brookman's hands for publication. Do you
think the owner would have any objections? If so, I wouldn't
bother.

May I ask this question? Did he consider a price
of \$137.50 on this cover justified? Does he think that the
1¢ stamp paid any rate? If so, legally?

Yours etc.,

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
COLLECTORS CLUB

COMMISSIONS EXECUTED
APPRAISALS

EZRA D. COLE RARE POSTAGE STAMPS
NYACK, N. Y. - - - Telephone Nyack 964


October 27, 1945

Dear Stan:

I have your note about the lot in the Fox sale. Ward was the runner up on this, and he wanted it badly. Also Fox had some bids of \$75. or more on the book.

You know who the buyer was. If you don't, I think you will find out in Chicago, for I think he expects to be there. It was not H.C.B., but I can tell you he is a very good friend of yours. I'm not trying to be mysterious, only I make it a rule not to tell who I buy things for. I don't think he would object to your writing up the cover at all.

Yours,



Ezra D. Cole

100 Henry Court

Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 13, 1945.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,
1616 Walnut St.,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Phil:

Perry wrote a friend of mine as follows:

"Whoever bought that cover in the Fox sale may have thought he was getting combination local and U. S. carrier use, which would indeed be something. The lc 1857 and the Bloods stamp could not pay for the same service. As a matter of fact the lc 1857 could not pay for anything as it had already been demonetized.

In my opinion the letter had only the 3c 1861 and Bloods on it when it was dropped in the government mail box instead of in one of Bloods boxes. It was held because the U. S. carrier (collection fee) had not been paid. Somebody paid the lc fee in cash whereupon the lc 1857 was affixed and cancelled with the Phila. pmk, the object being to show the reason for the delay in transit thru the Phila. post office. The lc 1857 served the same purpose as would a printed or written receipt showing that the U. S. collection fee had been collected after the letter arrived at the Phila. post office. There are one or more other possibilities but they seem to me highly improbable. As neither the Bloods stamp nor the lc 1857 paid for anything I would rate the cover as an interesting curio which may well be unique."

I thought that you would be interested in the above. Please keep same confidential so as not cause my friend any embarrassment.

Yours etc.,

Feb. 18, 1946.

Mr. W. H. Semsrott,
Suite 501 Chamber of Commerce Bldg.,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Semsrott:

Yours of the 14th with check for \$5.00 received.
Kindly accept my thanks.

Regarding the 90¢ 1861 cover to Leipsig in June 1867, originating in Hartford, Conn. (June 5rd). This was a letter to Saxony, and the single rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, was 30¢ "Via Prussian Closed Mail." Of this 30¢ the U. S. share was 23¢ and the Prussian P.O.D. share was 7¢. Note the "28" over "4." This penciled memo was applied in the Foreign Division of the Boston P.O. and the "28" indicated 28¢ credit to the Prussian P.O.D. and the "4" indicated the size of the rate, or a quadruple, hence the "28¢" credit was 4 X 7. This gives us the size of the total rate which was prepaid, or 4 x 30¢ - \$1.20. The cover shows a payment in stamps of \$1.10, hence without even a close examination of the cover it is evident that a stamp (or stamps) is missing.

There was undoubtedly another 10¢ 1861 which is missing and it was originally above the vertical pair of 10¢ or on the spot where we now find the pen "1867." Further it was probably canceled with the same magenta cork as the other two stamps and it was also tied by the Hartford p.m. part of which you noted just below the pen "18th Jun." The missing stamp had to be a 10¢ 1861 as June 5, 1867 would have been too early for a grill.

When this letter reached the Foreign Division the clerk made an error and used the double rate postmark, which had a "14" credit (2 x 7), but he noticed his error and crossed out the "14" and applied the one which was used on high rates and did not include the sum of the credit.

In my opinion this cover is genuine in every respect as all evidence points to that fact and there is nothing about the cover that indicates otherwise. I have penciled by endorsement on the reverse.

Via Prussian Closed Mail meant that such mail was conveyed thru England in sealed bags - thus "Closed Mail." We settled with England by bulk weight, not per separate piece of mail. From England the mail went thru Belgium and entered Germany at "AACHEN" (Aix - la - Chappelle), where the bags were opened and the mail

#2. Mr. W. H. Semsrott, Feb. 18, 1946.

distributed for various parts of the German Postal Union. Thus the blue "AACHEN" of "Jun 17" and Franco or Paid.

Our postal treaty with Prussia provided that mail could be forwarded either prepaid or unpaid, but no part payments could be made, either all or none. On an unpaid single rate 30¢ (or its equivalent) was collected in Germany and 23¢ was credited to the U. S. P.O.D. However we placed a debit in black of 23¢ on the letter. Settlements were made quarterly on balances.

Perhaps you wonder why we retained 23¢ out of each single rate and Prussia only received 7¢. It was because we paid the Atlantic sea postage and the British transit. This amounted to 16¢ sea, 5¢ U. S. internal, and an estimated 2¢ for transit thru Britain. Prussia paid the channel transit to Aachen and the German internal (5¢) with the 7¢. You will note that the Boston p.m. reads, "Boston Br. Pkt." In other words, the letter went by British Mail Ship (Cunard Line) from Boston to Liverpool.

I am enclosing quite an interesting cover which illustrates some of the points mentioned above.

Here we have a letter to Berlin with a payment of 3¢. The stamp is tied by the "New York Foreign Exchange postmark with 46." Being in black it is a debit marking, and of course the "46" debit indicates a double rate letter (2 x 23 debit). The 3¢ stamp was disregarded and the letter was rated as entirely unpaid with 60¢ due in Berlin, 14¢ of which was to be retained and 46¢ placed to the credit of the U.S. P.O.D.

It is most unusual to see a stamp canceled with exchange markings as it was contrary to the regulations to place these on stamps.

You will note that this letter went Via "American Packet." The date was June 1855.

A cover such as this is quite rare hence the price of \$17.50 which I am asking for it.

One more word - the postal treaty with Prussia went into effect in October 1852. The blue pen markings on my cover are the Prussian due markings equivalent to 60¢ in our currency.

Your 90¢ cover is quite an interesting study hence I doubt if you will care to part with it but in case you would I will remit the fee of \$5.00.

I am returning herewith your three covers and if there are any points that you do not understand please advise me.

Sincerely yours,



FORD
Delivered
on 30 June 1867
replied to 18 June
L. M. Chapman



AACHEN 6
FRANCO

Keip 12



By the Bremen to New York mail.



Delivered

Nov 30th Dec 1867
refult de 18th Juin

Com. Supérieur Johann Marbach

32

AACHEN 6
FRANCO

Keipzig

By the Danziger Post mail.



Oct. 9, 1947.

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

Dear Chuck:

It was nice to receive yours of the 7th,
but you put a problem up to me that I fear I cannot
answer.

Herewith the cover that you enclosed. It
is too bad that the "Feb 1" postmark is not legible
as it might give us some clue as to the "2." The
letter itself is dated Hockettstown, N.J. Jan. 9, 1850
and it is postmarked at that town on Jan. 17. It was
rated there as 10, hence the "2" was added elsewhere.
I cannot imagine why there was any extra postage on a
letter in 1850 going from New Jersey to Michigan.
About the only thing that I can think of is that the
letter was advertised and the "2" was the advertising
fee. The letter should have arrived in Ann Arbor within
a week or around Jan. 24, so why was it advertised as
soon as Feb. 1?

If this was an advertised letter, I think it
should have been marked "Advertised 2." However, I am
not quite certain whether the law at that time provided
that the addressee be charged with the advertisement of
a letter, but I think that such was the case.

I feel certain that the markings are all genu-
ine. Mr. Edwards didn't have much regard for his
daughter-in-law - some letter.

We are planning to attend the C.P.S. celebration
next week-end and I hope to see you at that time.

With best regards -

Cordially yours,

places
to come
left
the
he can
Memphis
Cotton
I shall

since
ments
not
The
must
ed of
il our
prices,
them
\$12 1/2 -
e of ours
an -

to ~~the~~ ~~this~~ send to the ~~hereafter~~ until you
give different directions - I believe there
is a place in London where you can get
the New York Herald - somewhere in Strand St.
If you can do this it will be better than
to have them sent from here - However I
continue to send you papers until you
tell me to stop -

I have nothing of interest to report. Cotton
is dull at about 31 to 32 for middling. We
have a short letter from W Beman this morning
dated at Charleston S.C, 8 inst, & it came
via Fort Monroe, He said he enclosed a
Confederate Postage stamp, & requested us to reply
by the same route, but Gen Wool's clerk or
Agent, added a P.S. to Beman's letter & said
the "Stamps not allowed to go" - Beman merely
inquired how much money he had remitted to Mr. H.
We shall wait until the war is over before we
reply to him, He is a rank secessionist altho a Yankee
& don't care how much he is inconvenienced - ^{your truly} Edwin Parsons

1926
-NO-

Bartels 1923

SE

LETTER MENTIONS
C.S. MAIL TO EUROPE
AND ROUTING IT
THROUGH OLD
POINT COMFORT.

24c brown violet, splendid color approaching the August
red town and red grid canc., a wonderful piece NEW
YORK, to Liverpool (70a)

①

AUGUST



Mr George Parsons
Care Messrs Molyneux Taylor & Co
Liverpool
England

2844

June 16, 1947.

Mrs. F. C. Alispaw,
Fort Pierce Fla.

Dear Mrs. Alispaw:

I am returning the Harrington letter herewith and advise you to send it to Mr. Ryan at Birmingham. One would surmise from this letter that "Miss Cofield" was not "Mrs. Harrington," but from all the information that I have been able to gather they traveled together so perhaps if she was a "Miss" she should have been a "Mrs."

They sold some fake covers to Mr. McCall of Monroeville, Ala. last November, and if I remember correctly they were introduced to him by an uncle of Miss Cofield whom the pair visited in Monroeville.

The enclosed letter is rather mausing and I would not take it seriously. It is quite evident that they want you to release the fraudulent material that they sold you.

Sincerely yours,

June 7/1947.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

Had hoped to see you

again before the stamp show was over, but always just missed you.

Wasn't the show grand? I certainly enjoyed every visit. After it was over I went over to Rutherford, N. J. + visited for over a week + finally came home.

I want to thank you again for all you did toward helping me get back my \$4.00 =

You know besides the covers, Miss Copfield sold me an album with some stamps in it. The old ones were either not genuine or were torn, perfs gone or something wrong except a set of singles unused of the F. Americans + a few of the late new stamps such as Navy, Army, 1-2-3-5 Roosevelt - C. Guard. - Al Smith etc. singles unused.

When I got my money from her I wrote at once to Chief Maloney + asked him about the album + he never has said anything about it.

Have had a number of letters from her

asking for it. Here is the last one which came while I was away.

I just wrote her today + told her I would return it to her Monday express collect as she suggests.

But I told her the man that Chief Maloney sent here to see me had seen the album + had taken 3 or 4 stamps (that Mr. Stark + the man who was with you all last Jan. from Detroit. + said they were not genuine) with him. Also that I had told Chief Maloney in a letter that I had the album + he had never said to return it to her.

As to the covers except for the ones I left with you in N. Y. + got back before I left, I do not have them. The man that Chief Maloney sent down here to see me took them together with some stamps with him.

Please return her letter to me.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Fred C.) Mary Esther Alispaw,
Indian River Dir.,
Fort Pierce, Fla.

P.S. Should I return the album?
Will hold it until I hear from you. M.E.A.

June 11, 1947.

Mrs. F. C. Alispaw,
Indian River Drive,
Fort Pierce, Fla.

Dear Mrs. Alispaw:

In reply to your letter of the 7th, I suggest that you write to the following official, explain the situation and request him to kindly advise you whether or not you should return the album and covers, or whether he would like for you to turn them over to him or some other Government official. You might explain to him that I advised you to withhold them until you were properly advised by some Government official, because I feared that if you returned them to the Harringtons that they might turn right around and sell them to some other innocent buyer. Write

Mr. Terrence V. Ryan,
P.O.Box 693
Birmingham, Ala.

The New York Show was surely marvelous but it was most too big. After I returned home I realized that I didn't get to see 10% of the exhibits but I suppose that visiting with old friends is even more enjoyable than looking at philatelic rarities.

I assure you that it was a pleasure to meet you, and if at any time I can be of any assistance to you I trust that you will write me. Collectors, in purchasing stamps and covers, should be more careful. They should deal only with reputable dealers and should have all valuable items expertized. Purchasing valuable philatelic items without certificates of genuineness is similar to buying property without even having the title examined.

Sincerely yours,

P.S. I return the Cofield letter. I note that she uses her maiden name. I wonder why? I suppose that there is no doubt but what she is married to Harrington. You might send this letter to Mr. Ryan and call his attention to this point.

MARY ESTHER ALISPAW
Vice CHAIRMAN

John M. Carthy,
MRS. BESS OVERSTREET
VICE CHAIRMAN
Chairman

MYRTLE E. CROOKS
SECRETARY

MRS. J. W. CORBETT
TREASURER

ST. LUCIE COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA

April 28/1947

MEMBERSHIP

PRECINCT AND POSTOFFICE

- No. 1—"Indrio"
ROBERT W. LENNARD
MRS. CARL E. HELSETH
FORT PIERCE, R.F.D. NO. 2
- No. 2—"City Hall"
J. W. WILSON
MRS. LELA CATO BROWN
FORT PIERCE
- No. 3—"Walton"
W. H. LENNARD, WALTON
MARY ESTHER ALISPAW
FORT PIERCE
- No. 4—"St. Lucie"
AL WILSON
MRS. SUSAN FULLEN
ST. LUCIE
- No. 5—"White City"
JOHN W. KERR
MRS. MARIE THOMAS
FORT PIERCE, R.F.D. NO. 1
- No. 6—"Court House"
W. I. FEE
MRS. S. F. OVERSTREET
FORT PIERCE
- No. 7—"Killers"
C. B. KNIGHT
MRS. W. N. CROOKS
FORT PIERCE
- No. 8—"Orange Ave. Garage"
J. A. KENDALL
MRS. J. W. CORBETT
FORT PIERCE
- No. 9—"Bluefield"
R. L. WILEY
MRS. JACK ROGERS
OKEECHOBEE

STATE COMMITTEEMEN
WALKER LIDDON
ETHEL D. SNELLGROVE

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEEMEN
FLEM C. DAME
EMMA H. SAUNDERS

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:- Am sorry not to have written sooner to you, but I have been away several days each week for the past two weeks attending the Fla. Chain of Missions Conference at Winter Haven Fla. & the Presbyterian for Southeast Florida at Rockledge.

~~Under separate cover & prepaid~~ am sending you four of the Confederate covers that were not given to the agent sent by Chief Maloney.

After you have photographed them please return to me as soon as possible and am hoping to hear soon from Chief Maloney about the covers & stamps.

I certainly appreciate all you have done for me & wish to thank you.

Have had 3 letters from Miss Cofield saying she was reporting me to the District Attorney & the Attorney General of the U.S.

Here is a copy of the letter I wrote her & to which she replied by sending the \$360.00 & also the man Harrington sent a M.O.

(2)

ST. LUCIE COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA

MEMBERSHIP

PRECINCT AND POSTOFFICE

No. 1—"Indrio"
ROBERT W. LENNARD
MRS. CARL E. HELSETH
FORT PIERCE, R.F.D. NO. 2

No. 2—"City Hall"
J. W. WILSON
MRS. LELA CATO BROWN
FORT PIERCE

No. 3—"Walton"
W. H. LENNARD, WALTON
MARY ESTHER ALISPAW
FORT PIERCE

No. 4—"St. Lucie"
AL WILSON
MRS. SUSAN FULLER
ST. LUCIE

No. 5—"White City"
JOHN W. KERR
MRS. MARIE THOMAS
FORT PIERCE, R.F.D. NO. 1

No. 6—"Court House"
W. I. FEE
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No. 7—"Killers"
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MRS. W. N. CROOKS
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R. L. WILEY
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OKEECHOBEE

STATE COMMITTEEMEN
WALKER LIDDON
ETHEL D. SNELLGROVE

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEEMEN
FLEM C. DAME
EMMA H. SAUNDERS

3
this being done on advice of counsel, I am informed that you never had a case against me at all. If you did you compounded a felony by using the mails to settle it out of court. Further I was advised to send you letter to the Attorney General of the U.S. for inspection as the Gov. does not threaten anyone with prosecution nor do they allow their agents to advise anyone to use the mails for such causes.

I was also advised what to do if you do not get the stamps back and send them at once.

If I had known what I know now I would not have sent the money. Sincerely, Eliz. Copfield.

Then I wrote + told her I had given the covers to the agent from Chief Maloney's office + I gave her Chief Maloney's address. Here is her answer. Apr 21st 1907

Dear Mrs. Alispaw:—Your letter of April 19 was received this date. I note what you say about them having these covers. That is alright with me. I knew you had sent them for that is the reason I told you to get them back + send them to me. Why haven't you sent the album to me? I will appreciate it very much if you will do this at once. I am this date sending copies of your letters to Chief Maloney + the Attorney General. Sincerely yours, Eliz. Copfield,

To which I answered April 26th + told her I had
also given the agent 3 stamps from the album
+ when I heard from Chief Maloney I would do
whatever he advised. And of course I haven't
heard from her as she probably will receive
my letter today.

So far haven't gone to my attorney, but if I have
any trouble with her will turn everything over
to Mr. Walker Liddon of Liddon + Fee, Attorneys
here. He has attended to all our affairs since
long before my Daddy passed away in 1925.
I have kept copies of each letter I have written
to her + have her letters.

Will appreciate it if you will send this on to
Mr. Harry Weiss, Halton, Kans. so I won't have
to write all this over again.

He also has been a great help to me + I surely do
appreciate it.

Thanking you. I am.

P.S. Do you think it
is necessary to send a copy
of each of my letters together
with copies of her letters
to Chief Maloney?
Will appreciate hearing from
you. Mrs. C.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Fred C.) Mary Esther Alejau,
Indian River Danc.
Fort Pierce,
Florida.

Decided to put 4 coins in this letter
3 Cents + 1 U.S.

May 2nd, 1947.

Mrs. Fred C. Alispaw,
Indian River Drive,
Fort Pierce, Fla.

My dear Mrs. Alispaw:

Thanks very much for yours of the 28th and the five covers which I am returning herewith. I am sending your letter to our mutual friend Harry Weiss and when he returns it I will send it down to Mr. Haydn Myer of the Confederate Stamp Alliance.

The Alliance is having a dinner in New York during the big Philatelic Exhibition the middle of this month and if I am invited to make any remarks I intend to make mention of the Herringtons.

I do not think that there is any question but what the Herringtons made the fake covers. For example, I am enclosing a photograph of a fake cover that they sold to Mr. McCall of Monroeville, Ala. You will note on this cover the same pointing hand that they used on the cover with the Pomeroy Local. Further, I have little doubt that the ink of this hand on your cover is the same that was used to put the postmark on the 20¢ bisect cover. The two Confederate stamps are of course rank counterfeits and were doubtless made by a firm down in New England.

My advice to you is not to pay any attention to Miss Coffield's bluffing letters - and further - do not return the fakes to her unless instructed to do so by the F.B.I. If you return them they will surely turn around and sell them to someone else.

If anything new develops I do trust that you will advise me.

Sincerely yours,

Mar 25/1947

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

The woman said she
was Elizabeth Copfield + I made the
check out to Elizabeth Copfield.

Yes. I know Henry Pogue + his sisters
very well. One is Marguerite now Mrs.
Parker + the other is Katherine + married
to a Dr. in Cincinnati.

Do you think it would do any good to
write to Miss Copfield + tell her to return
my money or the Secret Service would
catch up with her?

Sorry I didn't get to see you while you were
in Fort Pierce. Sincerely yours,

Mrs. F. C. Alispaw.
Indian River Drive.
Fort Pierce.
Fla.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA

Apr. 9/1947

MEMBERSHIP

PRECINCT AND POSTOFFICE

No. 1—"Indrio"

ROBERT W. LENNARD
MRS. CARL E. HELSETH
FORT PIERCE, R.F.D. NO. 2

No. 2—"City Hall"

J. W. WILSON
MRS. LELA CATO BROWN
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STATE COMMITTEEMEN

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ETHEL D. SNELLGROVE

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEEMEN

FLEM C. DAME
EMMA H. SAUNDERS

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

Received your letter written Mar 17th upon my return home from a trip to the West Coast of Florida.

On Thursday, Mar. 27th I wrote to the address you gave me + on Sat April 5th I received a letter from Miss Cofield with a draft on Chase Nat. Bank of N. Y. C. for my \$360⁰⁰

+ that afternoon a letter from the man who sold me the Confederate covers. The amt. was \$40⁰⁰ that I had paid him. And he had sent me a money order for \$40⁰⁰ so I got back my \$400⁰⁰ I had paid out to them.

They both asked for the return of the material they had sold me.

I wrote right away to Chief Maloney, Washington, D. C. + asked him what I should do about the covers + stamps. Probably won't hear for quite a while from him.

Do you think I should return the covers etc. to each

of them?

When the F.B.I man was here in Feb. I told him all about it I told him I hoped he would get back my money, but he never promised he would or would so after a month of waiting + getting your letter about her address I wrote her. She evidently lost no time getting in touch with him + he sent his M.O. from a little town in Ala.

Here is a copy of the letter I sent ~~him~~ her.

You know I gave the F.B.I. man the cancelled check + 5 of the fake coins + I can't return all the things to her. In her letter to me with the \$360⁰⁰ she said the F.B.I. had nothing on her as she had sent nothing through the mail.

Dear Miss Copfield: upon examination I find the coins + old stamps you sold me are not genuine. Also the Conf. coins I bought from the man a week before I bought the stamps from you are not genuine. When I asked you if a man had told you about me you said, "No." However I am sure you two were working together. I have the letter you wrote me from Jensen + also the cancelled check for \$360⁰⁰ which I paid you. I am writing to ask you to return me the \$360⁰⁰ I paid you. If you do not do so you will find yourself in the hands of the Law. This is no idle threat. The Conf. Stamp Alliance + the Weekly Phil. Gossip together with the Government are behind me + unless I receive the certified check or money order for \$360⁰⁰ you will be prosecuted. I don't know whether you realize it or not but the Government never gives up. They always get their man or woman.

(3)

ST. LUCIE COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA

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FLEM C. DAME
EMMA H. SAUNDERS

If you return the \$360⁰⁰ I shall drop charges. If you do not return my money then the Gov. will take a hand. Yours truly, Mrs. F. C. Alispaw.

P.S. Don't waste time writing to me that you are going to employ an attorney. Because you & I both know you didn't tell the truth when you said your Aunt had left you the old coons etc.

Mrs. Fred C. Alispaw.

The man gave his name as Lee Harrington, I had forgotten what he had told me his name was.

Hope Mr. McCall gets his money back from this couple. How much did he pay them for his swindle?

Will appreciate hearing from you about the coons etc.

My husband says if I return them to the couple they will just sell them to some one else.

Hope I can hear from Chief Maloney soon. Will probably get a letter from each of them in a few days demanding their coons etc.

Guess I will have to write & tell them where their coons are. As you can see by copy of letter I wrote them I never promised to return the coons etc.

(4)

Hoping to hear from you about this, I am,

Sincerely yours.

Mrs. Fred C. Alispaw.
Indian River Dine.
Fort Pierce, Fla.

April 14, 1947.

Mrs. F. C. Alispaw,
Indian River Drive,
Fort Pierce, Fla.

My dear Mrs. Alispaw:

Hearty congratulations on the recovery of your money from the Harringtons. I think that you were extremely fortunate because it is not an easy thing to recover money from philatelic crooks and at times the cost to do so leaves little of the principal.

Regarding the items that they sold to you. I would advise you not to return them unless advised to do so by Chief Maloney, in the meantime I think that we should keep a photographic record of them and if you will forward them to me I will make the photographs and return them to you by return mail.

I think that Mr. McCall got off rather easy as he only purchased about \$50.00 from the pair, and they have offered to make good the sum.

If they make a demand for the immediate return of the items I suggest that you advise them that you are acting under instructions from Chief Maloney and that when he gives you permission to return them that you will be glad to do so. You might add that if this is not agreeable to them that they can communicate direct with the Chief - then give them his address.

Again my congratulations and best wishes. I am highly pleased that you were so fortunate.

Sincerely yours,

June 4, 1947.

Mr. S. Newbury,
28 South Dearborn St.,
Chicago 3, Ill.

My dear Mr. Newbury:

The big Plate 12 piece came in late yesterday afternoon and it is now in the mail and on its way back to you.

I remounted the piece for you as it is too valuable and rare to be mounted the way it was. For example, it was held in place all around with pieces of hinges. If any dampness reached these they would have adhered to the face of the stamps. So I took the sheet off the old card and put it on a plate page which shows at a glance what positions are missing. The sheet is held in place by several peelable hinges and it is protected from dirt, etc. by the special transparent covering. It can now be exhibited without any danger from handling, etc. I hope you approve and like what I have done and if you would like your other one cent sheets fixed in like manner, just send them down and it will be a pleasure for me to fix them up.

Thanks for your kindness in sending the sheet down. I was careful to make some excellent photographs from which I hope that I will be able to plate any pieces which turn up from these positions in the left pane.

I was pleased that you liked the Dr. Bacher article. As far as I am aware he did not sell his covers but carried them back to England with him.

I wrote Sir Nicholas last week and discussed briefly and in a nice way some of the items that were in his exhibit. I believe that his reply will be interesting.

I haven't had a word from Ernie since I left him in New York but I suppose he is busy fixing up his cottage for the summer.

I am so glad that you stood the trip so well and that you reached home with no ill effects. Mildred certainly enjoyed that day she spent with Mrs. Newbury and you.

Our best regards to you both.

As ever yours,

May 29, 1947.

Mr. S. Newbury,
38 South Dearborn St.,
Chicago 3, Ill.

My dear Mr. Newbury:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the British publication "PHILATELY" which arrived today. I note in it quite a fine article by Dr. Bacher which illustrates the 1847 covers which he had at the Show, also the Waterhouse cover. I might add that an article like this appearing in a British publication is most unusual, for the reason that they seldom have had any room in the past for articles on our stamps. The second surprising feature is the way the story is told - it divulges the fact that there is at least one man in the whole British Isles who has real knowledge of our stamps. That certainly is fine and let us hope that he keeps up the good work.

I have read this article very carefully and the only criticism that I can offer is - (1) that his reference to me was quite a gross exaggeration, and (2) that I really doubt if there are so many (20) such covers in existence. My guess would be half that number.

As far as I am aware there are only two combination covers showing R.R. markings and it is really remarkable in my estimation that even that many have survived to the present day. We have always considered these "combination covers" as very, very rare and yet here are two with R. R. markings.

He brought out an excellent point in explaining why we see so very few covers used to England with 1847 stamps to pay the 24¢ rate. To prepay by stamps cost an extra cent and a cent was at least a bit of money with value back in those days of long ago.

The Doctor was quite right in stating that I consider his R.R. cover on a par with the Brown cover. Perhaps it might not be exactly on a par so far as "condition" of the stamps themselves are concerned but in my humble opinion the "use" far exceeds the feature of "condition." I suppose I am old fashion but I would far prefer to own the Bacher R.R. cover than the Brown cover. Perhaps American Philately will someday grow up to appreciate "use" more than "condition."

This is an excellent article and I thought that you would

#2. Mr. S. Newbury, May 29, 1947.

thoroughly enjoy it so I am sending it up to you, but please take good care of it and return it to me after you have finished. Perhaps Mike could profit a bit by reading it.

I trust that by this time you have fully recovered from the exertion of the New York trip.

As ever yours,

Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield, Inc.

ADVERTISING

350 FIFTH AVENUE • Empire State Building • NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

March twenty-fifth

19

47

Dear Stan:

I send you herewith a photostat of a very interesting cover. I don't know whether Mac sent you one before. The cover came to him and he had the photostat made and as you can see on the back he describes it.

I had the cover sent to me and it is undoubtedly genuine. The pair of 3¢ stamps at lower left wrapped around the cover. The cancel is in red and a filter discloses that it certainly was used in the month of June and I make it out as June 23rd. I also think I can make the date out as 1861. Of course it couldn't be June 1860 as these Patriotics were not made then.

The neat problem arises therefore as to how it carried 3¢ 1857's and how it got through Portsmouth, N.H. I should tell you that the cover was found in Admiral Bleeker's effects and is undoubtedly Kosher.

Here's a case of the use of U.S. stamps long after June 21st and with a peculiar 9¢ rate which could be tripled but could also be close enough to the 10¢ Confederate rate to allow postmasters to extend a courtesy to a Navy man.

It's a strange duck and I am having the cover sent back to me and then I will send it to you to see what ultra violet discloses on the cancel. I should have said that the red cancel is hard to read because it falls on the red stripe of the flag.

Best regards,

Carry

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

March 31, 1947.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,
350 Fifth Ave.,
Empire State Bldg.,
New York 1, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Re - yours of the 25th. I am returning the photo herewith of the Confed Patriotic cover. What hit me in the eye was the Charleston in red. I never saw a Charleston, S.C. postmark of this type struck in red and I doubt if red was ever used there. Are you sure it reads S.C.? I am wondering if it could have been Charlestown, Mass. or perhaps Charlestown, Va. (as it was then called).

If the use was in June 1861 and it was mailed at Charleston, S.C. there surely would be some evidence of Confed postage - assuming of course it was some sort of a Flag of Truce cover. If the 3¢ stamps paid the U. S. postage then of course the use was prior to the fall of 1861 and subsequent to Feb. 1861 when Davis and Stephens were elected.

The seven stars indicates that this envelope was made early in the spring of 1861. My guess is that it was used before June 1, 1861, because it does not show any Confed origin and that the town was not Charleston, S.C.

I would like to see the original and if you will send it to me I will make a careful test under my quartz lamp. It seems rather probable that someone got hold of a Confed Patriotic and used it from one U.S. P.O. to another.

I have some photo prints laid aside for you - one is the Antrim cover with the pair of 20¢ Green - Express Mail; also several others for your records.

Harold keeps me advised on "Cipex" and I certainly congratulate you on the fine work that you have accomplished on the Confed section of the C. of H. The "Cipex" is going to surpass all expectations according to all reports and I am looking forward to that week with much pleasure.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

cc Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

April the third
19 47

Dear Mr. Weiler:

Thanks for the loan of the cover. Close examination of the red postmark confirms the fact that ---

- (1) It cannot be "Charleston, S.C." as Mr. MacBride guessed and therefore did not "cross the lines" because that city never used a red cancel at this period.
- (2) It is the cancel of "Charlestown" probably "Ms." for Mass. The date is clearly JUN 28 (1861?). Therefore the cover is regular U.S. mail of the period. (Triple rate).
- (3) The writer secured the patriotic from some source and probably used it as a gag to a fellow Navy man. Of course it passed thru the mails.
- (4) If you will measure the letters in the postmark you will see that "E" is in the center at the top and therefore that "STOWN" (5 letters) must follow it. In fact the "W" is visible thru a strong glass and without filter or quartz lamp.

Thanks again for the riddle!

LCS

Mr. Rudolph B. Weiler
9 Green Tree Building
West Chester, Pa.

Thank Stan.

You guessed the
right clue -

LCS

April 7, 1947.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,
% Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield, Inc.,
350 Fifth Ave.,
New York 1, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Thanks for the copy of your letter to
Mr. Weiler. Please note the enclosed photo which
kindly return. I believe that this practically
proves that the postmark was "Charlestown, Mass."

Note my memo that this postmark was struck
in red and the grids in black.

Yours etc.,

April 30, 1947.

Mr. H. P. Gaston,
% Triangle Blueberry Plantations,
South Haven, Mich.

Dear Mr. Gaston:

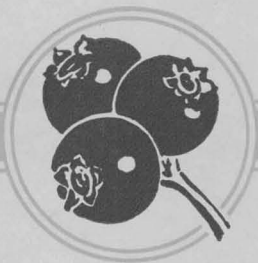
Yours of the 28th received.

As you are probably aware the big International Philatelic Exhibition is to be held in New York on the 17th to 25th of this month. I am leaving on the 15th and I suggest that you send me the Pony Express item and I will take it down to New York with me. I have little doubt that I will have no trouble in disposing of it for you.

I am terribly busy trying to clean up my desk in order to get away and do not recall exactly the item that I sold you without searching thru my files. If you will send it to me I will be pleased to advise you further.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



MICHIGAN BLUEBERRY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Packers of

Cultivated Blueberries

H. P. GASTON
President

BERNARD JONES
Vice-President

EDWIN GRUNST
Manager

South Haven, Michigan 4/28/47

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

About three years ago you helped me find a Pony Express cover, or to be more exact it is the face of such a cover. You once wrote the item up in a philatelic publication, and will probably remember the piece. I paid \$500 for it.

During the interval which has elapsed my interests have changed to some extent, and if I could dispose of this cover at what seems to me like a fair price, I would sell. If you handle the transaction, you should of course receive something for your trouble.

Are you in a position to dispose of this on my behalf, and if so what do you think it would bring net to me? If you can help me I will be pleased to hear from you.

Very truly yours,

HPG
VMS

H. P. Gaston -

ARTESIAN BOND

BAG CONTENT

May 26, 1947.

Mr. H.P. Gaston,
62 South Haven St.,
South Haven, Mich.

My dear Mr. Gaston:

I am enclosing my check herewith for \$500.00 in payment for the Pony Express and the unused envelope. I succeeded in finding a buyer for the above in New York and did not consider it was necessary to wire you.

If I can be of any service to you at any time I trust that you will command me.

Cordially yours,

Pony Express

\$ 500⁰⁰

Photo
5/7-47



Grand Rapids, Mich.

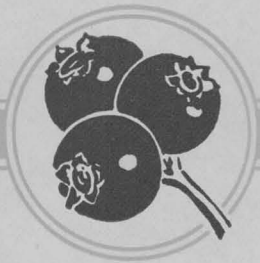
H.P. Gaston
62 South Haven. St
South Haven, MICH.



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







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Vice-President

EDWIN GRUNST
Manager

South Haven, Michigan 5/2/47

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
A.P.S. 2497
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am handing you herewith the Pony Express Cover about which I wrote you. I am also including another unused cover which you sold me at the same time. It is of interest because it happens to be the same design as the Pony.

As I wrote you, I paid \$500 for the Pony (the other item was \$5.) Although the peak has been passed, the market is still strong and with the New York Show coming up, I hoped to realize not less than \$500. Before actually making a sale, I will be pleased if you will drop me a line and let me know what you think would be a fair price net to me, (I want you to have something for your trouble, so please take this into consideration.)

Thanking you for your help in this matter, I am

Cordially,

HFG
VMS

ARTESIAN BOND

FAG COTTAGE

A. P. Gaston
South Haven, Mich.

May 5, 1947.

Mr. H. P. Gaston,
62 South Haven St.,
South Haven, Mich.

Dear Mr. Gaston:

I am in receipt of yours of the 2nd,
enclosing the two items, viz., the Pony cover to
Scotland and the unused stagecoach - corner card
envelope.

What I would like to do is to net you
what you paid me for these two pieces and this
I will endeavor to do. I have written a very
good friend today inquiring if he would be inter-
ested. At any rate, I will not confirm any sale
without communicating with you first.

With best wishes - I am

Cordially yours,

May 5, 1947.

Mr. Harry B. Keffer,
17 Broadway,
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Harry:

Please note the Pony Express cover that I illustrated in the A.P. - June 1936 - page 465. This is a very rare item - a Pony to Scotland - from S.F. on Nov. 7, 1860 - Saint Joseph - Nov. 20 - New York Nov. 24 - It was sent unpaid from New York with a shilling due at Glasgow. It bears a 10¢ 1857 - Type V - in upper left canceled at St. Joe, and this is over a hand colored four-horse stage coach - I know of but one other cover going abroad - the 30¢ to Germany which I believe you placed - Ex-S_henfield and illustrated in my Vol. 2.

My Glasgow is not a full cover but only a face - but the story is all there.

I can offer it to you at \$600.00 subject to prior sale.

I'll see you at the Show.

Cordially yours,





THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T

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OFFICE

Jan. 31st, 1946.

The Philatelic Foundation,
22 East 35th St.,
New York 16, N.Y.

Attention Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs

Dear Win:

Herewith the two items as per yours of the
29th.

The notation on the back of the bisect cover
re - an item in the Seybold Sale is correct, not that
this makes any particular difference but it is worth
while noting that the memo is correct. One wonders
why a use of 1864 would be so similar to one of 1870
but who can deny that such a thing was possible. The
sender must have been a stamp collector. I have ex-
amined the cover very carefully and notwithstanding the
above, I do believe that the cover is genuine.

As for the other item, no one should send in a
thing like this. Stamps on pieces of cover are an
abomination and they should be removed.

I'll be glad to lunch with you on my next visit
to New York.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
100 HENRY COURT
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

March 13, 1948.

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs,
The Philatelic Foundation,
22 East 35th St.,
New York 16, N.Y.

Dear Win:

I am returning herewith the Kershner report and photographs, and wish to thank you for submitting same. I might add that Kershner's work is very good but his reference to photos by "special technique" is rather amusing as I have been making negatives thru various written screens for many years and there is no secret about the "special technique." Even Souren can make philatelic photos by this special technique.

I suppose the Expert Committee has a choice of several ways in which to handle this item, viz:

- (1) To express an opinion that this stamp did not originate on this piece.
- (2) To express an opinion that this stamp did originate on this piece.
- (3) To return it without an opinion.
- (4) To return it with the Kershner report which I assume was to the effect that the stamp did originate on this piece and was tied by the same ink as the New Orleans postmark.

May I suggest this thought to the Committee before they adopt #4. If they are convinced that the Kershner report is correct then they should be very sure that the New Orleans postmark is genuine.

Zareski of Paris, a very clever crook, did not hesitate to have imitation postmarks made when he wished to make a convincing cover.

I could show Mr. Kershner a number of items that would take more than quartz lamps and "special technique" by artistic photography to prove that they were not made by Zareski. "Scientific examination of postage stamps" (per Kershner) requires more than an elaborate laboratory, such as possessed by Souren or Kershner.

Will the Committee be so kind as to advise me as to what final opinion is rendered to the owner of this fake item.

#2. Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs, March 13, 1946.

I made copies of the photographs which is less expensive than additional prints and while they are not quite as good as the originals they will answer my purpose.

By the way, your envelope arrived in a badly damaged condition as you will note and I trust that none of the photos were lost. I am returning all that were received.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 EAST 35TH STREET

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN
CHAIRMAN

THEODORE E. STEINWAY
TREASURER

ROBERT L. GRAHAM, JR.
SECRETARY

MURRAY HILL 3-~~0530~~
5667

March 21, 1946.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
100 Henry Court,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:-

The opportunity has come for me to reply to your kind letter of March 13th returning the photos of the 90c on piece which~~X~~ were safely received, and all accounted for.

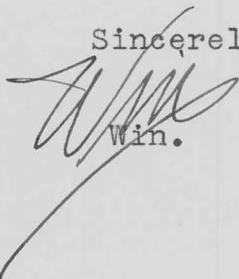
In fairness to Mr. Kershner, may I point out that the term "special technique" is merely one of convenience to separate those photos which are merely for the certificate, and those which are taken through filters, etc., and may I also say that the committee frequently disagrees with some of the conclusions offered by the photographer. In other words your point that "scientific examination of postage stamps requires more than an elaborate laboratory" is well taken and I will agree with you 100%, and I am sure that the Committee will concur that philatelic knowledge must also enter into the judgment of the bonafides of a philatelic item.

I will be pleased to inform you of the decision of the Committee relative to this particular item, as soon as a definite decision has been reached.

Needless to say I have my own opinion, but until the Committee renders its decision, I am not free to express mine to anyone.

Looking forward to seeing you the next time you are in New York, I remain

Sincerely



Win.

wsb/b

CABLE ADDRESS
CHAMPIN, N. Y.

ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN
GREENWICH & MORTON STREETS
NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

POST OFFICE BOX 994
CHURCH STREET ANNEX, NEW YORK 8, N. Y.

March 27, 1946

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
100 Henry Court
Fort Thomas
Kentucky

My dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Mr. Boggs came in this morning with your report on the 90¢ 1869 used on a piece of cover with New Orleans cancellation. I am no authority on New Orleans cancellations - that's one point that I want to make clear. However, I have before me your report of January 31st of this year in which you wrote:

"In my opinion this 90¢ 1869 on piece is not genuine, i.e. a good stamp was not used on this piece. The New Orleans postmark is no doubt genuine but the tie on stamp at southeast is fraudulent and of a different ink than the postmark. This piece was evidently a cover to France but original stamp removed and the 90¢ substituted. There is a trace of what was probably a French receiving postmark."

You have a copy of your letter of March 13th and I do not quite get the two things to jibe. I know how clever some of the Paris fakes have been but what I have been trying to find out is - was there another cancellation on the stamp before it was applied to this piece of cover and possibly a faked postmark added? However, this contradicts your statement of January 31st - and again I repeat I am not an authority on New Orleans postmarks.

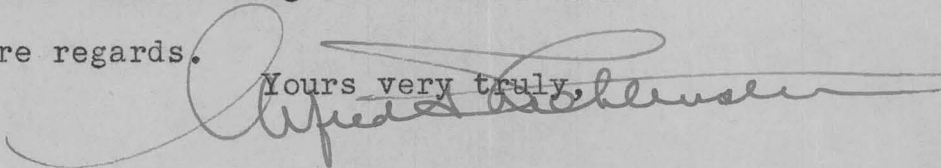
We know that the stamp if unused, and especially centered as this copy is, has a value of two and a half to three times that of a used copy - and even a Frenchman would hesitate at such sacrilege. So, it may have been a slight smudge (this is Mr. Boggs' idea) on a cancelled copy, but we are still up in the air as to saying what it is. However, as the stamp is practically unknown on cover, it is also of value on piece. So, as far as I am concerned I feel it is an enigma and would like to have your continued valued assistance in trying to solve this problem.

I am confronted today with three copies of New Foundland cancellations, two of them on the 8d scarlet vermillion and one on the 3d and I am convinced that all are bad, and also convinced they are all different, but I have to prove to myself that my conviction is right and I am having a heck of a time.

With sincere regards.

AFL:VT

Yours very truly,





Raymond D. Kershner * Photographer

Photo-analysis of Questioned Documents
Scientific Examination of Postage Stamps

1311 St. Vincent Street * Philadelphia 11, Pa.

March 3rd, 1946

- REPORT -

No. 89 - U.S. 90¢ on piece.

- A - Photo-micrograph of ink on stamp and portion of ink of cancellation on cover. Arrows point to dark minute specks of ink pigment present in the ink on both the stamp and on the cover.
- B - Micro-photograph showing small glass scale over line of cancellation. Measurement shows thickness of line to be .0175 of an inch.
- C - Photo-micrograph of cancellation ink on stamp. Measurement at this point is also .0175 of an inch.
- D - Enlarged photograph of piece taken by special technique to hold back face of stamp, permitting cancellation ink to show clearly, both on right and left side of stamp. Arrows point to slight blurring on cancellation which had a tendency to give the cancellation on stamp appearance of being slightly off-center. Red lines show uniformity of cancellation on cover and stamp.
- E - Photograph by special technique, showing clearly texture of both cover and stamp. Note grill on stamp. Also note cancellation on stamp and cover, both on right and left side of same uniformity of density, indicating the same ink. There is no indication of abrasion on cover, nor any evidence under the ultra-violet light of tampering or substitution.

*Dear Stan:-
If you would
like a set of
these prints
I will be glad
to set
you a set
Wills*



Donald MacGregor1602 HOUSTONIA AVENUE
ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN

April 2, 1946

Dear Stan

The New York registered marking is in brown, all others in black. The crayon "13" is in blue. Note the blue crayon marking on back. It looks like a 7. Would this tie in with the 13? ($13 + 7 = 20$)

The stamps are slightly off center but I still like the cover. I am not as fussy in that particular as some of my friends.

The oval London marking is nice and new to me. I am complimented that you wanted photos of the cover

Best regards,

Don

April 6, 1946.

Mr. Donald MacGregor,
1602 Houstonia Ave.,
Royal Oak, Mich.

Dear Don:

Thanks very much for sending me the two photos. That cover certainly is a rarity and I congratulate you on acquiring it. It is just about as nice a "registered" as I have seen. I never saw that London marking before.

I have just read the new treaty which went into effect on Jan. 1, 1868 and while it specified a rate of 12¢ for $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce letters and a fee of 8¢ for registered letters, no mention was made in the treaty regarding an accounting. In other words, nothing was stated regarding a split of the fee or a division of the rate. As far as I know, the old accounting system in vogue from 1849 thru 1867 went into the discard with the expiration of the old treaty on Dec. 31, 1867. Thereafter each country retained the postages collected on mail between the respective countries. The only accounting that was required was on transit mail thru each country. For example, a letter from the U. S. to some British Colony or certain other countries, or a letter from G.B. thru the U. S. to Central American, Canada, Mexico, etc. etc. On such mail, there was a special accounting to the country of destination.

Therefore, as far as I am aware the "13" or the "7" has no reference to a split of the 20¢ rate. The U. S. was working hard in those years toward a more simplified exchange of mail such as resulted later in 1875. It was a reform we had long advocated but France blocked all our efforts and G.B. was not near as co-operative as she might have been. We strongly advocated that each country forward mail at the expense of the forwarding country, that is, each to pay the ship transmission. Also each country to retain postages collected as we had exchanged mails with Canada since 1861.

I may be wrong but I believe that we kept the full 20¢ on this letter and that G.B. did the same on registered mail from G.B. to this country.

I wish I could loan you my copy of the 1867 treaty so that you could read it over, and I'll do so if you feel like you would like to see it. By any chance, has Harold a copy of the 1867 P.M.G. Report? The full treaty is in that report.

#2. Mr. Donald MacGregor, April 6, 1946.

I will appreciate your comments.

We send our regards to Mrs. MacGregor and yourself.

Sincerely yours,

ONE CENT 1851
PLATES

Collection of

ALVIN FILSTRUP JR

Benton Harbor

Mich.

APPRAISAL

1943

August 11th

By

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
434 S. GRAND AVE.
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Item #1-	Plate	One	Late	224	stamps	appraisal	\$1,011.25	✓
" 2	-	"	"	219	"	"	941.00	✓
" 3		"	"	220	"	"	999.00	✓
" 4		"	"	238	"	"	1,121.00	✓
" 5		"	"	151	"	"	752.00	✓
Totals				1,052	"		<u>\$4,824.25</u>	

Item #6	Plate	One	Early	93	"	"	737.50	✓
" #7	"	Two		31	"		146.50	✓
Totals				1,176			<u>\$5,708.25</u>	

PI 1L

Hein 1 - 224 -

1011.25

" 2 - 219 -

941.

" 3 - 220 -

999.

Av 4 ⁴⁵

" 4 - 238 -

1121.

" 4 ⁵¹

" 5 - 151

752.

" 4 ⁶⁰

1052

4824.25

Plate 1st

Hein 6	93 stamps	737.50
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Pl 2

Hein 7	31 "	146.50
--------	------	--------

Total	1176 stamps	5708.25
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STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
434 So. GRAND AVE.
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

Appraisal ~~Made~~

U.S.

Reconstructed Plates of the "One Cent of 1851"
Property of Alvin ~~H~~ Feltstrupp Jr
Benton Harbor Mich

Appraisal made August 11 1943

(Signed)

Stanley B. Ashbrook

14 1851 - Type IV - Sheet 'A' - Plate One Late - Left Pane^①

Positions	No Stamps	Cancel	Remarks	Appraisal
1L	1	Black Town	Cut At R.	2
2L	1	" "	Close	2
3L	1	Stk. 1ct	Badly cut	250
4L	1	Blk. Grid	Heavy Cancel	450
5L	1	Boston Paid	Close at left - heavy cancel	375
6L	1	Blk. Grid	Badly Cut	300
7L	1	Blk. Town	" "	250
8L	1	" "	close at B. Cut at R.	300
9L	1	" "	close	350
10L	1	" "	Intact	600
11L	1	" "	close	400
12L	1	" "	Poor impression - close at left	300
13L	1	" "	Close at left - Good Color	500
14L	1	" Grid	Cut into - Stained paper	250
15L-16L- H. Pair	2	" Town	close at left	1150
17L-18L-19L- H. S.	3	" "	" " R.	15
20L	1	Boston Paid	close at L & R - Bad Crease	450
21L	1	Blk. Town	Bad Cut at top	300
22L	1	" "	" " " & R.	350
23L-24L-	2	Cleaned	Pen cancel Removed - bad crease	500
25L	1	Blk. Town	Close	400
26L-27L	2	Blue "	" at Bottom	850
28L-29L-30L	3	Blk. "	Very poor	200
31L	1	" "	close at left. Stained	250
32L-33L-34L	3	" "	bad crease - badly cut	400
35L-36L-	2	" "	Stains	1050
37L-47L-48L	3	Pen & "	Pen removed on 37L-48L Cut	1250
38L	1	Blk. Town	Fair	500
39L	1	" "	close at B.	400
30L-40L	2	" "	Badly cut at R.	700
41L-42L	2	Blk. Grid	42L cut at Top - Pair otherwise Fine -	1200
42L-43L	2	" Town	43L - Cut into	800
44L	1	" "	close	450

45L	1	Blue Town	Badly cut	250
46L	1	Blk. "	Fair	500
49L-50L	2	" "	Bad crease - Ink stain	750
51L	1	" "	Double Top recut - Imprint - Plate No.	2250
52L	1	Black	" " " - cut at B.	500
53L-54L	2	Red Grids	Cut at T. & R.	750
55L-56L	2	Blk. Town	Fine	1500
57L	1	"WAY"	Very Fine	850
57L-58L	2	Blk. Town	57L cut at L. 58L superb	1500
59L	1	" "	Close	400
60L	1	Blue "	Double Top - Crack - Small Crease	1250
61L	1	Black Grid	Imprint - big sheet	2500
61L-62-63L	3	" Town	Poor	400
64L	1	" "	Very Fine	700
65L	1	" "	Close at R.	400
66L	1	" "	Very poor	200
67L-68L	2	Blk. Grid.	cut bad at top	500
69L	1	Blue	fine	500
70L	1	" Town	Cut top and left - Not 70L	350
71L	1	Black "	Invent - very poor	250
72L	1	Blue "	close	450
73L	1	Black "	Badly cut - heavy Cancel	350
74L-75L-76L	3	" "	Thin spots - 75L Close at T.	1000
77L	1	" Grid	Double Top - Close & cut	400
78L	1	Blue Town	Cut	300
79L	1	Black	Double Top & Bottom fair	10
80L	1	" Town	Cut at B - nice sheet	700
81L	1	" "	Invent - Cut at L.	750
82L	1	" Grid	cut at B.	400
83L	1	" Town	cut at L.	400
84L	1	—	close	400
85L	1	Blue Town	Badly cut	150

86L	1	Black Town	Fine	600
87L	1	" Grid		500
88L	1	" Town	Paper stained	400
89L	1	" Grid	Cut at L & B	300
90L	1	Blue Town	Center Line - Stains	800
91L	1	Black "	B. Invert Poor	500
91L-92L	2	Blue "	91L Invert Badly Cut - 92 Cut at Top	400
93L	1	Black "	Nice Sheet	750
94L-	1	" "	" " but cut at R	550
95L	1	" "	" " " " " T	450
96L-97L	2	" "	96L Cut at T. 97L Cut at R	800
98L	1	" Grid	close	400
99L	1	" "	but at B.	450
100L	1	" Town	Poor	200
Total	105			\$471.25

Sheet "B" - Plate One Late - Right Pane

1R-11R	2	Black Grid	Center Line -	20
2-3-4R	3	" "	The 4R is badly cut at B.	8
4R	1	" Town	badly cut at B and R	350
5R	1	" "	Cut at B.	5
6R	1	" Grid	Fair	6
7R	1	" Town	Poor	3
8R	1	" "	Stained	7
9R	1	" "	Heavy Cancel	6
10R	1	" "	Cut at T.	5
12R	1	" "	Fine	650
13R	1	" "	Close	450
14R	1	" "	Very Close	400
15R	1	" "	Fine	750
16R	1	" "	Close	350
16-17-18R	3	" "	18R very poor - This no better than 16R	900
19R	1	" "	Poor	200
20R	1	" "	Close at R	4
21R	1	" "	Center Line - Cut at top	5
21R 31R	2	" "	Very Fine	15
22R-23R	2	" "	Cut at top	9
24R-25R	2	Pen Cleaned		7

26R	1	Black	Cut bad at B	3
27R	1	Boston PAID	heavy cancel	4
28-29-30R	3	Black Town	Cut at top and R	10
31-32R	2	Black "	Paper crease	12
33-34R	2	" "	heavy cancel	9
35-36-37R	3	Blue "	Two Bad creases -	5
37-38-39R	3	Black "	Cut at L. Heavy Cancel - Close at R	10
40R	1	" "	Very poor	150
40-50-60R-	3	Blue "	all close	1750
40R	1	Black "	Imprint - Close at T. Damaged L.	350
41R	1	Black	Crack - Not fine	8
42R	1	" Town	fair	5
43R	1	" Grid	Cut at N.E.	450
44R	1	" "	Close at B.	5
45R	1	" "	Cut at NW	5
46R	1	" Town	" " L.	4
47R	1	" Grid	Poor	3
48R	1	" Town	Close	4
49R	1	Blue "	Cut at top	450
50R	1	Unused	Imprint Cut at top	15
51-52R	2	Black Town	very poor - damaged	150
52-53R	2	Pen Cleaned	Fake Phila. Cancel -	6
53R	1	" "		250
54R	1	Black Town	Cut at B. heavy Cancel	300
55-56R	2	" Grid	Cut at T. and L.	4
57-58-59R	3	Pen Cleaned	Fake Phila. Cancel -	10
59-69-79R	3	Black Paid	Two Creases	15
59-60-70R	3	Red Town	Imprint - Not fine	2750
61-71-81R	3	Black Town	Bad Crease 81R - otherwise Fine	1750
63-73-83R	3	" "	83R Cut at B.	15
64R	1	" "	Very fine	750
65R	1	" "	" "	8
66R	1	" "	Fine	7
67R	1	" "	Fair	5
68R	1	" "	Cut at T.	4
70R	1	" "	Fair	450
71-72R	2	" "	Cut at T.	8
72R	1	" Grid.	Close " "	6
74-75-76-77R	4	" Grid	Cut at top - only fair	1250
78-79-80R	3	Blue Town	79 - Damaged. - 80 Cut at T.	8
81R	1	Black "	Center Line	8

82R	1	Pen Cleaned	Leub at S.W.	4
84R	1	Black Town	" " S.E. Close at L.	4
85-86R	2	" Grids	Badly cut	2 50
87-88R	2	" Grid	87 close at N.W. Good Color	12 50
89R	1	" "	close at R.	4
90R	1	" Town	close at B.	5 50
91R	1	" "	Stained	7 50
92R	1	" "	close at top	6 50
93R	1	" "	" " N.E.	6
94R	1	" "	" " N.W. fine Color	8
94-95-96R	3	" "	Fine Bad crease thru 95R	8
96-97R	2	Pen Cleaned	Fake P.M. also rejoined	2
98R	1	" "	Leub at top.	4
99R	1	Black Town	Fine	7
100R	1	Pen Cleaned	Fake Phila. P.M.	4
TOTAL 119				540

Item 1	Recap.	Left Pane	"A" - 105 Stamps	47 1 25
		Right "	"B" 119 "	540
			224	10 1 1 25

ITEM 2 - Plate One Late - Left Pane Sheet "C"				
1L	1	Unused	close at left and B	4 50
1-2-3L-	3	Black Town	Cut at N.W. Fair	15
4-14L-	2	Black Grid	Cut	9
5L	1	" Town	Pen cleaned	4 50
6L	1	" Grid		5
7L	1	" Town	Close at L.	4 50
8L	1	" Grid	Heavy Cancel poor	4
9L	1	" Town	Close	4 50
10L	1	" "	Center Line - Cut at N.E.	7 50
11-12-13L	3	Boston Paid		20
15-16-17L	3	Black Town & Grid	- 15L Cut at top	17 50
18L-19L	2	Black Town	cut at bottom	4
20L	1	none	bad crease - Center Line	7 50
21L	1	Black Grid	Stained	4 50

22L	1	Blk. Town	cut at B.	4
23L	1	" "	" " N.W.	4
24L	1	" "		5
25-35L	2	" Grids	" " B	9 50
26-27-28L	3	" Town	27-28 cut bad at top	8
26L	1	" "		5
27L	1	Blue "	cut bad at L	2 50
29L	1	Blk. Grid	Fine	5 50
30L	1	" Town	"	5
31L	1	" "	Cut at L.	3
32L	1	" Grid	Fine	5
33L	1	Blue "	Cut at T.	4
34L	1	" Town	" " T.	3 50
36-37-38L	3	Black Town	37-38 close AT Top Fine Color	20
36L	1	" Grid	close at top	4 50
39L-40L	2	" Town	Fine	11
40L	1	none	Poor	1 50
41-42-51L	3	Pen Cleaned	Fake Phila. P.M. Imprint	30
43L	1	Black Town	Only Fair	3 50
44L	1	" "	Fine	5
45L	1	Boston Paid	Heavy Cancel	4 50
46L	1	none	Thin & damaged	1 00
47L-57L	2	Boston Paid	Cut at top	8
47-48-49L	3	Blue Town	paper stained yellow	11
50L	1	Black "	Cut at L and T	7
52L	1	Black "	Cut at T	8
53L	1	Boston Paid	" " L	3
54L	1	Black Town	fair	5
55L-56L	2	" "	Fine	12
57L-58L	2	" "	Poor impression Fair	9 50
59L	1	" "	Cut at R.	3 50
60L	1	" Grid	Damaged	1 00
61-62-63L	3	" Town	61 damaged 62 cut at B	7 00
64L	1	" "	cut at R.	3 50
65L-66L	2	" Grids	Fair	10
67L-68L	2	Pen Cleaned	Cut at L	8
69L-70L	2	Blue Town	Cut at top - sheet at R	12 50
71L	1	Black "	Imprint poor	4
72L	1	" "		5

73L	1	Black Town	Fair	450
74L	1	" "	Cut at B	4
75-76-77L	3	" "	76-77- Cut at B. 77 the double Top	12
76L	1	" "	Cut at R	350
77-78-79L	3	Pew	This is 76-77-78L E - poor	9
79L	1	Black "	Fine	8
80L	1	Black "	Damage at T.	750
81L	1	Black "	Invert	10
82L	1	Blue "	Cut at N.E.	5
83L	1	Blue Grid	Very heavy paper damaged	450
84L-85L-86L	3	Black Town	Poor	300
87-88L	2	" "	88L Cut at top	11
89L	1	" Grid	damaged	150
90-100L	2	" Town	90L cut at top	850
91L	1	" "	Invert Cut at T.	700
92L	1	" "	Stains	350
93L	1	none	poor	100
94L	1	Blue Town	close	350
95L	1	Black Paid	Cut at R and B.	4
96L	1	" Town	Heavy Cancel paper stains	5
97L	1	" "	Fine	6
98L	1	Pew	very poor	50
99L	1	Red	Cut at T.	450
100L	1	Boston Paid	center line - Heavy Cancel	5
TOTAL.	111			\$ 507

Sheet "D" - Plate One ~~of~~ Late - Right Page

1R-	1	Black Town	Fair only	450
2R	1	" "	Close	4
3R	1	" "	Fine	5
4R	1	" Grid	The Type II Fine Color	10
5R	1	Blue Town	Poor	3
6R	1	Black "	Very Poor	1
7R	1	" "	" "	2
8R.	1	" "	Heavy Cancel	5
9R	1	" "	Fair	4
10R	1	Black Grid	Cut at T.	450
11-21-31R	3	" Town	21-31 Cut at L	1250
12R	1	" "	Cut at T.	450
13-14R	2	" "		10
14-15-16R	3	" "	all cut at top	12

17R-	1	Blue Grid	close at B.	5
18R	1	Black Town	Fair	550
19R	1	Black "	"	5
20R	1	" "	Poor	3
21-22-23R	3	Pen & "	Badly cut	8
24R	1	Blue Grid	Close	450
25R	1	Black Town	Heavy cancel	4
26R	1	" "	Poor	3
27-28-29R	3	none	yellow Paper - Stamps	1250
30R	1	Black Town	cut at R	350
32R	1	" "	Close at S.E.	450
33R	1	" Grid	Cut at top	350
34R	1	" Town	Cut at S E	300
35R	1	" "	" " R & T	3
36R	1	" "	Fine	6
37-38R	2	" Grids	Bad crease	5
39-40R	2	Pen removed		9
40R	1	Black Town	Sheet at R - cut Cut at B	550
41R	1	Black Town	Fair	5
42R	1	" "	Cut at Top and N.E.	4
42-52-62R	3	Poston Paid	Close at NW Fine Color	15
43R	1	none	yellow paper	3
44R	1	Black Town	Cut at T & B	450
45R	1	" PAID	" " T & L	350
46R	1	none	yellow -	350
47R	1	Black Town	Fine	6
48R	1	" Grid	"	550
49-59-69R	3	Blue Town	49 Cut at L. 59 Cut at R. 69 Cut at R	12
50R	1	Black Town	Imprint and Plate numbers	20
51R	1	" Grid	Fair	750
53R	1	" Town	Heavy Cancel	450
54R	1	" "	Cut at B.	450
55R	1	" "	Crease -	4
56R	1	" "	Fine	5
57R	1	" "	Cut at top	5
58R	1	" "	Close at L.	5
60R	1	Blue "	Imprint Fine	25
61R	1	Black "	Stamps & Crease	350
63-64R	2	" "	Cut at T.	850
65R	1	" "	not 65R Cut at B. Fine Color	550
66R	1	Blue "	Fine	5
67R	1	" Grid	"	5
68-69-70R	3	Black Town	68 cut at B.	1750
71-72R	2	" "	Cut at R	850
72R	1	" "	" " T	5
73R	1	" "	" " T	450

					(9)
74-75-76R	3	Pen	Badley cut at B.		450
75-85R	2	Black Town	Bady crease		10
77R	1	" "	Close at B.		5
78-79-80R	3	Pen	Creased, and stum		8
81R-82R-83R	3	Pen	Poor		5
83R	1	Black Grid	fine		6
84R	1	Boston Paid	Heavy Cancel		450
86R	1	Black Grid	fine		5
87R	1	" Town	Cut at R		450
88-89R	2	" Grids	Close at left		9
89R	1	" Town	Fair - stained		4
90R	1	" "	Fine		550
91-92R	2	" "	91 Cut at Top sheet -		15
93R	1	Red Grid	Fine		650
94R	1	Black Grid	Close at B		5
95R	1	" Town	Heavy Cancel Close at B		450
96R	1	" "	Fair		5
97R	1	" Grid	Fine		650
99R	1	" Town	Fair		450
100R	1	" "	Fine		5
108				\$ 434	

Item 2	Recap.				
Sheet "C"	Left Pane	111	stamps	\$ 507	
" "D"	Right "	108	"	434	
Total		219	"	\$ 941	

ITEM 3 - Plate One Late - Left Pane - Sheet "E"				
1-11-21L	3	Boston PAID	1 and 2 cut at R	1350
2L	1	Black	Fine	550
3-4L	2	Black Town	Badley cut	5
5-6-7L	3	Blue "	cut	1150
8L	1	" "	Fine	6
9L-10L	2	" "	Poor	650
10L	1	Black "	Fair	450
12L	1	" Grid	Fair	450
13L	1	" "	Fine	750
14-15-16L	3	" Town	Bad crease thru 15	850
17L	1	Pen Cleaned	Fake Phila. P.M.	4
17-18L	2	Black Town	Badley cut Fine (Pen)	750
18-19-20L	3	" "	" " at Top	950
20-30L	2	Red Grids	Two Snuggles	550
21-22L	2	Black Town	Cut at B. 22 Cut at SE	9
23-24L	2	" Grids	Cut at S.E.	9

24-25L	2	Black Town	Badley cut at top - crease	4
26L	1	Blue	cut at L and at SE	4
27L	1	Black "Blair"		750
28L	1	Black	cut bad at top	350
31-32-33L	3	Black Town	Cut at top and L. Heavy Cancell	1150
34L	1	Black Boston	Superb	850
36L	1	" Town	Close	550
38L	1	" "	Cut at T.	5
40L	1	" Grid	Cut at L and B - Sheet	650
41L	1	Blue Town	" at L.	450
42L	1	Black "	Tear	350
43-44L	2	" "	Fine	10
45-46L	2	" "	Very Fine	1750
47L	1	Blue Town	fine	5
48L	1	Blue "	Cut at R	4
49-50L	2	Black Town	Very Fine	20
51L	1	Blue Town	Imp rint - Creased - Stained	5
52L	1	Black "	Double Top & Bottom fine	10
52-53-54	3	" "	Creased thru 53 cut 52 and 54 fine	1750
55-56-57L	3	Pen	Badley cut	850
57-58L	2	Black Grids	Cut at L and T	8
59-60L	2	" Town	Center Line - cut at T and L	9
61L	1	Black N.Y.	Sheet Very Fine	9
62L	1	" Town	Cut at top Fine Color	5
63-64-65L	3	Blue Town	- 64-65 cut at B.	1250
66L	1	Black Town	Yellow Paper cut V.F.	750
67-68L	2	" "	Cut at L. Close at B. Heavy	900
69L	1	" "	" " N.W.	450
70L	1	" "	Stains	550
71-72-73L	3	" "	Not these portions Damaged	10
74-75L	2	" Grids	75 cut at top	9
76L	1	Pen leaved	Fake Phila P.M.	4
77-87L	2	Black Grids	77 Double Top	18
77-78-79L	3	" Town (?)	77 Cut at B.	15
79L	1	" "	Double Top & Bottom Fine Copy	15
80L	1	" "	Center line - Cut at B	5
81L	1	" "	Superb Fair only	750
82L	1	Black Grid		5
83L	1	Blue PAID	Cut L. and R	5
84L	1	Black Town	Poor	350
85L-86L	2	none	Very heavy paper	10
87-88-89L	3	Pen	Cut at top	10
90L	1	Black Town	Heavy Cancell	7

91L	1	Pen	Cleared	cut at L	3 50
92L	1	"			3
93L	1	Blue Grid	Damaged		3 50
93-94L	2	Blue Town	Cut at L.		12 50
95L	1	Red "	Fair		4
96L	1	Black "	Sheet	cut at T.	5 50
97L	1	Black Grid	V.F.		7 50
98L	1	Blue Town	damaged		3
99L	1	Black "	Fine		5 50
100L	1	" "	Poor		5
Total	108				\$ 526

Item #3 - Sheet "F" Plate One Late - Right Pane					
1R	1	Black Town	Cut at B.		6
2R	1	" "	Heavy cancel		5
3R	1	" Grid	Cut at top		5
4R	1	" "	Stained (Type II)		8 50
5R	1	" "	Cut at B	Good Color	6
6R	1	" "	" " T.	" "	6
7R	1	" Town	Heavy Cancel		4
8R	1	" "			5 50
9R-19R	2	" "	Cut at L		8 50
10R	1	Blue Grid	Poor		3 50
11-12-13R	3	" Town	Cut		10
14R	1	Black "	V.F.		6 50
15-16R	2	" Grid	Badly cut at B.		7 00
17-18R	2	" "	Cut at T.		9
20R	1	" PAID	" " L. & B.	Heavy Cancel	4 50
21R	1	" Town	" " " " "		5
22R	1	Pen Removed	Fake Phela. P. M.		3 50
23R	1	Black Grid	Cut at L & B.		4
24-25-26R	3	" Town	Badly cut at bottom		10
26-27R	2	Pen	Cut at R	Stained	9
28-29-30R	3	Black Town	Good Color		15
31R	1	" "	Cut at T		5
32R	1	" "	Fine		6 50
32-33R	2	" Grids	Cut at T and R		7 00
34-35-36R	3	" Town	Heavy Cancel		12 50

37-38-39-40R	4	Pen	Fair Strip of four	25
41R	1	Pen	Center Line	750
41-42-43R	3	Black Town	41 shows Crack but damaged - Crease	600
43-44-53R	3	" "	Pen cut at N.E.	1850
45R	1	" "	Fine	6
45-46-47R	3	Blue "	All cut	650
48-49-50R	3	Black "	Cut - Poor -	650
51R	1	" "	" at B. Center line	6
52R	1	" Grid	Fair	350
54-55R	2	" Town	Scuffed - Faded - Cut	4
56R	1	" Grid-FR.	Fine	650
56-57-58-59-60R	5	" Town	all cut at top	1250
61R	1	Black Town	V.F.	7
61-62-63R	3	" "	All cut at top	1150
63R	1	" "	V.F.	650
64R	1	" "	Poor	2
65R	1	Black	crease - (D.T.65)	450
66R	1	Pen	Cut at L.	5
67-77R	2	Black Grids	" " B.	850
67-68-69R	3	Pen	Badly cut	950
69R	1	Black Town	Cut at top -	550
70R	1	" "	Cut at R. Poor	350
71-72-73R	3	" "	71-72 Cut at top - Heavy Cancell	1050
74R	1	" "	Cut at R & B.	350
75R	1	" "	" " L & B.	450
76R	1	" "	" " R	450
78-79R	2	Pen	Close at T	950
80R	1	Black Town	Sheet Cut at T.	550
81-82R	2	Black Grids	V.F.	1750
83R	1	" PAID	Heavy	5
84R	1	" "	Close	4
85R	1	" Town	Fine	550
86R	1	" "	Cut T-R-&B	350
87R	1	" "	" "&L	350
88-89-90R	3	Pen	88 cut AT B- Poor	950
89R	1	Black Town	Cut at T.	4
90R	1	" "	Not 90R - Center Line - Torn -	450
91R	1	" "	Cut at B.	4
92R	1	Pen Removed	Faded Phila. P.M.	250
93R	1	Black Town	close -	450
94R	1	" "	Cut at T	4
95R	1	" Grid	" at L & R	4
96-97R	2	" "	Two Singles Poor	4

98R	1	Black Town	Stained cut at T & L	450
99R	1	" "	only fair	4
100R	1	" "	Poor	200
Total	112			\$ 473.

Item 3 Recap.

Sheet "E"	Left pane	108 stamps	526
" "F"	Right "	112 "	473
Total		220	\$ 999

Item 4 - Plate One Late - Left Pane - Sheet "G"

1L	1	Black Town	Fine	650
1-2L	2	" "	V.F.	1250
3L	1	Boston Paid	Cut at L.	550
4L	1	Black Town	V.F. Superb color	700
5L	1	None	V.F.	600
6L	1	Blue Town	Cut at T & R	5
7-8-9L	3	Black Town	Superb	2750
10L	1	" "	V.F.	10
11L	1	" "	close at R.	5
12L	1	None	Cut at B	2
13L	1	None	Stained	4
13L	1	Black Grid	Cut at top	550
14-15-16L	3	" Town	" " B and T.	1200
16L	1	" Grid	Fine	550
17-27-37L	3	Black Town	cut -	10
18-19-28-29 } 38-39 }	6	None	cut - Stained - Block of six	35
20L	1	Black Town	Stained - Center line -	650
21-22L	2	" "	Cut at R, B, & L.	8
22-23-32-33L	4	" "	Two V. Pairs joined	15
24L	1	" "	Fair	5
25L	1	" "	Damaged	1
26L	1	Pen	Torn	350
30-40L	2	Black Town	40L Crack - V.F. Pair	40
31L	1	" Pen "	Pair	350
33-34-35L	3	" Pen "	Stained	750
36L	1	Black Town	Color	550
37L-38L	2	" "	38 Badley cut -	5
41-42-43L	3	Pen	Fair	15
44L	1	Blue Grid	Cut at T. Heavy cancel	4
45L	1	Black	very poor	2
46L	1	" Town	" "	150
47L	1	" "	Cut at B	5

49L-50L	2	Black Grids	Canceled Heavy but a very fine pair	20
51L	1	None	Double Top fine	10
52L	1	Black Grid	Cut at R Fine color	450
53-63L	2	Blue Town	V. F. Pair	1750
53-54L	2	Black Town	Fine "	1250
55-56-57L	3	Pen	Fair	15
58L	1	Black Town	close at L.	5
59L	1	" "	stained. Cut at L	5
60L	1	" "	Double Top	10
61-62-63L	3	" "	Poor	5
62L	1	" "	Fair	4
64-65-66L	3	" "	Stained	15
67L	1	" Grid	Badly Cut	250
68L	1	" Town	Cut at L	450
69L	1	" "	" " T	5
70L	1	" Black	Poor	350
71-72L	2	Pen removed	Crease	1750
73L	1	Black Town	Fine	650
73-74-75L	3	" Grid	73 Cut at T. 74 & 75 Cut at B.	1250
76L	1	" Town	Cut at B	5
77L	1	Pencil	Double Top Cut at B.	450
79-80L	2	Blue Grid	Cut - Poor	450
80L	1	Pen	Center Line Cut at B	350
81L	1	Black Town	Invert - Cut at B.	750
82L	1	" Grid	Fine	650
83L	1	" "	"	5
83-84-85L	3	Boston PAID	83 Cut at L.	15
85-86-87L	3	Pen Cleaned	Fake Phila. P. M.	750
88-89-90L	3	Black Grid	Small crease at NW otherwise Superb	3250
89L	1	Black	Cut at R	450
90L	1	Black Town	Center Line Superb	15
91L	1	Pen	Invert Fine	10
92-93-94L	3	Pen	Fine	1750
95L	1	Black Town	Fine	5
96-97L	2	None	97 values	450
97L	1	Blue Grid	Cut at L & R	350
98L	1	Black Town	Sheet	6
99L	1	" "	V.F.	550
100L	1	" "	Fair	450
Total	115			\$ 630

ITEM	#	4 - Sheet "H" Plate One Late - Right Pane	
1R	1	Smudge very poor	50
2R	1	Black Cut at N.E. Heavy Cancel	350
3R	1	Pen Faded	3

4R	1	Pen & Blk. Town	Poor	4
5R	1	None	Bad crease at L.	350
6R	1	Black Town	cut at Top Fine Color	6
7-8R	2	" "	" " "	750
9R	1	" "	Fair	5
10R	1	" "	Fine	6
10-20-30R	3	" Grids	cut	1250
11R	1	" Town	cut at T.	450
12R	1	" "	Fine	550
13-14-15R	3	" "	15R Cut at T.	14
15-16-17R	3	Blue "	17 " " R.	15
16-To 96R. Inc.	9	" "	Vert. Strip of Nine - Condition Poor	20
18-19-26-27-28-29R	6	Boston Paid	A Pair (18-19) and Strip of Four - Heavy Cancel	17
21R	1	Black Town	Cut at B.	450
22R	1	" "	Fine	5
22-23-24R	3	" "	cut and Heavy cancel	750
24-25R	2	" Grids	" at B.	8
29R	1	" Town	" " L & B	350
30R	1	Red Carrier	Close at T	550
31R	1	Blue Town	Center line - Stained	550
31-32-33R	3	Black "	Sheet to left - 32 cut at B	1650
34R	1	" "	cut at B.	5
35R	1	" "	Close T & B.	5
37R	1	Boston PAID	Heavy Cancel	4
38-39R	2	Pen	38 cut - Stained	850
38-48-58R	3	Black Town	38 cut at T. 48-58 Cut at R	1250
40R	1	" "	Poor	350
41-91R Inc	6	" "	Two Pairs - Two Singles - Creases	20
41-42R	2	" "	Badly Cut	4
43R	1	" "	T.F.	7
43-44R	2	Blue "	43 Very Fine - 44 cut at B.	10
45R	1	Pen	Cut at T & L	450
47R	1	Blue Town	Very Poor	1
49-50R	2	Black "	Cut at T & R	750
51-52-53R	3	Pen	Center Line	15
54-55-56R	3	Pen & Town	Bad crease in 56	1150
57-67R	2	Black "	Cut and Stained	5
59R	1	" "	Cut R & B	450
60R	1	" Grid	" R.	550
62R	1	None	Fine	6

63-64R	2	Blue Town	64 Cut - Cutting to make single of 63.	8.50
65-66R	2	Pen	Cut at top	8.50
68R	1	Pen	Fine	5
69R	1	Black Town	V. F.	6
70R	1	Blue "	Cut at T. Close at B	5
72R	1	Black "	Fine	5
73R	1	" Grid	Cut and stained	2
74-84-94R	3	" Town	Cut	10.50
75R	1	" "	Very Poor	2
77-87-97R	3	" "	Cut at T-L- & B	10
79-89R	2	Pen		8
80R	1	Black	V. F.	7.50
81-91R	2	None	crease	12.50
82R	1	Black Town	Cut at T.	4.50
83R	1	" "	Cut L & R	3.50
83-84-85R	3	Pen	Cut	11
86-87-88R	3	Black Town	Cut at L - 88 Cut at T.	15
89-90R	2	" "	Two Singles	6.50
92-93R	2	" "	93 Cut T & R	8.50
95R	1	" "	Cut L & B	3
96R	1	" "	Fine sheet	6
97R	1	" "	Cut at Top	4.50
98R	1	Green (?)	Stained	5
99R	1	Black Town	Cut at R	5
100R	1	" "	Fair Cut at T.	4.50
123				\$491.

Item 4 Recap

Sheet "G"	Left Pane	115 stamps	\$630.
" "H"	Right	123 "	\$491.
Total		238	\$1121.

Item 5 - Plate One Late - Left Pane - Sheet I.

1-2-11-12-13L	5	None	Sheet block of Four and single 13L -	6.5
4L	1	Black Town	Cut at S.E.	5
5L	1	" "		5
6L	1	" "		5
7-8L	2	" "	Close at L. faded	10
9-19-29L	3	Pen	Stained	15
10L	1	Black Town	Fine	6.50
10L	1	Pen	damaged - thin	5.00
16-17-18L	3	Blue Grid	Cut	12

19-29-39L	3	Red Town & Pen	Fine	2250
21-22-23L	3	Black Town	Fine	25
22L	1	" Grid	Fine	6
27L	1	" "	Stained	5
28-38-48L	3	Pen	49 cut at SW	1750
31-32L	2	Blue Grids	31 cut at T & L. 32 cut at R.	850
36L	1	Black Town	Cut at B.	5
41L	1	Red Carrier	Sheet	7
42L	1	Black Town	Fine	550
49-50L	2	Pen	"	10
53L	1	Black Town	cut T. and B.	5
53-54L	2	" "	" B. & R	750
55-56L	2	Pen		850
60L	1	None	Double Top	8
62-72-82L	3	Black Town	62L Cut at NW	1350
63-64L	8	None	Several creases	50
73-74L				
83 84L				
93 94L				
64-65-66L	3	Blue Town	Badly cut	5
70L	1	" "	Scuffed	750
71-72-73L	3	Pen	71 Invert - Cut - Poor	10
77L	1	Black Town	Double Top. Cut at B.	5
80L	1	" "	Sheet Fine	6
80L	1	Boston Paid	Sheet Fine Poor	1.
81L	1	Black Town	cut at N.W.	10
81-82L	2	" "	Badly cut	10
88-89-90L	3	" "	89 cut at T.	1250
91-92-93L	3	Pen	91 Invert badly cut	1350
98L	1	Blue Town	Stained	5
98-99L	2	Black & Red	cut at B.	950
100L	1	" Town	" " L & B	4
	76			\$432.

Item # 5 - Sheet "J" - Plate One Late - Right Pane				
1-2 R	2	Black Town	scuffed	1250
8-9-10R	3	Black "	Poor	7
11 R	1	" "	Fair - Center Line	750
14R	1	" Grid	Close at B. Fine Color	650
14-15 R	2	" Town	Cut Close	9
17-18-19R	3	Pen		15

18R	1	Black Town	V. F.	750
21R	1	" "	Heavy cancel	3
21-22R	2	" Grids	V. F. Color	15
24R	1	" Town	Fine	6
24-25-26R	3	" "	25-26 close at B	1650
27R	1	" "		550
27-28-29R	3	Pen removed		15
29-30R	2	Black Town	Bad crease	6
31R	1	None	Cut at T.	700
33-34R	2	Black Town	34 Cut at T	10
36R	1	" "	Cut at T.	5
41R	1	" Grid	" " N.W.	450
43R	1	" Town	" " B.	4
45-46-47R	3	" "	Cut at L and T	1150
50R	1	" Grid	Heavy Cancel Thin spot	4 300
51-52-53R	3	PAID	Stained	100
51-52-61R	3	Pen	V. F.	15
54-55-56R	3	Black Grids	Cut at Top	11
55-56-57R	3	Pen	" " "	8
59R	1	Black Town	Pen	4
63R	1	Blue Town	Cut at L.	350
71-72-73R	3	Black "	Badly Cut	750
72-73-74R	3	Blue Grid	Cut at L & R. Close at T.	10
73-74-75R	3	Black Pin W.	Cut " T.	1250
78-88-98R	3	Pen	78 Cut at R. 98 cut at R & B.	1150
81-82R	2	Black Town	Heavy Cancel	8
83-93R	2	" Grids	Bad Thin spot 93.	6
84R	1	" Town	Close	4
86-87R	2	Pen	Two Ruffles	650
92R	1	Black Town	Heavy Cancel	4
95-96R	2	" "	96 Badly cut	650
98R	1	" "	Fine	650
99-100R	2	None	Ccrease & Bad thin spot	850
	75			\$ 320

Item # 5 Recaps.

Sheet "I"	Left Pane	76 Stamps	432.
" "J"	Right "	75 "	320
		151	752.

SHEET "K"	ITEM # 6	- Plate One "Early" -	Left Left Pane
1-2-	2	Black Grids	1-2 RIF Pen 6
3L	1	Boston PAID	10
4L	1	" "	7

7L	1	Black Grid	Cut at L & B	5
8L	1	" "	" " R & B	5
9L	1	" "	Fine	750
10L	1	" "	"	750
11-12L	2	" "	V.F.	1750
16-17L	2	Red "	This 16-17 R1 ^E the latter @ IIIA	25
21-22-23L	3	Black "	Close at B.	2750
27-28L	2	" "	V.F.	1750
28-29-30L	3	" "	Cut at B	1250
34-35-36L	3	" "	V.F.	3250
38-39-40L	3	Blue Town	Scuffed at B. on each	1250
42L	1	Black Town	V.F.	8
44-45-46L	3	" "	Fine	2750
46-47-48-49-50L	5	" Grid	Strip of four and a single (46L)	4750
52-53-54L	3	Blue Green	Fair	1250
54-55	2	Black Grid	Cut at L but fine (54-55 R1 ^E)	1750
62-63L	2	" Town	V.F.	2250
65	1	Pen	This is 65 R1 ^E the Big D.T.	25
67-68L	2	Blue Town	Cut at B & R	15
83-84L	2	Black "	V.F.	20
85L	1	Pen		8
85-86L	2	"	86 Damaged	7
91	1	Black Town	For Very Poor (Invent)	1
91L	1	Black Grid	Badly cut	2
94L	1	" "	Heavy cancel	350
	53			387

Item #6 - Sheet "L" Plate One Early - Right Pane

2R-	1	Black Town	Cut	3
3R	1	None	Badly cut	850
5-6R	2	Black Grids	Types IB and IIIA	35
6R	1	Blue Town		75
10-20R	2	" "	Superb 10R	25
18R	1	Black "	V.F.	7
21-22R	2	" "		15
28-29R	2	" Grid		20
31-41-51	3	Green Town	cut into (This is 31R Etc)	1750
41-51-61R	3	Black "	Crease in 51	2250
46-47R	2	" "	Damaged	5
48-49-50R	3	" "	Fair	1750
57-61-68R	3	Blue "	Thin spot & creased	10

62-63-64R	3	Red Grids	64 has had thin spot	1750
78-79-80R	3	Blue Town	three singles	10
81-91R	2	Black Town	2 singles - beuler line	1250
91R-92R	2	Red Grid	lean	20
96R	1	Black Town	Fine	750
88-98-99R	3	Blue "1"	3 singles 88(5 ⁰⁰) 98(7 ⁰⁰) 99(10 ⁰⁰)	22
	40			35050

Item #6 - Recap.

Sheet "K"	Left Pane	53 stamps	387
" "L"	Right "	40 "	35050
Total		93	73750

Item #7 - Plate 2 Left Pane Sheet "M"

41-42-43L	3	Pew	Cut at B and T	15
43-44-45L	3	Black Town	Stained	1250
81-82-83L	3	Pew	V.F.	20
72-73-74L	3	"	82 Cut at T & L.	15

Plate 2 Right Pane Sheet "N"

13-14R	2	Black Town	Cut	850
33-34-35R	3	" "	Fine	20
36-37-38R	3	" "	Basely cut	1250
38-39-40R	3	Pew	" "	10
60R	1	Black Town	Imprint	10
69-70R	2	Black	Crease	10
72-73R	2	"	Very Poor	3
97-98R	2	Black Town	Bad Crease	7
100R	1	" Grid	" " Cut at R	3
	31			14650

SAMPLE

GRADE Equator Index

BASIS

WEIGHT 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ x30 $\frac{1}{2}$ -110#/500

GAUGE

COLOR Green

FINISH

MILL No. Stock

THE SORG PAPER COMPANY



MIDDLETOWN, OHIO